

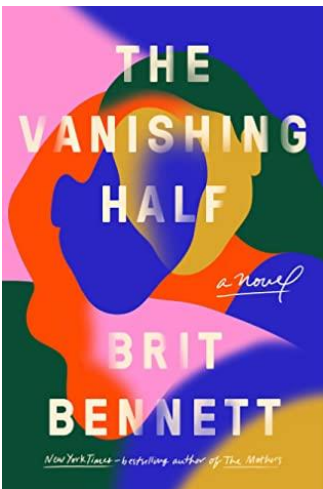
## No Pressure Book Group Suggestion List- March 2022

The Waterbury Public Library's *No-Pressure Book Group* meets virtually on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** of the month, at 7:00. Join us to share what you are reading, trade suggestions, and generally talk books, in a relaxed setting. All are welcome!

Register at: <https://www.waterburypubliclibrary.com/no-pressure-book-group/>

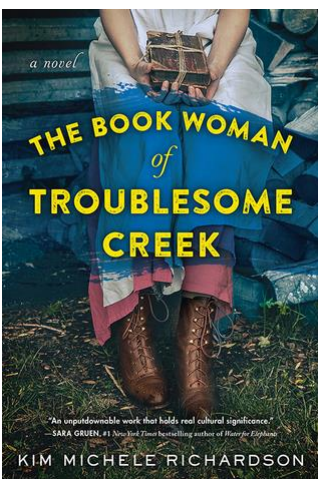
This month, we had a number of readers talk about books that had been suggested in previous meetings. How interesting to hear various takes on the same work! And it goes to show the value of our recommendations, as some titles prove to really rise above the fray and become favorites of the whole group.

Some of the titles that were discussed that evening:



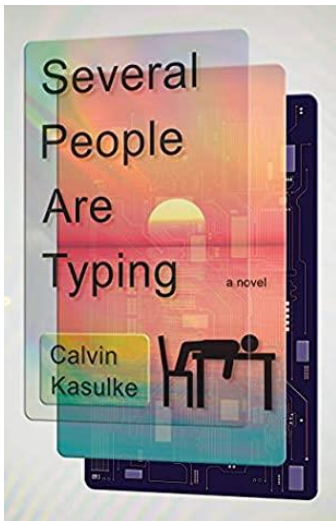
[The Vanishing Half](#) by Brit Bennett

A book recommended and loved by various members of the group, this reader picked it up off the library's Blind Date With a Book display and declared it a hit. This story of Black twins who grow up to lead very different lives examines family, identity and the complicated paths and choices we are all faced with in life. If you haven't read it yet, you really should!



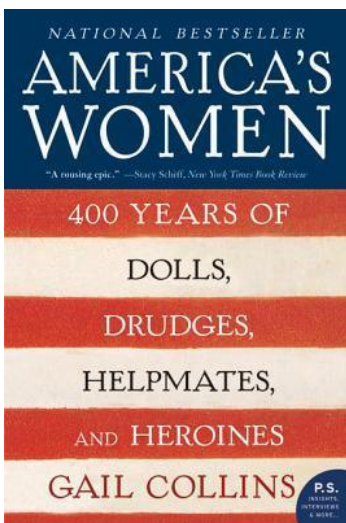
[The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek](#) by Kim Michele Richardson

Another book recommended at a previous meeting, our reader thoroughly enjoyed this fascinating story of a young, blue-skinned Appalachian woman who delivers books to remote location on horseback. Inspired by the real Pack Horse Library Project, this story has a lot to say about the value of books and reading.



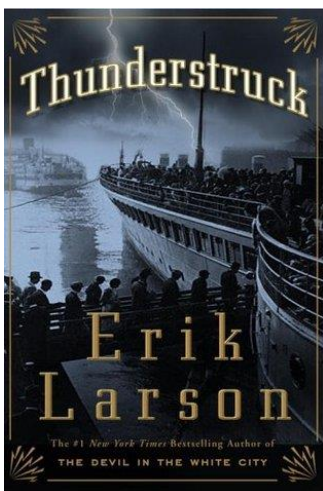
[Several People Are Typing](#) by Calvin Kasulke

Told entirely through Slack messages, this funny, strange book explores the realities of modern office life through a science-fiction lens. Office politics and anxieties meet science-fiction as one character finds his consciousness uploaded into the Slack network, and another may or may not have ever existed at all. A fast, fun read.



