

BACK IN TIME BOOK CLUB

2022 TITLES

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

Thursday, January 20

2:00pm

Run Me To Earth: a Novel by Paul Yoon

Alisak, Prany, and Noi must do what is necessary to survive the perilous landscape of 1960s Laos. When they take shelter in a bombed out field hospital, they meet Vang. Soon the teens are serving as motorcycle couriers, delicately navigating their bikes across the fields filled with unexploded bombs, beneath the indiscriminate barrage from the sky. When Vang secures their evacuation on the last helicopters leaving the country, it's a move with irrevocable consequences--and sets them on disparate and treacherous paths across the world. (Amazon.com)

Thursday, February 17

2:00pm

Lillian Boxfish Takes A Walk : A Novel by Kathleen Rooney

It's the last day of 1984, and 85-year-old Lillian Boxfish is about to take a walk. As she traverses a grittier Manhattan, a city anxious after an attack by a still-at-large subway vigilante, she encounters bartenders, bodega clerks, chauffeurs, security guards, bohemians, criminals, children, parents, and parents to be in surprising moments of generosity and grace. While she strolls Lillian recalls a long and eventful life that included a brief reign as the highest paid advertising woman in America - a career cut short by marriage, motherhood, divorce, and a breakdown. (Amazon.com)

Thursday, March 17

2:00pm

Patrick : Son of Ireland : A Novel by Stephen R. Lawhead

Rescued by the king's druids from almost certain death, he learns the arts of healing and song, and the mystical ways of a secretive order whose teachings tantalize with hints at a deeper wisdom. He pursues his dream of freedom through horrific war and shattering tragedy, from a dying, decimated Wales to the bloody battlefields of Gaul to the fading majesty of Rome. And in the twilight of a once-supreme empire, he is transformed yet again by divine hand and a passionate vision of "truth against the world," accepting the name that will one day become legend .. Patricius! (Amazon.com)

Thursday, April 21

2:00pm

I Always Loved You : A Story of Mary Cassatt and Edgar Degas by Robin Oliveira

The young Mary Cassatt never thought moving to Paris after the Civil War to be an artist was going to be easy, but when, after a decade of work, her submission to the Paris Salon is rejected, Mary's fierce determination wavers. Her father is begging her to return to Philadelphia to find a husband before it is too late, her sister Lydia is falling mysteriously ill, and worse, Mary is beginning to doubt herself. Then one evening a friend introduces her to Edgar Degas and her life changes forever. Years later she will learn that he had begged for the introduction, but in that moment their meeting seems a miracle. (café.org)

Thursday, May 19

2:00pm

The Convert : A Novel by Stefan Hertmans ; translated from the Dutch by David McKay.

The Middle Ages have just begun when Vigdis Adelaïs, a young woman from a prosperous French family, falls in love with David Todros, a student at the city's yeshiva, and the son of a rabbi. To be together, they must flee their city. Pursued by her father's knights and in constant danger of betrayal, the lovers embark on a dangerous journey to the south of France, only to find their brief happiness destroyed by the vicious wave of anti-Semitism that sweeps Europe with the onset of the First Crusade. (café.org)

Thursday, June 16

2:00pm

The Most Beautiful Girl In Cuba by Chanel Cleeton.

A feud rages in Gilded Age New York City between newspaper tycoons William Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer. When Grace Harrington lands a job at Hearst's newspaper in 1896, she's caught in a cutthroat world where one scoop can make or break your career, but it's a story emerging from Cuba that changes her life. Unjustly imprisoned in a notorious Havana women's jail, eighteen-year-old Evangelina Cisneros dreams of a Cuba free from Spanish oppression. When Hearst learns of her plight and splashes her image on the front page of his paper, proclaiming her, "The Most Beautiful Girl in Cuba," she becomes a rallying cry for American intervention in the battle for Cuban independence. With the help of Marina Perez, a courier secretly working for the Cuban revolutionaries in Havana, Grace and Hearst's staff attempt to free Evangelina. But when Cuban civilians are forced into reconcentration camps and the explosion of the USS Maine propels the United States and Spain toward war, the three women must risk everything in their fight for freedom. (café.org)

