

## VOTE: 2017 Ballet for John C. Hart Library Book Group

*Select eleven Titles and one Classic*

Please ✓ Check Eleven:	Book	Author	Genre
1.	<p><b><u>What Alice Forgot</u></b> From the author of <u>Big Little Lies</u>, Alice Love is 29, crazy about her husband, and pregnant with her first child. So imagine her surprise when she comes to on the floor of a gym (a gym! She HATES the gym) and is whisked off to the hospital where she discovers the honeymoon is truly over—she's getting divorced, she has three kids, she's actually 39 years old. Also, she barely speaks with her sister. Is forgetting a curse, or a blessing?</p>	Liane Moriarty	Fiction
2.	<p><b><u>Glory Over Everything</u></b> In 1830 a slave Jamie has fled from his Virginian plantation and is passing in Philadelphia society as a wealthy white silversmith. One day, Jamie learns that his beloved servant Pan has been captured and sold into slavery in the South. After his secret past is exposed, Jamie embarks on a trip to a North Carolina plantation where Pan is being held with a former Tall Oakes slave named Sakey. Soon the three of them are running through the Great Dismal Swamp, the notoriously deadly hiding place for escaped slaves. Though they have help from those in the Underground Railroad, not all of them will make it out alive. From the author of <u>Kitchen House</u>.</p>	Kathleen Grissom	Fiction
3.	<p><b><u>Everything I Never Told You</u></b> Lydia is dead. But they don't know this yet. So begins the story of this exquisite debut novel, about a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio. Lydia is the favorite child of Marilyn and James Lee. When Lydia's body is found in the local lake, the delicate balancing act that has been keeping the Lee family together tumbles into chaos, forcing them to confront the long-kept secrets that have been slowly pulling them apart. Lydia's brother Nathan, is certain that the neighborhood bad boy Jack is involved, but it's Hannah, the youngest of the family who observes far more than anyone realizes. A profoundly moving story, <u>Everything I Never Told You</u> is both a gripping page-turner and a sensitive family portrait.</p>	Celeste Ng	Fiction
4.	<p><b><u>North River</u></b> One snowy New Year's Day in the midst of the Great Depression, Dr. James Delaney -- haunted by the slaughters of the Great War, and abandoned by his wife and daughter -- returns home to find his three-year-old grandson on his doorstep. Coping with this unexpected arrival, Delaney hires Rose, a tough, decent Sicilian woman with a secret in her past. Slowly, as Rose and the boy begin to care for the good doctor, the numbness in Delaney begins to melt. Recreating 1930s New York with the vibrancy and rich detail that are his trademarks, Pete Hamill weaves a story of honor, family, and one man's simple courage that no reader will soon forget.</p>	Pete Hamill	Fiction


