

## BOOKLIST AND INFORMATION FOR TEA AND TOMES, 2023-2024

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THIS YEAR. PLEASE READ AND KEEP SAFE!

This is our Tea and Tomes reading list for this coming year. Thank you for your suggestions! Connie and I have narrowed the list and are excited about the selections and about the women who volunteered to lead the discussions! All of our books can be borrowed from or through our Charlotte Community Library. After each title, you will be able to see if there is a book box of 8 titles; an audio; an ebook, or a library book. Five of the eight titles can be accessed on Hoopla. At the end of this list, there is an explanation of the advantages and access to the Hoopla app through the library. All titles not available in the library may be ordered through MeL (Michigan Electronic Library), which is an interlibrary loan system. The Spartan Room at the library is reserved for the fourth Tuesday of each month, except for May, when we will meet on the third Tuesday. We do not meet in December. We gather at 12:45pm and end around 2:30pm. There will be a sheet at each meeting where you will be able to sign-up to help. We are looking forward to reading and discussing the books along with you this year!

September 26, 2023. ***Beneath a Scarlett Sky***. Mark T. Sullivan. Library book and audio.

Historical fiction based on a true story. Set in Milan during and after WWII. Pino Lella attempts to escape but ends up being the driver for a Nazi officer. An epic tale of love, war, resistance and Resilience.

October 24, 2023. ***Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty***. Anderson Cooper and Katherine Howe. Hoopla ebook and audio. Library book.

Journalist Anderson Cooper teams with NY Times historian Katherine Howe to chronicle the legendary American dynasty—his mother's family—the Vanderbilts. From the lavish drawing rooms of the Gilded Age to the Courts of Europe, the book recounts the triumphs and tragedies of this iconic family.

November 28, 2023. ***Remarkably Bright Creatures***. Shelby Van Pelt. Hoopla ebook and audio. Library book.

An exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope, tracing a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus. A night worker and an aquarium octopus work together to unravel a mystery thirty years old.

January 23, 2024. ***Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow***. Gabrielle Zevin. Library book.

Two friends come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity, and ultimately, a kind of immortality.

February 27, 2024. ***Hello, Beautiful***. Ann Napolitano. Library book.

An engrossing story of a family that asks: Can love make a broken person whole? Walter grows up in a house silenced by tragedy; Julia grows up with three younger sisters. Their lives intertwine and unravel.

March 26, 2024. ***Little Women***. Louisa May Alcott. Hoopla ebook and audio. Library book and large print book. Book Box Kit of 8 titles.

Largely autobiographical, Alcott tells the story of a family of four daughters, a father away at war, and a mother who tries to hold all the personalities together. A classic!

April 23, 2024. **The Reading List.** Sarah Nisha Adams. Hoopla ebook and audio. Library audio.  
An unforgettable and heartwarming novel about how a chance encounter with a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people in a London suburb.

May 21, 2024 (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday). **Lessons in Chemistry.** Bonnie Garmus. Hoopla study guide only. Library book.  
A love story, a scientific mind, and a cooking show make a laugh-out-loud, shrewdly observant novel. Elizabeth Zott is not just teaching women to cook; she's daring them to change the status quo.

## NOTES:

### Advantages of Hoopla

- Titles can be streamed immediately or downloaded to phone, tablet, or Kindle. No waiting!
- The borrow period for books and audiobooks is 21 days.
- You are entitled to 4 borrows per month.
- The 21-day borrow period is good for anytime during the month, even if it carries over to the next month.
- The App is FREE with your library card.
- Charlotte Community Library staff will help you set up the app; call them at 543-8859.
- They helped me set up my device in about 15 minutes and I can read/listen on any device.

**MeL (Michigan Electronic Library)** aka interlibrary loan. You can access MeL through the library website or ask the library staff to order a book for you. You may request a book from MeL if the library's copy is checked out or unavailable. Indicate to the staff that your request is for a book club. Allow about 2 weeks for processing your request.

**Book Box** kits. Duplicate copies of the same title (usually 8 copies per box). These will be available one month in advance and **MUST** be returned the day of the book discussion. First come, first served.

**Reminders.** Please save this sheet in a safe place! A monthly reminder email will be sent out to Tea and Tomes members and the *Club Communicator*.

Brynda Filkins and Connie O'Neill  
Co-facilitators

**Special thanks** to Sandra G, Lee F, Suzi V, Toni Z, Julie D, Donna L, and Hope D for volunteering to lead this year!