

A NOVEL APPROACH

FOOTHILLS GENERAL FICTION
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



*Join us for discussions
of the following titles, the
second Monday evening
of each month at 6:30.*

January 8, 2024
The Lincoln Highway
By Amor Towles

February 12, 2024
***A Scent of Burnt
Flowers***

By Blitz Bazawule

March 11, 2024
Hello Beautiful
By Ann Napolitano

April 8, 2024
Severance
By Ling Ma

May 13, 2024
Demon Copperhead
By Barbara Kingsolver

June 10, 2024
***On Earth We're
Briefly Gorgeous***
By Ocean Vuong

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*Book annotations adapted
from a variety of sources
quoted and cited on
Amazon.com and Novelist.*



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***The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles**

In June, 1954, Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has served 15 months for involuntary manslaughter. His parents gone and the farm foreclosed, Emmett plans to pick up his younger brother and head to California. But then, he discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the car and hatched a plan that will take them all on a journey to the City of New York.

***A Scent of Burnt Flowers* by Blitz Bazawule**

The Scent of Burnt Flowers tells the story of a young Black couple, Melvin and Bernadette, who flee the United States in 1966, after a violent altercation with a racist white mob. They go to Ghana seeking refuge from the president, who was a close college friend of Melvin's. Steeped in the history and mythology of postcolonial West Africa at the intersection of the civil rights movement in America, this gripping novel merges combines elements of history, political intrigue, and magical realism.

***Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano**

William Waters grew up in a house silenced by tragedy, so when he meets the spirited Julia Padavano his freshman year of college it's as if his world has lit up. With Julia comes her family, as she and her sisters are inseparable. But then darkness from William's past surfaces, jeopardizing Julia's carefully orchestrated plans for their future and the sisters' devotion to one another, resulting in a catastrophic rift that changes the family's lives for generations.

***Severance* by Ling Ma**

Candace, a millennial Manhattan office worker, is devoted to routine. With the recent passing of her Chinese immigrant parents, she's had her fill of uncertainty. Then a deadly pandemic sweeps New York. Families flee. Subways screech to a halt. And Candace realizes she can't make it on her own forever. Enter a group of survivors traveling to a place called the Facility, where their leader Bob promises they will have everything they need to start society anew. But Candace is carrying a secret she knows Bob will exploit.

***Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver**

Set in the mountains of Appalachia, *Demon Copperhead* is the story of a boy born to a teenaged single mother in a single-wide trailer, with no assets beyond his dead father's copper-colored hair, a caustic wit, and a fierce talent for survival. Demon braves the modern perils of foster care, child labor, derelict schools, athletic success, addiction, disastrous loves, and crushing losses.

***On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* by Ocean Vuong**

Little Dog, is in his late twenties, when he writes a letter to his mother who can't read, unearthing a family history whose epicenter is rooted in Vietnam and serves as a doorway into parts of his life his mother has never known, all of it leading to an unforgettable revelation. At once a witness to the fraught yet undeniable love between a single mother and her son, it is also a brutally honest exploration of race, class, and masculinity.

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