

Library Book Club 2020 – 2021

Meetings held the Second Thursday of the Month at 5:30 pm September – June.
Beck Bookman Library, 420 West 4th Street, Holton, KS 785-364-3532
holtoncitylib@gmail.com – www.beckbookmanlibrary.org

September 10 - ***The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*** by Kim Michele Richardson
Reviewer– Orin and Lenora Marshall

October 8 - ***The Last Midwife*** by Sandra Dallas
Reviewer: Dana Bryant

November 12 - ***Born a Crime: Stories from a Southern African Childhood*** by Trevor Noah
Reviewer: Ginnie Schirmer

No Meeting in December

January 14 - ***Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York City's Greatest Female Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case that Captivated a Nation***
by Brad Ricca Reviewer: Karen Bohlender

February 11 - ***All the Ways We Said Goodbye*** by Beatriz Williams, Lauren Willig, Karen White
Reviewer: Gail Schmitz

March 11 - ***Island of Sea Women*** by Lisa See
Reviewer: Susan Hershey

April 8 - ***This Tender Land*** by William Kent Krueger
Reviewer: Jolene Brauer

May 13 - ***American Dirt*** by Jeanine Cummins
Reviewer: Barb Schul

June 10 - ***City of Girls*** by Elizabeth Gilbert
Reviewer: Candee Jacobs



Also Reads - *Forty Autumns, Storm in a Teacup, Silent Patient, Finding Dorothy, The Splendid and the Vile, I Rigoberta Menchu, The Night Olivia Fell, Three Days in January, 28 Summers, Educated, The Gown, Boom Town, A Better Man, Alaska Sourdough: The Story of Slim Williams, Olive Again, A Fine Summer Day.*

2020-2021 Book Blurbs

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek, The folks of Troublesome Creek have to scarp for everything - everything except books, that is. Thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Horse Library Project, Troublesome's got its very own traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter. Cussy's not only a book woman, however, she's also the last of her kind, her skin is a shade of blue unlike most anyone else. His novel is a story of raw courage, fierce strength and one woman's belief that books can carry us anywhere - even back home. *From Booklist*

The Last Midwife In 1880, a wealthy mine owner in a small Colorado town accuses the local midwife of murdering his infant son. Midwife Gracy Brookens is put on trial, forced to defend herself and that she represents. *From Kirkus Reviews*

Born a Crime, Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle. *From Good Reads*

Mrs. Sherlock Holmes tells the true story of Grace Humiston, the lawyer, detective, and first woman U.S. District Attorney who turned her back on New York society life to become one of the nation's greatest crime-fighters during an era when women were still not allowed to vote. After agreeing to take the sensational case of missing eighteen-year-old Ruth Cruger, Grace and her partner, Julius J. Kron, navigated a dangerous web of secret boyfriends, two-faced cops, underground tunnels, and a mysterious pale man, in a desperate race against time. *From US McMillan*

All the Ways We Said Goodbye is a glorious historical adventure that moves from the dark days of two World Wars to the turbulent years of the 1960s, in which three women with bruised hearts find refuge at Paris' legendary Ritz hotel. An heiress, a resistance fighter and a widow, three women whose fates are joined by one hotel. *From Barnes and Noble*

Island of Sea Women deftly explores the complexities of female friendship and introduces readers to the remarkably strong and spirited female divers of Jeju Island. It's also an eye-opening portrait of a country ravaged by decades of conflict and unrest, and a searing examination of the effects that foreign intervention can have on the evolution of a nation and of course individual lives. *From Lisa See webpage.*

This Tender Land by William Kent Kruger follows four orphans on the run over the course of a single defining summer. In Minnesota in 1932, orphan Odie O'Banion leads a group of children who have run away from the horrible Lincoln School, a place where Native American are forcibly sent to be educated, after Odie gets in trouble with the school super. As the orphans make their way down the Mississippi, they meet all types of people in a country marked by The Great Depression, from traveling preachers to displaced families. The story is grounded in a beautiful and uniquely American landscape, it is the moving story of our country and our insatiable desire to find a home. *From Good Reads*

American Dirt is a 2020 novel by American author Jeanine Cummins, about the ordeal of a Mexican woman who had to leave behind her life and escape as an undocumented immigrant to the United States with her son. *From Amazon*

City of Girls - "Life is both fleeting and dangerous, and there is no point in denying yourself pleasure, or being anything other than what you are." Elizabeth Gilbert writes a unique love story set in the NY theater world during the 1940's. The 89-year-old main character Vivian recalls how the events of those years altered the course of her life - and the gusto and autonomy with which she approached it. "At some point in a woman's life, she just gets tired of being ashamed all the time," she muses. "After that, she is free to become whoever she truly is." *From Random House*