

Weaver Book Discussion Groups  
Reading List 2009-2010

- Sept. 8, 2009      Summer Reading by Hilma Wolitzer  
Lissy, insecure second wife of a Wall Street tycoon, hosts a book club at her Hamptons home. Angela, a retired professor haunted by past love, leads the group while Lissy's resentful housekeeper Michelle eavesdrops. The women find inspiration in literature. *2007*
- Oct. 13, 2009      Unaccustomed Earth by Jhumpa Lahiri  
Eight short stories by Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Interpreter of Maladies* explore the nature of family and love. In the title story, a mother in Seattle nervously hosts her widowed father, who helps tend her garden but hides a secret. *2008*
- Nov. 10, 2009      The Soloist : A Lost Dream, An Unlikely Friendship, and the Redemptive Power of Music by Steve Lopez  
Los Angeles Times columnist describes his relationship with Nathaniel Ayers, a former student at Juilliard, who became homeless after succumbing to paranoid schizophrenia. Lopez discusses his and his readers' efforts to expose callous treatment of Ayers and relates Ayers's attempts at recovery. *2008*
- Dec. 8, 2009      Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks  
Anna Frith, an eighteen-year-old widow with two children, is a servant at the rectory in Derbyshire, England in 1666. In her account of the plague's arrival and the villagers' difficult choice of quarantine, she shows what can happen to faith and human kindness in times of widespread death and desperation. *2001*
- Jan. 12, 2010      The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows  
Writer Juliet Ashton corresponds with Dawsey Adams and other members of a literary society created as a front during the Nazi occupation of the British channel island Guernsey. Through letters, Juliet learns about their wartime experiences.

Intrigued, Juliet sails to Guernsey, where she finds new inspiration. *2008*

Feb. 9, 2010

Home by Marilynne Robinson

Events take place concurrently with those in Robinson's Pulitzer Prize-winning Gilead. Like his friend and fellow minister John Ames, Robert Boughton is dying. Boughton's daughter and his long-estranged son return home to care for him--and to take refuge from their own troubled lives. *2008*

March 9, 2010

Dreamers of the Day by Mary Doria Russell

Ohio schoolteacher Agnes Shanklin receives an inheritance after her entire family dies in a flu epidemic. She decides to travel and arrives in Egypt during the 1921 Cairo Peace Conference. Agnes befriends Winston Churchill and Lawrence of Arabia while she falls in love with a German spy. *2008*

April 13, 2010

City of Thieves by David Benioff

It is Leningrad, 1942. Seventeen-year-old Lev Beniov, a looter, and his cellmate Kolya, a deserter, are reprieved by a Soviet colonel who needs eggs for his daughter's wedding cake. The two leave the besieged city and cross enemy lines, where they encounter death squads and partisans. *2008*

May 11, 2010

The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox by Maggie O'Farrel

Scottish shop owner Iris Lockhart is shocked to learn she has a great-aunt Esme, who has been in a psychiatric hospital for more than sixty years. When the hospital closes, Esme, deemed mentally fit, is released to Iris. Esme's story gradually comes out. *2006*

June 8, 2010

The Lighthouse by P. D. James

Commander Adam Dalgliesh is called to exclusive Combe Island off the Cornish coast to investigate a death at the high-end resort. Dalgliesh, detective inspector Kate Miskin, and sergeant Francis Benton-Smith have their own emotional preoccupations--until another murder occurs. *2005*