



2017 Book List

January

My Brilliant Friend/Story of a New Name/Those Who Leave and Those Who Stay/The Story of the Lost Child: The Neopolitan Novels by Elena Ferrante

February

Empty Mansions by Bill Dedman and Paul Clark Newwell, Jr. The mysterious Life of Huguette Clark and the spending of a great American fortune reveal a complex portrait of Huguett and her intimate circle. A story of an eccentric of the highest order, a last jewel of the Gilded Age who lived life on her own terms.

March

The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman. Based on the life of Camille Pissaro and the story of his parents unlikely romance and marriage.

April

The Year of the Runaways by Sanjeev Saheta. A story about the lives of three Indian men: Tochi, Randeep and Avtar; and a British woman who is married to Randeep but lives apart from him. It is a political novel about migrant workers in Sheffield.

May

H is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald. A misery memoir and a falconer's diary about the hard won trust between hawk and human on training a falcon, the ruffian of the sky, and the life problems it can solve.

June

Miss Jane by Brad Watson. Inspired by the true story of his own great aunt, Watson explores the life of Miss Jane Chisolm, born in 1915 Mississippi with a genital birth defect which would stand in the way of the central "uses" for a woman in that time and place...sex and marriage.

July

Most Wanted by Lisa Scottlini, Using a donor because a couple cannot conceive a child, they come to realize the biological father of their unborn child is a killer.

August

More Than You Know by Beth Gutcheon. Set in Maine it tells two stories of doomed love and the consequences for future generations.

September

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson. Vivid poems which reflect the joy of finding her voice through writing stories. She tells what it is like to grow up in the 1960's and 1970's in the north and in the south.

October

The Inheritance of Loss by Kiran Desai. Explores the lives of characters who are trapped in India's class system...both the lower and the upper class. Their hopes and dreams are conveyed along with their ultimate dream of immigrating to America and finally escaping the rigid cast system of their homeland.

November

The Little Red Chairs by Edna O'Brien. Healing and horror sit side by side in this novel set in an Irish Village. A stranger who arrives seems to be a healer, but is also a butcher...a duality which reveals the way evil can co-exist with grace and empathy.

December

Shirley Jackson: A Rather Haunted Life by Ruth Franklin. This biography reveals the tumultuous life and inner darkness of Jackson and her life with her husband, Stanley Edgar Hyman, literary critic at the New Yorker and professor at Bennington College.