



## 2019-2020 Book List

### January 2020

***"The Overstory"* by Richard Powers** - Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction, is a sweeping, impassioned work of activism and resistance that is also a stunning evocation of—and paean to—the natural world. From the roots to the crown and back to the seeds, Richard Powers's twelfth novel unfolds in concentric rings of interlocking fables that range from antebellum New York to the late twentieth-century Timber Wars of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. There is a world alongside ours—vast, slow, interconnected, resourceful, magnificently inventive, and almost invisible to us. This is the story of a handful of people who learn how to see that world and who are drawn up into its unfolding catastrophe.

### February 2020

Books that have been previously read by the group.

### March 2020

***"The Hidden Life of Trees"* by Peter Wohlleben** - Are trees social beings? In this international bestseller, forester and author Peter Wohlleben convincingly makes the case that, yes, the forest is a social network. He draws on groundbreaking scientific discoveries to describe how trees are like human families: tree parents live together with their children, communicate with them, support them as they grow, share nutrients with those who are sick or struggling, and even warn each other of impending dangers. Wohlleben also shares his deep love of woods and forests, explaining the amazing processes of life, death, and regeneration he has observed in his woodland. After learning about the complex life of trees, a walk in the woods will never be the same again.

### April 2020

***"The Heart is a Lonely Hunter"* by Carson McCullers** - When she was only twenty-three, Carson McCullers's first novel created a literary sensation. She was very special, one of America's superlative writers who conjures up a vision of existence as terrible as it is real, who takes us on shattering voyages into the depths of the spiritual isolation that underlies the human condition. This novel is the work of a supreme artist, Carson McCullers's enduring masterpiece. The heroine is the strange young girl, Mick Kelly. The setting is a small Southern town, the cosmos universal and eternal. The characters are the damned, the voiceless, the rejected. Some fight their loneliness with violence and depravity, Some with sex or drink, and some -- like Mick -- with a quiet, intensely personal search for beauty.

### May 2020

***"Educated"* by Tara Westover** is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.

## June 2020

***"Where the Crowdads Sing"*** by Deila Owens - For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens.

## January 2019

None Selected

## February 2019

***"Mad Enchantment"*** – by Ross King - Claude Monet is perhaps the world's most beloved artist, and among all his creations, the paintings of the water lilies in his garden at Giverny are most famous. Seeing them in museums around the world, viewers are transported by the power of Monet's brush into a peaceful world of harmonious nature.

## March 2019

***"Glass Castle"*** by Jeannette Wall - The Glass Castle is a remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant.

## April 2019

***"Delta Wedding"*** by Eudora Welty - Delta Wedding is a 1946 Southern fiction novel set in 1923. This novel tells of the experiences of the Fairchilds family during a particularly unexceptional year in the Mississippi Delta.

## May 2019

***"Nickel and Dimed"*** by Barbara Ehrenreich - Nickel and Dimed: On Getting By in America is a book written by Barbara Ehrenreich. Written from her perspective as an undercover journalist, it sets out to investigate the impact of the 1996 welfare reform act on the working poor in the United States.

## June 2019

***"My Dear Hamilton"*** by Laura Kaye and Stephanie Dray - A novel of Eliza Schuyler Hamilton A general's daughter...Coming of age on the perilous frontier of revolutionary New York, Elizabeth Schuyler champions the fight for independence.

## July 2019

None Selected

## August 2019

None Selected

## September 2019

***"Becoming"*** by Michelle Obama - This gorgeous journal features an intimate and inspiring introduction by Michelle Obama and thought-provoking questions and prompts to help you discover—and rediscover—your story.

## October 2019

Various works by Author Toni Morrison

## November 2019

***"George C. Marshall, Defender of the Republic"*** by David Roll - Set against the backdrop of five major conflicts—two world wars, Palestine, Korea, and the Cold War—Marshall's education in military, diplomatic, and

political power, replete with their nuances and ambiguities, runs parallel with America's emergence as a global superpower.

### **December 2019**

***“George C. Marshall, Defender of the Republic”*** by David Roll - (Continued from November 2019) The extraordinary career of George Catlett Marshall America’s most distinguished soldier–statesman since George Washington—whose selfless leadership and moral character influenced the course of two world wars and helped define the American century.