

"BOOKISH":

OUR SAGA

READERS LA

1995- 2023

www.readersclubla.com



Acknowledgement

Thank you to our founders for initiating the group.

Our Gwen Williams loved to organize us, and she started this list.

<u>#</u>	<u>Title and Author</u>	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Year</u>
1.	Liliane by Ntozake Shange	Gwen Williams	1995
2.	No Disrespect by Sister Soulljah	Sylvia Dyson	1995
3.	Parable of the Sower by Octavia Butler	Ashana Thorman	1995
4.	Migrations of the Heart by Marita Golden	Kathy Jones Irish @Cha Cha Cha's Restaurant	1996
5.	Gospel Choirs by Derrick Bell	Gwen Williams	1996
6.	Ain't Gonna Be the Same Fool Twice by April Sinclair	Kelly Wilson	1996
7.	Autobiography of My Mother by Jamaica Kincaid	Felecia Bragg	1996
8.	Good Hair by Benilde Little	Tracey Glenn	1996
9.	The Hand I Fan With by Tina Ansa McElroy	Michele James	1996
10.	Things Fall Apart by Chiuna Achebe	Shirley Douglas	1997
11.	The Good Book by Peter Gomes	Ann Marie Hickambottom	1997
12.	Spooks, Spies and Private Eyes by Paula Woods		1997
13.	Gone Fishin' by Walter Mosely	Ashana Thorman	1997
14.	Enemy in the Promised Land by Sana Hasan	Giezel Garnett	1997
15.	Life on the Color Line by Gregory Williams	Michele James	1998
16.	Paradise by Toni Morrison		1998



**Curveball: The Story of Toni Stone by Martha Ackmann hosted by Gwen @
Rancho Cheviot 2010**



<u>#</u>	<u>Title and Author</u>	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Year</u>
17.	In the Wake of the Wind by J. California Cooper		1998
18.	Thurgood Marshall by Juan Williams	Anne Marie Hickambottom	1999
19.	The Heart of a Woman by Maya Angelou	Ashana Thorman	1999
20.	The Bride Price by Buchi Emecheta	Shirley Douglas	1999
21.	I Left My Backdoor Open by April Sinclair	Sylvia Dyson	1999
22.	American Patriots by Gail Lumet Buckley	Marne Brown @Mijares Restaurant	1999
23.	Juneteenth by Ralph Ellison	Giezel Garnett	1999
24.	Corrigadora by Gayle Jones	Kathy Jones Irish	2000
25.	Silent Cradle by Margaret Cuthbert	Marilyn Morton	2000
26.	Abide With Me by E. Lynn Harris	Ashana Thorman	2000
27.	Love by Toni Morrison	Benita Horn	2000
28.	Defending the Spirit by Randall Robinson	Michele James	2001
29.	Catherine Carmier by Ernest Gaines		2001
30.	My Soul to Keep by Tanarive Due		2001
31.	Sweet Summer, Growing Up and Without My Dad by Bebe Moore Campbell	Marilyn Morton	2001
32.	Blues, Legacies and Black Feminism by Angela Davis	Felecia Bragg	2001

<u>#</u>	<u>Title and Author</u>	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Year</u>
33.	The Emperor of Ocean Park by Stephen Carter	Gwen Williams	2002
34.	Kindred by Octavia Butler		2002
35.	Leaving by Richard Dry	Alese Pedro	2002
36.	Measure of a Man by Sidney	Michele James	2002
37.	The Known World by Edward Jones	Marilyn Morton	2003
38.	Devil with A Blue Dress by Walter Mosely		2003
39.	Eden by Olympia Vernon*	Gwen Williams	2003
40.	The Pact: Three Men Make a Promise by Sampson, Jenkins and Hunt	Alese Pedro	2003
41.	The Good House by Tanarive Due	Sandra Bell	2003
42.	Break Any Woman Down by Dana Johnson	Sylvia Dyson and Marilyn Morton	2003
43.	Some People Some Other Place by J. California Cooper	Sandra Bell	2004
44.	The Itch by Benilde Little	Michele James	2004
45.	Raising Fences by Michael Datcher	Alese Pedro and Ann Marie Hickambottom	2004
46.	A Gathering of Old Men by Ernest Gaines	Hostess TBI	2004
47.	The Wedding by Dorothy West	Madelyn Murray	2004
48.	White Teeth by Zadie Smith	Sandra Bell	2004

