

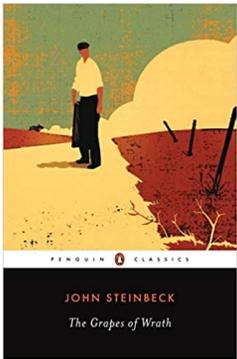
# Westchester Great Books Council's 29th Annual Day of Discussion

Saturday, January 22, 2022

Morning and Afternoon discussions via Zoom with a midday break for lunch

Hungering for a great book discussion? John Steinbeck and Jenny Erpenbeck penned stories to sink your teeth into. Each wrote of times in which borders, migration, displacement, and inequality shaped individuals and society as a whole.

Our annual event will be held virtually again this year so we don't need to schedule a snow date! We anticipate a great day of thoughtful dialogue and respectful debate among inquisitive readers and expect you will gain new insights into these two great novels with the help of our skilled discussion leaders. Using the designated editions (book covers and ISBNs shown below) facilitates your active participation in the discussion and is strongly encouraged.



## ***The Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck

Steinbeck's epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads—driven from their homestead and forced to travel west to the promised land of California. Out of their trials and their repeated collisions against the hard realities of an America divided into Haves and Have-Nots evolves a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision. The novel portrays the conflict between the powerful and the powerless and probes into the very nature of equality and justice in America.

*Excerpted from Penguin Classics*

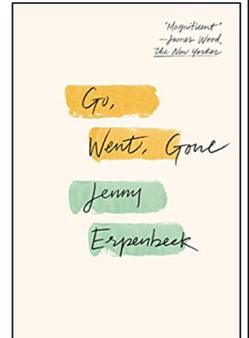
Penguin Classics; Annotated edition (March 28, 2006)      464 pages      **ISBN-13 : 978-0143039433**

## ***Go, Went, Gone*** by Jenny Erpenbeck

German novelist Erpenbeck tells the tale of Richard, a retired classics professor in Berlin. His wife has died, and he lives a routine existence until one day he spies some African refugees staging a hunger strike in Alexanderplatz. Curiosity turns to compassion and an inner transformation, as he visits their shelter, interviews them, and becomes embroiled in their harrowing fates. The novel is a scathing indictment of Western policy toward the European refugee crisis but also a touching portrait of a man who finds he has more in common with the Africans than he realizes.

*Excerpted from New Directions*

New Directions; reprint edition (September 26, 2017)      320 pages      **ISBN-13 : 978-0811225946**



Registration will be strictly limited to allow smaller discussion groups.      Sign up early & before 1/17/2022.

Morning discussion (9:30 to 11:30 am) – *The Grapes of Wrath* (followed by a 2 hour break for lunch/fresh air)

Afternoon discussion (1:30 to 3:30 pm) – *Go, Went, Gone*

Register by mailing form below with a check **OR** via PayPal **using only the "Send to Family and Friends" no-fee option** to [westchestergreatbooks@gmail.com](mailto:westchestergreatbooks@gmail.com)      Registration Fee: \$10

**Questions?** Contact Marta Burachok at [westchestergreatbooks@gmail.com](mailto:westchestergreatbooks@gmail.com)

### 2022 Annual Day of Discussion Mail-In Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please print clearly*      *Zoom link and agenda details will be sent here*

Enclosed is a check for \$10 made payable to "Westchester Great Books Council" or "WGBC"

**Westchester Great Books Council, P.O. Box 233, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510**