

2024 Bookies Book Discussion Group



Bookies is held the third Wednesday of the month at 9:30am. in the Ames Room. Books available at the Circulation Desk for checkout. Each title may also be available through CLPL digital catalogs.

- January 17 **Cherokee America** by Margaret Verble An engrossing story of the post-Civil War West centering on the powerful character Cherokee America, a woman raising a family in the Cherokee Nation. When a girl is kidnapped, Cherokee gets pulled into a tragic and dangerous mystery.
- February 21 **The Country of the Blind: A Memoir at the End of Sight** by Andrew Leland Written with warmth, humor and intelligence, this book explores the author's determination to not only survive his inevitable transition to blindness but to grow from it.
- March 20 **The Japanese Lover** by Isabel Allende Enduring passion, friendship and reflections in old age are poignant themes in this saga moving from modern San Francisco back to the traumatic WWII years. At its center is a tender love story torn apart by war.
- April 17 **The Magic Kingdom** by Russell Banks Loosely based on actual events in the early 1900s, this novel centers on an octogenarian reflecting on his childhood and first love in a Shaker community in central Florida, future home of Disney World. A multilayered tale of innocence and guilt from a gifted storyteller.
- May 15 *Washington Square* by Henry James A masterly novel that deftly interweaves the public and private faces of nineteenth-century New York society in a moving tale of romance and innocence destroyed.
- June 19 *I Have Some Questions for You* by Rebecca Makkai A timely mystery set on an elite college campus. A former student, who is now a well-known podcaster, returns as a professor, only to confront an unsolved murder that is trending online with true-crime fans.



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- July 17The Summer Before the War by Helen SimonsonThe setting is a sleepy English village on the brink of WWI. A young
woman arrives as an unusual candidate for the village school's Latin
teaching position, and a romantic comedy of manners ensues.
- August 21 *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus Two chemists with major chemistry, a dog with a big vocabulary, and a popular cooking show fuel this funny and original story of love and developing feminist power in the 1960s.
- September 18 **The Personal Librarian** by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray This historical novel is based on the life of the librarian responsible for J.P. Morgan's world-class collection of rare books and illuminated manuscripts. As she gains fame for her work, she must navigate the risks of presenting herself as being of Portuguese descent when, in fact, she is African American.
- October 16 **The Violin Conspiracy** by Brendan Slocumb In this gripping novel, a classical musician frantically searches for his stolen Stradivarius right before he is scheduled to compete in the prestigious Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow.

November 20 **The Magnolia Palace** by Fiona Davis An intriguing historical novel following a New York model fleeing trouble and finding refuge at the estate of the wealthy Henry Clay Frick. Jumping from the Roaring Twenties into the Swinging Sixties, this is an insider's view of the famous Frick family and their mansion that becomes a museum.

December 18 **Someone Else's Shoes** by Jojo Moyes In London, a switched gym bag changes the lives of two women: the globetrotting, wealthy Nisha and Sam, who is struggling to keep her family afloat. A funny, moving and heartfelt story powered by a big twist of fate.