

The Community Read Book Club



August 3 – Sept 14 , 2026

Book Discussion: Monday, Sept. 14 @ 6 pm

in the Library Meeting Room

Books Now Available at the Library.

Featured Book: *Lady Tan's Circle of Women*

By Lisa See

This month's Book Club read is Lady Tan's Circle of Women the June 2023 "Amazon Best Book" pick. Author, Lisa See has written many books on the women from Chinese Culture and the Chinese American history. Lady Tan's Circle of Women was inspired by the true story of a woman physician in 15th-century China, Tan Yunxian. The girl is born into an elite family and raised by her grandmother who happens to be one of only a handful of female doctors in China at the time.

Grandmother will teach Yunxian the pillars of Chinese medicine, the Four Examinations—looking, listening, touching, and asking—something a man can never do with a female patient. The young Yunxian learns about women's illnesses, many of which relate to childbearing, alongside a young midwife-in-training, and best friend, Meiling.

In a turn of fate, Yunxian is soon sent into an arranged marriage, her new mother-in-law forbids her from seeing Meiling and from helping the women and girls in the household. Yunxian is to act like a proper wife—embroider bound-foot slippers, recite poetry, give birth to sons, and stay forever within the walls of the family compound, the Garden of Fragrant Delights. What will she do to secure a future she really wants. The story is full of Tan's hardships - being a daughter, wife, mother, and maybe her most important role of all: a doctor for women. Lisa See has reimagined the life of one person who was able to remarkably change the world she was born into. Along with bits of actual history, Ms. See has also woven Chinese proverbs throughout, which are loaded with wisdom even applicable today.

A New York Times bestselling Author, with multiple books, Ms. See has led an active and varied career. She has written for the Los Angeles Opera and has also served as guest curator for exhibits on the Chinese American experience at various Museum. She is also the recipient of honors and awards from the National Woman of the Year by the Organization of Chinese American Women, the Chinese American Museum's History Makers, and the Historical Society of Southern California. Her books brilliantly illuminated the strong bonds between women and have been celebrated for their authentic, deeply researched, lyrical stories about Chinese characters and cultures.

(Information from Amazon, Goodreads and other book reviews sources.)

Available Formats to purchase:

Hardback, Paperback, Kindle,
Audio

Pages: 357 - 368 pages

Screen Reader: Supported

Listening Length: 13H & 15M

Narrator(s): Jennifer Lim, and
Justin Chien

Genres: Asian American history
Fiction, Mothers & Children
Fiction, Medical History Fiction

(Information from Amazon and
Goodreads)

No Library Card Required.

All community members are encouraged to participate! For information on how you can get involved, please contact the library at 541-889-6371.

This program is sponsored by:
The Ontario Community Library,
Friends of the Ontario
Community Library and Various
Community Members.

Ontario Community Library

388 SW 2nd Avenue, Ontario, Or 97914 1-541-889-6371 www.ontariocommunitylibrary.org

Community Read Book Club Book Choices

Meeting Month	Book and Author	Genres
October, 2023	Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor	Young Adult
November, 2023	A Better Man by Rick Steber	Western Historical
<u>December, 2023</u>		
January, 2024	The Midnight Library by Matt Haig	Science Fiction Fantasy
February, 2024		
March, 2024		
April, 2024	This Is How You Lose the Time War by El-Mohtar and Gladstone	Time Travel Romance
May, 2024	The Woman Warrior by Maxine Hong Kingston	Biographical Fiction
June, 2024	The Women by Kristin Hannah	War Historical
July, 2024	In the Distance by Hernán Díaz	Western Historical
August, 2024	The Heavens by Sandra Newman	Alternate Universes
September, 2024	Doctor D by Dorin S. Daniels, MD-Retired	Auto/Biography
October, 2024	There There by Tommy Orange	Urban Political Fiction
November, 2024	Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver	Coming of Age
<u>December, 2024</u>	Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng	<u>Domestic Fiction</u>
January, 2025	How the Penguins Saved Veronica by Hazel Prior	Humor Romance
February, 2025	The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes	Historical Romance
March, 2025	Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese	Domestic Saga
April, 2025	The Last Secret of the Secret Annex by van Wijk-Voskuyl & De Bruyn	Autobiography
May, 2025	Temperance Creek: A Memoir by Royes and Jordan	Women's Biography
June, 2025	The Winter Sea by Susanna Kearsley	Historical Romance
July, 2025	The Book of Lost Names by Kristin Harmel	Jewish Historical
August, 2025	Children of Time by Adrian Tchaikovsky	Hard Science Fiction
September, 2025	James by Percival Everett	Satire/Adventure Fiction
October, 2025	The Lincoln Lawyer by Michael Connelly	Mystery/Crime Fiction
November, 2025	All the Colors of Dark by Chris Whitaker	Psychological Fiction
<u>December, 2025</u>	Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen	<u>Classic Romantic Fiction</u>
January, 2026	The Paris Novel by Ruth Reichl	Women's Literary Fiction
February, 2026	The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon	Historical Women Sleuths
March, 2026	The Butcher and the Wren by Alaina Urquhart	Suspense, Horror, Crime
April, 2026	The Blue Tattoo: The Life of Olive Oatman by Margot Mifflin	Indigenous History
May, 2026	All the Light You Cannot See by Anthony Doerr	Military History Fiction
June, 2026	The Boxcar Librarian by Brianna Labuskes	Historical Mysteries
July, 2026	The Man Who Was Thursday by G.K. Chesterton	Literature (Classic)
August, 2026	Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt	Animal Fiction, Mystery
September, 2026	Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See	Chinese Historical Fiction