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NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION



National Reading Group Month Announces Great Group Reads 2013 Selection

NEW YORK – September 16, 2013 – The National Reading Group Month / Great Group Reads Selection has chosen 21 books as this year's list:

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (Knopf)
Beautiful Ruins by Jess Walter (Harper Perennial)
Big Brother by Lionel Shriver (Harper)
A Constellation of Vital Phenomena by Anthony Marra (Hogarth)
David by Ray Robertson (Biblioasis)
The House Girl by Tara Conklin (William Morrow)
How It All Began by Penelope Lively (Penguin Books)
Is This Tomorrow by Caroline Leavitt (Algonquin Books)
Life After Life by Kate Atkinson (Reagan Arthur Books)
Margot by Jillian Cantor (Riverhead Books)
Mary Coin by Marisa Silver (Blue Rider Press)
The Middlesteins by Jami Attenberg (Grand Central Publishing)
Nowhere Is a Place by Bernice L. McFadden (Akashic Books)
The One-Way Bridge by Cathie Pelletier (Sourcebooks Landmark)
Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger (Atria Books)
The Other Typist by Suzanne Rindell (Amy Einhorn Books)
The Round House by Louise Erdrich (Harper Perennial)
Schroder by Amity Gaige (Twelve)
Sparta by Roxana Robinson (Sarah Crichton Books)
Wash by Margaret Wrinkle (Atlantic Monthly Press)
The Yellow Birds by Kevin Powers (Back Bay Books)

(Great Group Reads 2013 Selections,
http://www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_selections.html)

These titles were selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups for whom they are bound to open up lively conversations about a host of timely and provocative topics, from the intimate dynamics of family and personal relationships to major cultural and world issues. The 23-member Committee also made a conscious decision to focus its attention on under-

represented gems from small presses and lesser-known mid-list releases from larger houses. All are books with strong narratives peopled by fully realized characters; books which perhaps have flown under the radar of reviewers and reading groups overwhelmed by the sheer number of new releases each year.

Great Group Reads Selection Committee Chair Rosalind Reisner says: "For a fifth year in a row, our selection committee chose a wonderful list of books that will stimulate great discussions for book groups and offer satisfying reading experiences. This year's list is diverse in every way – fabulous books for all readers." She continues, "Likewise, our committee of readers has been a vital part of this process, sharing their thoughts and insights and helping to make our final selections. They come from around the country; their love of reading and their experiences in the book world as writers, reviewers, librarians, booksellers, publicists, and committed readers has made our conversations about these books thoughtful, intelligent and wide-ranging." (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 Committee for its diligence and all the publishers who submitted titles and made reading copies available. Ms. Tardiff says, "We hope that these terrific titles become reading group staples and that booksellers and libraries across the country feature them during month of October, which is, of course, National Reading Group Month – and, throughout the year." She continues, "To that end, we are providing an array 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 these titles. We encourage visiting the site for these and other features." (See National Reading Group Month Marketing Toolkit at Get Involved www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/involved.html.)

Official 2013 National Reading Group Month sponsors include the Gold Level/Premier Sponsor Atria Books; Silver Sponsors: The Crown Publishing Group and *Extra Libris* – Great books and more to go with them, HarperCollins Publishing and its imprints Harper, Harper Paperbacks, Harper Perennial, Amistad, Ecco, William Morrow and William Morrow Paperbacks, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., Other Press and Sourcebooks; Friends of National Reading Group Month: American Booksellers Association, Book Group Buzz – A Booklist Blog, Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction, Kobo – A Rakuten Company, Reading Group Choices – Selections for lively book discussion, Reading Group Guides – The online community for reading groups.

National Reading Group Month / Great Group Reads is an initiative of the Women's National Book Association (WNBA). Founded in 1917, the WNBA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. WNBA is national in its scope and is comprised of women and men who work with and value books. WNBA promotes reading and supports 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.

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