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



A Readers Sharing
of Favorites
December 2005

<u>#</u>	<u>Title and Author</u>	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Year</u>
49.	Krik Krak by Edwidge Danticat	Giezel Garnett	2005
50.	Philadelphia Fire by John Edgar Wideman	Sandra Bell	2005
51.	Freshwater Road by Denise Nicholas **	Madelyn Murray	2005
52.	Man In My Basement by Walter Mosely	Vicki Johnson	2005
53.	Readings of August Wilson		2005
54.	The Souls of Black Folks by W.E.B. DuBois	Gwen Williams	2005
55.	Standing on the Scratch Line by Guy Johnson	Vicki Johnson	2006
56.	On Beauty by Zadie Smith	Sandra Bell	2006
57.	The Double Lives of Black Women by Jones/Gooden **	Rochelle Pegg	2006
58.	The Intuitionist by Colson Whitehead	Kathy Jones Irish and Rosalind Goddard	2006
59.	The Senator and the Socialite by Lawrence Graham	Michele James	2006
60.	The Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama	Gwen Williams	2006
61.	All Aunt Hagar's Children by Ernest Johnson	Vicki Johnson	2007
62.	A Dead Man Speaks by Lisa Johnson **	Giezel Garnett	2007
63.	Infidel by Ayan Hersi Ali	Alese Pedro	2007
64.	[Placeholder]		
65.	Queen, Dinah Washington by	Tori Hill	2007
66.	Brother, I'm Dying by Edwidge Danticat	Sandra Bell	2007
67.	The Douglas Women by Jewell Parker Rhodes	Michele James	2007



Off we "railed" to San Juan Capistrano
to discuss the magnificent Toni Morrison's
The Source of Self-Regard
Essays, Speeches and Meditations
Hosted by Sandra and Gwen
April 2019



Booklet produced by



Gwendolyn. W. Williams

<u>#</u>	<u>Title and Author</u>	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Year</u>
68.	Spiritual Shackles* by Okeyo Jamal	Carolyn Poullard	2008
69.	The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes by Arnold Rampersaand	Madelyn Murray	2008
70.	The Translator by Daoud Hari	Johyne Geran	2008
71.	Segu by Maryse Conde	Gwen Williams	2008
72.	Reyita: Life of a Black Cuban Woman by Bueno, Rubiero, McLean	Michele James	2008
73.	A Mercy by Toni Morrison	Benita Horn	2008
74.	Ruined (Play) by Lynn Nottage	Sandra Bell	2009
75.	The Spyglass Tree by Albert Murray	Gwen Williams	2009
76.	Wife of the Gods by Kwei Quatrej	Linda Smith/Giezel Garnett	2010
77.	The Help by Kathryn Stockett	Sandra Bell	2010
78.	Princess Noire: The Tumultuous Reign of Nina Simone by Kohodas	Madelyn Murray @ Nii's Gym	2010
79.	Curveball: Story of Toni Stone by Martha Ackmann	Gwen Williams @ Rancho Park	2010
80.	Council Palace by Stephen Carter	Alese Pedro	2010
81.	Various Graphic Novels	Sandra Bell	2010
82.	Never in My Wildest Dreams: Life of Belva Davis by Davis/Haddock	Shanterial Rozier/Gizelle Garnett	2011
83.	The Warmth of Other Suns by	Gwen Williams	2011
84.	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot	Michele James and Lois Bruce	2011
85.	Malcolm X by Manning Marble	Giezel Garnett/Marne Brown	2011
86.	High on the Hog by Jessica Harris	Sandra/Ashana/Ann Marie	2011



PLEASE JOIN US IN CREATING AN AD HOC AURA
OF A FULLY STAGED PRODUCTION
BY READING SCENES FROM OUR
OCTOBER BOOK SELECTION

RUINED
by
Lynn Nottage

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009 @ 2:00 P.M.
HOME OF ANN MARIE
198 GLORETA STREET, PASADENA, CA 91033
HOSTS: ANN MARIE HICKAM-BOTTOM &
SANDRA BELL

RSVP/REGRETS: (626) 791-7410 OR (323) 295-8524



i. From 2009

<u>#</u>	<u>Title and Author</u>	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Year</u>
87.	Black Water Rising by Attica Locke**	Carolyn Poullard/Alese Pedro	2012
88	Power Concede Nothing by Connie Rice **	Michele James/Lois Bruce	2012
89.	Who's Afraid of Post-Blackness by Toure	Naja Johnson/Yvette Odell	2012
90.	James Baldwin (any book)	Madelyn Murray/Gwen Williams	2012
91.	Cotillion by James Oliver Killens	Giezel Garnett/Kathy Irish/Marne Brown	2012
92.	This is How You Lose Her by Junot Diaz	Sandra/Ashana/Ann Marie	2012
93.	Our Uncle Sam (Sam Cooke story) by Erik Greene	Alese Pedro/Jeanne Ward/Carolyn Poullard	2013
94.	Book of Light by Lucille Clifton/ Thrall by Natasha Trethaway	Gwen Williams (Amtrak Ride)	2013
95.	Little Girls by Elton Loud **	Linda Smith	2013
96.	Little Green by Walter Mosely	Michele James/Lois Bruce	2013
97.	Devil in the Grove/ and The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander	Gwen Williams/Kathy Jones Irish	2013
98.	Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	Sandra/Ashana/Ann Marie	2013



