

# CHANGING THE WORLD ONE WOMAN AND GIRL AT A TIME July Agent

Volume 40 Issue 1

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### Many thanks to

Terri Bawden, "Pepe", Patricia Griffith. Linda Hendrick, Mary Cross, Sally Pullen & daughter, Nelle Jacobson, Karan Hannah, Barbara Benson, Karen Maughan, and our amazing mermen.



Something to Celebrate! So far, we have raised over \$7,000 for scholarships.





## Whether you are now able to travel or still sticking close to home, you are never far from a good book.

In 2019, the Friends of the Library celebrated 50 years of community activity and financial support for the City's public library. In 1911 a new library building was completed, with a grant provided by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation. To receive that grant,

members of the community had to pledge a minimum of \$1,000.00 per

year to buy books and support and maintain its operations and staff. In 1968, the library moved a block away from this site to a building that had formerly been the location for Island Hospital, at the corner of M and 9th. Then, in 1969, at the urging of AAUW, community members joined together to form a non-profit corporation, the Friends of the Anacortes Library. They applied to the State of Washington and later to the IRS, for non-

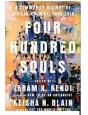
profit status, allowing them to collect and disburse funds that have helped the Anacortes Library expand its children's collection, buy adult materials and also to help the library in many different ways.





We will have a printed photo directory this year for those who would like one. If you have an outdated photo, or are new to AAUW, please send a picture to underwood31@comcast.net to be included. Photos will be cropped to fit. Directories will be available at the September meeting. Submittals must be received by August 15.

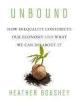
The following books were recommended on the AAUW national website. They have been written by women who received Fellowships from AAUW.



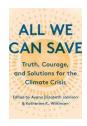
Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019

Editors Ibram X. Kendi and 2016-17 AAUW American Fellow Keisha N. Blain have

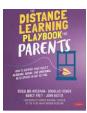
assembled 90 brilliant writers, each of whom takes on a five-year period within the 400-year span from 1619 to the present. The Washington Post calls *Four Hundred Souls*, "a vital addition to [the] curriculum on race in America."



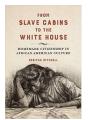
<u>about It</u> In this book, 1997-98 AAUW American Fellow Heather Boushey provides meticulous evidence that inequality hurts economic growth and lays out a path forward for our country based on equity. Boushey is co-founder of the Washington Center for Equitable Growth and currently serves as a member of the Council of Economic Advisers in the Biden administration.



All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis Volume of illuminating essays was co-edited by Ayana Johnson, a 2010–11 American Fellow and marine biologist and policy expert. It harnesses the voices of women at the forefront of the climate change movement. The New York Times calls it "a powerful read that fills one with, dare I say . . . hope?"

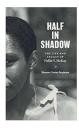


The Distance Learning Playbook for Parents: How to Support Your Child's Academic, Social, and Emotional Development in Any Setting For her new book, 1997-98 AAUW Community Action Grantee Rosalind Wiseman teamed up with three education experts to help parents navigate the tricky world of remote instruction. The book provides a wealth of advice that will help children thrive in any learning environment.



From Slave Cabins to the White House: Homemade Citizenship in African American Culture

Named a "Best Book of 2020" by Ms. Magazine, this tome by 2009-10 AAUW American Fellow Koritha Mitchell lays bare the hostility African American women faced as they invested in traditional domesticity throughout history. While white homemakers were conferred respectability and safety, Black women endured pejorative labels, racist government policies, and attacks on their citizenship.



#### Half in Shadow: The Life and Legacy of Nellie Y. McKay

Shanna Benjamin, a 2011-12 AAUW American Fellow, has long been interested in exploring how the scholar and critic Nellie Y. McKay helped to carve out a place for Black women in the literary canon. Her new book brings together McKay's private life and public work to expand how we think about Black literary history and the place of Black women in American culture.



Eight members gathered at Causland Park on June 24 to share some of the books they have enjoyed reading recently. Here is the book list that was created that day.

- While Justice Sleeps by Stacey Abrams: mystery set in Washington D.C. and supreme court.
- The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett by Annie Lyons: a moving and joyous novel about an elderly woman ready to embrace death and the little girl who reminds her what it means to live.
- The Cormorant Strike series by Robert Galbraith (aka JK Rowling): The stories chronicle the cases of private detective Cormoran Strike and his partner Robin Ellacott.
- You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories about Racism by Amy Ruffin and Lacey Lamar: Amber Ruffin writes with her sister Lacey Lamar with humor and heart to share absurd anecdotes about everyday experiences of racism. Non-fiction
- Born A Crime by Trevor Noah: a non-fiction story about his life in South Africa during apartheid, written with humor.
- All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr: set in occupied France during World War II, the novel centers on a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths eventually cross.
- *The Nightingale* by Kristen Hannah: the story of two sisters caught up in occupied France during the second world war. Both have remarkable stories to tell.
- The Librarian of Auschwitz by Antonio Iturbe: the story revolves around Dita, who is placed in the family block of Auschwitz and takes on the position as librarian. Books are banned and the position is extremely risky. Based on a true story.
- Other books by Kristen Hannah that were mentioned: *The Great Alone, Syria's Secret Library, The Four Winds.*
- The Library by Susan Orlean: chronicles the LAPL fire and its aftermath to showcase
  the larger, crucial role that libraries play in our lives; delves into the evolution
  of libraries across the country and around the world, from their humble beginnings as a
  metropolitan charitable initiative to their current status as a cornerstone of national
  identity. Non-fiction
- Caste by Isabel Wilkerson: Wilkerson posits that the Third Reich was also a caste system. Also by Wilkerson The Great Migration.
- The Midnight Library by Matt Haig: between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. Fantasy
- The Garden of Smaller Beginning by Abbi Waxman: An intimate and hilarious journey about a young mom moving on from grief.
- Harry's Trees: A Novel by Jon Cohen: Harry Crane, grief stricken and guilt-ridden over the death of his wife, flees his tree-less job as a bureaucrat for the U.S. Forest Service

