

WE'RE NOT KIDDING AROUND

CHILDREN'S CLASSICS FOR ADULTS

Never underestimate the power of Children's Literature!

Revisit a classic or enjoy something you may have missed. There is more to these books than meets the eye.

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

Meetings are held in the Rotary Room.



Friday, April 6 ***Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson** **2:00pm**

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of an inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune. First published in 1883, *Treasure Island's* influence is enormous on popular perceptions of pirates, including treasure maps marked with an "X", schooners, the Black Spot, tropical islands, and one-legged seamen bearing parrots on their shoulders.

Friday, May 4 ***Holes* by Louis Sachar** **2:00pm**

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself. Winner of the Newberry Medal and National Book Award.

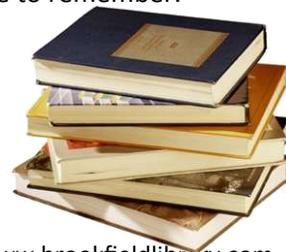
Friday, June 1 ***The Borrowers* by Mary Norton** **2:00pm**

The Borrowers—the Clock family: Homily, Pod, and their fourteen-year-old daughter, Arrietty, to be precise—are tiny people who live underneath the kitchen floor of an old English country manor. All their minuscule home furnishings, from postage stamp paintings to champagne cork chairs, are “borrowed” from the “human beans” who tromp around loudly above them. All is well until Pod is spotted upstairs by a human boy! Can the Clocks stay nested safely in their beloved hidden home, or will they be forced to flee? Winner of 1952 Carnegie Medal.

Friday, July 6 ***The Saturdays* by Elizabeth Enright** **2:00pm**

Meet the Melendys! The four Melendy children live with their father and Cuffy, their beloved housekeeper, in a worn but comfortable brownstone in New York City. There's thirteen-year-old Mona, who has decided to become an actress; twelve-year-old mischievous Rush; ten-and-a-half-year-old Randy, who loves to dance and paint; and thoughtful Oliver, who is just six. Tired of wasting Saturdays doing nothing but wishing for larger allowances, the four Melendys jump at Randy's idea to start the Independent Saturday Afternoon Adventure Club (I.S.A.A.C.). If they pool their resources and take turns spending the whole amount, they can each have at least one memorable Saturday afternoon of their own. Before long, I.S.A.A.C. is in operation and every Saturday is definitely one to remember. Written more than half a century ago, *The Saturdays* remains a winning, timeless tale.

New members are always welcome, but these discussions are just for grown-ups.





Friday, August 3

***The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster**

2:00pm

For Milo, everything's a bore. When a tollbooth mysteriously appears in his room, he drives through only because he's got nothing better to do. But on the other side, things seem different. Milo visits the Island of Conclusions (you get there by jumping), learns about time from a ticking watchdog named Tock, and even embarks on a quest to rescue Rhyme and Reason! Somewhere along the way, Milo realizes something astonishing. Life is far from dull. In fact, it's exciting beyond his wildest dreams. Winner of the George C. Stone Center for Children's Books Award.

Friday, September 7

***Crispin the Cross of Lead* by Avi**

2:00pm

An action-filled page-turner set in 14th-century England. "Asta's son" is the only name the 13-year-old title character has ever known when he is suddenly orphaned and stripped of home and possessions. Accused of murder and wanted dead or alive, Crispin flees his village and falls in with a juggler, Bear, who becomes his protector and teacher. Relentlessly pursued by Crispin's enemies, the pair flees to solve the mystery of his identity and fight the injustices of feudalism. A 2003 Newbery Medal Book.

Friday, October 5

***The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly**

2:00pm

Calpurnia Virginia Tate is eleven years old in 1899 when she wonders why the yellow grasshoppers in her Texas backyard are so much bigger than the green ones. With a little help from her notoriously cantankerous grandfather, an avid naturalist, she figures out that the green grasshoppers are easier to see against the yellow grass, so they are eaten before they can get any larger. As Callie explores the natural world around her, she develops a close relationship with her grandfather, navigates the dangers of living with six brothers, and comes up against just what it means to be a girl at the turn of the century. A 2010 Newbery Honor Book and the winner of the 2010 Bank Street - Josette Frank Award

Friday, November 2

***The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum**

2:00pm

First published in 1901, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* follows the magical adventure of Dorothy, a young girl who lives with her Aunt Em and Uncle Henry on a farm in Kansas. One day when Dorothy is caught up in tornado with her little dog, Toto, she finds her farmhouse has been magically transplanted to Munchkin Country in the mystical Land of Oz. Her house lands on the evil Wicked Witch of the East, killing her, and freeing the Munchkins from her rule. As a reward the Good Witch of the North gives Dorothy the magical Silver Shoes that belonged to the Witch and sets her on her way down the yellow brick road to the Emerald City to ask the Wizard for help in returning to Kansas. Along the way she meets several interesting characters including the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, and the Cowardly Lion who join her on her travels to ask the Wizard for help of their own. The journey is not without peril though, as the Wicked Witch of the West, who wants revenge for the killing of her sister and to regain the magical Silver Shoes, unleashes numerous dangers against Dorothy and her companions. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is a classic story of fantasy which is considered to be the first American fairy tale.



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