

# February Books Plus



"My father, James Witherspoon, is a bigamist" is the shocking opening line of *Silver Sparrow* by Tayari Jones. This memorable novel is set in Atlanta in the mid-80s and unwraps the themes of family, love and loyalty often with some painful results. Two half-sisters are caught in the middle of the two families, one secret and one public.

Books Plus has been on a mini-break over the holidays, but the first book discussion of the year will take place next Sunday. Please join us on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss this raw and memorable novel.

Books Plus meets the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome. Join the discussion or simply come to listen.

No registration necessary. **Drop in.**

**2 p.m., First Sundays**

See the upcoming schedule below

## February 3

***Silver Sparrow*** by Tayari Jones

Discussion Leader: Sarah Bowman

"In her third novel set in Atlanta, Jones writes about two African-American half-sisters, only one of whom knows that the other exists until their father's double life starts to unravel. Jones beautifully evokes Atlanta in the 1980s while creating gritty, imperfect characters whose pain lingers in the reader's heart." --Kirkus Reviews

## March 3

***The Handmaid's Tale*** by Margaret Atwood

Discussion Leader: Wendy Rubin

Join us for a discussion of the **2013 One Book One Bloomington!** In this dark vision of a future United States, the handmaid Offred is defined solely by her biological function as a child-bearer. Forbidden even to read, she tries to survive in oppressive and dangerous circumstances. The novel explores themes of power, gender conflict, the individual in society, language and storytelling.

## April 7

***National Poetry Month:*** Little Songs: Exploring the Sonnet

Discussion Leader: Dory Lynch

For over five hundred years, poets have written enduring sonnets about love, friendship, death, and nature. In only fourteen lines, authors have shared their views of the world. From Shakespeare and Petrarch to modern poets such as Billy Collins, Rita Dove, and Carol Ann Duffy, the sonnet has continued to amaze and inspire. In honor of National Poetry Month please come explore the kind of poem that Dante Gabriel Rossetti called the "moment's monument." If you don't like the tight rhyming structure of the old sonnets, we will include some contemporary ones in modern language. Please bring a poem to share--a favorite of yours--either a sonnet or one in another format that you love.

## May 5

***Forgotten Garden*** by Kate Morton

Discussion Leader: Luann Dillon

From 1913 to today, from England to Australia and back again, generations of a family keep their secrets guarded and their gardens locked.

Posted by sbowman on January 28, 2013

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