

Celebration Lifelong Book Club
Reader's Choice
Summer 2026
Facilitators: Don and Dolores Salvo

Please join us on Zoom as we discuss books recommended by our members. They share with us why they chose their books.

May 6 (Note change of time for May 6 only: 12:00 – 1:30) on Zoom

This is Happiness by Niall Williams

Recommended by Michelle Lowe

This Is Happiness paints a lush, wandering portrait of Faha, a village back in time in Ireland. It's a charming, often moving book, enriched by beautifully drawn characters and brilliantly depicted scenes from country life. I never wanted the book to end as it captures the heart of humankind. The writing is magnificent!

June 3 10:30 – 12:00 on Zoom

Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo

Recommended by Amy Noznesky

I read this nonfiction book many years ago and remember it had a huge impact on me. It takes place in a ghetto in Mumbai and tells of the everyday struggles of the people who live there just to survive while trying to make a better life for themselves. It is an eye-opening book.

July 8 10:30 – 12:00 on Zoom

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett

Recommended by Julie Himbert

Another favorite book of mine is *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett, a 2011 novel about a pharmacologist who travels to the Amazon rainforest to investigate the mysterious death of a colleague, confronting danger, ethical dilemmas, and her own past along the way. The story explores morality, scientific ethics, sacrifice, discovery, and the search for meaning, all while being a gripping adventure story.

August 5 10:30 – 12:00 on Zoom

The Lies I Tell by Julie Clark

Recommended by Cindy Perry

The novel, which explores vengeance and deceit, centers on the conflict between a skillful con artist and a reporter seeking to expose her, featuring alternating, "deep, emotionally resonant" perspectives.