

One Book

March Books Plus



Our March Books Plus will be special because Wendy Rubin will be leading a discussion on the book so many Bloomingtonians are reading, *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. Not only is it our 2013 One Book One Bloomington selection but it's a dystopian novel that focuses on the treatment of women.

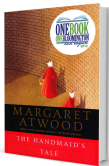
This novel offers so many interesting questions to discuss, what makes a theocratic society, can women really be revered when they are policed by men, and how does dividing women into hierarchies based on their domestic tasks affect society. It's basically a book about good and evil. In one passage, Margaret Atwood said, "The moment of betrayal is the worst, the moment when you know beyond any doubt that you've been betrayed: that some other human being has wished you that much evil." **[Read more »](#)**

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Posted by Sarah B. on Feb 21, 2013 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



2013 One Book One Bloomington Announcement!



Earlier this week, the 2013 One Book, One Bloomington Community Read title was announced on WFHB's Interchange radio program. All of the nominated books for 2013 have been banned or challenged.

This year, the community voted for *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.

In this dark vision of a future United States, the handmaid Offred is defined solely by her biological function as a child-bearer. Forbidden even to read, she tries to survive in oppressive and dangerous circumstances. The novel explores themes of power, gender conflict, the individual in society, language and storytelling. Have you read this dystopian classic?

Please visit www.mcpl.info/onebook for upcoming information on public book discussions and a related film festival. Or listen to the announcement and interview with MCPL director Sara Laughlin and MCCSC North High School librarian Kathy Loser on the Interchange radio broadcast on the [WFHB website](#).

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Posted by Sarah B. on Jan 18, 2013 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



One Book One Bloomington Voting!



What if everyone in our local community all read and discussed the same book? Earlier this spring we read the excellent *Room* by Emma Donoghue and I am certainly looking forward to next year's selection as well.

As in the past, we are asking the community what they want to read together in 2013. It's time to vote!

Anytime before December 15, you can cast your vote for one of six titles that are nominated for the 2013 One Book One Bloomington and Beyond community read. All of the nominations this year are books that have been banned or challenged. The winning title will be announced in January and book discussions and related programs will happen throughout the Spring of 2013. Read about each [nomination](#) and [cast your vote](#) on online!

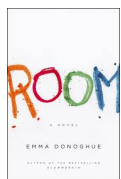
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Posted by Sarah B. on Nov 28, 2012 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



March Books Plus Discussion

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Please join us on Sunday, March 4 to discuss the intriguing premise of Emma

Donoghue's *Room*. Here's how the author described the genesis of the book, "In my experience, the bond between mother and newborn is a tiny, cozy world that gradually relaxes its magic to let the rest of the world in. But motherhood -- even under ideal circumstances -- also has elements of nightmare as well as fairy tale, sci-fi as well as realism: it's a trip like no other, and it can occasionally feel like (let's admit it, shall we, mothers of the world?) a locked room."

This highly acclaimed novel was voted the One Book One Bloomington title for 2012. Please come and share your opinions and ideas about this topic.

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Posted by Sarah B. on Feb 28, 2012 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



One Book One Bloomington Voting!



What if everyone in our local community all read and discussed the same book? This year we read the excellent [Let the Great World Spin](#) by Colum McCann and I am certainly looking forward to next year's selection as well.

As in the past, we are asking the community what they want to read together in 2012. It's time to vote!

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Posted by Sarah B. on Sep 15, 2011 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



March 2011 Books Plus Discussion



The seasons are turning again, and it's almost time for our 2011 One Book One

Bloomington selection--Colum McCann's [Let the Great World Spin](#). Set in 1974, this National Book Award winner chronicles the day Philippe Petit tightroped across the space between the two World Trade Towers. In masterful prose, McCann chronicles how various strangers reacted to this event. It's a book about the interrelationships between the residents of a great city, and how one man's quest for adventure brings hope, fear, and wonder to the people standing below. Jonathan Mahler of the New York Times called it "one of the most electric, profound novels I have read in years."

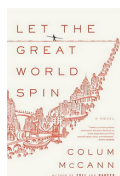
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Posted by Sarah B. on Feb 24, 2011 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



One Book One Bloomington 2011



Last night, the 2011 One Book, One Bloomington Community Read title was announced on WFHB's Interchange radio program.

This year, the community voted for Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann.

Frank McCourt had this to say about this National Book Award winner, "trust me, this is the sort of book that you will take off your shelf over and over again as the years go along. It's a story of the early 1970s, but it's also the story of our present times. And it is, in many ways, a story of a moment of lasting redemption even in the face of all the evidence....I didn't want to stop turning the pages. I'm really not sure what McCann will do after this, but this is a great New York book, not just for New Yorkers but for anyone who walks any sort of tightrope at all. And yes, it doesn't surprise me that it takes an Irishman to capture the heart of the city." This novel captures the spirit of America in a time of transition, promise, and soon-to-be-ended innocence.

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