

WAB Club: Woman And Books Schedule

Join the West Hollywood Women's Advisory Board the WAB Club: Women And Books! With the vision of transforming a city into a community one woman at a time, the WAB Club is a monthly book club that will meet the first Tuesday of each month to discuss books Admission is free. For more information please call, 213/840-4958 or email carlabrowning@hotmail.com .

West Hollywood Community Center at Plummer Park
7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, Senior Lounge
7 – 8:30 p.m.

Note: in October 2011 the book club is planning to begin meeting at the new West Hollywood Library located at 647 N. San Vicente Blvd, however, please call to confirm.

Tuesday, August 9th (special date)

***Case Histories* by Kate Atkinson (recurring character in other books)**

"Not just the best novel I read this year, but the best mystery of the decade."~Stephen King

Private detective Jackson Brodie—ex-cop, ex-husband and weekend dad—takes on three cases involving past crimes that occurred in and around London. The first case introduces two middle-aged sisters who, after the death of their vile, distant father, look again into the disappearance of their beloved sister Olivia, last seen at three years old, while they were camping under the stars during an oppressive heat wave. A retired lawyer who lives only on the fumes of possible justice next enlists Jackson's aid in solving the brutal killing of his grown daughter 10 years earlier. In the third dog-eared case file, the sibling of an infamous ax-bludgeoner seeks a reunion with her niece, who as a baby was a witness to murder. *Jackson's reluctant persistence heats up these cold cases and by happenstance leads him to reassess his own painful history.* The humility of the extraordinary, unabashed characters is skillfully revealed with humor and surprise. Atkinson contrasts the inevitable results of family dysfunction with random fate, gracefully weaving the three stories into a denouement that taps into collective wishful thinking and suggests that warmth and safety may be found in the aftermath of blood and abandonment.

Tuesday, September 6th

***The Silver Sparrow* by Tayari Jones**

Just released May 24, 2011- Oprah has noted it as one of the 16 books to watch for! A coming-of-age story of sorts, Jones's melodramatic latest chronicles the not-quite-parallel lives of Dana Lynn Yarboro and Bunny Chaurisse Witherspoon in 1980s Atlanta. Both girls-born four months apart-are the daughters of James Witherspoon, a secret bigamist, but only Dana and her mother, Gwen, are aware of his double life. This, Dana surmises, confers "one peculiar advantage" to her and Gwen over James's other family, with whom he lives full time, though such knowledge is small comfort in the face of all their disadvantages. Perpetually feeling second best, 15-year-old Dana takes up

with an older boy whose treatment of her only confirms her worst expectations about men. Meanwhile, Chaurisse enjoys the easy, uncomplicated comforts of family, and though James has done his utmost to ensure his daughters' paths never cross, the girls, of course, meet, and their friendship sets their worlds toward inevitable (and predictable) collision.

Tuesday, October 4th

***Bossypants* by Tina Fey ---Funny, comedic, individual stories that she experienced**

5 weeks on NY Times Bestseller List (Currently #4 for non-fiction)

Fey gives us a fascinating glimpse behind the curtain of modern comedy with equal doses of wit, candor, and self-deprecation. Some of the funniest chapters feature the differences between male and female comedy writers, her cruise ship honeymoon, and advice about breastfeeding. But the chaos of Fey's life is best detailed when she's dividing her efforts equally between rehearsing her Sarah Palin impression, trying to get Oprah to appear on *30 Rock*, and planning her daughter's Peter Pan-themed birthday. *Bossypants* gets to the heart of why Tina Fey remains universally adored: *she embodies the hectic, too-many-things-to-juggle lifestyle we all have, but instead of complaining about it, she can just laugh it off.*

Tuesday, November 1st

***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins**

Best *Publishers Weekly's* "Best Book of the Year" in 2008

A gripping story set in a postapocalyptic world where a replacement for the United States demands a tribute from each of its territories: two children to be used as gladiators in a televised fight to the death. Katniss, from what was once Appalachia, offers to take the place of her sister in the Hunger Games, but after this ultimate sacrifice, she is entirely focused on survival at any cost. It is her teammate, Peeta, who recognizes the importance of holding on to one's humanity in such inhuman circumstances. This book proposes a riveting question- *What happens if we choose entertainment over humanity?*

Tuesday, December 6th

***Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay**

Currently on NY Times Bestseller List

De Rosnay's U.S. debut fictionalizes the 1942 Paris roundups and deportations, in which thousands of Jewish families were arrested, held at the Vélodrome d'Hiver outside the city, and then transported to Auschwitz. Forty-five-year-old Julia Jarmond, American by birth, moved to Paris when she was 20 and is married to the arrogant, unfaithful Bertrand Tézac, with whom she has an 11-year-old daughter. Julia writes for an American magazine and her editor assigns her to cover the 60th anniversary of the Vél' d'Hiv' roundups. Julia soon learns that the apartment she and Bertrand plan to move into was acquired by Bertrand's family when its Jewish occupants were dispossessed and deported 60 years before. She resolves to find out what happened to the former occupants: Wladyslaw and Rywka Starzynski, parents of 10-year-old Sarah and four-year-old Michel. The more Julia discovers—especially about Sarah, the only member of the Starzynski family to survive—the more she uncovers about Bertrand's

family, about France and, finally, herself. Already translated into 15 languages, the novel is De Rosnay's 10th (but her first written in English, her first language). It beautifully conveys Julia's conflicting loyalties, and makes Sarah's trials so riveting, her innocence so absorbing, that the book is hard to put down.