All book discussions are held on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the library's Tech Center Conference Room.

Attendance is free. We'd love to have you join us.

A limited number of copies of each title will be available for check-out.

For further information contact Nancy Jo Leachman at 785 825-4624 or nancyjo@salpublib.org

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2015

Bernadette Kasmarski

MONDAY NIGHT BOOK DISCUSSIONS

January 12
The Ice Cream Queen of Orchard Street by Susan Jane Gilman
As a child in 1913, Malka Treynovsky flees Russia for New York with her family—only to be crippled and abandoned in the streets as soon as she arrives. Spanning 70 years, Lillian's rise is inextricably linked to the course of American history.

February 9
The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears by Dinaw Mengestu
Seventeen years after fleeing **the** Ethiopian revolution, Sepha Stephanos runs a grocery store in a poor African-American neighborhood in Washington, D.C., where he reflects on his past and the differences between his prospects and the life he imagined.

March 9
The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger
Since his debut in 1951 as The Catcher in the Rye, Holden Caulfield has been synonymous with "cynical adolescent." Holden narrates the story of a couple of days in his sixteen-year-old life, just after he's been expelled from prep school, in a slang that sounds edgy even today and keeps this novel on banned book lists.

April 13
Quiet: the power of introverts in a world that can't stop talking by Susan Cain
This book demonstrates how introverted people are misunderstood and undervalued in modern culture, charting the rise of extrovert ideology while sharing anecdotal examples of how to use introvert talents to adapt to various situations.

May 11
Breakfast with Buddha by Roland Merullo.
At the behest of his sister, Otto Ringling finds himself reluctantly accompanying her guru, an enigmatic Mongolian monk, on a trip through Middle America to their childhood home. Gradually, skepticism yields to amazement as he realizes that his companion might just be the real thing.

June 8
Survival of Rural America: small victories and bitter harvests by Richard E. Wood
On the high plains of Kansas, the future of rural America is at stake. Small farming communities are under siege. Richard Wood takes a closer look at what has happened in several Kansas farming towns and shows that there is much more depth and diversity to rural life than meets the eye. A 2009 Kansas Notable Book.

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July 13
<u>The Boys in the Boat by Daniel Brown</u>
Out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times. Nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.

August 10
<u>The Light Between the Oceans by M. L. Stedman</u>
A novel set on a remote Australian island, where a childless couple live quietly running a lighthouse, until a boat carrying a baby washes ashore. Vivid characters and gorgeous descriptions of the solitude of Janus Rock and of the unpredictable Australian frontier create a perfect backdrop for the tale of longing, loss, and the overwhelming love for a child.

September 14
<u>Unbroken: a Woeld War II story of survival, resilience and redemption by Laura Hillenbrand</u>
The true story of a U.S. airman who survived when his bomber crashed into the sea during World War II, spent forty-seven days adrift in the ocean before being rescued by the Japanese Navy, and was held as a prisoner until the end of the war.

October 12
<u>Still Alice by Lisa Genova</u>
Feeling at the top of her game when she is suddenly diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease, Harvard psychologist Alice Howland struggles to find meaning and purpose in her life as her concept of self gradually slips away.

November 9
<u>The Kitchen House by Kathleen Grissom</u>
When a white servant girl violates the order of plantation society, she unleashes a tragedy that exposes the worst and best in the people she has come to call her family. Orphaned while onboard a ship from Ireland to America, seven-year-old Lavinia arrives on the steps of a tobacco plantation where she is to live and work with the slaves of the kitchen house.

December 14
<u>Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton</u>
Abandoned on a 1913 voyage to Australia, Nell is raised by a dock master and his wife who do not tell her until she is an adult that she is not their child, leading Nell to return to England and eventually hand down her quest for answers to her granddaughter.