



Briarcliff Manor Public Library

with the Westchester Great Books Council

Contemporary Fiction by Award-Winning Authors

Book Discussion Series #18
Spring, 2010

A Gate at the Stairs by Lorrie Moore (*New York Times* 10 Best Books of 2009)

The story's apparent modesty and ambling pace are deceptive, a cover for profound reflections on marriage and parenthood, racism and terrorism, and especially the baffling, hilarious, brutal initiation to adult life -- what all of us learn to endure "in the dry terror of cluelessness." (The Washington Post's Book World/Ron Charles) Hardcover, 336 pp. Knopf (2009) ISBN: 0375409289

Wednesday, March 24, 2010; 7:30-9:00 pm

The Confessions of Edward Day by Valerie Martin (Orange Prize-winning author)

What sort of person becomes an actor? Someone looking for certainty, Edward Day suggests in the opening pages of Valerie Martin's briskly chilling new novel: "Inside a character I knew exactly who I was, the environment was controlled, and no one was going to do anything unexpected." (The Washington Post's Book World/Wendy Smith) Hardcover, 304 pp. Nan Talese (2009) ISBN: 0385525842

Wednesday, April 28, 2009; 7:30-9:00 pm

Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann (National Book Award, 2009)

Philippe Petit's tightrope walk between the World Trade Center Towers in 1974 acts as a centerline on which McCann hangs the stories of a dozen spiritually disheveled characters, each searching for an alcove of silence in a clamorous city. A recovering drug addict wonders if Petit, famed also for his juggling, can keep aloft the shards of her broken existence. The mother of a soldier killed in Vietnam condemns the high-wire act as a reckless offense against life's sanctity. Only to an indigent Catholic monk, wrestling with a cryptic God, is the spectacle simply the most beautiful thing in the world.

(The Washington Post's Book World/Mike Peed) Paper: 400 pp. Random; (2009) ISBN: 0812973992

Wednesday, May 26, 2010; 7:30-9:00 pm

Join us to discuss these novels in the Crandall Program Room at the Briarcliff Manor Public Library
Each discussion will be guided by a trained leader, using the shared inquiry method.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED; PLEASE REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 1, 2010 TO PURCHASE BOOKS:

Please fill out form; remit \$40.00 to BMPLibrary for book purchase; no charge for book borrowers (place your own holds). Deliver or mail to Briarcliff Manor Public Library/1Library Rd/Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510. You will be notified when your purchased books are available at BMPL.

TO REGISTER AND PROVIDE YOUR OWN/BORROW BOOKS (REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED EACH SERIES):

E-mail gmahoney@wlsmail.org or call 914 733-3610—by March 1, 2010

Name:

E-Mail:

Address:

Phone: (day)

(evening)

Questions— Call Geraldine Mahoney, Library Director, (914) 733-3610

Please note—we conduct ALL correspondence by e-mail. If you do NOT have an email address, please check here