

Hi Charlie,

- The most discussible books of 2006
- New activities to energize your group
- New books to liven your discussions
- A special offer, and
- Chances to win free books

All this – and other news – in this month’s edition!

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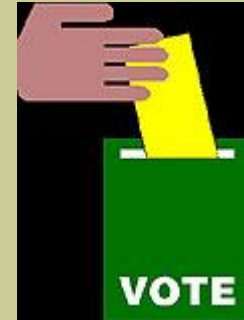
The Year of Magical Thinking on Broadway!



Come to Broadway and see Joan Didion’s bestselling and discussible memoir, [The Year of Magical Thinking](#), transform into the play, *The Year of Magical Thinking!* **Reading Group Choices** and **Vintage Books** are offering discounted tickets to the world premiere of Joan Didion’s first play, which is now playing at the Booth Theatre. The play is directed by David Hare and stars Vanessa Redgrave.

The offer is valid for performances between April 27 and August 25, with some blackout dates. Performances run Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. Discounted prices are \$55 for the Wednesday matinee; \$60 for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings; and \$65 for Friday and Saturday shows. The offer is available by phone at 212-947-8844 or [online](#). (Please mention code **YMBKP92**.) Or bring a print out of the [magicalthinkingonbroadway](#) webpage ([this webpage](#)) to the

No Hanging Chads!



Your votes are in! The results from your votes for The **Top Ten Discussible Titles of 2006** are official. Many, many thanks go to the hundreds of you who responded to the recent **Reading Group Choices** survey. And your selections are:

- #10: [Year of Wonders](#) (Tie)
- #10: *Water for Elephants* (Tie)
- #9: [Red Tent](#) (Tie)
- #9: [Pope Joan](#) (Tie)
- #8: [March](#) (Tie)
- #8: [The History of Love](#) (Tie)
- #7: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in Night-time*
- #6: *The Devil in the White City*
- #5: *Snow Flower & the Secret Fan*
- #4: *The Glass Castle*
- #3: [The Memory Keeper’s Daughter](#)
- #2: *My Sister’s*

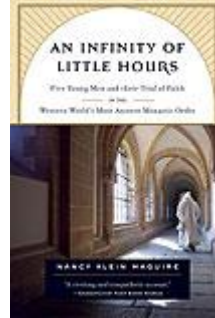
Booth Theatre box office.

What a great reading group activity!

Discounted Tickets for Newsletter Subscribers!

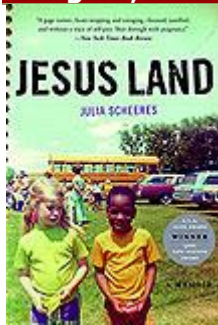
Carthusian Conundrum

Not many can even enter the imposing gates of Parkminster, which houses the Carthusians, the most rigorous and ascetic monastic order in the Western world. But Nancy Klein Maguire did, and in the words of *Publishers Weekly*, "through painstaking research, she creates a personal, sympathetic and amazingly detailed description of an ancient order and its contemporary adherents." Released this month, [*An Infinity of Little Hours*](#) follows the journey of five young men who entered into a society virtually unchanged in its behavior and lifestyle since its foundation in 1084. In a fascinating [interview](#), the author reveals how she was able to gain access to this reclusive order.



Enter For A Chance To Win A Copy!

Religion, Family, and Race Relations



[*Jesus Land*](#) by Julia Scheeres has all of the above and more. Julia and her adopted brother, David, are sixteen years old. Julia is white. David is black. It is the mid-1980s, and their family has just moved to rural Indiana. Julia relays their tale with startling immediacy, extreme candor, and wry humor. This *New York Times* Bestseller is a book that readers are sure to be discussing, long after it has been read. According to the *Chicago Tribune*, "Scheeres succeeds at relating a harrowing life story with effortless humor and wisdom." Enter the drawing and you may win a free copy of this moving memoir!

Enter For A Chance To Win A Copy!

New This Month

Keeper

And The Top Discussible Title of 2006 Is

#1: *The Kite Runner*

Please [visit our website](#) for more information on the winners.

Quick Links...

[Top Discussibles of 2006](#)

[Enter The Maguire Match](#)

[Enter The Jesus Land Jamboree](#)

[Get Discount Theatre Tickets - Use Code YMBKP92](#)

[Interview with Nancy Klein Maguire](#)

[On The Bookcase](#)

[Invite An Author](#)

[What's Your Group Reading?](#)

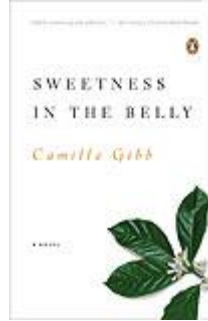
[Save Time - Register](#)

[1-On-One With Sheridan Hay](#)

[Interview With Lynn York](#)

Some wonderful discussible titles have been released in the past month. You may want to try one or more of them in your group:

