

2024 Books After Dark book discussion dates

(Full book titles & synopsis follow)

Feb 6th - Dinners with Ruth

March 5th -1st half of Nudge: The Final Edition (guest facilitator Doris Goembel)

April 2nd -2nd half of Nudge (guest facilitator Doris Goembel)

May 7th – The Personal Librarian (possible in-person event)

June 4th – Hood Feminism

July 2nd - Summer Break

August 6th – Summer Break

September 3rd – 1st half of Democracy Awakening (guest facilitator Linda Duckworth)

October 1st – 2nd half of Democracy Awakening (guest facilitator Linda Duckworth)

*November 12th (Due to the 1st Tuesday of November being Election Night we will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month) – TBA (*Partnership with LWWNE DEIJA Committee*)

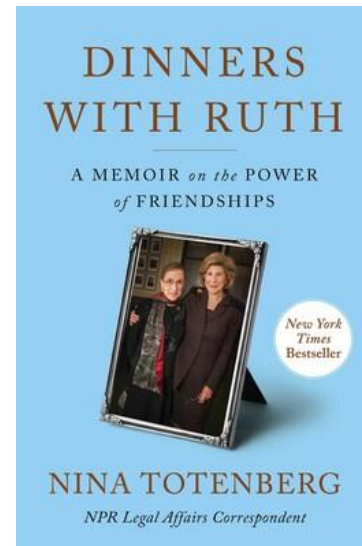
December – Date and Time TBA (in-person event)

February 6th 2024

Dinners with Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships

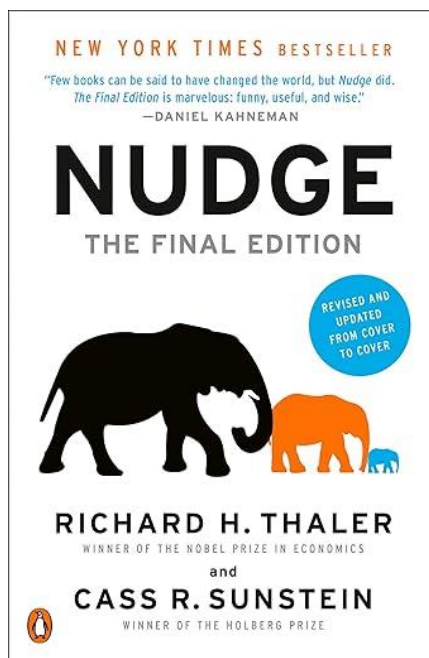
By [Nina Totenberg](#)

Celebrated NPR correspondent Nina Totenberg delivers an extraordinary memoir of her personal successes, struggles, and life-affirming relationships, including her beautiful friendship of nearly fifty years with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



Four years before Nina Totenberg was hired at NPR, where she cemented her legacy as a prizewinning reporter, and nearly twenty-two years before Ruth Bader Ginsburg was appointed to the Supreme Court, Nina called Ruth. A reporter for *The National Observer*, Nina was curious about Ruth's legal brief, asking the Supreme Court to do something revolutionary: declare a law that discriminated "on the basis of sex" to be unconstitutional. In a time when women were fired for becoming pregnant, often could not apply for credit cards or get a mortgage in their own names, Ruth patiently explained her argument. That call launched a remarkable, nearly fifty-year friendship.

March 5th (1st half of book) / April 2nd (2nd half of book)



Nudge

The Final Edition

By [Richard H. Thaler](#) and [Cass R. Sunstein](#)

An essential new edition—revised and updated from cover to cover—of one of the most important books of the last two decades, by Nobel Prize winner Richard H. Thaler and Cass R. Sunstein

Since the original publication of *Nudge* more than a decade ago, the title has entered the vocabulary of

businesspeople, policy makers, engaged citizens, and consumers everywhere. The book has given rise to more than 400 “nudge units” in governments around the world and countless groups of behavioral scientists in every part of the economy. It has taught us how to use thoughtful “choice architecture”—a concept the authors invented—to help us make better decisions for ourselves, our families, and our society.

Now, the authors have rewritten the book from cover to cover, making use of their experiences in and out of government over the past dozen years as well as an explosion of new research in numerous academic disciplines. To commit themselves to never undertaking this daunting task again, they are calling this the “final edition.” It offers a wealth of new insights, for both its avowed fans and newcomers to the field, about a wide variety of issues that we face in our daily lives—COVID-19, health, personal finance, retirement savings, credit card debt, home mortgages, medical care, organ donation, climate change, and “sludge” (paperwork and other nuisances we don’t want, and that keep us from getting what we do want)—all while honoring one of the cardinal rules of make it fun!

