# BACK IN TIME BOOK CLUB

Books are available at the Circulation Desk about 1 month before the meeting.

# Thursday, January 18 2:00pm Rotary Room *Women in the Castle* by Jessica Shattuck

Set at the end of World War II, in a crumbling Bavarian castle that once played host to all of German high society, a powerful and propulsive story of three widows whose lives and fates become intertwined--an affecting, shocking, and ultimately redemptive novel from the author of the New York Times Notable Book *The Hazards of Good Breeding.* (cafelibraries.org)

# Thursday, February 15 2:00pm News of the World by Paulette Jiles

In the aftermath of the Civil War, an aging itinerant news reader agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowa back to her people in this exquisitely rendered, morally complex, multilayered novel of historical fiction from the author of *Enemy Women* that explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor, and trust.

(amazon.com)

### Thursday, March 15 2:00pm Rotary Room Last Days of Night by Graham Moore

New York, 1888. Gas lamps still flicker in the city streets, but the miracle of electric light is in its infancy. The person who controls the means to turn night into day will make history -- and a vast fortune. A young untested lawyer named Paul Cravath, fresh out of Columbia Law School, takes a case that seems impossible to win. Paul's client, George Westinghouse, has been sued by Thomas Edison over a billion-dollar question: Who invented the light bulb and holds the right to power the country?

(cafelibraries.org)

# Thursday, April 19 2:00pm Rotary Room *Belgravia* by Julian Fellowes

Set in the 1840s when the upper echelons of society began to rub shoulders with the emerging industrial nouveau riche, *Belgravia* is peopled by a rich cast of characters. The story begins on the eve of the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. At the Duchess of Richmond's now legendary ball, one family's life will change forever.

(amazon.com)

# Thursday, May 17 2:00pm Rotary Room *Girl in Disguise* by Greer Macallister

In the tumultuous years of the Civil War, the streets of Chicago offer a woman mostly danger and ruin—unless that woman is Kate Warne, the first female Pinkerton detective and a desperate widow with a knack for manipulation. (amazon.com)

# Thursday, June 21 2:00pm Rotary Room *The Accidental Empress* by Allison Pataki

A New York Times bestseller, The Accidental Empress is the "captivating, absorbing, and beautifully told" (Kathleen Grissom).love story of "Sisi" the Austro-Hungarian empress and wife of Emperor Franz Joseph. (cafelibraries.org)

**Rotary Room** 

## Thursday, July 19 2:00pm Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders

In his long-awaited first novel, American master George Saunders delivers his most original, transcendent, and moving work yet. Unfolding in a graveyard over the course of a single night, narrated by a dazzling chorus of voices, *Lincoln in the Bardo* is a literary experience unlike any other.

(georgesaundersbooks.com)

Rotary Room

#### Thursday, August 16 2:00pm Rotary Room Kristin Lavransdatter 1: The Bridal Wreath by Sigrid Undset

The acknowledged masterpiece of the Nobel Prize-winning Norwegian novelist Sigrid Undset, the story of a woman's life in fourteenth-century Norway has kept its hold on generations of readers, and the heroine, Kristin—beautiful, strong-willed, and passionate—stands with the world's great literary figures. *The Bridal Wreath* describes young Kristin's stormy romance with the dashing Erlend Nikulausson, a young man perhaps overly fond of women, of whom her father strongly disapproves. (amazon.com)

# Thursday, September 20 2:00pm Rotary Room Ragtime by E.L. Doctorow

The story opens in 1906 in New Rochelle, New York, at the home of an affluent American family. One lazy Sunday afternoon, the famous escape artist Harry Houdini swerves his car into a telephone pole outside their house. And almost magically, the line between fantasy and historical fact, between real and imaginary characters, disappears. Henry Ford, Emma Goldman, J. P. Morgan, Evelyn Nesbit, Sigmund Freud, and Emiliano Zapata slip in and out of the tale, crossing paths with Doctorow's imagined family and other fictional characters, including an immigrant peddler and a ragtime musician from Harlem whose insistence on a point of justice drives him to revolutionary violence. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

# Thursday, October 18 2:00pm Rotary Room The Other Alcott by Elise Hooper

A tale inspired by the life of Louisa May Alcott's youngest sister finds young May longing to study art outside of the confines of her Concord home before turning down a marriage proposal and pursuing an identity in contrast to the spoiled and worldly character of Amy in her sister's famed novel.

(cafelibraries.org)

(Ballots for 2019 selections distributed. Cast your votes!)

# Thursday, November 15 2:00pm Rotary Room The Baker's Secret by Stephen P. Kiernan

After her kind mentor is arrested because of his Jewish heritage, a young baker's apprentice in Normandy engages in discreet resistance activities, baking contraband loaves of bread for the hungry using surplus ingredients taken from occupying forces. (cafelibraries.org)

(Ballots for 2019 selections collected. Cast your votes!)

# Thursday, December 20 2:00pm Rotary Room The Cottingley Secret by Hazel Gaynor

The New York Times bestselling author of The Girl Who Came Home turns the clock back one hundred years to a time when two young girls from Cottingley, Yorkshire, convinced the world that they had done the impossible and photographed fairies in their garden. Now, in her newest novel, international bestseller Hazel Gaynor reimagines their story. (amazon.com)

The Back in Time Book Club welcomes everyone interested in reading and discussing historical fiction. New Members are always welcome