

### **The Wonder Boy of Whistle Stop**

By Fannie Flagg Susan's Pick  
Bud grew up in the town of Whistle Stop with his mother Ruth and his fun-loving Aunt Idgie. Together they ran the Whistle Stop Cafe, known for its fried green tomatoes. And as Bud often said of his childhood to his daughter Ruthie, "How lucky can you get?"

### **The Boys' Club**

By Erica Katz Annette's Pick  
Alex accepts a dream offer at a prestigious Manhattan law firm and promises her supportive longtime boyfriend the job won't change her. Yet Alex is seduced by the firm's money, energy and by her cocksure male colleagues, who quickly take notice of the new girl.

### **Hidden Valley Road: Inside the mind of an American Family**

By Robert Kolker Mary's Pick  
Don and Mimi Galvin lived the American dream with their twelve children valuing hard work, upward mobility and domestic harmony until psychological breakdown, sudden violence and hidden abuse surfaced. Six of the ten Galvin boys, were diagnosed as schizophrenic. How could all this happen to one family?

### **Key To Fear**

By Kristin Cast Jennifer's Pick  
For fifty years, the Key Corporation has defended humanity against a deadly virus that spreads through touch. Personal boundaries are valued above all. Elodie, a talented young nurse, believes in the mission of the Key but is forced to break the rules when she sets out in search of a patient missing while under her care.

### **Dear Child**

By Romy Hausmann Dot's Pick  
A windowless shack in the woods. A dash to safety. A woman finally escapes her captor, but it is only the beginning of her nightmare. She says her name is Lena. Lena, who disappeared without a trace 14 years prior. She fits the profile. She has the distinctive scar. But her family swears that she isn't their Lena.

### **Becoming Eve**

By Abby Stein Annie's Pick  
Abby Stein was raised as a son in a dynastic rabbinical family, but felt certain that she was a girl. She went looking for answers wherever she could find them, until she orchestrated an exodus from ultra-Orthodox manhood to mainstream femininity—a radical choice that forced her to leave her home, her family, her way of life.



## **Waldwick Public Library**

### **Staff**

### **Picks**

### **Winter2020/2021**

### **The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue**

By V.E. Schwab Susan & Kristen's Pick  
France, 1714: in a moment of desperation, a young woman makes a Faustian bargain to live forever—and is cursed to be forgotten by everyone she meets. Thus begins the extraordinary life of Addie LaRue, and a dazzling adventure that will play out across centuries and continents.

### **The Pull of the Stars**

By Emma Donoghue Annette's Pick  
In Ireland, Julia and Doctor Kathleen Lynn work at a hospital where expectant mothers with a terrible new Flu are quarantined. In the darkness and intensity, over three days, these women change each other's lives. They lose patients to this baffling pandemic, but they also shepherd new life into a fearful world.

### **The Toll**

By Cherie Priest Lori's Pick  
Titus and Melanie are in the Okefenokee Swamp for a canoeing trip. Shortly before reaching their destination, the road narrows into a rickety bridge with room for only one car. Much later, Titus wakes up lying in the middle of the road, no bridge in sight. Melanie is missing. When he calls the police, they tell him there is no bridge on Route 177. Southern gothic at its best!

### **Sunny Days: the children's television revolution that changed America**

By David Kemp Mary's Pick  
A fascinating and touching behind-the-scenes story of the people behind Sesame Street, The Electric Company, Mister Rogers' and Schoolhouse Rock!—which transformed American childhood for the better, teaching kids about diversity, the ABCs, and feminism through a fun, funky 1970s lens.

### **The Vanishing Half**

By Brit Bennett

Pat R's Pick

The Vignes twins are identical and grow up in a small, southern, black community. As adults, everything is different: their families, communities, racial identities. One sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she tried to escape. The other passes for white and her husband knows nothing of her past.

### **The Perfume Collector**

By Kathleen Tessaro

Annie's Pick

Grace Monroe is a 1950s socialite. When she receives an unexpected inheritance from a stranger, Grace is drawn to uncover the identity of her benefactor. From 1920s New York to Monte Carlo, Paris, and London, the story Grace uncovers is that of an extraordinary woman who inspired one of Paris's greatest perfumers.

### **Invisible Girl**

By Lisa Jewell

Pat G's Pick

Saffyre spent years under the care of psychologist Roan Fours. When Dr. Fours decides their sessions should end, Saffyre begins waiting outside his office and walking through his neighborhood at night. She soon learns about Roan and his deceptively perfect family life. On a chilly Valentine's night, Saffyre will disappear, taking any secrets she has learned with her.

### **Leave the World Behind**

By Rumaan Alam

Dot's Pick

Amanda and Clay rent a house expecting a taste of the good life. A late-night knock on the door breaks the spell. The visitors bring news that a blackout has swept the city. But with the TV and internet now down, and no cell phone service—it's hard to know what to believe.

### **The Midnight Library**

By Matt Haig

Kristin's Pick

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life.

### **Bag Man**

By Rachel Maddow

Loretta's Pick

Spiro T. Agnew carried out a bribery and extortion ring for years, when—at the height of Watergate—three federal prosecutors discovered his crimes and launched a mission to take him down before it was too late, before Nixon's impending downfall elevated him to the presidency.

### **The Switch**

By Beth O'Leary

Pat Rs Pick

When Leena is ordered to take a sabbatical after blowing a presentation at work, she escapes to her Grandmother's in Yorkshire for some rest. Eileen is newly single and turning eighty. She'd like a second chance at love, but there are no men to be found in the tiny village. So they decide to try a two-month swap.

### **The Turn of the Key**

By Ruth Ware

Pat G's Pick

Rowan stumbles across a great opportunity as a live-in with a staggeringly generous salary. When she arrives at Heatherbrae House, she is smitten by the Scottish Highlands, and by this picture-perfect family. What she doesn't know is that she's stepping into a nightmare—one that will end with a child dead and herself in prison.

### **Other People's Houses**

By Abbi Waxman

Lori's Pick

As the local carpool mom, Frances is a witness to her neighbors' private lives. She knows her cousin is hiding her desire for another baby, Bill Horton's wife is mysteriously missing, and Anne Porter is having an extramarital affair. Frances vows to stay in her own lane, a notion easier said than done.

### **This Is Your Time**

By Ruby Bridges

Jennifer's Pick

Written as a letter from civil rights activist and icon Ruby Bridges to the reader, this recounts Ruby's experience as a child who had to be escorted to class by federal marshals when she was chosen to be one of the first black students to integrate into New Orleans' all-white public school system.

### **The Mother-In-Law**

By Sally Hepworth

Lit Wits Pick

Lucy knew she wasn't the wife Diana envisioned for her son. When Diana turns up dead, a suicide note claims she no longer wants to live. But an autopsy finds evidence of suffocation. Why was her will changed to disinherit her children and what does it mean that Lucy isn't sad she's gone?

### **The Thursday Murder Club**

By Richard Osman

Loretta's Pick

In a peaceful retirement village, four friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves The Thursday Murder Club. When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, they find themselves in the middle of their first live case.