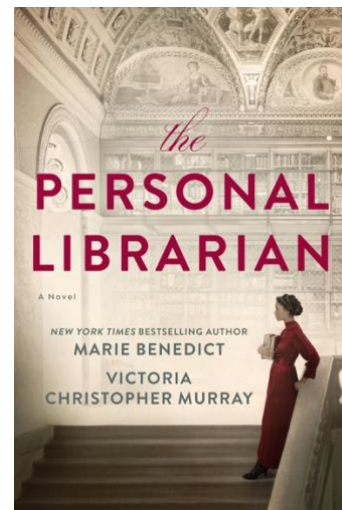
May 7th

The Personal Librarian

[Marie Benedict](#) and [Victoria Christopher Murray](#)

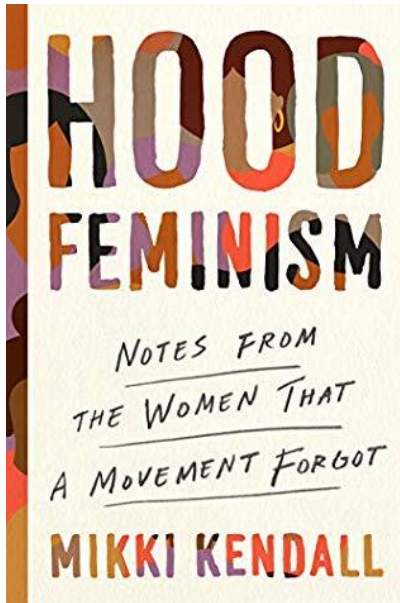
The Personal Librarian is a perfect example of creative nonfiction. It benefits the reader from both types of reading — it is educational and it is entertaining.

The authors picked their subject, Belle da Costa Greene (aka Belle Marion Greener), with care. A true to life person, Belle, chose to work with John Pierpont Morgan establishing his library, is a fair-skinned Black woman who spends her life passing as a white woman. Belle becomes a fixture on the New York society scene and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world, known for her impeccable taste and shrewd negotiating for critical works as she helps build a world-class collection.



This thread carries through the entirety of the story. Belle’s mother — also fair skinned, as are her other children — encourages Belle to continue the deception. She knows this is the only way her daughter will succeed in life

June 4th



Hood Feminism: Notes from the Women That a Movement Forgot

[Mikki Kendall](#)

Today's feminist movement has a glaring blind spot, and paradoxically, it is women. Mainstream feminists rarely talk about meeting basic needs as a feminist issue, argues Mikki Kendall, but food insecurity, access to quality education, safe neighborhoods, a living wage, and medical care are all feminist issues. All too often, however, the focus is not on basic survival for the many, but on increasing privilege for the few. That feminists refuse to prioritize these issues has only exacerbated the age-old

problem of both internecine discord and women who rebuff at carrying the title. Moreover, prominent white feminists broadly suffer from their own myopia with regard to how things like race, class, sexual orientation, and ability intersect with gender. How can we stand in solidarity as a movement, Kendall asks, when there is the distinct likelihood that some women are oppressing others?

July 2nd - Summer Break

August 6th – Summer Break

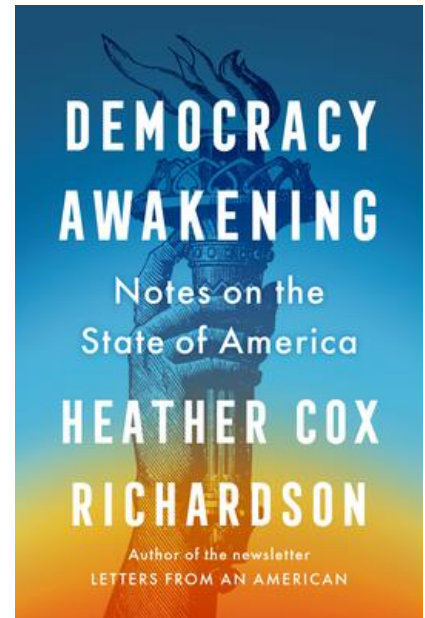
September 3rd (1st half of book) / October 1st (2nd half of book)

Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America

[Heather Cox Richardson](#)

From historian and author of the popular daily newsletter LETTERS FROM AN AMERICAN, a vital narrative that explains how America, once a beacon of democracy, now teeters on the brink of autocracy -- and how we can turn back.

In *Democracy Awakening*, Richardson crafts a compelling and original narrative, explaining how, over the decades, a small group of wealthy people have made war on American ideals. By weaponizing language and promoting false history they have led us into authoritarianism -- creating a disaffected population and then promising to recreate an imagined past where those people could feel important again. She argues that taking our country back starts by remembering the elements of the nation's true history that marginalized Americans have always upheld. Their dedication to the principles on which this nation was founded has enabled us to renew and expand our commitment to democracy in the past. Richardson sees this history as a roadmap for the nation's future.



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Partnership with LWWNE DEIJA Committee

Title TBA

December

Date and Time TBA (in-person event)