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October 2019
Book Report



All Time Favs

- Lynn: [Where the Crawdads Sing](#) by Delia Owens

Book Reports

- Allison: [A Chance in the World: An Orphan Boy, a Mysterious Past, and How He Found a Place Called Home](#) by Steve Pemberton, [Washington Black](#) by Esi Edugyan, [Where'd You Go, Bernadette](#) by Maria Semple
- Lynn: [Louise Penny Books](#), [Educated](#) by Tara Westover
- Peggy: [Big Little Lies](#) by Liane Moriarty, [Educated](#) by Tara Westover, [Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine](#) by Gail Honeyman
- Debbie: [The Hour I First Believed](#) by Wally Lamb, [Dying to Be Me: My Journey from Cancer, to Near Death, to True Healing](#) by Anita Moorjani, [Dead of Night](#) by Randy Wayne White, [Nine Perfect Strangers](#) by Liane Moriarty, [All the Ugly and Wonderful Things](#) by Bryn Greenwood, [GodPretty in the Tobacco Field](#) by Kim Michele Richardson
- Mara: [Five Feet Apart](#) by Rachael Lippincott, [Midnight Sun](#) by Trish Cook
- Amy: [Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family](#) by Amy Ellis Nutt
- Sharon: [In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin](#) by Erik Larson, [Clapton: The Autobiography](#) by Eric Clapton
- Kathy G: [The Lost Girls of Paris](#) by Pam Jenoff, [Someone We Know](#) by Shari Lapena, [Conviction](#) by Denise Mina
- Shawn: [Chances Are...](#) by Richard Russo, [City of Girls](#) by Elizabeth Gilbert, [The Silent Patient](#) by Alex Michaelides
- Virginia: [The Journey Home](#) by Lee Carroll, [Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine](#) by Gail Honeyman, [I Found You](#) by Lisa Jewell
- Deb: [The Chain](#) by Adrian McKinty, [Rise and Shine](#) by Anna Quindlen
- Kathy P: [Chances Are...](#) by Richard Russo, [Forever](#) by Pete Hamill
- Cindy: [The Story Sisters](#) by Alice Hoffman
- Megan: [Safe Harbour](#) by Danielle Steel, [Big Little Lies](#) by Liane Moriarty
- Nancy: [Heaven, My Home](#) by Attica Locke, [Orange World and Other Stories](#) by Karen Russell

Resilience

Occasionally we hear a reoccurring theme when we get together and we are all reporting on different books. This month it happened to be 'resilience.' Webster defines resilience as *the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness*. Synonyms include *strength of character, hardiness, and adaptability*. The irony of our discussion was in how different each story was in its representation of resilience. One story was of a boy who overcame the horrors of foster homes, another story was of people who survived the cruelty of slavery, another the story of enduring an awful illness and still another the pain of living a lie. We had the opportunity to share how the story touched us and to share our personal experiences that relate to those stories. And that gives us the gift of understanding and appreciating the challenges about which we read and, as importantly, understand each other on a little deeper level. (I do want to make that clear to all of you who think book clubs are just an excuse to drink wine. ☺) Today we left feeling grateful for the lives we live, compassionate toward those less fortunate, inspired by personal strength and thankful for being able to read and share stories.

Witches

What is Halloween without witches? Most of us pay some attention to them only on that holiday. Understand that they have played a much bigger role in history and literature. Here is a fun little article from Literary Hub. [A Literary History of Witches: Scaring Men from Time Immemorial](#). Hint: A line from the article, *And while there is a broad spectrum of witch stories out there, there is a through-line common to them all: witches are women whose embodiment of femininity in some way transgresses society's accepted boundaries—they are too old, too powerful, too sexually aggressive, too vain, too undesirable.*