

The Public Library of New London Book Discussion Group is designed for all adult readers who want to talk about books

**Come read with us!**

**Where:**

The Public Library of  
New London's Local History Room

**When:**

3rd Tuesday of each month  
3—4 pm

Copies of that month's selection may be  
picked up at the Circulation Desk.

**2011—2012 Calendar of Titles  
3rd Tuesdays from 3—4pm  
Meets in the Local History Room**

**September 20**

*Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*  
by Jonathan Safran Foer

**October 18**

*The Help*  
by Kathryn Stockett

**November 15**

*Friendship Bread*  
by Darien Gee

**December**

No discussion

**January 17**

*The Postmistress*  
by Sarah Blake

**February 21**

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*  
by Rebecca Skloot

**March 20**

*Brooklyn*  
by Colm Toibin

**April 17**

*Little Bee*  
by Chris Cleave

**May 15**

*Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*  
by Jamie Ford

**June 19**

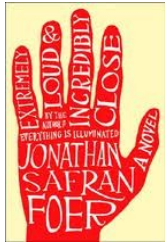
*Can't Wait to get to Heaven*  
by Fannie Flagg

2011 - 2012

**Public Library of  
New London  
Book Discussion  
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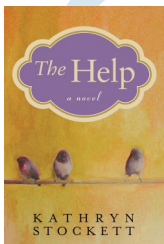
# 2011-2012 Book Club Selections



**Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close**  
**Jonathan Safran Foer**  
**September 20**

Meet Oskar Schell, an inventor, Francophile, tambourine player, Shakespearean actor, jeweler, pacifist, correspondent with Stephen Hawking and Ringo Starr. He is nine years old.

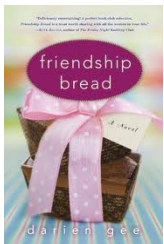
And he is on an urgent, secret search through the five boroughs of New York. His mission is to find the lock that fits a mysterious key belonging to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11.



**The Help**  
**Kathryn Stockett**  
**October 18**

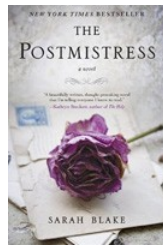
Aibileen is a black maid in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, raising her seventeenth white child. She's always taken orders quietly, but lately it leaves her with a bitterness she can no longer bite back. Her friend Minny has certainly never held her tongue, or held a job for very long, but now

she's working for a newcomer with secrets that leave her speechless. Together, these women join to work on a project that could forever alter their destinies and the life of a small town.



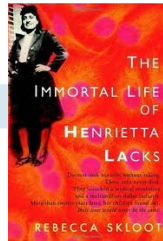
**Friendship Bread**  
**Darien Gee**  
**November 15**

The sorrow felt by Julia Evarts and her husband, Mark, over the death of their son, Josh, six years earlier has chipped away at the foundation of their marriage, but after Julia finds a starter batch of Amish friendship bread on her porch one day, the yeasty surprise helps patch up some spiritual wounds. She shares the recipe starter with a few people in her town, and pretty soon everyone is making it and finding their own simple narratives of bread-driven healing.



**The Postmistress**  
**Sarah Blake**  
**January 17**

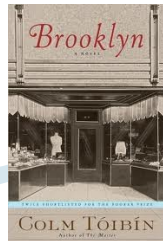
Alternating between an America on the eve of entering into World War II, still safe and snug in its inability to grasp the danger at hand, and a Europe being torn apart by war, the two stories collide in a letter that finally brings the war home to a small American town.



**The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks (Non-Fiction)**  
**Rebecca Skloot**  
**February 21**

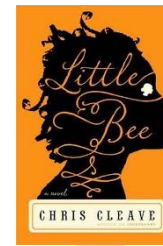
Just the simple facts are hard to believe: that in 1951, a poor black woman named Henrietta Lacks dies of cervical cancer, but pieces of the tumor that killed her--taken without her knowledge or consent--live on, first in one lab, then in hundreds, then thousands, then in giant factories churning out polio vaccines, then aboard rocket ships launched into space. The cells from this one tumor would spawn a multi-billion dollar industry and become a foundation of modern science--leading to breakthroughs in gene mapping, cloning and fertility and helping to discover how viruses work and how cancer develops (among a million other things).

**Brooklyn**



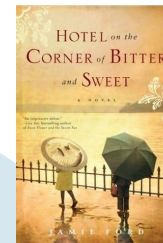
**Colm Toibin**  
**March 20**

Committed to a quiet life in little Enniscorthy, Ireland, the industrious young Eilis Lacey reluctantly finds herself swept up in an unplanned adventure to America, engineered by the family priest and her glamorous, "ready for life" sister, Rose. Eilis's determination to embrace the spirit of the journey despite her trepidation--especially on behalf of Rose, who has sacrificed her own chance of leaving--makes a bittersweet center for *Brooklyn*.



**Little Bee**  
**Chris Cleave**  
**April 17**

Worlds collide when Little Bee, a Nigerian girl orphaned by violence, meets Sarah, a dissatisfied British professional on holiday. The horror that takes place on an African beach drives the rest of the story. As the point of view shifts between Little Bee and Sarah, their respective pasts come to life, offering surprises and twists.



**Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet**  
**Jamie Ford**  
**May 15**

A Seattle widower learns in 1986 that belongings from Japanese-Americans interned during WWII have been unearthed at a hotel. Chinese-American Henry Lee recalls his forbidden childhood friendship with Keiko Okabe, and as he sifts through the relics of the past his love for her is reborn.



**Can't Wait to Get to Heaven**  
**Fannie Flagg**  
**June 19**

Life is the strangest thing. One minute, Mrs. Elnor Shimfissle is up in her tree, picking figs, and the next thing she knows, she is off on an adventure she never dreamed of, running into people she never in a million years expected to meet.. Meanwhile, back home, Elnor's life is in disarray with his high-strung niece, neighbors, and friends. In this comedy-mystery, those near and dear to Elnor discover something wonderful: Heaven is actually right here, right now, with people you love, neighbors you help, friendships you keep.