



# BOOK TALKS!

## MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS APRIL 2018

### FICTION

***Ines of My Soul*** by Elizabeth Allende (In the 16th century, born into a poor family in Spain, a seamstress finds herself condemned to a life of hard work without reward or hope for the future.)

***My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry*** by Fredrik Backman (a charming, warm hearted novel about a young girl whose grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters, sending her on a journey that brings to life the world of her grandmother's fairy tales)

***The Wonder*** by Emma Donoghue (an English nurse brought to a small Irish village to observe what appears to be a miracle - an 11 year old girl said to have survived without food for months - soon finds herself fighting to save the child's life.)

***Exit West*** by Mohsin Hamid (In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet--sensual, fiercely independent Nadia and gentle, restrained Saeed. They embark on a furtive love affair, thrust into premature intimacy by the unrest roiling their city.)

***Lilac Girls*** by Martha Kelly (two women's lives will converge in unprecedented ways and a novel of redemption and hope emerges that is breathtaking in scope and depth)

***Free Food for Millionaires*** by Min Jin Lee (As Casey Han navigates Manhattan, we see her life and the lives around her, culminating in a portrait of New York City and its world of haves and have-nots.) - newest novel is ***Pachinko*** (A sweeping saga of an exceptional family in exile from its homeland in Korea and caught in the indifferent arc of history in Japan.)

***The Lost Book of the Grail*** by Charlie Lovett (An obsessive bibliophile's quest through time to discover a missing manuscript, the unknown history of an English Cathedral, and the secret of the Holy Grail)

***Everything I Never Told You*** by Celest Ng (Lydia is dead. But they don't know this yet. So begins the story of this exquisite debut novel, about a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio) - newest novel is ***Little Fires Everywhere*** (the intertwined stories of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the mother and daughter who upend their lives.)

***Years of Red Dust : Stories of Shanghai*** by Xiaolong Qiu (A collection of linked short stories traces a half-century in China from the early days of the Communist revolution to the modernization movement from the perspective of residents on a small street in Shanghai.)

***They May Not Mean to, But They Do*** by Cathleen Schine (tender, sometimes hilarious intergenerational story about searching for where you belong as your family changes with age)

***The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*** by Lisa See (Explores the lives of a Chinese mother and her daughter, who has been adopted by an American couple, tracing the very different cultural factors that compel them to consume a rare native tea that has shaped their family's destiny for generations.)

***Beneath the Scarlett Sky*** by Mark Sullivan (In 1940s Italy, teenager Pino Lella joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps and falls for a beautiful widow, he also becomes the personal driver of one of the Third Reich's most powerful commanders)

***Do Not Say We Have Nothing*** by Madelin Thien (extended family in China, showing us the lives of two successive generations--those who lived through Mao's Cultural Revolution and their children, who became the students protesting in Tiananmen Square)

***Everybody's Son*** by Thrity Umrigar (Following in his adopted family's footsteps, Anton, too, rises within the establishment. But when he discovers the truth about his life, his birth mother, and his adopted parents, this man of the law must come to terms with the moral complexities of crimes committed by the people he loves most)

***The Man*** by Irving Wallace (The time is 1964. The place is the Cabinet Room of the White House. An unexpected accident and the law of succession have just made Douglass Dilman the first black President of the United States.)

***Before We Were Yours*** by Lisa Wingate (The five Foss children find their lives changed forever when their parents leave them alone on the family shantyboat one stormy night)