

PLEASE ROUTE TO LISA STOUT



**Summer 2019 Walking Book Club Ballot**  
**Please rank the titles on the back in order of preference**  
**& return by Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

This is a summertime book club that will meet in June, July & August at the Corvallis-Benton County Library. We will have a discussion about the book for 45 minutes, followed by a 45 minute walk where we can continue chatting. Please check the days and times below that work for you (dates will not conflict with other library book club meetings) –

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturdays 10:00-11:30am  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mondays 5:30-7pm

\_\_\_\_\_ Mondays, 6:15-7:45pm  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesdays 6:15-7:45pm

Once the details are set, an email will be sent announcing the Club's meeting dates/times and selected titles. In addition, each month a reminder email will be sent. Email addresses will be kept confidential and only used for book club.

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE TURN OVER TO FILL OUT BALLOT**

When finished, please return to any  
Corvallis-Benton County Library service desk  
or email to [lisa.stout@corvallisoregon.gov](mailto:lisa.stout@corvallisoregon.gov)

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\_\_\_\_\_ **The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho (Fiction, 208 pages)**

Coelho's enchanting novel has inspired a devoted following around the world. This story, dazzling in its powerful simplicity and soul-stirring wisdom, is about an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago who travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of a treasure buried near the Pyramids.

\_\_\_\_\_ **American Fire: Love, Arson, and Life in a Vanishing Land by Monica Hesse (Nonfiction, 256 pages)**

The arsons started on a cold November midnight and didn't stop for months. Night after night, the people of Accomack County waited to see which building would burn down next. The arsonist seemed to target abandoned buildings, but local police were stretched too thin to surveil them all. And by the dozen they were burning.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone by Brené Brown (Nonfiction, 208 pages)**

"True belonging doesn't require us to *change* who we are. It requires us to *be* who we are." Brené Brown has sparked a global conversation about the experiences that bring meaning to our lives—experiences of courage, vulnerability, love, belonging, shame, and empathy. In *Braving the Wilderness*, Brown redefines what it means to truly belong in an age of increased polarization.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania by Erik Larson (Nonfiction, 480 pages)**

Larson reconstructs the last and fatal voyage of what was widely considered the most beautiful ship of the day. It is a story that many of us think we know but don't, and Larson tells it thrillingly, switching between hunter and hunted while painting a larger portrait of America at the height of the Progressive Era. Full of glamour and suspense, *Dead Wake* brings to life a cast of evocative characters.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Educated by Tara Westover (Nonfiction, 352 pages)**

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail by Ben Montgomery (Nonfiction, 288 pages)**

Emma Gatewood told her family she was going on a walk and left her small Ohio hometown with a change of clothes and less than two hundred dollars. The next anybody heard from her, this genteel, farm-reared, sixty-seven-year-old great-grandmother had walked 800 miles along the 2,050-mile Appalachian Trail.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Heavy: An American Memoir by Kiese Laymon (Nonfiction, 256 pages)**

Laymon writes honestly about growing up a hard-headed black son to a complicated and brilliant black mother in Jackson, Mississippi. From his early experiences of sexual violence, to his suspension from college, to his trek to New York as a young college professor, Laymon charts his complex relationship with his mother, grandmother, anorexia, obesity, sex, writing, and ultimately gambling.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Washington Black by Esi Edugyan (Fiction, 352 pages)**

The story begins as an antebellum novel about Wash, an 11-year-old slave working on a Barbados plantation run by a sadistic master. When Christopher, the master's brother, takes Wash under his wing and teaches him to read, the novel turns more toward adventure and scientific exploration. There are inventions, twists, and turns; there is danger and intrigue; there is travel and growth.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Where the Crawdads Sing (Fiction, 384 pages)**

For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. This title is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder.