



Book Group with Rabbi Clifford M. Kulwin

Selections from 2000 to present

Over eighteen years ago, a group of Temple members, led by Rabbi Kulwin, began reading together. Since then, the members of the TBA Book Group have read over 200 books together, and continue to read and discuss (and argue!) together with enthusiasm and enjoyment.

If you like to read, and can at least occasionally be available on the first Thursday of every month join us! Current selections are generally grouped in two or three months of a particular theme, are posted on this website. Books are almost always available easy from area libraries, or online, or at local bookstores. And when they are not, the Temple will secure several copies of the book for us to share.

Readers love to read, and serious readers know that talking only enhances the reading. And when we talk about what we read, we inevitably grow close as we share our thoughts and feelings about how the works we read have touched us. All of us regulars consider this one of the most important hours we spend each month, and we would love to share it with you.

Year Read

Title

Author

2000

This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentleman

Tadeusz Borowski

After

Melvin Jules Bukiet

The Reader

Bernhard Schlink

The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hameln

Gluckel of Hameln, Marvin Lowenthal, translator

Gentleman's Agreement

Laura Z. Hobson

Goodbye Columbus

Philip Roth

The Rise of David Levinsky

Abraham Cahn

The Bintel Brief: "Sixty Years of Letters from the Lower East Side to the Jewish Daily Forward"

Isaac Metzker, Harry Golden

The Assistant

Bernard Malamud

Kaaterskill Falls

Allegra Goodman

2001

As A Driven Leaf

Rabbi Milton Steinberg

The Garden of the Finzi-Continis

Giorgio Bassani

The Chosen

Chaim Potok

The Last of the Just

Andre Schwarz-Bart

Exodus

Leon Uris

Panther in the Basement

Amos Oz

When I Lived in Modern Times

Linda Grant

Year Read

2001 (continued)

Title

Silence

It Can't Happen Here

Black Like Me John

Nickel and Dimed

2002

The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon

The Road to Fez

The Periodic Table

The Human Stain

The Fixer

Members of the Tribe

A Simple Story

The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay

The Speed of light

The Puttermessaer Papers

2003

The Scarlett Letter

To Kill a Mockingbird

Knock on Any Door

Heaven Help Us!

The Rabbi

Author

Shusaku Endo

Sinclair Lewis

Howard Griffin

Barbara Ehrenreich

Richard Zimler

Ruth Knafo Setton

Primo Levi

Philip Roth

Bernard Malamud

Richard Kluger

S.Y. Agron

Michael Chabon

Elizabeth Rossner

Cynthia Ozick

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Harper Lee

Willard Motley

Herbert Tarr

Noah Gordon

Year Read

2003 (continued)

Title

The New Rabbi

In Mysterious Ways: The Death and Life of a Parish Priest

Upon This Rock: The Miracles of a Black Church

Everything is Illuminated

The English Disease

2004

Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths

Satan in Goray

Herzog

Night

In the Image

The Illuminated Soul

Three Daughters

The Outside World

My Name is Asher Lev

Seven Blessings

Author

Stephen Fried

Paul Wilkes

Samuel G. Freedman

Jonathan Safran Foer

Joseph Skibell

Bruce Feiler

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Saul Bellow

Elie Wiesel

Dara Horn

Aryeh Lev Stollman

Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Tova Mirvis

Chaim Potok

Ruchama King

Year Read

2005

Title

The Plot Against America

Kingsblood Royal

Lost in America: A Journey with My Father

Fateless

Foiglmán

Hester Among the Ruins

Natasha and Other Stories

What Makes Sammy Run?

Barney's Version

2006

The Autobiography of God: A Novel

Mazel

The World to Come

Joy Comes in the Morning

Heir to the Glimmering World

The Centaur in the Garden

The Russian Debutante's Handbook

Intuition

Everyman

Author

Philp Roth

Sinclair Lewis

Sherwin Nuland

Imre Kertesz, Tim Wilkinson (Translator)

Aharon Megged

Binne Kirshenbaum

David Bezmozgis

Budd Schulberg

Mordechai Richler

Julius Lester

Rebecca Goldstein

Dara Horn

Jonathan Rosen

Cynthia Ozick

Moacyr Scliar

Gary Shteyngart

Allegra Goodman

Philip Roth

Year Read

2007

Title

Triangle

The Book and the Sword

Disobedience

A Woman in Jerusalem

Prisoners: A Muslim & A Jew Across the Middle East Divide

A Murder in Lemberg

The Yiddish Policeman's Union

The Ministry of Special Cases

The Rug Merchant

2008

New England White

Foreskin's Lament

The September of Shiraz

One Nation Under Therapy

God's Harvard

Exit Ghost

The Cantor's Daughter

People of the Book

Away

Author

Katharine Weber

David Weiss Halivni

Naomi Alderman

A.B. Yehoshua

Jeffrey Goldberg

Michael Stanislawski

Michael Chabon

Nathan Englander

Philip Lopate

Stephen L. Carter

Shalom Auslander

Dalia Sofer

Christina Hoff Sommers & Sally Satel

Hanna Rosin

Philip Roth

Scott Nadelson

Geraldine Brooks

Amy Bloom

Year Read

2008 (continued)

