



Thursday Evening Book Discussions 2025-26 Nevins Memorial Library

Book discussions will be held at the Library on Thursday evenings 7-9pm. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on ZOOM. Books are available approximately one month prior to the discussion. You may pick up books at the Main Desk any time the Library is open or call to make an arrangement for Curbside Pickup. Some books are available as downloadable e-books, or in Large Print or Audio. If you wish to join this Book Group you may attend any meeting. Additional Book Discussion information is available on our website at www.nevinslibrary.org. All books announced in this flyer are tentative, based on availability of multiple copies. To confirm dates, book selections, or for more information call the Library at 978-686-4080 ext. 10.

September 4th – Annual Reading Round-Up

Fall Series: Siblings

The sibling relationship is one of the most complex and interesting relationships many of us have. It is frequently featured in literature in all its varied

October 2nd – The Dutch House by Ann Patchett Set over the course of five decades, this is a dark tale about two smart people who cannot overcome their past. Siblings Danny and Maeve are only truly comfortable when they're together. Throughout their lives they return to the well-worn story of what they've lost. When at last they're forced to confront the people who left them behind, the relationship between an indulged brother and his ever-protective sister is finally tested.

November 6th – The Virgin Suicides by Jeffery Eugenides In a quiet suburb of Detroit, the five Lisbon sisters—beautiful, eccentric, and obsessively watched by the neighborhood boys—commit suicide one by one over the course of a single year. As the boys observe them from afar, transfixed, they piece together the mystery of the family's fatal melancholy, in this hypnotic and unforgettable novel of adolescent love, disquiet, and death.

December 4th -- Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri

Born just fifteen months apart, Subhash and Udayan Mitra are inseparable brothers, one often mistaken for the other in the Calcutta neighborhood where they grow up. But they are also opposites, with gravely different futures ahead.

January 8th – The Burgess Boys – by Elizabeth Strout

Jim and Bob Burgess

escaped from their Maine hometown of Shirley Falls for New York City as soon as they possibly could. The brothers have a long-standing dynamic that is upended when their sister, Susan—the Burgess sibling who stayed behind—urgently calls them home, where the long-buried tensions that have shaped and shadowed the brothers' relationship begin to surface in unexpected ways that will change them forever.

February 5th – The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

The Vignes twin sisters

will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community their adult lives are completely different including their families, their communities, their racial identities. Weaving together multiple generational stories of this family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett produces a story that is at once a riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing.

Spring Series: Hidden Identities

We all have parts of our lives that are known only to ourselves, but some people construct whole new lives to hide their identities...this spring we explore several ways in which people build new lives.

March 5th – The Spy Who Came in from the Cold by John le Carré

Spies adopt hidden identities for a living. In this famous seminal novel of the espionage genre, the Head of Berlin Station, Alex Leamas faces the prospect of retirement or worse—a desk job. He takes on one last case, assuming the guise of an embittered and dissolute ex-agent, Leamas is set up to trap one of the leaders of the East German Intelligence Service—with himself as the bait. “The Spy Who Came in from the Cold” is a devastating tale of duplicity and espionage.

April 2nd – Erasure by Percival Everett

Thelonious "Monk" Ellison's writing career

has bottomed out: his latest manuscript has been rejected by seventeen publishers. He seethes as he watches the meteoric success of a first novel by a woman who once visited "some relatives in Harlem for a couple of days" and spins a tall tale of living in the “hood” which belittles and stereotypes African-American lives. In his rage and despair, Monk dashes off a novel meant to be an indictment of popular novels. Suddenly his book is a smash hit and Monk has to assume a new persona.

May 7th – Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand

You know the story...Cyrano de Bergerac is the dashing silver-tongued cavalier whose unfortunate looks drive him to woo his love by speaking for his handsome but dull-witted rival. Regarded as one of the greatest dramas ever written, we can read the play and watch one of the fine films that have come from this classic work of art. Cyrano is one of the most famous hidden identities in all literature.

June 4th – Conclave by Robert Harris

The pope is dead. Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and eighteen cardinals from all over the globe will gather to cast their votes in the world's most secretive election. They are holy men. But they are not immune to the human temptations of power and glory. And they are not above the tribalism and factionalism that consumes humanity. When all is said and done, one of them will become the most powerful spiritual figure on Earth

