

**Book Talks By Librarians  
Virtual Program – August 2020  
With Karen, Julie, and Jennifer**

***The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd 2020**

**Fiction recommended by Karen.**

An extraordinary story set in the first century about a woman who finds her voice and her destiny, from the celebrated number one *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Secret Life of Bees* and *The Invention of Wings*.

***The Girls: an all-American Town, a Predatory Doctor, and the Untold Story of the Gymnasts Who Brought Him Down* by Abigail Pesta 2019**

**Non-fiction recommended by Julie**

Journalist and author, Abigail Pesta exposes the horror of sexual abuse that was perpetrated upon numerous Olympic gymnasts by Larry Nassar, a licensed physician appointed doctor for the Olympic Gymnastics Team. Through interviews with several of Nassar's victims, Pesta paints a picture of young committed athletes violated by a sexual predator in whom they and their parents had placed unquestioned trust.

***The Wisdom of Sally Red Shoes* by Ruth Hogan 2019**

**Fiction recommended by Jennifer**

Once a spirited woman, Masha's life was forever changed twelve years ago. Unable to let go of her grief, she finds stagnant comfort in her dog and in swimming. It's only when Masha begins an unlikely friendship with the mysterious Sally Red Shoes, a bag lady with a penchant for saying just what she means, that a new world of possibilities opens up. For the first time in years, Masha has the chance to start living again.

***American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins 2020**

**Fiction recommended by Karen**

*American Dirt* is an urgent, blistering, unforgettable book. In her portrayal of Lydia and Luca, a mother and son forced to leave their Mexican home, Jeanine Cummins has given face to migrants everywhere who flee violence and near-certain death in search of only one thing: a chance at life.

***The Unexpected Spy: From the CIA to the FBI, My Secret Life Taking Down Some of the World's Most Notorious Terrorists* by Tracy Walder with Jessica Anya Blau 2020**

**Non-fiction recommended by Julie**

Tracy Walder, a graduate of the University of Southern California, recounts in this redacted memoir, her employment after graduation as an agent working abroad for the Central Intelligence Agency, and in later years, as an agent of the FBI. At first glance, her persona and the employment she sought seem like an incongruous pairing. This may account for why she was so effective in her work.

***Daisy Cooper's Rules For Living* by Tamsin Keily 2020****Fiction recommended by Jennifer**

Daisy Cooper's life was just getting started, when it suddenly ends. Surprised to find herself in an Afterlife processing center, she is stunned that an embarrassing clerical error has cut her life short. But death, as they say, is final, and Daisy must now navigate this new world. With the help of an unlikely ally, Daisy begins to realize that letting go isn't just a challenge faced by those left behind.

***The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid 2017****Fiction recommended by Karen**

In this entrancing novel that speaks to the Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor in us all a legendary film actress reflects on her relentless rise to the top and the risks she took, the loves she lost, and the long-held secrets the public could never imagine.

***In Our Prime: How Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead* by Susan J. Douglas 2020****Non-fiction recommended by Julie**

The author, a professor of media and communications at the University of Michigan, and member of the "older class" of which she writes, takes to task those industries and governmental policies that stereotype the needs and voices of aging women. Dubbed "gender ageism", this form of discrimination raises its ugly head in numerous industries discussed by the author.

***In The Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and An American Family In Hitler's Berlin* by Erik Larson 2011****Non-fiction recommended by Jennifer**

The time is 1933, the place, Berlin, when William Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany. Dodd can only watch in alarm as Jewish persecution mounts, the press is censored, and frightening laws are passed, thus revealing Hitler's ruthless and cruel ambition. This first-hand account speaks volumes about why the world refused to acknowledge the grave threat posed by Hitler until it was too late.

***Normal People* by Sally Rooney 2019****Fiction recommended by Karen**

This is the story of mutual fascination, friendship and love. It takes us from that first conversation to the years beyond, in the company of two people who try to stay apart but find that they can't.

***10 Women Who Changed Science and the World* by Catherine Whitlock & Rhodri Evans 2019****Non-fiction recommended by Julie**

This title is made up of the biographies of ten female scientists who achieved distinction in their respective fields: astronomy, medicine, biology, physics, chemistry, and

environmental science. But many of their names are not recognized by those outside the scientific community. This introduction to their dedication, accomplishments, and ensuing recognition, will leave the reader wanting to know more.

***Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York City's Greatest Female Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case That Captivated A Nation* by Brad Ricca 2017**

**Non-fiction recommended by Jennifer**

In 1917, the police gave up when Ruth Cruger disappeared. Instead, a mysterious woman in black vowed to find her. This is the true story of Grace Humiston, the lawyer who became one of the nation's greatest detectives. Grace navigated a dangerous web of lies, blackmail, and secrets in a desperate race against time. But perhaps the great mystery is how one woman could become so famous only to disappear from history.

***Lady in the Lake* by Laura Lippman 2019**

**Mystery recommended by Karen**

In 1966, Baltimore is a city of secrets that everyone seems to know – everyone, that is, except Madeline “Maddie” Schwartz. Last year, she was a happy, even pampered housewife. This year, she’s bolted from her marriage of almost twenty years, determined to make good on her youthful ambitions to live a passionate, meaningful life.

***The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides 2019**

**Fiction recommended by Julie**

The seemingly ideal life of a well-known painter, and her husband, a sought-after photographer, is shattered within minutes by a hideous murder. The author leads readers into the recesses of the accused’s mind to discover what triggered such bizarre and violent behavior.

***The Turn of the Key* by Ruth Ware 2019**

**Mystery recommended by Jennifer**

When Rowan Caine arrives at Heatherbrae House for a live-in nanny position, she is smitten by everything – the money, the house, and the 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 awaiting trial for murder. But she says she’s not guilty--at least not of murder. Which means someone else is.