

## AAUW - Bookies 2004 - 2005

### First Mondays of the month .... normally

13 September	Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons	(Sept 6 is a holiday)
4 October	March of Folly	
1 November	Reading Lolita in Tehran	
6 December	Tears of the Giraffe	

### 2005

3 January	Founding Mothers
7 February	The Virgin Blue
7 March	The Other Boleyn Girl
4 April	Child of My Heart
2 May	Personal History
6 June	Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
11 July	
1 August	

[\*Angry Housewives Eating BonBons\*](#), 416 pp.

Lorna Landvik

About book clubs -- the camaraderie, the friendships and the lifelong bond created among members. It's a testament to the power of women, the sisterhood and the support they give to each other through the joys and terrors of life. The books are a backdrop to the story and the book club intended for book discussions, eating, wining and conversing is fun, but the stories of the five women are what make the story.

*March of Folly* 464 pp

Barbara Tuchman

Tuchman examines the idea of "folly," or the persistent pursuit of a policy by government or those in power that is "contradictory to their own interests." Since a topic like this could take volumes, the author chooses 4 primary historical examples: the Fall of Troy, the breakup of the Holy See in the 16th century, the British monarchy's vain attempt to keep the American colonies, and America's own arrogant persistence during the Vietnam War. In any event the book is an excellent supplement to studying Machiavellian politics. The governments' "wood-headedness" towards policy that is counter to anything rational (as well as contrary to respected voices of reason) is something that all ordinary members and voters of a democratic society ought to take heed of.

*Reading Lolita in Tehran* 384pp

Azar Nafisi

A moving testament to the power of art and its ability to change and improve people's lives. In 1995, after resigning from her job as a professor at a university in Tehran due to repressive policies, Azar Nafisi invited seven of her best female students to attend a weekly study of great Western literature in her home. Since the books they read were officially banned by the government, the women were forced to meet in secret, often sharing photocopied pages of the illegal novels. For two years they met to talk, share, and "shed their mandatory veils and robes and burst into color."

*Tears of the Giraffe: More from the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* 227 pp Alexander McCall-Smith

Precious Ramotswe is the eminently sensible and cunning proprietor of the only ladies' detective agency in Botswana. She tracks a wayward wife, uncovers an unscrupulous maid, and searches for an American man who disappeared into the plains many years ago.

*Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation* (384 pp)

Cokie Roberts

The often surprising stories of these fascinating women, bringing to life the everyday trials and extraordinary triumphs of individuals like Abigail Adams, Mercy Otis Warren, Deborah Read Franklin, Eliza Pinckney, Catherine Littlefield Green, Esther DeBerdt Reed, and Martha Washington -- proving that without our exemplary women, the new country might never have survived. Social history at its best, *Founding Mothers* unveils the drive, determination, creative insight, and passion of the other patriots, the women who raised our nation.

*The Virgin Blue* 320pp

Tracy Chevalier

In split-narrative fashion, it follows a transplanted American woman in southwestern France as she connects through dreams with her distant Huguenot ancestors. In alternating sections of the novel, these details are developed in a narrative about a 16th-century French farm girl and midwife, and her marriage to overbearing tyrant. They belong to a vehemently anti-Catholic Calvinist sect that overthrows the village's cult of the Virgin.

*The Other Boleyn Girl* 672pp

Phillipa Gregory

Before Henry VIII ever considered making Anne Boleyn his wife, her older sister, Mary, was his mistress. Historical novelist Gregory uses the perspective of this "other Boleyn girl" to reveal the rivalries and intrigues swirling through England.

[Child of My Heart](#) 256 pp. (we previously read *Charming Billy*).

Alice McDermott

A woman recalls her fifteenth summer with the wry and bittersweet wisdom of hindsight, in her deeply etched rendering of all that happened that seemingly idyllic season.

*Personal History* 688 pp.

Katherine Graham's memoir.

Pulitzer Prize for biography, 1998.

An extraordinarily frank, honest, and generous book by one of America's most famous and admired women, *Personal History* is, as its title suggests, a book composed of both personal memoir and history.

*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* 870pp

J. K. Rowling

The darkest year yet for our young wizard, who finds himself knocked down a peg or three after the events of last year. Somehow, over the summer, gossip (usually traced back to the magic world's newspaper, the *Daily Prophet*) has turned Harry's tragic and heroic encounter with Voldemort at the Triwizard Tournament into an excuse to ridicule and discount the teen.. Life isn't getting any easier for Harry Potter. Harry's resilience is sorely tested.