A Bit of Book Group History

In December 2000, the Bedford Public Library’s book group met for the first time. The late Dora Hastings initiated the group.

Since that first meeting, the group has read 118 books. Their first book was *The Weight of Water* by Anita Shreve.

Mary Ann Senatro led the group from 2000 to 2007. Since 2008, Lynne Bishop has led the group.


*The Weight of Water* by Anita Shreve
*Montana 1948* by Larry Watson
*Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier
*The Voyage of the Narwhal* by Andrea Barrett
*In the Time of the Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez
*Amoskeag* by Tamara Hareven
*Boone’s Lick* by Larry McMurtry
*Colors of the Mountain* by Da Chen
*House of Sand and Fog* by Andre Dubus III
*My Antonia* by Willa Cather
*The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro
*The Girl With a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier
*Wait Till Next Year* by Doris Kearns Goodwin

2002

*The Professor and the Madman* by Simon Winchester
*The Shipping News* by E. Annie Proulx
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
Tulip Fever by Deborah Moggach
The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
Fortune's Rocks by Anita Shreve
Practical Magic by Alice Hoffman
Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes
The All of It by Jeannette Hainen
Ahab's Wife by Sena Jeter Naslund
Empire Falls by Richard Russo
The Samurai's Garden by Gail Tsukiyama

2003

Falling Angels by Tracy Chevalier
The Dress Lodger by Sheri Holman
Motherless Brooklyn by Jonathan Lethem
Bel Canto by Ann Patchett
The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans
Atonement by Ian McEwan
The Story of Lucy Gault by William Trevor
Salem Falls by Jodi Picoult
The Buffalo Soldier by Chris Bohjalian
Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress by Dai Sijie

2004

Crow Lake by Mary Lawson
Three Junes by Julia Glass
Dante Club by Matthew Pearl
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
The Alchemist by Paulo Coehlo
Straight Man by Richard Russo
Maisie Dobbs by Jacqueline Winspear
The Lady and the Unicorn by Tracy Chevalier
The Great Fire by Shirley Hazzard
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon
A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean
2005

On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon by Kaye Gibbons
The Sparrow by Mary Doria Russell
Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
The Colour by Rose Tremain
My Garden by Jamaica Kincaid
Life of Pi by Yann Martel
Harvard Yard by William Martin
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
The Wedding by Dorothy West
Bee Season by Myla Goldberg
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson
Before You Know Kindness by Chris Bohjalian

2006

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer
Pompeii by Robert Harris
The Honk and Holler Opening Soon by Billie Letts
The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon
The Tender Bar by J.R. Moehringer
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See
Saturday by Ian McEwan
The Memory of Running by Ron McLarty
All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren
The Country of the Pointed Firs by Sarah Orne Jewett

2007

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson
Jane Eyre theater production at the Dana Center
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë
The Good Good Pig by Sy Montgomery
March by Geraldine Brooks
Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen
Zorro by Isabel Allende
The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield
In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick
The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan (part of the Big Read)
The White Earth by Andrew McGahan

2008

The Madonnas of Leningrad by Debra Dean
The Measure of a Man by Sidney Poitier
The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson
The Lemon Tree by Sandy Tolan
The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell & Dustin Thomason
Color of the Sea by John Hamamura
The View From Mary’s Farm by Edie Clark
Daisy Miller & Washington Square by Henry James
To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee

2009

Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder
Lottery by Patricia Wood
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Deep Economy by Bill McKibben
The Piano Tuner by Daniel Mason
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society
by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows
Farewell, My Subaru by Doug Fine
The River of Doubt by Candice Millard
Dreamers of the Day by Mary Doria Russell
Digging To America by Anne Tyler
Desert Queen by Janet Wallach
Mrs. Miniver by Jan Struther
2010

The Open Road: The Global Journey of the 14th Dalai Lama by Pico Iyer
Show Boat by Edna Ferber
Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout
Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919 by Stephen Puleo
All Over But The Shoutin’ by Rick Bragg
The Welsh Girl by Peter Ho Davies
On Kingdom Mountain by Howard Frank
Climbing The Mango Trees by Madhur Jaffrey
The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery
Strength In What Remains by Tracy Kidder
Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand by Helen Simonson
Stones Into Schools by Greg Mortenson

This list was created by reference librarian Jan Conover in honor of the book group’s tenth anniversary in December 2010.