

Doris Betts Book Club 2020-2021

October 27, 2020

"A Pilgrimage to Eternity: From Canterbury to Rome in Search of a Faith" by Timothy Eagan

Moved by his mother's death and his family's complicated history with the church, Timothy Eagan decided to follow in the footsteps of centuries of seekers to force a reckoning with his own beliefs.

Led by Susie Eckblad

March 30, 2021

"The Women in the Castle" by Jessica Shattuck

At the end of WWII a woman offers shelter to two widows of fallen resistance fighters and their children in her formerly majestic Bavarian castle.

This is a Chatham Community Library book group selection so we will have access to 10 copies. I will pick up from the library and organize distribution on the month we decide to read this one.

Led by Martha Adcox

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Books for the remainder of the year with dates TBD:

"The Lost Girls of Paris" by Pam Jenhoff

After discovering an abandoned, photograph-filled suitcase in Grand Central Station in 1946, a young widow sets out to discover who the people in the pictures are.

Also a Chatham Community Library book group set. Again, I'll pick up and distribute by the first of the month when this is our selection.

"Hillbilly Eligy" by JD Vance

The story of the author's family and upbringing, describing how they moved from poverty to an upwardly mobile clan that included the author, a Yale Law School graduate, while navigating the demands of middle-class life.

This seems like an important read as we consider our divided America and those citizens from many backgrounds who feel themselves forgotten or left behind.

Also a Community Library book set.

"Yellow Crocus" by Laila Ibrahim

Moments after Lisbeth is born, she's taken from her mother and handed over to an enslaved wet nurse, Mattie, a young mother separated from her own infant son in order to care for her tiny charge. Thus begins an intense relationship that will shape both of their lives for decades to come.

This is the first book of the trilogy.

"An Uncommon Reader" by Alan Bennett

When the Queen in pursuit of her wandering corgis stumbles upon a mobile library she feels duty bound to borrow a book. Aided by Norman, a young man from the palace kitchen who frequents the library, the Queen is transformed as she discovers the liberating pleasures of the written word.

And three from Cindy's list of North Carolina history. These got the votes and in addition my quick research found a reasonably good supply of affordable used copies.

"Stand Up That Mountain" by Jay Eerskine Leutze

On the App Trail in far western NC, local attorney (recruiting others) saving a mountain from mining.

"A Southern Tragedy, in Crimson and Yellow" by Lawrence Naumoff

About the Hamlet chicken plant fire

"A Home on the Field" by Paul Cuadros.

A story of the championship Jordan Matthews High School soccer team and their coach