

2020

Hart Book Group – 2020 Reading List
First Tuesday and Wednesday of each Month

<p>Tues., Jan. 7 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk: A Novel</u>, by Kathleen Rooney She took 1930s New York by storm, working her way up writing copy for R.H. Macy's to become the highest paid advertising woman in the country. It was a job that, she says, "in some ways saved my life, and in other ways ruined it." A love letter to city life in all its guts and grandeur.</p>
<p>Wed., Jan. 8 - 1 p.m.</p>	
<p>Tues, Feb. 4 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Lisey's Story</u> by Stephen King Two years ago Lisey Debusher Landon lost her husband after a twenty-five-year marriage of the most profound and sometimes frightening intimacy. Scott was an award-winning bestselling novelist and very complicated. There was a place Scott went that both terrified and healed him, but gave him the ideas he needed in order to live. Now it's Lisey's turn to face Scott's demons in a near fatal journey into darkness. Perhaps King's most personal and powerful novel, <i>Lisey's Story</i> is about the wellsprings of creativity, the temptations of madness, and the secret language of love.</p>
<p>Wed, Feb. 5 - 1 p.m.</p>	
<p>Tues, March 3 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Born a Crime</u> by Trevor Noah One of the comedy world's fastest-rising stars tells his wild coming of age story during the twilight of apartheid in South Africa and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed. Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of <i>The Daily Show</i> began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison.</p>
<p>Wed, March 4 - 1 p.m.</p>	
<p>Wed, April 1 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Rules of Civility</u> by Amor Towles Set in New York City in 1938, tells the story of a watershed year in the life of an uncompromising 25-year-old named Katey Kontent. Armed with little more than a formidable intellect, a bracing wit, and her own brand of cool nerve, Katey embarks on a journey from a Wall Street secretarial pool through the upper echelons of New York society in search of a brighter future.</p>
<p>Tues, April 7 - 7 p.m.</p>	
<p>Tues, May 5 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Alice Network: a Novel</u> by Kate Quinn It's 1947 and American college girl Charlie St. Clair is pregnant, unmarried, and on the verge of being thrown out of her very proper family. She's also nursing a fervent belief that her beloved French cousin Rose, who disappeared in France during the war, might still be alive. So Charlie heads to London to find out what happened to her. In 1915 Eve Gardiner burns to join the fight against the Germans and gets her chance to work as a spy for the English. She is trained by the mesmerizing Lili, the "Queen of Spies." Thirty years later, haunted by the betrayal that ultimately tore apart the Alice Network, Eve spends her days drunk in London until a young American barges in, launching them both on a mission to find the truth.</p>
<p>Wed., May 6 - 1 p.m.</p>	
<p>Tues, June 2 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Library Book</u> Susan Orlean Susan Orlean re-opens the unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history, and delivers a dazzling love letter to the beloved institution of libraries.</p>
<p>Wed, June 3 - 1 p.m.</p>	

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<p>Classic Wed, July 1 - 1 p.m. Tues, July 7 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Little Women</u> by Louisa May Alcott Based loosely on Louisa May Alcott's own upbringing, Little women follows the lives of four sisters--Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March. Each girl has a vision of what their ideal future will bring, though ultimately experiencing, as most young do, something completely different. Originally written as two volumes, the book was a great commercial success and is considered one of the most widely read American novels.</p>
<p>Tues, August 4 - 7 p.m. Wed, August 5 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis</u> by J.D. Vance Hillbilly Elegy is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The disintegration of this group, a process that has been slowly occurring now for more than forty years, has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what such decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. Deeply moving with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures.</p>
<p>Tues, Sept. 1 - 7 p.m. Wed, Sept. 2 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Paris Architect</u> by Charles Belfoure <i>Agatha Christie - And then there were None</i> Like most gentiles in Nazi-occupied Paris, architect Lucien Bernard has little empathy for the Jews. So when a wealthy industrialist offers him a large sum of money to devise secret hiding places for Jews, Lucien struggles with the choice of risking his life for a cause he doesn't really believe in...</p>
<p>Tues, Oct. 6 - 7 p.m. Wed, Oct. 7 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II</u>, by Denise Kiernan This book looks at the contributions of thousands of women who worked at a secret uranium-enriching facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee during World War II. During the war this city was home to 75,000 residents, and consumed more electricity than New York City. Thousands of civilians, mostly young women, were recruited, but few would guess the true nature of the work done there. Interviewing the women who lived it, the author captures the spirit of the times through them: their pluck, desire to contribute, and enduring courage.</p>
<p>Note: day change Wed, Nov. 4 - 1 p.m. Wed, Nov. 4 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Where the Crawdads Sing</u>, by Delia Owens For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a town on the North Carolina coast. She's barefoot and wild; unfit for polite society. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya. But Kya is not what they say. Abandoned at age ten, she has survived on her own and becomes a born naturalist. But while she could have lived in solitude forever, the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. Drawn to two young men from town, Kya opens herself to a new and startling world -- until the unthinkable happens.</p>
<p>Tues. Dec. 1 - 7 p.m. Wed. Dec. 2 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane: A Novel</u> by Lisa See Li-yan and her family align their lives around the seasons and the farming of tea. Then one day a jeep appears at the village gate, and a stranger arrives. Li-yan translates for the stranger and is among the first to reject the rules that have shaped her existence. When she has a baby outside of wedlock rather than stand by tradition, she wraps her daughter in a blanket with a tea cake hidden in her swaddling, and abandons her in the nearest city.</p>