

**Jan. 16 The Whole Town's Talking** by Fannie Flagg  
Featuring a quirky cast of small town characters and a nostalgic feel, the popular author of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle-Stop Café* and *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* tells the tale of Elmwood Springs, Missouri, from its 1889 founding to the present day.

**Feb. 20 Glory Over Everything** by Kathleen Grissom  
After escaping the Virginia plantation on which he was raised, Jamie Pyke has been living as a white man in Philadelphia. When a friend asks for help retrieving his son from kidnapping slave traders, Jamie must travel to the South again to rescue him.

**March 20 Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy** by Karen Abbott  
In this riveting, true narrative, readers meet four extraordinary women who took active roles in the fighting of the Civil War, serving as spies — and one who enlisted in the Union army disguised as a man.

**April 17 Before the Fall** by Noah Hawley  
On a foggy summer night, 11 people leave Martha's Vineyard on a private jet. Sixteen minutes later, the plane goes down, killing the mostly well-to-do passengers. The only survivors: a down-on-his-luck painter and a 4-year-old boy who is now the only living member of an immensely wealthy family. Was this chance or is there something more sinister at work?

**May 15 The Japanese Lover** by Isabel Allende  
As World War II begins, young Alma Belasco is sent from her home in Poland to live with her aunt and uncle in San Francisco. There she meets and falls in love with her uncle's gardener's son, Ichimei. They maintain their bond, even though the tides of history keep them apart physically throughout the years. From the acclaimed author of *The House of the Spirits*.

**June 19 Ghost Boy** by Martin Pistorius  
The author tells his own story of how he became trapped in his own body after an illness when he was 12 years old. After a bout of meningitis, his condition deteriorated over the next 18 months, after which he was bound to a wheelchair and unable to communicate with the outside world. Thought to be in a permanent vegetative state, Martin eventually regains his powers of communication and becomes independent through the help and belief of his family, who never gave up on him.

\* Indicates meeting date other than the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

**July 17 Lucky Us** by Amy Bloom  
Readers are in for quite an entertaining ride with this novel which includes road trips, secret identities, aspiring Hollywood starlets, a tarot card reading psychic, an orphan abduction, and a spy. It all starts when 11-year-old Eva is sent by her mother to live with her father and an older half sister whom she did not know existed.

**Aug. 21 A Confederacy of Dunces** by John Kennedy Toole  
This Pulitzer Prize-winner is a classic comic novel set in New Orleans and starring an amazing assortment of oddball characters, led by Ignatius J. Reilly: lusty, obese critic of contemporary society, ardent fan of Dr. Nut soda, and former graduate student. Ignatius spends much of his time writing in his tablets about the aesthetic crimes of the 20th Century, but when forced by his mother to seek employment, he is launched into a series of misadventures in the outside world, with which he is not used to dealing.

**Sept. 18 God Help the Child** by Toni Morrison  
This novel explores how psychological damage done to a person in childhood affects how they live life as an adult. Bride (formerly known as Lula Ann) is a successful, beautiful business woman who was shunned as a child because of her dark complexion by her mother (who came from an African-American family who could pass for white).

**Oct. 16 A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman  
In this Swedish (and American) bestseller, Ove is a lovably miserable neighborhood curmudgeon who has decided life is not worth living without his wife, who passed away four years ago. Each time he tries to end it all, however, fate intervenes with some sort of crisis with someone in his life, offering a chance for redemption.

**Nov. 13\* When Breath Becomes Air** by Paul Kalanithi  
When at age 36 neurosurgeon Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer, he felt he had to decide whether he would continue his medical career or return to his first love: literature. Luckily for his patients — and readers across the world — he chose to do both, including the writing of this powerful memoir.

**Dec. 11\* Shotgun Lovesongs** by Nickolas Butler  
A loving portrait of small town life, and four friends who grew up together in Little Wing, Wisconsin. Readers follow Hank (farmer), Kip (commodities broker), Ronny (rodeo rider) and Lee (world famous rock star) through life's ups and downs and their individual decisions on whether they can live their best life in Little Wing or must explore the outside world.

\*\*\* Books selected are subject to change based upon availability. \*\*\*

## The Tuesday Afternoon Group "The Brown Baggers"

- ◆ Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except where noted) at 12:30 p.m.
- ◆ Leader: Peer-led discussions

**The Brown Baggers meetings are free and open to the public, no registration or reservation is needed.**

**Bring your own lunch. Beverages are provided.**

**To get a copy of the book being discussed:** Pick up a copy at the checkout desk. Library copies will be reserved in advance. Another option is to purchase a copy at area bookstores.

**Cancellations due to weather:** The Brown Baggers book discussion group meetings will be cancelled if the library closes or if the leader of the group notifies the library that the group will not meet due to weather conditions.



www.FranklinPublicLibrary.org  
9151 West Loomis Road  
Franklin, WI 53132  
414.425.8214



# Franklin Public Library

## Brown Baggers Book Discussion Group

### 2018 Schedule

