

Thank you to my fellow citizens who served on the Book Selection Committee. We had a productive meeting. Attached is a summary of our discussion and a working list from which to select our next four books.

We agreed on some selection criteria and produced a list of 8 titles. At the January 27 meeting, we can decide on our next 4 books. PLEASE take a look at the attachment and preview the titles so you can make an informed decision. THANKS.

We decided on these **criteria**:

- The Book Group prefers quality literature that will broaden our horizons and lend itself to satisfying discussion.
- We prefer books that members (or their acquaintances) have read (and *commended*) and/or literature that has been *favorably reviewed* by a reputable source, (such as The New York Times, The New Yorker, Kirkus Review, Jewish Review of Books, The Guardian, etc.).
- *Availability* is a consideration, BUT if we plan ahead, we should be able to order anything we want through local books stores or online suppliers.
- An effort will be made not to repeat authors and to alternate categories.

These are general categories and are not meant to be all-inclusive:

Non-fiction:

World history,
Jewish History,
social science,
science, etc.

Fiction

English (language) literature, (American, British, Canadian)
Classic
Contemporary
Historical fiction
Mystery, adventure
Israeli authors (fiction or nonfiction)
Other international authors (fiction or nonfiction)

Upcoming Meetings

January 27 - Poetry Slam

February 21 - *The Parisian*

March - *Churchill and the Jews*

Here are eight titles. Please preview them and at our next meeting **we'll select four** to read and discuss in April, May, June and July. (These selections were either recently recommended or came from the prior list we had compiled. All are member suggestions.)

Sabar, Ariel	My Father's Paradise
McCann, Colum	Let the Great World Spin (F)
Patchett, Ann	The Dutch House
Skloot, Rebecca	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
Erdrich, Louise	Plague of Doves
Ariely, Dan	Looking for <u>specific title</u> from someone who has read this author.
Marie Benedict	The Only Woman in the Room
Chia Chia Lin	The Unpassing

New and remaining listings for future consideration:

Amir, Eli	Dove Flyer
Brown, Daniel James	The Boys in the Boat
Dickens, Charles	
Evans, Richard Paul	Sunflower
Grames, Juliet	The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna
Jackson, Shirley	We Have Always Lived in the Castle
Jenoff, Pam	The Lost Girls of Paris
Joyce, James	A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
leCarre, John	(Any book of your choice)
Lefteri, Christy	The Beekeeper of Aleppo
MacIntyre, Ben	The Traitor and the Spy
Mann, Thomas	Joseph & His Brothers (Or anotherMann?)
McCourt, Frank	Angela's Ashes
Michael, Sami	A Trumpet in the Wadi
Nunez, Sigrid	The Friend
Oates, Joyce Carol	My Life as a Rat
Sacks, Jonathan	Morality (or other Sacks title)
Sands, Phillipe	East West Street
Sebald, W. G.	The Rings of Saturn
Shavit, Ari	My Promised Land
Yehoshua, A. B.	The Tunnel
Zafon, Carlos Ruiz	The Shadow of the Wind