5.	<p><b><u>The Secret Chord</u></b></p> <p>A rich and utterly absorbing novel about the life of King David. Peeling away the myth to bring David to life in Second Iron Age Israel, Brooks traces the arc of his journey from obscurity to fame, from shepherd to soldier, from hero to traitor, from beloved king to murderous despot and into his remorseful and diminished dotage. We see David through the eyes of those who love him or fear him—from the prophet Nathan, voice of his conscience, to his wives Mikal, Avigail, and Batsheva, and finally to Solomon, the late-born son who redeems his Lear-like old age.</p>	Geraldine Brooks	Historical Fiction
6.	<p><b><u>Marriage of Opposites</u></b></p> <p>Growing up on idyllic St. Thomas in the early 1800s, Rachel dreams of life in faraway Paris. Rachel's mother, a pillar of their small refugee community of Jews who escaped the Inquisition, has never forgiven her daughter for being a difficult girl who refuses to live by the rules. But Rachel's life is not her own. To save her father's business, she is married off to a widower with three children. When her husband dies suddenly and his handsome, much younger nephew, Frédéric, arrives from France to settle the estate, Rachel seizes her own life story, beginning a defiant, passionate love affair that sparks a scandal that affects all of her family, including her favorite son, Camille Pissarro, who will become one of the greatest artists of France.</p>	Alice Hoffman	Historical Fiction
7.	<p><b><u>The Summer Before the War</u></b></p> <p>Bestselling author Helen Simonson (Major Pettigrew's Last Stand) returns with a splendid historical novel full of wit, romance, and insight into the manners and morals of small-town British life. It's the summer of 1914 and life in the sleepy village of Rye, England is about to take an interesting turn. Agatha Kent is expecting an unusual candidate to be the school's Latin teacher: Beatrice Nash, a young woman of good breeding in search of a position after the death of her father. Agatha's nephews, meanwhile, have come to spend the summer months, as always, both with dreams of their own. When Hugh is sent to pick up Beatrice from the train station, life is about to change.</p>	Helen Simonson	Historical Fiction
8.	<p><b><u>Woman With a Gun</u></b></p> <p>At a retrospective on the work of acclaimed photographer Kathy Moran, aspiring novelist Stacey Kim is fascinated by the exhibition's centerpiece: the famous <i>Woman with a Gun</i>, which launched the artist's career. The enigmatic black-and-white image depicts a woman in a wedding dress standing on the shore, facing the sea, but behind her back, she holds a six-shooter. <i>Who is this woman, and why does she have a gun?</i> Stacey soon discovers the identity of the woman: a suspect in an unsolved ten-year-old murder investigation. And the one person who may know the whole story is the photographer.</p>	Phillip Margolin	Fiction
9.	<p><b><u>The Little Paris Bookshop</u></b></p> <p>Monsieur Perdu calls himself a literary apothecary. From his floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine, he prescribes novels for the hardships of life. Using his intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs, Perdu mends broken hearts and souls. The only person he can't seem to heal through literature is himself; he's still haunted by heartbreak after his great love disappeared. She left him with only a letter, which he has never opened, until now.</p>	Nina George	Fiction

10.	<p><b>Our Souls at Night</b></p> <p>From the writer of the beloved book <u>Plainsong</u>. In the familiar setting of Holt, Colorado, home to all of Kent Haruf's fiction, Addie Moore pays an unexpected visit to a neighbor, Louis Waters. Her husband died years ago, as did his wife, and in such a small town they naturally have long been aware of each other, if not exactly friends; in fact, Addie was quite fond of Louis's wife. What Addie has come to ask--since she and Louis have been living alone for so long in houses now empty of family, and the nights are so terribly lonely--is whether he might be willing to spend them with her, in her bed, so they can have someone to talk with. The arrival of her young grandson complicates matters but what follows is an eloquent, bittersweet inspiring story of a man and a woman who come together to wrestle with the events of their lives and their hopes for the imminent future.</p>	Kent Haruf	Fiction
11.	<p><b>Boys in the Boat</b></p> <p>This is the remarkable story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the boys defeated elite rivals first from eastern and British universities and finally the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler in the Olympic games in Berlin, 1936. This vastly popular book is witty and, entertaining storytelling at its best!</p>	Daniel James Brown	Non Fiction
12.	<p><b>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</b></p> <p>Narrator, Rosemary Cook, begins her story in the middle. "I spent the first eighteen years of my life defined by this one fact: I was raised with a chimpanzee," she tells us. "It's never going to be the first thing I share with someone. I tell you Fern was a chimp and already you aren't thinking of her as my sister. But until Fern's expulsion, I'd scarcely known a moment alone. She was my twin, my funhouse mirror, my whirlwind other half, and I loved her as a sister." Rosemary was not yet six when 'something happened,' and Fern was removed. Over the years, she's managed to block a lot of memories. She's smart, vulnerable, innocent, and culpable. With some guile, she guides us through the darkness, penetrating secrets and unearthing memories, leading us deeper into the mystery she has dangled before us from the start.</p>	Karen Joy Fowler	Fiction
13.	<p><b>The Nightingale</b></p> <p>"FRANCE, 1939 In the quiet village of Carriveau, Vianne Mauriac says goodbye to her husband, Antoine, as he heads for the Front. She doesn't believe that the Nazis will invade France but they do in droves of marching soldiers, caravans of trucks and tanks, and planes that fill the skies and drop bombs upon the innocent. When a German captain requisitions Vianne's home, she and her daughter must live with the enemy or lose everything. Without food or money or hope, as danger escalates all around them, she is forced to make one impossible choice after another to keep her family alive.</p>	Kristen Hannah	Historical Fiction
14.	<p><b>Einstein: His Life and Universe</b></p> <p>By the author of the acclaimed bestsellers Benjamin Franklin and Steve Jobs, this is the definitive biography of Albert Einstein. How did his mind work? What made him a genius? Isaacson's biography shows how his scientific imagination sprang from the rebellious nature of his personality. His fascinating story is a testament to the connection between creativity and freedom. Written in a witty and entertaining way, that makes reading it a pleasure.</p>	Walter Isaacson	Bio-ography

