

Shrub Oak Book Groups – 2016 Reading List

First Tuesday and Wednesday of each Month

<p>Tues, Jan. 5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Jan. 6 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>The Alienist</u> - by Caleb Carr. New York City, 1896, and a grisly murder is discovered. The newly appointed police commissioner Theodore Roosevelt enlists two men in the murder investigation, a brilliant psychiatrist, then known as an alienist, and a New York Times reporter. They use the new science of forensic psychology but find it is ridiculed by law authorities.</p>
<p>Tues, Feb. 2 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Feb. 3 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Big Little Lies</u> – by Liane Moriarty "The secrets burrowed in this seemingly placid small town...are so suburban noir they would make David Lynch clap with glee...Moriarty is a fantastically nimble writer, so sure-footed that the book leaps between dark and light seamlessly; even the big reveal in the final pages feels earned and genuinely shocking." - <i>Entertainment Weekly</i>...</p>
<p>Tues, March 1 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, March 2 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Rosie Project</u>– by Graeme Simsion Don Tillman, professor of genetics, has never been on a second date. He is a man who can count all his friends on the fingers of one hand, whose lifelong difficulty with social rituals has convinced him that he is simply not wired for romance. So when an acquaintance informs him that he would make a 'wonderful' husband, his first reaction is shock. Then he designs a Wife Project.</p>
<p>Tues, April 5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, April 6 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>A Spool of Blue Thread</u> – by Anne Tyler "It was a beautiful, breezy, yellow-and-green afternoon." This is the way Abby Whitshank always begins the story of how she fell in love with Red that day in July, 1959. The whole family is on the porch, listening contentedly. Brimming with the luminous insight, humor, and compassion that are Anne Tyler's hallmarks, this capacious novel takes us across three generations.</p>
<p>Tues, May 3 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, May 4 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Sandcastle Girls</u>– by Chris Bohjalian This spellbinding tale travels between Aleppo, Syria in 1915, and Bronxville, New York in 2012--a sweeping historical love story steeped in the author's Armenian heritage, making it his most personal novel to date. It is about a woman who falls in love with an Armenian soldier during the Armenian Genocide and a modern-day New Yorker prompted to rediscover her Armenian past.</p>
<p>Tues, June 7 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, June 1 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Circling the Sun: a novel</u>– by Paula McLain Circling the Sun brings to life a fearless and captivating woman--Beryl Markham, a record-setting aviator caught up in a passionate love triangle with safari hunter Denys Finch Hatton and Karen Blixen, author of the classic memoir <u>Out of Africa</u>. Brought to Kenya from England as a child and then abandoned by her mother, Beryl is raised by both her father and the native Kipsigis tribe who share his estate. Her unconventional upbringing transforms Beryl into a bold young woman with a fierce love of all things wild and an inherent understanding of nature's delicate balance.</p>

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<p>Tues, July 5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, July 6 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u><i>Far From the Madding Crowd</i></u> – by <i>Thomas Hardy</i></p> <p>This early novel tells the story of Bathsheba Everdene, a fiercely independent woman who inherits a farm. She rejects a marriage proposal from Gabriel Oak, a loyal man who takes a job on her farm after losing his own. He is forced to watch as Bathsheba flirts with her neighbor but both suitors are soon eclipsed by the arrival of the dashing soldier, Frank Troy, which sets off a dramatic chain of events that leads to both murder and marriage.</p>
<p>Tues, August 2 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, August 3 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u><i>The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion</i></u>– by <i>Fannie Flagg</i></p> <p>Mrs. Sookie Poole of Point Clear, Alabama is looking forward to travelling with her retired husband when she discovers a secret about her mother's past that knocks her for a loop. She begins a search for answers that takes her to the west back in the 1940's when an irrepressible woman named Fritzzi takes on the job of running her family's filling station.</p>
<p>Tues, Sept. 13 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Sept. 14 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u><i>At the Water's Edge</i></u> – by <i>Sara Gruen</i></p> <p>While her brother, Ellis and his friend try to find the Loch Ness monster in an attempt to get back into her father's good graces, Maddie is left on her own in World War II-era Scotland and experiences a social awakening. From the author of <u><i>Water for Elephants</i></u>.</p>
<p>Tues, Oct. 4 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Oct. 5 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u><i>Inside the O'Briens</i></u> – by <i>Lisa Genova</i></p> <p>Joe O'Brien is a 44-year-old police officer, devoted husband and proud father of four adult children but begins experiencing strange physical and emotional symptoms. The neurologist diagnoses Huntington's, a degenerative genetic disease with no cure. As Joe's symptoms worsen, he struggles to maintain his identity and sense of purpose. Each family member must reexamine their values as they learn to lead lives not defined by fear, but instead by love.</p>
<p>Tues, Nov. 1 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, Nov. 2 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u><i>All the Light We Cannot See</i></u> – <i>Anthony Doerr</i></p> <p>Marie Laure lives with her father in Paris and is blind by age six. When the Germans occupy Paris, they flee to Saint-Malo on the coast. In Germany, Werner grows up enchanted by a crude radio he finds. He becomes a master at building and fixing radios, which wins him a place with the Hitler Youth. Then he meets Marie Laure.</p>
<p>Tues. Dec. 6 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed. Dec. 7 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><u><i>The Girl on the Train</i></u> – by <i>Paula Hawkins</i></p> <p>“The new <u><i>Gone Girl</i></u>.” A psychological thriller about a woman who becomes emotionally entangled in a murder investigation because of something she witnesses on her daily commute.</p>