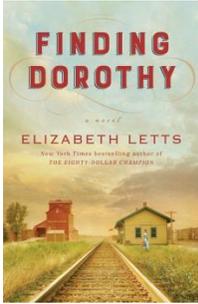


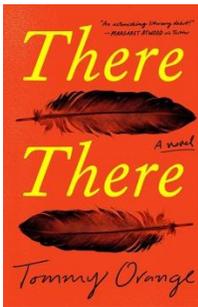
The Books of CNY Reads



2021

***Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts**

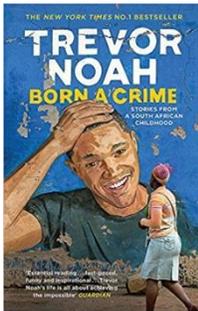
Letts leads us down a parallel pair of yellow brick roads. One traverses the courtship, marriage and adult life of Maud Gage Baum, suffragette's daughter and modern woman. The second road takes us into the golden age of Hollywood, where fate and opportunity conspire to make Judy Garland a superstar. When Maud arrives on the set to preserve her husband's vision, she realizes that the more immediate task at hand is to protect a vulnerable and fragile rising talent.



2020

***There There* by Tommy Orange**

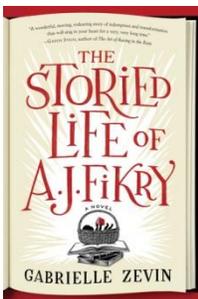
There There is a relentlessly paced multigenerational story about violence and recovery, memory and identity, and the beauty and despair woven into the history of a nation and its people. It tells the story of twelve characters, each of whom have private reasons for traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow. Here is a voice we have never heard - a voice full of poetry and rage, exploding onto the page with stunning urgency and force.



2019

***Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah**

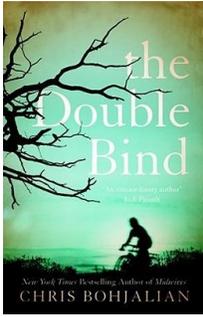
Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the *The Daily Show* began with a criminal act: his birth. He was born to a white father and a black mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. The eighteen personal stories form a moving and funny portrait of a boy making his way through a dangerous time,



2018

***The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin**

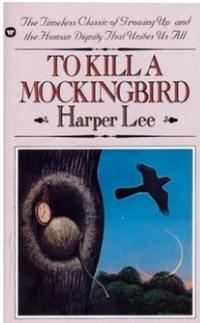
As surprising as it is moving, *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* is an unforgettable tale of transformation and second chances, an irresistible affirmation of why we read, and why we love.



2017

***The Double Bind* by Chris Bohjalian**

When college sophomore Laurel Estabrook is attacked while riding her bicycle through Vermont's back roads, her life is forever changed. In this spellbinding literary thriller, rich with complex and compelling characters, Chris Bohjalian takes readers on an intriguing, haunting, and most unforgettable journey.



2016

***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee**

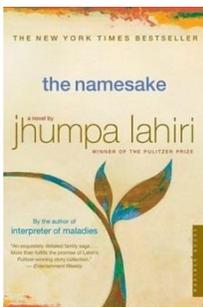
A gripping tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.



2015

***The First of July* by Elizabeth Speller**

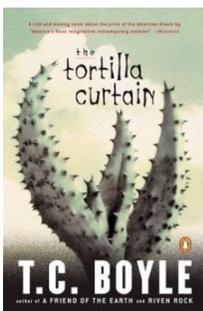
A captivating novel of the tragedies of war, as lives cross, dreams are shattered, and futures are altered as the hours pass during the first day of the Battle of the Somme.



2014

***The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri**

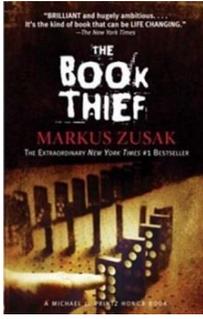
The Namesake follows the life of Gogol Ganguli from birth until middle age, chronicling his struggle to discover who he is as a second-generation Indian immigrant. It is a novel of self-discovery that is an emotional journey its readers will not soon forget.



2013

***The Tortilla Curtain* by T. C. Boyle**

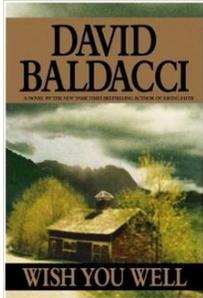
In this timely, provocative account of immigration in central California, Boyle intertwines the lives of two couples--one a pair of wealthy suburbanites and the other a pair of illegal immigrants from Mexico.