15.	<p><b><u>Girl Waits with Gun</u></b></p> <p>Constance Kopp doesn't quite fit the mold. She towers over most men, has no interest in marriage or domestic affairs, and has been isolated from the world since a family secret sent her and her sisters into hiding fifteen years ago. One day a belligerent and powerful silk factory owner runs down their buggy, and a dispute over damages turns into a war of bricks, bullets, and threats as he unleashes his gang on their family farm. When the sheriff enlists her help in convicting the men, Constance is forced to confront her past while defending her two sisters, Norma and the young, talented Fleurette — and she does it in a way that few women of 1914 would have dared.</p>	Amy Stewart	Fiction
16.	<p><b><u>The Rosie Effect</u></b></p> <p>The Wife Project is complete, and Don and Rosie are happily married, living in New York. But they're about to face a new challenge because, surprise! Rosie is pregnant. Don sets about learning the protocols of becoming a father, but his unusual research style gets him into trouble with the law. As Don tries to schedule time for pregnancy research, getting friends Gene and Claudia to reconcile, and staying on the right side of the social worker, he might lose Rosie when she needs him the most.</p>	Graeme Simsion	Fiction
17.	<p><b><u>The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry</u></b></p> <p>The irascible A. J. Fikry, owner of Island Books, has already lost his wife. Now his most prized possession, a rare book, has been stolen from right under his nose. One night upon closing, he discovers a toddler in his children's section with a note from her mother saying she can no longer raise her. It doesn't take long for the locals and especially the lovely yet eccentric sales rep, Amelia Loman, to notice the transformation of both bookstore and owner.</p>	Gabrielle Zevin	Fiction
18.	<p><b><u>Everyone Brave is Forgiven</u></b></p> <p>London, 1939. The day war is declared, Mary North leaves finishing school unfinished, goes straight to the War Office, and signs up. Tom Shaw decides to ignore the war, until he learns his roommate Alistair Heath has unexpectedly enlisted. Then the conflict can no longer be avoided. Young, bright, and brave, Mary is certain she'd be a marvelous spy. When, bewilderingly, she is made a teacher, she finds herself defying prejudice to protect the children her country would rather forget. Meanwhile, Tom finds that he will do anything for Mary.</p>	Chris Cleave	Fiction
19.	<p><b><u>Lisette's List</u></b></p> <p>In 1937 young Lisette Roux and her husband Andre, move from Paris to a village in Provence to care for Pascal, Andre's grandfather. Lisette regrets having to give up her dream of becoming a gallery apprentice and longs for the comforts and sophistication of Paris. But Lisette learns that Pascal once worked in the nearby ochre mines and later became a pigment salesman and frame maker; and while selling his pigments in Paris, he befriended Pissarro and Cézanne, some of whose paintings he received in trade for his frames. Pascal begins to tutor Lisette in both art and life.</p>	Susan Vreeland	Historical Fiction

