

Hartford Smith College Book Club

2013-14



When: Monday, 8/26/13 @ 6:30pm

Title: *The Hare With Amber Eyes: A Hidden Inheritance*

Author: Edmund de Waal

“Edmund de Waal is a world-famous ceramicist. Having spent thirty years making beautiful pots—which are then sold, collected, and handed on—he has a particular sense of the secret lives of objects. When he inherited a collection of 264 tiny Japanese wood and ivory carvings, called netsuke, he wanted to know who had touched and held them, and how the collection had managed to survive. And so begins this extraordinarily moving memoir and detective story as de Waal discovers both the story of the netsuke and of his family, the Ephrussi, over five generations. A nineteenth-century banking dynasty in Paris and Vienna, the Ephrussi were as rich and respected as the Rothschilds. Yet by the end of the World War II, when the netsuke were hidden from the Nazis in Vienna, this collection of very small carvings was all that remained of their vast empire.” Retrieved from www.amazon.com 7/16/13.

Fall 2013 Schedule



9/23/13

China in 10 Words
by Yu Hua



10/28/13

City of Dark Magic
by Magnus Flyte



11/25/13

Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore: A Novel
by Robin Sloan

Meeting Logistics

When: 6:30pm nearly every 4th Monday of each month

Location: Cosi' Restaurant, West Hartford Center

Contact: hartfordsmithcollegeclub@gmail.com however, there is no need to r.s.v.p!

Spring 2014 Schedule

1/27/14

Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey
by the Countess of Carnarvon

2/24/14

Life After Life
by Kate Atkinson

3/24/14

The Watchman
by Alan Moore, Dave Gibbons
* or any other graphic novel

4/28/14

The Dovekeepers
by Alice Hoffman

5/19/14

A Room With a View
by E. M. Forster

For your convenience, go to:
<http://amazon.com>,
look up the wish list for
m2dc@charter.net
and order your copies today!

June 23, 2014 - We'll meet to select books for the 2014-15 reading season!

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Why a Graphic Novel?

When the group met last month to choose books for the coming year, my only suggestion was that we read a graphic novel. After some discussion, we decided to let people choose any graphic novel and we could then share our impressions. I'll be reading *The Watchman* by Alan Moore, but again, you can choose any graphic novel you'd like for our March, 2014 meeting.

Here are some reasons why I hope you'll read a graphic novel and come to discuss it with us next year:

1. Have you ever read a graphic novel? I bet many of you haven't; myself included and I believe it's something worth at least trying.
2. Book Clubs that only discuss graphic novels are popping up all over the nation. There's even a "Graphic Novels Book Club" on Facebook!
3. Many of the novels have some really impressive artwork.
4. Graphic novels tend to be quicker reads.
5. Read the classics a different way! As I mentioned previously, I plan on reading *The Watchman*, which is touted as one of the classic/original novels. My son's school assigned *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi last year for summer reading.

I do hope you'll give it a try and join in on the discussion! – Amy Kullaren

Books considered, but not chosen:

Among Others	Jo Walton
Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress: A Novel	Dai Sijie
Beautiful Ruins: A Novel	Jess Walter
Doomsday Book	Connie Willis
Dreaming in French	Alice Kaplan
Eight Girls Taking Pictures: A Novel	Whitney Otto
Excellent Women	Barbara Pym
Fire Watch	Connie Willis
For All the Tea in China: How England Stole the World's Favorite Drink and Changed History	Sarah Rose
How Should a Person Be?: A Novel	Sheila Heti
Londoners: The days and nights of London now—as told by those who love it, hate it, live it, left it, and long for it.	Craig Taylor
Old Filth	Jane Gardam
Olive Kitteredge	Elizabeth Strout
Pain, Parties, Work: Sylvia Plath in New York, Summer 1954	Elizabeth Winder
Sarah's Key	Tatiana de Rosnay
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian	Sherman Alexei
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak
The Chaperone	Laura Moriarty
The Discovery of Light	J. P. Smith
The Gate to Women's Country	Sheri S. Tepper
The Imperfectionists: A Novel	Tom Rachman
The Ocean At the End of the Lane: A Novel	Neil Gaiman
The Shoemaker's Wife: A Novel	Adriana Trigiani
The Witch of Portobello	Paulo Coelho
Things I've been Silent About: Memories	Azar Nafisi