

The Bookies Reading List

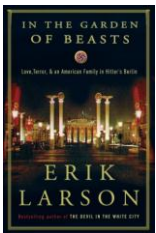
January – July 2012

The Bookies is one of the library's book groups. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. We LOVE to have new members, so please feel free to drop by!

For more information, please call the library's Adult Services Desk at (205)445-1121 or email Katie at kmoellering@bham.lib.al.us

January 10, 2012

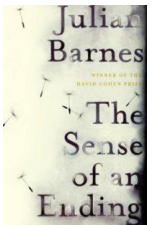
In The Garden of Beasts by Erik Larson



The bestselling author of "Devil in the White City" turns his hand to a remarkable story set during Hitler's rise to power. The time is 1933, the place, Berlin, when William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany in a year that proved to be a turning point in history.

February 14, 2012

The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes

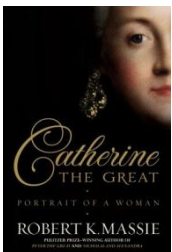


Winner of the 2011 Man Booker Prize

The story of a man coming to terms with the mutable past, Julian Barnes's new novel is laced with his trademark precision, dexterity and insight. It is the work of one of the world's most distinguished writers.

March 13, 2012

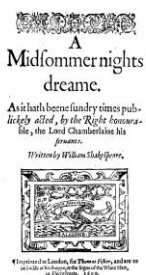
Catherine the Great by Robert K. Massie



Presents a reconstruction of the eighteenth-century empress's life that covers her efforts to engage Russia in the cultural life of Europe, her creation of the Hermitage, and her numerous scandal-free romantic affairs.

April 10, 2012

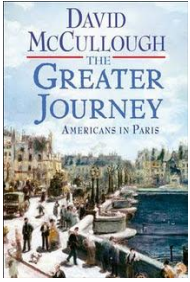
A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare



This month The Bookies and other library book groups will take a trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery on April 21st to see their production of the play

May 8, 2012

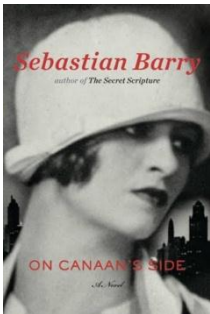
The Greater Journey: Americans In Paris by David McCullough



McCullough mixes famous and obscure names and delivers capsule biographies of everyone to produce a colorful parade of educated, Victorian-era American travelers and their life-changing experiences in Paris.

June 12, 2012

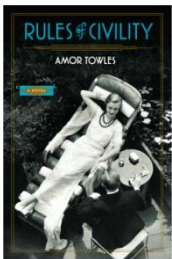
On Canaan's Side by Sebastian Barry



Told in the first person, as a narrative of Lilly Bere's life over seventeen days, *On Canaan's Side* opens as she mourns the loss of her grandson, Bill. Lilly revisits her past, going back to the moment she was forced to flee Ireland, at the end of the First World War, and continues her tale in America, a world filled with both hope and danger. At once epic and intimate, Lilly's story unfolds as she tries to make sense of the sorrows and troubles of her life and of the people whose lives she has touched. Spanning nearly seven decades, from the Great Depression to World War II and the Vietnam War, it is the heartbreaking story of a woman whose capability to love is enormous, and whose compassion, even for those who have wronged her, is astonishing.

July 10, 2012

The Rules of Civility by Amor Towles



Set during the hazy, enchanting, and martini-filled world of New York City circa 1938, *Rules of Civility* follows three friends--Katey, Eve, and Tinker--from their chance meeting at a jazz club on New Year's Eve through a year of enlightening and occasionally tragic adventures. Tinker orbits in the world of the wealthy; Katey and Eve stretch their few dollars out each evening on the town. While all three are complex characters, Katey is the story's shining star. She is a fully realized heroine, unique in her strong sense of self amidst her life's continual fluctuations. Towles' writing also paints an inviting picture of New York City, without forgetting its sharp edges. Reminiscent of Fitzgerald, *Rules of Civility* is full of delicious sentences you can sit back and savor (most appropriately with a martini or two).