20.	<p><b><u>The Round House</u></b></p> <p>When his mother, a tribal enrollment specialist living on a reservation in North Dakota, slips into an abyss of depression after being brutally attacked, 14-year-old Joe Coutz sets out with his three friends to find the person that destroyed his family. Riveting, suspenseful and arguably the most accessible novel to date from Erdrich, <u>The Round House</u> is a page-turning masterpiece of literary fiction—at once a powerful coming-of-age story, a mystery, and a tender, moving novel of family, history, and culture.</p>	Louise Erdrich	Fiction
21.	<p><b><u>After You</u></b></p> <p>The 2015 Sequel to <u>Me Before You</u>. Louisa Clark is no longer just an ordinary girl living an ordinary life. After the transformative six months spent with Will Traynor, she is struggling without him. When an extraordinary accident forces Lou to return home to her family, she can't help but feel she's right back where she started. Her body heals, but Lou herself knows that she needs to be kick-started back to life, which is how she ends up in a church basement with the members of the Moving On support group, who share insights, laughter, frustrations, and terrible cookies. This is a novel that will make you laugh, cry, and rejoice at being back in the world of Jojo Moyes.</p>	Jojo Moyes	Fiction
22.	<p><b><u>A Constellation of Vital Phenomena</u></b> - no CD Audiobooks, but downloadable e-Audiobook available.</p> <p>In a rural village in December 2004 Chechnya, a failed doctor Akhmed harbors the traumatized 8-year-old daughter of a father abducted by Russian forces and treats a series of wounded rebels and refugees while exploring the shared past that binds him to the child. A story of the transcendent power of love in wartime. <u>A Constellation of Vital Phenomena</u> is a work of sweeping breadth, profound compassion, and lasting significance. And it's as much a work of historical fiction as it is a heart-pounding thriller.</p>	Anthony Marra	Historical Fiction
23.	<p><b><u>Furiously Happy: A Funny Book About Horrible Things</u></b> - no Large Print</p> <p>Lawson is beloved around the world for her inimitable humor and honesty, and in <u>Furiously Happy</u>, she is at her snort-inducing funniest. This is a book about embracing everything that makes us who we are - the beautiful and the flawed - and then using it to find joy in fantastic and outrageous ways. Because as Jenny's mom says, "Maybe 'crazy' isn't so bad after all." In <u>Furiously Happy</u>, #1 New York Times bestselling author Jenny Lawson explores her lifelong battle with mental illness. A hysterical, ridiculous book about crippling depression and anxiety? That sounds like a terrible idea, but terrible ideas are what Jenny does best.</p>	Jenny Lawson	Memoir
24.	<p><b><u>The Martian</u></b></p> <p>Mark Watney was nearly killed by a dust storm on Mars and was abandoned by his crew who thought him dead. Now he's all alone with no way of letting Earth know he's alive, which doesn't matter because his supplies would run out before they'd get there. Either way, the environment or human error will likely kill him first. Not giving in, Mark works to survive battling obstacle after obstacle, but will it be enough? This is a tightly constructed and completely believable story of a man's ingenuity and strength in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. Riveting.</p>	Andy Weir	Science Fiction

**And Pick ONE Classic:**

<p>Check    <b>One:</b></p>			
<p>1.</p>	<p><b>Silas Marner</b>            In this heartwarming classic Silas Marner is a gentle linen weaver who is wrongly accused of a heinous theft that was committed by his best friend. After going into reclusion, he finds redemption and spiritual rebirth issuing from his unselfish love of an abandoned child who mysteriously appears one day in his cottage. Silas has been the inspiration for many other characters, including Dicken's Scrooge, and was movingly portrayed by Steve Martin in the movie "A Simple Twist of Fate."</p>	<p>George            Eliot</p>	<p>Classic</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p><b>The Great Gatsby</b>            James Gatz, a self-educated nobody from North Dakota, amasses a fortune and adopts the persona of Jay Gatsby, an Oxford-educated man about town. His motive? To win back the heart of Daisy, the woman he loved in his youth. Daisy is now married to Tom Buchanan, a brutal, ignorant racist who embodies the corruption that can come with unlimited wealth. Fitzgerald's third book stands as the supreme achievement of his career. This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers.</p>	<p>F. Scott            Fitzgerald</p>	<p>Classic</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>The Hound of the Baskervilles</b>            Did a supernatural hound cause the death of Sir Charles Baskerville? Or is the famous Baskerville curse simply a cover for more sinister goings on? The redoubtable Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick Dr. Watson face danger in an old mansion and on the moors in this rollicking classic adventure. This was the first appearance of Holmes since his intended death in "The Final Problem", and the success of The Hound of the Baskervilles led to the character's eventual revival.</p>	<p>Sir Arthur            Conan            Doyle</p>	<p>Classic</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Washington Square</b>            In the Washington Square area of New York City in the late nineteenth century, Dr. Austin Sloper raises his daughter Catharine with privilege and comfort but without love or regard. Dr. Sloper blames her for the death of her beautiful and talented mother at childbirth, which leaves Catharine shy and fragile. So when handsome Morris Townsend charms her, she falls deeply in love. Does he only care about her fortune, as her father is convinced?</p>	<p>Henry            James</p>	<p>Classic</p>