

April 2023 Book Club

Norma Brodsky read Alexander McCall Smith's novel, *A Song of Comfortable Chairs*. Ma Ramotswe, the beloved main character in the Ladies' Number One Detective Agency, also stars in this work. Norma recommends this book.

Peter Lattu discussed *The Country Ahead of Us, the Country Behind* by David Guterson. This is a collection of short stories set in the Pacific Northwest. Peter liked this book a lot and recommends it.

Carol Mattaino read *Giants in the Earth* by O.E. Rølvaag. This work of fiction is set in South Dakota in the 1870s and centers around four Norwegian immigrant families and their many challenges in establishing homes in a desolate land. Carol enjoyed this book and recommends it.

Cher Terry read *Rasputin: Rascal Master* by Jane Oakley. This work of nonfiction focuses on the infamous Rasputin and his nefarious influence on the last Russian royal family before the Russian revolution. Cher liked this book and recommends it.

Louise McLean is reading Samantha Power's memoir, *The Education of an Idealist: A Memoir*. Power's family emigrated to the U.S. from Ireland when she was 9 years old. She became a journalist, notably covering genocide in Bosnia, and eventually served in the Obama Administration. Louise likes this book and recommends it.

Robert McLean read *Schindler's List* by Thomas Keneally. Bob thought the depth of corruption in the Nazi regime, and Schindler's own corruption, were both shocking and depressing. For this reason, Rob would not recommend this book.

Laurie Tracy read *On Juneteenth* by Annette Gordon-Reed. This is part memoir and part Texas history by a much-honored lawyer, historian and Texas native. Laurie liked this book a lot and recommends it.