

Hart Book Group – 2022 Reading List

First Tuesday and Wednesday of each Month

<p>Tues., Jan. 4 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed., Jan. 5 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Four Winds</u>, by Kristin Hannah</p> <p>By 1934, the world has changed; millions are out of work and drought has devastated the Great Plains. Everything on the Martinelli farm is dying, including Elsa's tenuous marriage; each day is a desperate battle against nature and a fight to keep her children alive. Elsa must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or leave it behind and go west, to California, to find a better life for her family. A rich, sweeping novel and a testament to hope, resilience and the strength of the human spirit.</p>
<p>Tues, Feb. 1 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Feb. 2 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Pachinko</u> by Min Jin Lee</p> <p>Following one Korean family through the generations, beginning in early 1900s Korea with Sunja, the prized daughter of a poor yet proud family, whose unplanned pregnancy threatens to shame them all. Deserted by her lover, Sunja is saved when a young tubercular minister offers to marry and bring her to Japan. So begins a sweeping saga of an exceptional family in exile from its homeland and caught in the indifferent arc of history.</p>
<p>Tues, March 1 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, March 2 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Golden Girl</u> by Elin Hilderbrand</p> <p>One June day, Vivian Howe, author of thirteen beach novels and mother of three grown children, is killed in a hit-and-run car accident near her home on Nantucket. She ascends to the Beyond where she's allowed to watch what happens below for one last summer, and is granted three "nudges" to change the outcome of events. But her greatest worry is her final book, which contains a disastrous secret. <u>Golden Girl</u> gives us a heartfelt message: the people we lose never really leave us.</p>
<p>Tues, April 5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, April 6 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Homegoing</u> by Yaa Gyasi</p> <p>One of Oprah's Best Books of the Year, Homegoing follows the parallel paths of two half sisters unknown to each other, and their descendants through eight generations: from the tribal wars in Ghana, to the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. This extraordinary novel illuminates slavery's troubled legacy—and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation.</p>
<p>Tues, May 3 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed., May 4 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>American Dirt</u> by Jeanine Cummins</p> <p>Lydia Quixano Pérez lives in the Mexican city of Acapulco with her son Luca, and her journalist husband. When he profiles the head of a local drug cartel, Lydia and Luca are forced to flee away from their middle-class existence and ride la bestia—trains that make their way north toward the United States. American Dirt will leave readers utterly changed. It is a literary achievement filled with poignancy, drama, and humanity on every page. It is one of the most important books for our times.</p>
<p>Wed, June 1 - 2 p.m.</p> <p>Tues, June 7 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Grammarians: A Novel</u> by Cathleen Schine</p> <p>From the author compared to Nora Ephron and Jane Austen. Laurel and Daphne, identical, inseparable twins, share an obsession with words. As adults in 1980s Manhattan, their verbal infatuation continues. Daphne, copy editor and grammar columnist, devotes herself to preserving Standard English while Laurel, poet, is drawn instead to the polymorphous, chameleon nature of the written and spoken word. Their relationships shreds completely. One of our great comic novelists at her very best.</p>

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<p>Classic</p> <p>Tues, July 5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, July 6 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Mansfield Park</u> by Jane Austen, 1814</p> <p>Taken from the poverty of her parents' home in Portsmouth, Fanny Price is brought up with her rich cousins at Mansfield Park, acutely aware of her humble rank and with her cousin Edmund as her sole ally. During her uncle's absence, the Crawfords arrive in the neighbourhood bringing with them the glamour of London life and a reckless taste for flirtation. Mansfield Park is considered Jane Austen's first mature work and, with its quiet heroine and subtle examination of social position and moral integrity, one of her most profound.</p>
<p>Tues, August 2 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, August 3 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Henna Artist: A Novel</u> by Alka Joshi</p> <p>Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950's city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist—and confidante—to the wealthy women of the upper class. But she can never reveal her own secrets. As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled one day when she is confronted by her husband. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. “Captivating” -Reese Witherspoon</p>
<p>Tues, Sept. 6 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Sept. 7 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Sapiens: a Brief History of Humankind</u> by Yuval N. Harari</p> <p>One hundred thousand years ago, at least six human species inhabited the earth. Today there is just one, us. How did our species succeed in the battle for dominance? Why did our foraging ancestors come together to create cities and kingdoms? How did we come to believe in gods, nations, and human rights; to trust money, books, and laws; and to be enslaved by bureaucracy, timetables, and consumerism? Going on 228 weeks on Amazon's top 20 bestseller list. This six year old book, still on Amazon's list as best-seller, is provocative, insightful and sure to inspire debate.</p>
<p>Tues, Oct. 4 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Oct. 5 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Midnight Library</u>, by Matt Haig 2020</p> <p>Nora Seed wants to end her life. While everyone wonders how their lives might have been, what if someone had the chance to see for themselves? Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice. "A feel-good book guaranteed to lift your spirits."—The Washington Post</p>
<p>Tues, Nov. 1 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Nov. 2 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Lions of Fifth Avenue: A Novel</u> by Fiona Davis</p> <p>It's 1913, and Laura Lyons couldn't ask for more—her husband is the superintendent of the New York Public Library, and they live in an apartment within the grand building with their two children. But then she begins to question her traditional role. Eighty years later, Sadie Donovan struggles with the legacy of her grandmother, the famous essayist Laura Lyons, especially after she lands her dream job as a curator at the New York Public Library. She finds some unwelcome truths about her own family, which shed light on the biggest tragedy in the library's history.</p>
<p>Tues. Dec. 6 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed. Dec. 7 - 2 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Apples Never Fall</u> by Liane Moriarty</p> <p>A novel that looks at marriage, siblings, and how the people we love the most can hurt us the deepest. The Delaney family love one another dearly--it's just that sometimes they want to murder each other. If your mother was missing, would you tell the police? Even if the most obvious suspect was your father?</p>