

Book Clubs To Go Kits

Grab a kit, some friends, and go!



Book Clubs to Go is a great way for your Book Club to enjoy great discussions. Check out a book kit of your favorite title from our library. All kits can be checked out for 6 weeks and each one may contain:

**Multiple copies of one title
Discussion Questions
Author Biographical Information
Reviews of the Book & Summary of the story**

Currently we have book kits for:

Vinegar Hill by A. Manette Ansay
The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery**
Midwives by Christopher A. Bohjalian
The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell
Girl with the Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier **
House of Sand and Fog by Andre Dubus III
Birth of Venus by Sarah Dunant
Memoirs of a Gisha by Arthur Golden **
Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time by Chris Haddon
Map of the World by Jane Hamilton **
Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett **
Great Fire by Shirley Hazzard **
A Widow For One Year by John Irving
The Mermaid Chair by Sue Monk Kidd
Animal Dreams by Barbara Kingsolver **
Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri **
Charming Billy by Alice McDermott **
Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffengger
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson **
The Reader by Bernhard Schlink
Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold **
Snow Flower & the Secret Fan by Lisa See
Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer**
The Glass Castle by Jeanette Wells

** Kit Added in 2010

Vinegar Hill by A. Manette Ansay

In 1972, Ellen Grier, her husband, and their two children return to Holly's Field, Wisconsin. There they must live with her in-laws, in a loveless house where everyday cruelty threatens to destroy her spirit.

The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery**

The lives of fifty-four-year-old concierge Rene Michel and extremely bright, suicidal twelve-year-old Paloma Josse are transformed by the arrival of a new tenant, Kakuro Ozu.

Midwives by Chris Bohjalian

A seasoned midwife in rural Vermont faces the antagonism of the law, the hostility of traditional doctors, and the accusations of her own conscience.

The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell

Trying to decipher an ancient text that weaves a mathematical labyrinth within a love story, two researchers obtain a diary that may contain the key to the code, but when a fellow researcher is killed, they realize that the book contains a dangerous secret.

Girl with the Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier **

With the precision and focus of an Old Master's painting, "Girl with a Pearl Earring" paints a vivid portrait of colorful 17th-century Delft, as well as the hauntingly poignant story of one young girl's rite of passage.

House of Sand and Fog by Andre Dubus III

Three fragile yet determined people are drawn by their competing desires to the same small house in the California hills and become dangerously entangled in a relentlessly escalating crisis.

Birth of Venus by Sarah Dunant

Turning 15 in Renaissance Florence, Alessandra Cecchi becomes intoxicated with the works of a young painter whom her father has brought to the city to decorate the family's Florentine palazzo.

Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden **

The strikingly pretty child of an impoverished fishing family, Chiyo is taken to faraway Kyoto and sold into slavery to a renowned geisha house where she is renamed Sayuri.

Curious Incident of the Dog in The Night-Time by Chris Haddon

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic 15 year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

Map of the World by Jane Hamilton **

Is a riveting story of how a single mistake can forever change the lives of everyone involved--in ways that are beyond imagining.

Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett **

Private eye Sam Spade and his partner Miles Archer are hired into service to a woman who calls herself Miss Wonderly to follow a man, Floyd Thursby, who has allegedly run off with her underage baby sister.

Great Fire by Shirley Hazzard **

The fire of the title refers primarily to the atomic bombing of Japan. In 1947, a thirty-two-year-old English war hero visiting Hiroshima during the occupation finds himself billeted in a compound overseen by a boorish Australian brigadier and his scheming wife. He is immediately enchanted, however, by the cou-

ple's children—a brilliant, sickly young man and his adoring sister—who prove to be prisoners in a different sort of conflict.

A Widow For One Year by John Irving

Chronicles the life of a complex, abrasive woman born in the shadow of her siblings' deaths and her parents' adultery, who only finds love after motherhood and widowhood.

The Mermaid Chair by Sue Monk Kidd

Jessie Sullivan is summoned home to tiny Egret Island, where she meets Brother Thomas, a monk who is about to take his final vows, and encounters the legend of a mysterious chair dedicated to a saint who had originally been a mermaid.

Animal Dreams by Barbara Kingsolver **

Cynical and self-absorbed, Codi Noline has been drifting in an aimless relationship and through a series of jobs when she packs up and returns home to the town of Grace, Arizona to care for her physician father, who has Alzheimers, and to teach high school science.

Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri **

This story takes the Ganguli family from their tradition-bound life in Calcutta through their fraught transformation into Americans. On the heels of an arranged marriage, Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli settle in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where Ashoke does his best to adapt while his wife pines for home.

Charming Billy by Alice McDermott **

Billy Lynch's family and friends have gathered at a small Bronx bar. They have come to comfort his widow and to eulogize one of the last great romantics, trading tales of his famous humor, immense charm, and unfathomable sorrow. As they linger on into this extraordinary night, their voices form Billy's tragic story and their mourning becomes a gentle homage to all the lives in their small community fractured by grief, shattered by secrets, and sustained by the simple dream of love.

Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger

Passionately in love, Clare and Henry vow to hold onto each other and their marriage as they struggle with the effects of Chrono-Displacement Disorder, a condition that casts Henry involuntarily into the world of time travel .

Gilead by Marilynne Robinson **

In 1956, toward the end of Reverend John Ames's life, he begins a letter to his young son, an account of himself and his forebears. Ames is the son of an Iowan preacher and the grandson of a minister who, as a young man in Maine, saw a vision of Christ bound in chains and came west to Kansas to fight for abolition.

The Reader by Bernhard Schlink

Not until he becomes a law student after World War II does Michael Berg realize that the woman who found him ill and nursed him through hepatitis was illiterate and possibly a Nazi war criminal.

Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold **

It is the story of a teenage girl who, after being murdered, watches from heaven as her family and friends go on with their lives, while she herself comes to terms with her own death.

Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer**

January 1946: writer Juliet Ashton receives a letter from a stranger, a founding member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. And so begins a remarkable tale of the island of Guernsey during the German occupation, and of a society as extraordinary as its name.

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See

A story of friendship set in 19th-century China follows an elderly woman and her companion as they communicate their hopes, dreams, joys, and tragedies through a unique secret language

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Wells

A remarkable memoir of resilience & redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional & uniquely vibrant.

**** Kit added to collection in 2010**