2009

2010

Title

The Rabbi and the Hit Man

The Collaborator of Bethlehem

The Book Thief

The Boy Who Loved Anne Frank

Ask for a Convertible

A Pigeon and a Boy

My Father's Paradise

All Other Nights

The History of Love

The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit

Not Me

From Berlin to Jerusalem

The Jew Store

The Nazi's Officer's Wife

Amen, Amen, Amen

The Hill of Evil Counsel

The 188th Crybaby Brigade

The Prophet's Wife

Author

Arthur Magida

Matt Beynon Rees

Markus Zusack

Ellen Friedman

Danit Brown

Meir Shalev

Ariel Sabar

Dara Horn

Nicole Krauss

Lucette Lagnado

Michael Lavigne

Gershon Scholem

Stella Suberman

Edith Hahn Beer

Abby Sher

Amos Oz

Joel Chasnoff

Milton Steinberg

Year Read

2010 (continued)

Title

The Scenic Route

The Frozen Rabbi

2011

This is Where I Leave You

The Finkler Question

Almost Dead

The End of the Jews

The Jersey Sting

The Jump Artist

The Price of Escape

The Free World

2012

*'Deaths-Head Revisited', an episode of the
Twilight Zone by Rod Serling*

The Lost Legends of New Jersey

Day for Night

The Three Weissmans of Westport

Hope: A Tragedy

Unorthodox
I Am Forbidden
Hush

Author

Binnie Kirshenbaum

Steve Stern

Jonathan Tropper

Howard Jacobson

Assaf Gavron

Adam Mansbach

Ted Sherman & Josh Margolin

Austin Ratner

David Unger

David Bezmozgis

DVD

Frederick Reiken

Frederick Reiken

Cathleen Schline

Shalom Auslander

Deborah Friedman
Anouk Markovits
Eishes Chayill

Year Read

2012 (continued)

Title

Sarah

The Dovekeepers

Children of the Ghetto

Author

Marek Halter

Alice Hoffman

Israel Zangwill

2013

Shosha

The Middlesteins

By Blood

No One Here Except All of Us

Jujitsu Rabbi and the Godless Blond

The Innocents

Flatscreen

The World Without You

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Jami Attenberg

Ellen Ullman

Ramona Ausubel

Rebecca Dana

Francesca Segal

Adam Wilson

Joshua Henkin

2014

Rav Hisda's Daughter

Chicago

Harvard Square

The Magician of Lublin

Sabbath's Theater

The Intertestings

Maggie Anton

Alaa Al Aswany

Andre Aciman

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Philip Roth

Meg Wolitzer

Year Read

2014 (continued)

Title

Little Failure

A Replacement Life

The Outsider

Author

Gary Shteyngart

Boris Fishman

Albert Cadmus (recent translation by Sandra Smith)

2015

The Book of Laughter and Forgetting

Milan Kundera

A Guide for the Perplexed

Dara Horn

The Book of Jonah

Joshua Max Feldman

To the End of the Land

David Grossman

In the Courtyard of the Kabbalist

Ruchama King Feuerman

In the Unlikely Event

Judy Blume

All the Light We Cannot See

Anthony Doerr

Iphigenia in Forest Hills: Anatomy of a Murder Trial

Janet Malcolm

2016

The Mathematician's Shiva

Stuart Rojstaczer

The Betrayers

David Bezmozgis

The Human Season

Edward Lewis Wallant

The Pawnbroker

Edward Lewis Wallant

Memoirs of a Jewish Extremist

Yossi Klein Halevi

The Hilltop

Assaf Gavron

Year Read

2016 (continued)

Title

The Extra

Between Friends

Until the Dawn's Light

2017

The Two— Family House

As Close to Us as Breathing

The Pianist

Mila 18

The Book of Aron

The Last Flight of Poxl West

A Possibility of Violence

Forbidden Love in St. Petersburg

Moonglow

2018

The Afterlife of Stars

What To Do About the Solomons

All Grown Up

Judas

Mr. Sammler's Planet

Author

A.B. Yehoshua

Amos Oz

Aharon Appelfeld

Lynda Cohen Loigman

Elizabeth Poliner

Wladyslaw Szpilman

Leon Uris

Jim Shepard

Daniel Torday

D.A. Mishani

Mishka Ben-David

Michael Chabon

Joseph Kertes

Bethany Bell

Jami Attenberg

Amos Oz

Saul Bellow