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MEDIA CONTACT:
Jill A. Tardiff, National Reading Group Month Chair
(201) 656-7220
jill.tardiff@gmail.com, or NationalReadingGroupMonth@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN’S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION
National Reading Group Month — Celebrating the joy of shared reading
National Reading Group Month Announces Great Group Reads 2016 Selections

NEW YORK—SEPTEMBER 19, 2016—The National Reading Group Month/Great Group Reads committee has chosen 21 books as this year’s list:

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 (Tyrus 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://nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_selections.html)
These titles were selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups, which seek books that open up lively conversations about a myriad of timely and provocative and diverse topics, from the intimate dynamics of family and personal relationships to major cultural and world issues.

Great Group Reads Selection Committee Chair Kristen Knox says: “The breadth and diversity of books the Selection Committee has chosen this year delights me — novels and memoirs exemplifying global perspectives which inform and challenge readers. Any and every book club will be able to find wonderful options that work for them no matter what type of book they want to read.” (A full list of Selection Committee members can be found at the National Reading Group Month Web site, www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_committee.html.)

The National Reading Group Month Chair Jill A. Tardiff thanks the Selection Committee for its constancy and thoroughness and all the publishers who submitted titles and made reading copies via traditional galleys and eBook format available. Ms. Tardiff says, “Our goal is to have these outstanding and often inspiring titles become reading-group staples with facilitators and that booksellers and librarians across the country feature them during the month of October, which is, of course, National Reading Group Month—and, throughout the year.” She continues, “For that purpose, we provide a wide array of professionally designed display materials such as shelf-talkers and table-top posters on the National Reading Group Month website for anyone to download and use in promoting these titles. We encourage visiting the site for these and other features and tips.” (See National Reading Group Month Marketing Toolkit at Get Involved www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/involved.html).

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National Reading Group Month/Great Group Reads is an initiative of the Women’s National Book Association (WNBA) — Connecting, educating, advocating, and leading since 1917. The WNBA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization promoting reading and supporting the role of women in the community of the book. For more information about the Women’s National Book Association go to: www.wnba-books.org. Women’s National Book Association, P.O. Box 237, FDR Station, New York, NY 10022-9998; www.wnba-books.org; www.NationalReadingGroupMonth.org.

Press release prepared on September 19, 2016, by Jill A. Tardiff, National Reading Group Month Chair NationalReadingGroupMonth.org NationalReadingGroupMonth@gmail.com Phone: (201) 658-5626