

**September 24<sup>th</sup>**

***A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles**

When Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat, the count is sentenced to house arrest in a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him a doorway into a much larger world of emotional discovery.

**October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

***The Lottery and Other Stories* by Shirley Jackson**

Twenty-four unusual short stories that range from hilarious to horrible, to the unsettling and ominous.

**November 26<sup>th</sup>**

***A Man Called Ove* by Fredrick Backman**

People call Ove "the bitter neighbor from hell." But behind the cranky exterior is a story of sadness. So when one morning a chatty young couple with two young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical tale which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations.

**December 17<sup>th</sup>**

***The Great Santa Search* by Jeff Guinn**

Trouble began when a Philadelphia merchant hired a neighbor to dress as Kris Kringle in order to lure shoppers into his store. Much to Santa's chagrin, it's been pretty much downhill since. Now not a Christmas can go by without phony Santas posing across the country. But when it's announced that a new reality TV show will feature a competition to find the "real" St. Nicholas, Santa knows it's time to step in!

# R I V E R D A L E PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Book Discussion 2018



Join us! Pick up your copy from the front desk. The book is usually available in book, large print and audiobook format. The Book Discussion Group meets on the fourth Monday of each month. Discussion begins at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments are served.

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Riverdale, NJ 07457  
973-835-5044; fax 973-835-2175

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

***Villette* by Charlotte Bronte**

Lucy Snowe is alone in the world after a terrible event of which she never speaks. With no home, no family, and no prospects, she sets sail from England to find employment in a girls' boarding school in a small town. There she struggles to retain her self-possession in the face of unruly pupils, an initially suspicious headmaster, and her own complex feelings, first for the school's English doctor and then for a dictatorial professor.

**February 26<sup>th</sup>**

***In the Midst of Winter* by Isabel Allende**

Richard Bowmaster hits the car of Evelyn Ortega—a young, undocumented immigrant from Guatemala—in the middle of a snowstorm in Brooklyn. What at first seems just a small inconvenience takes an unforeseen turn when Evelyn turns up at Richard's house seeking help. Three very different people are brought together in a mesmerizing story that moves from present-day Brooklyn to Guatemala in the recent past to 1970s Chile and Brazil, sparking the beginning of a long love story between Richard and Lucia.

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

***The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand**

This modern classic is the story of intransigent young architect Howard Roark, whose integrity was as unyielding as granite...of Dominique Francon, the beautiful woman who loved Roark passionately, but married his worst enemy...and of the fanatic denunciation unleashed by an enraged society against a great creator.

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

***The Child* by Fiona Barton**

As an old house is demolished a workman discovers human remains. For journalist Kate Waters, it's a story that deserves attention. As Kate investigates, she unearths connections to a crime from decades earlier: A child was stolen from the maternity ward and was never found. Her parents were left devastated. But there is more to the story, and Kate is drawn into the pasts of the people who once lived in this neighborhood. And she soon finds herself the keeper of unexpected secrets that erupt in the lives of three women—and torn between what she can and cannot tell...

**May 21<sup>st</sup>**

***Daring to Drive* by Manal al-Sharif**

Manal al-Sharif grew up in Mecca the daughter of a taxi driver, born the year strict fundamentalism took hold. In her adolescence, she was a religious radical. But what a difference an education can make. By her twenties Manal was a computer security engineer. That's when the Saudi kingdom's contradictions became too much to bear. She was forbidden from driving on Saudi streets. Manal's memoir is an "eye-opening" account of the making of an accidental activist, a vivid story of a young Muslim woman who stood up to a kingdom of men—and won.

**June 25<sup>th</sup>**

***The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George**

From his bookstore Monsieur Perdu prescribes novels for the hardships of life. Using his intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs, Perdu mends broken hearts and souls. The only person he can't seem to heal through literature is himself; he's still haunted by heartbreak after his great love disappeared. She left him with only a letter, which he has never opened. After Perdu is finally tempted to read the letter, he departs on a mission to the south of France, hoping to make peace with his loss and discover the end of the story.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

***Uncommon Type: Some Stories* by Tom Hanks**

A gentle Eastern European immigrant arrives in New York City after his family and his life have been torn apart by his country's civil war. A man who loves to bowl rolls a perfect game—and then another and then another. An eccentric billionaire and his faithful executive assistant venture into America looking for acquisitions and discover a down and out motel, romance, and a bit of real life. These are just some of the tales Tom Hanks tells in this first collection of his short stories.

**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

***Shakespeare Play***

Play reading and performance.