2005 at
Ashana's



The Intuitionist by Colson
Whitehead @ Village Green 2007



2006 at
Gwen's

#	Title and Author	Hostess	Year
99.	NW by Zadie Smith	Vicki Johnson	2014
100.	Claire of the Sunlight by Edwidge Danticat	Giezel Garnett/Jane Wallace	2014
101.	Ruby by Cynthia Bond	Gwen Wiliams/Joyhne Geran	2014
102.	[Title needed]	Madelyn Murray/Linda Smith	2014
103.	Monster's Chef by Jervey Trevalon	Alese/Marne/Carolyn	2014
104.	Song of the Shank by Jeffrey Renard Allen	Sandra/Michelle/Ann Marie	2014
105.	Salvage the Bones by Jesamyn Ward	Felecia Bragg	2015
106.	Welcome to Braggsville by T. Geronimo Johnson	Johyne Geran/Shanterial Rozier	2015
107.	Queen Sugar by Natalie Basile	Marne Brown/Alese Pedro	2015
108.	Loving Day by Matt Johnson		2015
109.	Between the World and Me by Ta- Hensi Coates	Michele James/Lois Bruce	2015
110.	When Washington Was in Vogue by Edward C. Williams	Gwen Williams/Giezel Garnett/Mauricette Mondtredon	2015
111.	Negroland by Margo Jefferson	Vicki Johnson/Mauricette Montredon	2016
112.	Our Man in the Dark by Rashad Harrison	Kathy Irish/Shanterial Rozier	
113.	Just Mercy by Bryan Stephenson	Sandra/Michelle/Ann Marie	2016
114.	Going to Meet the Man (short story) by James Baldwin	Felecia Bragg	2016
115.	Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome by Joy De Gruy	Giezel Garnett/Naja Johnson/Yviette Odell Banks	2016
116.	Another Brooklyn by Jacqueline Woodson	Gwen Williams @ Maggiamo's	2016
117.	Whatever Happened to Interracial Love by Kathleen Collins	Sandra Bell/Michelle Bell	2017
118.	The Sellout by Paul Beatty	Brenda Kydd/Kathy Irish	2017
119.	Born a Crime by Trevor Noah	Michele James/Lois Bruce	2017

#	Title and Author	Hostess	Year
120.	Homecoming by Yaa Gyasi	Giezel Garnett/Benita Horn	2017
121.	Behold the Dreamers by Imbue	Madelyn Murray/Gwen Williams	2017
122.	Bad Feminist by Roxanne Gay	Giezel Garnett	2018
123.	Brown is the New White by Steve Phillips	Sydney Williams	2018
124.	The Heads of Colored People by Nafissa Thompson Spires	Shanterial Rozier/Alese Pedro	2018
125.	A Different Drummer by William M. Kelly	Felecia Bragg	2018
126.	An American Marriage by Tayari Jones	Denise Nicholas	2018
127.	Becoming by Michelle Obama	Sandra/ Michelle/ Ann Marie	2018



A
Dead Man
Speaks by
Lisa
Johnson
(author
present)
hosted by
Giezel

	Title and Author	Hostess	Year
129.	How Long To Black Future Month by N.K. Jemisin	Giezel Garnett	2019
130.	The Source of Self-Regard by Toni Morrison	Gwen Williams/Sandra Bell on Amtrak	2019
131.	The Polished Hoe by Austin Clarke	Pam Hill/Benita Horn	2019
132.	The World According to Fannie Davis: My Mother's Life in the Detroit Numbers by Bridgette Davis	Michele James/Lois Bruce	2019
133.	Bring on the Blessings by Beverly Jenkins	Linda Smith/Sydney Williams	2019
134.	The Yellow House: A Memoir by Sarah Broom	Michelle Bell/Vicki Johnson/Ann Marie Hickambottom	2019
135.	Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo	Giezel Garnett & Kathy Irish	2020
136.	The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead	Felicia Bragg & Vicki Johnson	2020 ¹
137.	Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel García Márquez	Madelyn Murray & Denise Nichols	2020
138.	Deacon King Kong by James McBride	Sandra & Michelle	2020
139.	The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett	Antoinette & Michele	2020
140.	All About Love, New Visions by Bell Hooks	Shanterial Rozier	2021
141.	Finding My Voice by Valerie Garrett	Linda Smith	2021
142.	The Secret Life of Church Ladies" by Deesha Philyaw	Marilyn Morton & Marne Brown	2021
143.	Fifty Words for Rain by Asha Lemmie	Shanterial Rozier & Madelyn Murray	2021
144.	The Other Black Girl by Zakiya Dalila Harris	Pamela Hill	2021
145.	Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead	Madelyn Murray & Sandra Bell	2021
146.	It's All Downhill from Here by Terry McMillan	Linda Smith & Sydney Williams	2022