- and finds himself in a treehouse in the Endless Mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania.
- In Five Years by Rebecca Serle: a great story about Dani, a Type-A woman, her love life, and friendship. She is a hard-working lawyer who crushes an interview for her dream job and gets engaged to her boyfriend, David. After falling asleep that night, she wakes up five years later in an unfamiliar setting with unexpected company.
- What You Wish for by Katherine Center: Samantha Casey is a school librarian who
  loves her job, the kids, and her school family with passion and joy for living.
  But she wasn't always that way. Duncan Carpenter is the new school principal who
  lives by rules and regulations, guided by the knowledge that bad things can happen.
  But he wasn't always that way.
- *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes: five women taking part in Eleanor Roosevelt's Traveling Library, in Kentucky in the 1930s.
- Ride the Wind by Lucia St. Clair Robson: based on the true story of Cynthia Ann Parker, who was kidnapped in 1836 during a brutal raid by the Comanche Indians, then adopted and raised by the tribe.
- Going Back to Bisbee by Richard Shelton: memoir of his arrival in Arizona as an Army recruit and his subsequent stay at Bisbee, Arizona where he held his first teaching job. He weaves his memories from the 1950s into the landscape of today.
- Less: A Novel by Andrew Sean Greer: A satire of the American abroad, a rumination on time and the human heart, a bittersweet romance of chances lost.
- Miracle Creek: A Novel by Angie Kim: In a small town in Virginia, a group of people know each other because they're part of a special treatment center, a hyperbaric chamber that may cure a range of conditions from infertility to autism. But then the chamber explodes, two people die, and it's clear the explosion wasn't an accident.
- Sacajawea by Anna L. Waldo: child of a Shoshoni chief, she was the only woman on Lewis and Clark's historic trek.
- On A Farther Shore by William Souder: Biography of Rachel Carson who loved the
  ocean and wrote three books about its mysteries. Her fourth book, Silent Spring
  transformed our relationship with the natural world.
- How the Light Gets In and A Great Reckoning by Louise Penny: Ruth Zardo, the mad, brilliant poet in Louise Penny's How the Light Gets In has a pet duck named Rosa. A Great Reckoning is the 12th in Penny's Chief Inspector Gamache series and follows a newly retired Gamache as he takes on his new position training police officers.
- *Truth & Beauty: A Friendship* by Ann Patchett: memoir about the friendship and love between Ann Patchett and her friend, memoirist/poet, Lucy Grealy.
- A Promised Land by Barack Obama: the story of one man's bet with history, Obama is candid about the balancing act of running for office as a Black American, bearing the expectations of a generation buoyed by messages of "hope and change," and meeting the moral challenges of high-stakes decision-making.

- *Trouble For Lucia* by E.F. Benson: the sixth in a series, two characters which are difficult to like, up against each another with an outcome that makes absolutely wonderful and witty reading.
- *Night Soldiers: A Novel* by Alan Furst: re-creates the European world of 1934–45, the struggle between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia for Eastern Europe, the last desperate gaiety of the beau monde in 1937 Paris, and guerrilla operations with the French underground in 1944.
- Ada Blackjack by Jennifer Niven: Ada Blackjack was an Iñupiat woman who lived for two years as a castaway on the uninhabited Wrangel Island, north of Siberia.
- Whiskey Cove by Denise Frisino: immerses readers in the lore of rum-running in the Northwest during Prohibition.
- American Pandemic: The Lost Worlds of the 1918 Influenza Epidemic by Nancy
  Bristow: between the years 1918 and 1920, influenza raged around the globe in the
  worst pandemic in recorded history, killing at least fifty million people, more than half a
  million of them Americans. Despite the devastation, this catastrophic event seems a
  forgotten moment in our nation's past.
- The Rosie Project: A Novel by Graeme Simsion: this 3 book series is a romantic comedy.
- The Royal Spyness Series Rhys Bowen: set in 1930's London.
- Bruno, Chief of Police Series by Martin Walker: a policeman in a small village in the South of France, he's a former soldier who has embraced the pleasures and slow rhythms of the area.
- Books by Margery Allingham: mysteries
- Lincoln Conspiracy by Brad Meltzer: the story of the secret society that tried to kill Abraham Lincoln and the undercover detectives who foiled their plans.
- Squeeze Me by Carl Hiaasen: captures the Trump era with Hiaasen's savage humor and wonderful, eccentric characters.
- *The Flatshare* by Beth O'Leary: feel-good novel about finding love in the most unexpected of ways. Tiffy and Leon share an apartment but have never met.

#### Contributors:

Patricia Griffith, Bunny Heiner, Linda Hendrick, Vivian and Terry Kolhoff, Diane Marr, Megan Taylor and Bonnie Underwood.



On Thursday, July 22, bring your favorite cookbooks to Causland Park at 1:00 p.m. We will share some stories about cooking and baking.



Fun was had by all who saw our merman float in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Six mermen were on the AAUW float and an additional three were on the Anacortes Yacht float. Calendars were sold at the parking lot in front of the Chamber of Commerce. We have already sold all of the initial 100 calendars and will be re-ordering another 100. They will be available for purchase at Johnny Picasso's and the Marine Hardware Store. We are projecting the sale of the calendars to push this fundraiser to over \$8,000.

Thank you, Merman Committee for your hard work!

