# Books Plus

**What is Books Plus?**
It's a once-a-month discussion group which meets at the library to talk about a wide range of books and issues. Books and other media, both fiction and non-fiction, are the springboards for discussing new trends, social issues, genres, best sellers, foreign authors, etc. Each month, the group focuses on one or more books (chosen in advance). A volunteer leads the discussion.

**When? Where?**

The group usually meets on the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. in program room 2B at the downtown public library. Registration is not required.

**Who can be a leader?**

Anyone who is interested in books and wants to share that interest with others. Arrangements will be made a few months in advance with the discussion leader and the title(s) selected for the meeting.

**Refreshments**

Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Library[1].

*Don't forget that we are always looking for volunteer Discussion Leaders.*

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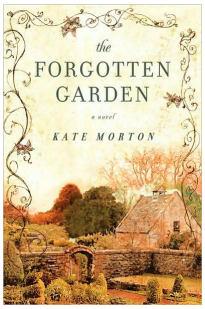
## Next at Books Plus

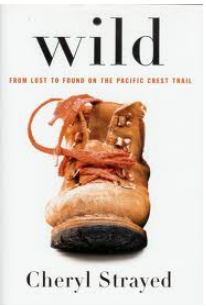
***Sundays at 2 p.m. in Program Room 2B***

**May 5**
***Forgotten Garden*** by Kate Morton
Discussion Leader: Luann Dillon



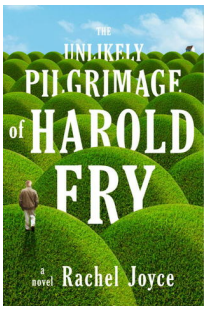
From 1913 to today, from England to Australia and back again, generations of a family keep their secrets guarded and their gardens locked.

**June 2**
***Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*** by Cheryl Strayed
Discussion Leader: Sarah Bowman




"Smart, funny, and often sublime, *Wild* has something for everyone - a fight for survival in the wilderness, a bad girl's quest for redemption - all in the hands of a brilliant and evocative writer." - Chelsea Cain

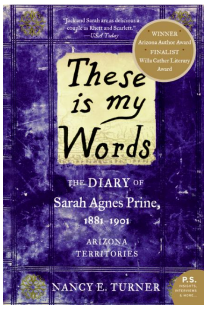
**July 7**
***The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry***by Rachel Joyce
Discussion Leader: Dory Lynch




"A novel of deep beauty and wisdom about the human condition; Harold, a deeply sympathetic protagonist, has much to teach us. A great novel; essential reading for fans of literary fiction.? - Library Journal

**August 4**
***These is my Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine, 1881-1901*** by Nancy Turner

Discussion Leader: Luann Dillon




Using her ancestress? memoirs, Turner paints a vivid picture of homesteading in the Arizona Territories and how Sarah had to learn to cope with hardship.

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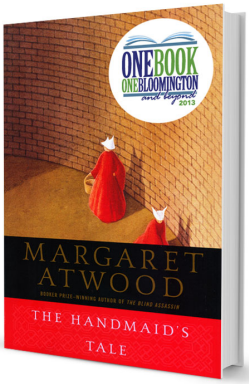
**Previous Books Plus selections:**

**April 7**
***National Poetry Month:***Little Songs: Exploring the Sonnet
Discussion Leader: Dory Lynch

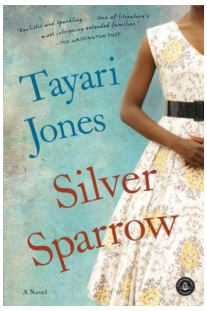
For over five hundred years, poets have written enduring sonnets about love, friendship, death, and nature. In only fourteen lines, authors have shared their views of the world. From Shakespeare and Petrarch to modern poets such as Billy Collins, Rita Dove, and Carol Ann Duffy, the sonnet has continued to amaze and inspire. In honor of National Poetry Month please come explore the kind of poem that Dante Gabriel Rossetti called the ?moment?s monument.? If you don?t like the tight rhyming structure of the old sonnets, we will include some contemporary ones in modern language. Please bring a poem to share?a favorite of yours?either a sonnet or one in another format that you love.

**March 3**
***The Handmaid's Tale*** by Margaret Atwood
Discussion Leader: Wendy Rubin



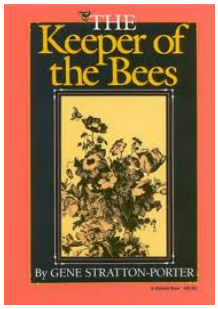

Join us for a discussion of the **2013 One Book One Bloomington**! In this dark vision of a future United States, the handmaid Offred is defined solely by her biological function as a child-bearer. Forbidden even to read, she tries to survive in oppressive and dangerous circumstances. The novel explores themes of power, gender conflict, the individual in society, language and storytelling.

**February 3**
***Silver Sparrow*** by Tayari Jones
Discussion Leader: Sarah Bowman




"In her third novel set in Atlanta, Jones writes about two African-American half-sisters, only one of whom knows that the other exists until their father's double life starts to unravel. Jones beautifully evokes Atlanta in the 1980s while creating gritty, imperfect characters whose pain lingers in the reader's heart.? --Kirkus Reviews

**November 4, 2012**
***The Keeper of the Bees*** by Gene Stratton-Porter
Discussion Leader: Luann Dillon




Set in Stratton-Porter?s beloved California, nature and new friends help WW I veteran Jamie heal his body and spirit. Although almost 90 years old the story of a soldier?s wounds, hopelessness, healing and redemption is relevant to today?s wounded warriors who face many of the same problems as Jamie faced.

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Updated April 10, 2013

- [2]
- [3]
- [4]



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[1] http://mcpl.info/friends
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