



Book choices for March/April 2021

We are delighted to introduce you to our next round of recommendations for our Book Club - thanks to everyone who has contributed your thoughts and ideas.

Don't forget, you can access these books in paper or hardback copy, on Kindle or other electronic device or via Audible if you prefer. We've tried to go for ones that don't cost much money but remember you don't have to read or review all three.

Our first suggestion which has had excellent reviews is:

"Big Sky" by Kate Atkinson

Jackson Brodie has relocated to a quiet seaside village in North Yorkshire, in the occasional company of his recalcitrant teenage son Nathan and ageing Labrador Dido, both at the discretion of his former partner Julia. It's a picturesque setting, but there's something darker lurking behind the scenes.

Jackson's current job, gathering proof of an unfaithful husband for his suspicious wife, seems straightforward, but a chance encounter with a desperate man on a crumbling cliff leads him into a sinister network-and back into the path of someone from his past. Old secrets and new lies intersect in this breathtaking new literary crime novel, both sharply funny and achingly sad, by one of the most dazzling and surprising writers at work today.

Our second novel also with great reviews:

"Midnight Library" by Matt Haig

The Midnight Library is about Nora, a thirty-something woman who is regretful about her life and feels alienated and unneeded in this world. In the depths of her wallowing, she comes across the Midnight Library. In it, each book represents a portal into another variation of what her life could have been

Our non-fiction suggestion is:

"The Boy with the Topknot" by Sathnam Sanghera

"It's 1979, I'm three years old, and like all breakfast times during my youth it begins with Mum combing my hair, a ritual for which I have to sit down on the second-hand, floral-patterned settee, and lean forward, like I'm presenting myself for execution."

For Sathnam Sanghera, growing up in Wolverhampton in the eighties was a confusing business. On the one hand, these were the heady days of George Michael mix-tapes, Dallas on TV and, if he was lucky, the occasional Bounty Bar. On the other, there was his wardrobe of tartan smocks, his 30p-an-hour job at the local sewing factory and the ongoing challenge of how to tie the perfect top-knot.

And then there was his family, whose strange and often difficult behaviour he took for granted until, at the age of twenty-four, Sathnam made a discovery that changed everything he ever thought he knew about them. Equipped with breathtaking courage and a glorious sense of humour, he embarks on a journey into their extraordinary past - from his father's harsh life in rural Punjab to the steps of the Wolverhampton Tourist Office - trying to make sense of a life lived among secrets.

If you are not already a member of the book club, you can join by registering your interest with Sherry sherry.smith2@nhs.net

or Debbie debbie.arnold4@nhs.net

in Central Office or by calling them on 01305 361317.

We look forward to receiving your comments back by 16th April and we will publish them here soon afterwards.

Happy reading!!

Sherry, Debbie and Lucia