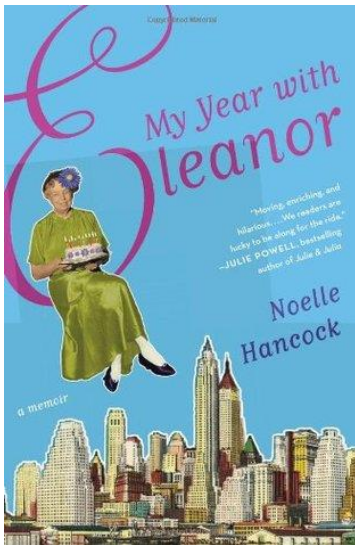
[America's Women: 400 Years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates, and Heroines](#) by Gail Collins

An epic-scale history of the role women have played in American life throughout the centuries. This book tackles the everyday and the mundane as well as the most exceptional. Almost 600 pages long, it's a worthy endeavor to tackle this read!



[Thunderstruck](#) by Erik Larson

Larson's nonfiction reads like a novel, and this book is no different from his other favorites. The interwoven stories of two very different men: murderer Hawley Crippen and inventor Guglielmo Marconi. A gripping thriller of a real life story.



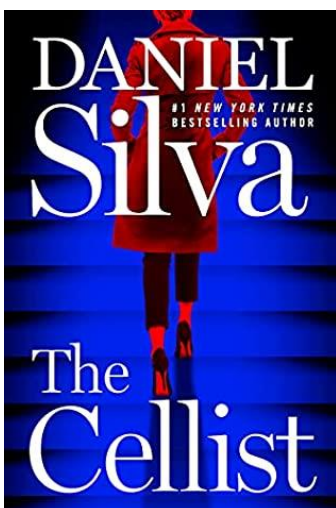
[My Year with Eleanor](#) by Noelle Hancock

The memoir of a woman spending a year tackling her biggest fears, inspired all along the way by the words of the seemingly fearless Eleanor Roosevelt. A unique attempt to face and overcome life's anxieties in middle age. Available through the Libby app.



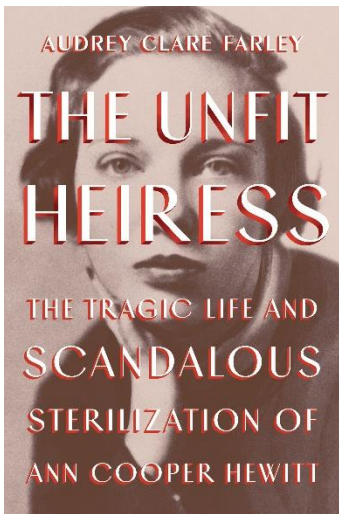
[The Children's Blizzard](#) by Melanie Benjamin

Another NPBG favorite! The Children's Blizzard is a novel based on the true story of a surprise blizzard that ripped through the rural Midwest in 1888, just as the school day was ending and children and their not much older teachers were forced into life or death decisions in navigating or waiting out the storm.



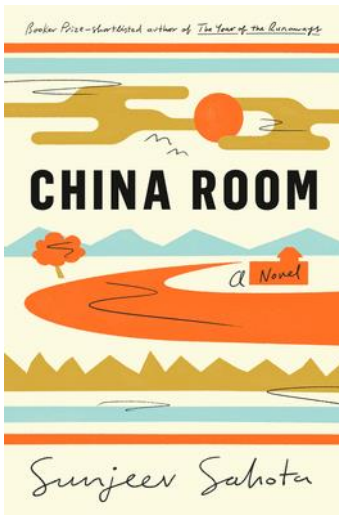
[The Cellist](#) by Daniel Silva

A prescient thriller, this story of Russia's oligarchs and the dark and dangerous path of Vladimir Putin shocked our reader for its relevancy to current world events.



[The Unfit Heiress: The Tragic Life and Scandalous Sterilization of Ann Cooper Hewitt](#) by Audrey Clare Farley

The eye-opening account of the forced and secret sterilization of the Cooper Hewitt heiress by her own mother. This dramatic act of manipulation allowed by California's eugenics law of the time sheds light on the way women were controlled by family and society, in the name of the public good.



[China Room](#) by Sunjeev Sahota

We'll wrap up with another repeat title – this book has been passed around the group to nothing but rave reviews. Two dramatically different storylines unfold, one in India in 1929 and one in England in 1999, both bringing to light individuals struggling against the confines of family and expectation.