2012

***The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak**

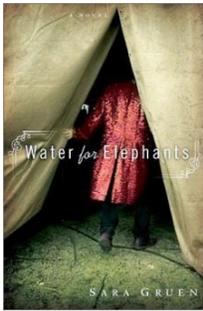
A story about, among other things: A girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. . . .an unforgettable story about the ability of books to feed the soul.



2011

***Wish You Well* by David Baldacci**

When tragedy strikes in 1940, precocious 12-year-old Louisa Mae Cardinal and her younger brother, Oz, must leave New York City to go with their invalid mother to live on their great-grandmother's farm in the Virginia mountains. But the forces of greed and justice are about to clash over her new home, and their struggle is played out in a crowded Virginia courtroom.



2010

***Water for Elephants* by Sarah Gruen**

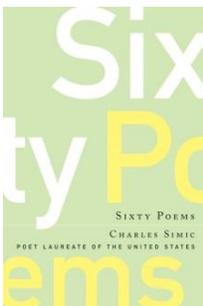
An atmospheric, gritty, and compelling novel of star-crossed lovers, set in the circus world circa 1932 illuminated by a wonderful sense of time and place.



2009/2010

***March* by Geraldine Brooks**

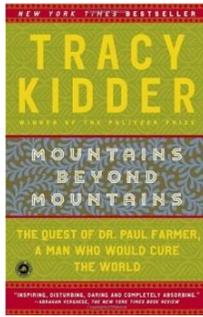
From Louisa May Alcott's beloved classic *Little Women*, Geraldine Brooks has animated the character of March, the absent father. Brooks follows March as he leaves behind his family to aid the Union cause in the Civil War. His experiences will utterly change his marriage and challenge his most ardently held beliefs.



2008/2009

***Sixty Poems* by Charles Simic**

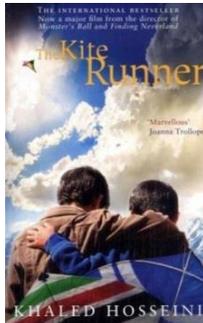
Sixty poems by Serbian-American poet Charles Simic and gathered from nine collections spanning 1986-2005, explore themes in history, spirituality, and American culture.



2007/2008

***Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder**

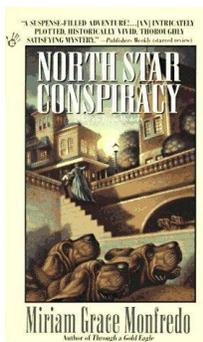
Mountains Beyond Mountains takes us from Harvard to Haiti, Peru, Cuba, and Russia as Doctor Paul Farmer changes minds and practices through his dedication to the philosophy that "the only real nation is humanity" -a philosophy that is embodied in the small public charity he founded, Partners In Health



2006/2007

***The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini**

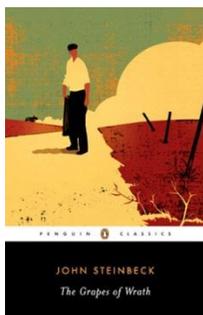
A sweeping story of family, love, and friendship told against the devastating backdrop of the history of Afghanistan over the last thirty years, *The Kite Runner* is an unusual, powerful, and heartbreaking story of the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant.



2005/2006

***North Star Conspiracy* by Miriam Monfredo**

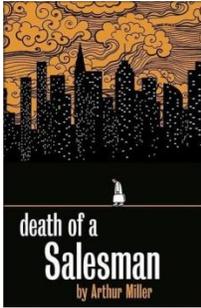
The year is 1854. In Seneca Falls, New York, everyone is busy with the opening of a new theater and no one notices the death of a freed slave. As a supporter of the Underground Railroad, librarian Glynis Tryon hears information that raises her suspicions, and soon discovers more than she wants to know about some of the so-called sympathizers.



2004/2005

***The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck**

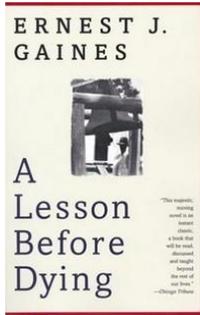
Tom Joad and his family are forced from their farm in the Depression-era Oklahoma Dust Bowl and set out for California along with thousands of others in search of jobs and land. But their hopes for a brighter future are dashed by a depleted job market and the hardships of daily living in worker camps.



2002/2003

The Works of Arthur Miller

CNY Reads celebrates the work of master playwright Arthur Miller, creator of theater classics such as *Death of a Salesman*, *The Crucible*, *All My Sons*, and *The Misfits*.



2001/2002

***A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines**

Set in the fictional community of Bayonne, Louisiana, in the late 1940s, *A Lesson Before Dying* tells the story of Jefferson, a twenty-one-year-old uneducated black field worker wrongfully accused and convicted of the robbery and murder of a white man, and sentenced to death by electrocution.