¹ Virtual meetings throughout March 2020 to July 2021 were held virtually, on Zoom, as a pre-caution during the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.



MAGGIANO'S

LITTLE ITALY®

*Social 2016
The Readers
December 11, 2016*

Course One

Freshly Baked Bread
Calamari Fritti!!
Bruschetta
Chopped Salad

Course Two

Baked Ziti & Sausage
Grilled Chicken, Tomatoes & Basil
Salmon, Lemon & Herb
Grilled Asparagus

Course Three

Tiramisu
Gigi's Butter Cake

*Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee
Hot Tea Selection, Iced Tea & Assorted Sodas
•Please ask for Replenishments•*



2019

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131.	The Polished Hoe by Austin Clarke	Pam Hill/Benita Horn	2019
132.	The World According to Fannie Davis: My Mother's Life in the Detroit Numbers by Bridgette Davis	Michele James/Lois Bruce	2019
133.	Bring on the Blessings by Beverly Jenkins	Linda Smith/Sydney Williams	2019
134.	The Yellow House: A Memoir by Sarah Broom	Michelle Bell/Vicki Johnson Ann-Marie Hickambottom	2019

2020

135.	Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo	Giezel Garnett & Kathy Irish	2020
136.	The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead	Felicia Bragg & Vicki Johnson	2020 ¹
137.	Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel García Márquez	Madelyn Murray & Denise Nichols	2020
138.	Deacon King Kong by James McBride	Sandra & Michelle	2020
139.	The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett	Antoinette & Michele	2020

2021

140.	All About Love, New Visions by Bell Hooks	Shanterial Rozier	2021
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| 143. | Fifty Words for Rain by Asha Lemmie | Shanterial Rozier & Madelyn Murray | 2021 |
| 144. | The Other Black Girl by Zakiya Dalila Harris | Pamela Hill | 2021 |
| 145. | Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead | Madelyn Murray & Sandra Bell | 2021 |

Images: Post Shutdown - Summer, August/2021



2022

146.	It's All Downhill from Here by Terry McMillan	Linda Smith & Sydney Williams	2022
147.	The 1619 Project" by Nicole Hannah-Jones	Ann Marie Hickambottom & Giezel Garnett	2022
148.	The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb	Vicki Johnson/Pamela Hill/ Sydney Williams	2022
149.	Nightcrawling by Leila Mottley	Michele James and Antoinette Bruce	2022

2023

150.	Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson	Shanterial Rozier & Vicki Johnson	2023
151.	The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict & Victoria C. Murray	Madelyn Murray & Pamela Hill	2023
152.	Black Girl From Pyongyang: In Search of my Identity by Monica Macias	Sydney Williams & Vicki Johnson	2023
153.	Charlotte Sophia: Myth Madness, and the Moor by Tina Andrews	Jackie Tyler & Linda Smith	2023
154.	The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride	Linda Smith	2023
155.	Quietly Hostile by Samantha Irby	Sandra Bell	2023

2024

156.	You Don't Know Us Negroes by Zora Neale Hurston	Giezel Garnett & Vicki Johnson	2024
157.	Erasure by Percival Everett	Sydney Williams	2024
158.	A Taste of Power by Elain Brown	Pam & Madlyn Murray	2024
159.	Black Buck by Mateo Askaripour	Lois Bruce & Michelle James	2024
160.	Finding Me by Viola Davis	Linda Smith and Shanterial Rozier	2024

OTHER BOOKS WE'VE READ

WITH EITHER UNKNOWN DATES OR HOSTESSES

Kindred by Octavia Butler

Devil with a Blue Dress by Walter Mosely

And Do Remember Me by Marita Golden

I Can't Wait on God by Albert French

Images: Post Shutdown - Summer, August/2021





Ab-o-wt' Lo-v ♦

(Poetry, Quotes from Novels, and Musings about Love)



The Readers
February 2017