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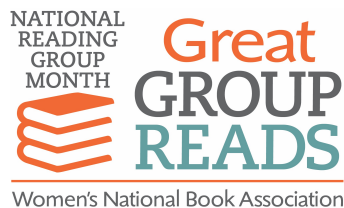
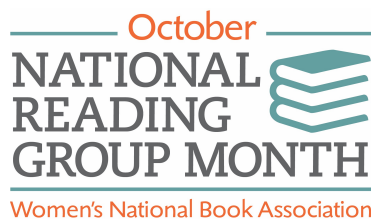
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NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION



National Reading Group Month Announces Great Group Reads 2017 Program

NEW YORK—FEBRUARY 27, 2017—The organizers of National Reading Group Month invite publishers to participate in the Great Group Reads 2017 program. Now in its ninth year, Great Group Reads is a highly regarded resource for book clubs, reading groups, and individual facilitators to choose books—and likewise, for bookstores and libraries to recommend books.

Titles for Great Group Reads are selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups for whom they are certain to open up lively conversations about an array of timely and provocative topics, from the intimate dynamics of family and personal matters in question to major cultural and global issues. The Selection Committee also makes a conscious resolve to focus its attention on underrepresented books from independent presses and lesser-known mid-list releases from larger houses. All should be books with strong narratives people by fully realized characters; books which perhaps go unnoticed by reviewers, bloggers, and reading groups who are frequently overwhelmed by the vast number of new releases each year. *Debut fiction and memoir encouraged.*

Preliminary submission guidelines:

- 1) Genre: literary fiction (novels, novellas, short stories) and memoir, including books in translation published in the U.S. between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017;
- 2) Submissions: titles for consideration must be submitted by publishers; limited two titles per publisher or imprint; titles must be readily available through customary distribution channels;
- 3) Format: all eligible, including trade-paper reprints published within the designated time frame; exception: original e-books.
- 4) Restrictions: previously submitted titles are ineligible; self-published books are ineligible.

The Selection Committee timeline is as follows: reading period will range from April through July; final decision to be made early August; formal announcement will be made to media outlets early September.

Submissions on or before Friday, April 21, 2017.

Publishers are asked to contact Kristen Knox, Great Group Reads Manager via email at [KKnox.NatlReadingGrpMonth@gmail.com](mailto:KKnox.NatlReadingGrpMonth@gmail.com) (subject line tagged: Great Group Reads 2017).

Great Group Reads 2016 Selections:

Blackass by A. Igoni Barrett (Graywolf Press)  
The Book of Harlan by Bernice L. McFadden (Akashic Books)  
Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman (Atria Books)  
Charmed Particles by Chrissy Kolaya (Dzanc Books)  
The Cosmopolitans by Sarah Schulman (Feminist Press at CUNY)  
The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper by Phaedra Patrick (MIRA/Harlequin)  
The Drone Eats with Me: A Gaza Diary by Atef Abu Saif (Beacon Press)  
A Hard and Heavy Thing by Matthew J. Hefti (Tyus Books/F+W)  
Heat and Light by Jennifer Haigh (Ecco)  
The Honeymoon by Dinitia Smith (Other Press)  
The Measure of Darkness by Liam Durcan (Bellevue Literary Press)  
Miss Jane by Brad Watson (W.W. Norton & Company)  
A Mother's Reckoning: Living in the Aftermath of Tragedy by Sue Klebold (Crown)  
Orhan's Inheritance by Aline Ohanesian (Algonquin Books)  
Over the Plain Houses by Julia Franks (Hub City Press)  
The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald (Sourcebooks Landmark)  
This Is Your Life, Harriet Chance! by Jonathan Evison (Algonquin Books)  
This Side of Providence by Rachel M. Harper (Prospect Park Books)  
300 Days of Sun by Deborah Lawrenson (Harper Paperbacks)  
The Tsar of Love and Techno: Stories by Anthony Marra (Hogarth)  
What Comes Next and How to Like It: A Memoir by Abigail Thomas (Scribner)

(Great Group Reads 2016 Selections [http://www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr\\_selections.html](http://www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_selections.html))

Great Group Reads marketing campaigns from 2009-2016 have included a collection of professionally designed display materials such as shelf-talkers and table-top posters on the National Reading Group Month Web site for anyone to download and use in promoting Great Group Reads titles. These and other promotional materials are made available to independent bookstores through the ABA September Red Box mailing. In addition, Great Group Reads authors are extended invitations to participate in nation-wide WNBA 11-chapter National Reading Group Month programming during October.

Sponsor of National Reading Group Month:

\*Sourcebooks—An Independent Vision and, Friends of National Reading Group Month: American Booksellers Association (ABA), Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, Baker & Taylor—*the future delivered*, The Booklist Reader (Booklist, American Library Association), Edelweiss (Above the Treeline, Inc.), Ingram Content Group, NetGalley—We Help Books Succeed, Reading Group Choices—Selections for Lively Book Discussions, Reading Group Guides—The Online Community for Reading Groups, and the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance (SIBA). \* Premier Sponsor

National Reading Group Month is an initiative of the Women's National Book Association (WNBA). The Women's National Book Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization connecting, educating, advocating & leading since 1917.

Further information is available at: [NationalReadingGroupMonth.org](http://NationalReadingGroupMonth.org)  
Women's National Book Association, P.O. Box 237, FDR Station, New York, NY  
10150-0231; [www.wnba-books.org](http://www.wnba-books.org).

Press release prepared on February 20, 2017,  
by Jill A. Tardiff, National Reading Group Month Chair  
Visit National Reading Group Month on Twitter (WNBA\_NRGM) and Facebook.