Thursday, July 21

2:00pm

Hamnet : A Novel of the Plague by Maggie O'Farrell

England, 1580. A young Latin tutor--penniless, bullied by a violent father--falls in love with an extraordinary, eccentric young woman--a wild creature who walks her family's estate with a falcon on her shoulder and is known throughout the countryside for her unusual gifts as a healer. Agnes understands plants and potions better than she does people, but once she settles with her husband on Henley Street in Stratford she becomes a fiercely protective mother and a steadfast, centrifugal force in the life of her young husband, whose gifts as a writer are just beginning to awaken when his beloved young son succumbs to bubonic plague. (café.org)

Thursday, August 18

2:00pm

And They Called It Camelot : A Novel of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis by Stephanie Marie Thornton

Born into luxury and beauty, spontaneous young Jacqueline Bouvier aspires to be more than the Debutante of the Year, even if she isn't quite sure what that means. A whirlwind courtship and fairytale wedding to handsome war-hero John F. Kennedy propel her into a startling new world of power and politics. Her grace and grit help catapult JFK from the Senate to the Oval Office in one of the closest races in U.S. history. Then Jackie accompanies JFK to Dallas and their thousand days of magic come to an abrupt and devastating end--forcing Jackie to pick up the ruined fragments of her life and forge a triumphant new identity. (café.org)

Thursday, September 15

2:00pm

Red Letter Days by Sarah-Jane Stratford

Nineteen-fifties America is bright and full of promise, and Phoebe Adler, a New Yorker brimming with talent and ambition, is forging her way as the rarest of things: a female television writer in Hollywood. But fears of a growing Red Menace cloud the optimism, egged on by the hate-mongering of Senator McCarthy. When Phoebe finds herself caught in the hysteria's web, she flees to London. Though postwar London is struggling and work is precarious, Phoebe finds camaraderie with other Americans living in exile, including the restless and ambitious Hannah Wolfson. Determined to fight the injustices of the Red Scare, Hannah is a successful producer who hires blacklisted writers at great risk to her career and company. Together Phoebe and Hannah successfully fight unfair bias and sexism, but danger still looms in this supposed sanctuary. And when their families and friends--their very lives--are threatened, they will have to make impossible choices. (café.org)

Thursday, October 20

2:00pm

The Heretic's Daughter : A Novel by Kathleen Kent

Martha Carrier was one of the first women to be accused, tried and hanged as a witch in Salem, Massachusetts. Like her mother, young Sarah Carrier is bright and willful, openly challenging the small, brutal world in which they live. Often at odds with one another, mother and daughter are forced to stand together against the escalating hysteria of the trials and the superstitious tyranny that led to the torture and imprisonment of more than 200 people accused of witchcraft. This is the story of Martha's courageous defiance and ultimate death, as told by the daughter who survived. (café.org)

(Ballots for 2022 selections distributed. Cast your votes!)

Thursday, November 17

2:00pm

Beheld : A Novel by TaraShea Nesbit

Ten years after the Mayflower pilgrims arrived on rocky, unfamiliar soil, Plymouth is not the land its residents had imagined. Seemingly established on a dream of religious freedom, in reality the town is led by fervent puritans who prohibit the residents from living, trading, and worshipping as they choose. By the time an unfamiliar ship, bearing new colonists, appears on the horizon one summer morning, Anglican outsiders have had enough. (café.org)

(Ballots for 2022 selections collected. Cast your votes!)

Thursday, December 15

2:00pm

The Lions of Fifth Avenue : a Novel by Fiona Davis

It's 1913, and on the surface, Laura Lyons couldn't ask for more out of life--her husband is the superintendent of the New York Public Library, allowing their family to live in an apartment within the grand building, and they are blessed with two children. But headstrong, passionate Laura wants more, and when she takes a leap of faith and applies to the Columbia Journalism School, her world is cracked wide open.. Eighty years later, in 1993, Sadie Donovan struggles with the legacy of her grandmother, the famous essayist Laura Lyons, especially after she's wrangled her dream job as a curator at the New York Public Library. But the job quickly becomes a nightmare when rare manuscripts, notes, and books for the exhibit Sadie's running begin disappearing from the library's famous Berg Collection. Things unexpectedly become personal when the investigation leads Sadie to some unwelcome truths about her own family heritage--truths that shed new light on the biggest tragedy in the library's history. (café.org)

The Back in Time Book Club welcomes everyone interested in reading and discussing historical fiction.

New Members are always welcome

For more information, please contact the Adult Reference Desk at 262-782-4140, opt. 1