[The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets](#) by Eva Rice
[Sweetness in the Belly](#) by Camilla Gibb
[An Infinity of Little Hours](#) by Nancy Klein Maguire
[The Sweet Life](#) by Lynn York
[The Secret of Lost Things](#) by Sheridan Hay



1-On-One With Sheridan Hay

One Book Group Meeting, Many Books

The Regulator Bookshop in Durham, N.C., is launching a reading group "where everyone decides to read a different, but similar book." The first session was held by David Carr, professor of library science at UNC-Chapel Hill, who suggested the program to the store. The theme of the first meeting of "Books in a Bunch" was "memoirs of early life." Participants were asked to read at least one or two of these books:

Blue Blood by Edward Conlon
Cherry and The Liar's Club by Mary Karr
Autobiography of a Face by Lucy Grealy
Dreams from My Father by Senator Barack Obama
Truth and Beauty by Ann Patchett
[Jesus Land](#) by Julia Scheeres
This Boy's Life and *In Pharaoh's Army* by Tobias Wolff
A Girl Named Zippy by Haven Kimmel
She Got Up Off the Couch by Haven Kimmel
[The Tender Bar](#) by J.R. Moehringer
Falling Through the Earth by Danielle Trussoni
Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight by Alexandra Fuller
Scribbling the Cat by Alexandra Fuller
My Detachment by Tracy Kidder
The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

Have Fun This Month With Poetry!

April is Poetry Month! Go outside the box one month and do something *daring!* See how poetry can help make your next discussion lively and fun in this month's

... On the Bookcase



Reading Group Choices



[Order The Print Edition](#)

[Selecting Discussible Books Since 1995](#)

Join our mailing list!

[[Join](#)]

Hundreds of Reading Groups!



Members of literally hundreds of reading groups attended programs tailored to them at the [Virginia Festival of the Book](#) and at [Quail Ridge Books & Music](#) this month.

Quail Ridge Books & Music in Raleigh held two Book Club Bashes. Nancy Olson and her staff recommended their reading group favorites to over 75 reading group members at each Book Club Bash. Barbara entertained the enthusiastic and fun audience with the **Reading Group Choices** [2006 Favorite Discussible Book](#) Survey by her rendition of the Top Ten. (David Letterman better watch out!) Some of **Reading Group Choices'** publishing partners sent copies of their **Reading Group Choices'** books, and Barbara and Nancy had fun with a random drawing contest to give some reading groups a super prize bag of discussible books.

The **Virginia Festival of the Book** was just as wonderful. Over 100 avid reading group members attended the *What Makes a Discussible Book* program. The panel was held at **The Gravity Lounge Restaurant** which offered lunch and beverages -- just like a reading group meeting! Barbara discussed the many aspects of a book that makes it discussible. The piece d'resistance was the three great women authors who talked about their books and what themes and ideas could be discussed in a reading group. The audience enjoyed Marisa de los Santos ([Love Walked In](#)), Lynn York ([The Sweet Life](#)), and Mary Sharratt ([The Vanishing Point](#)) and their anecdotes. Included in the two-hour program, authors had time to meet the audience and discuss their works personally.

[An Interview With Lynn York](#)

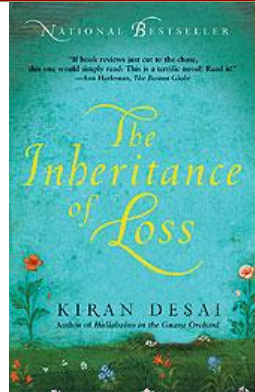
Every Woman's Voice

Reading Group Choices is excited to announce that **Hyperion** has created a new venue for women who keep the joy of reading alive. [Voice](#) is a new imprint of Hyperion that "publishes fiction and nonfiction for smart, educated, busy, curious, and seasoned women who are way over chick lit and its cousins, but for whom reading is a longtime passion. Books for women, who for whatever reasons—be it a relationship, a career, or the biological clock ticking— are looking to redirect their lives or find what has been missing. Women who want to read about the positives as well as the negatives from women who have emerged or are emerging as role models—strong

women doing things that excite, scare, and thrill them—women who are happy and fulfilled and who continue to push the envelope."

Inheritance Is Picked Again!

[*The Inheritance of Loss*](#) by Kiran Desai has been picked for the 2007 longlist of [The Orange Broadband Prize for Fiction](#), formerly The Orange Prize for Fiction. Now in its twelfth year, the Prize celebrates excellence, originality and accessibility in women's writing. This prize, the UK's only annual book award for fiction written by a woman, is awarded to the woman who, in the opinion of the judges, has written the best full-length novel in English.



The 2007 shortlist will be announced on April 17th, and the winner will be announced on June 6th.

Purl Wins Fiction Award



Mara Purl has won the Gold Evvy Award for [*Closer Than You Think*](#), designating it as First Place winner for Fiction. The Evvy is granted by the Colorado Independent Publishers Association. Though considered a Colorado prize—with entries competing from several states, a rigorous point system, and professionals in the literary and publishing fields judging Fiction, the coveted award has become a challenging

prize to attain.

Your Own Discussible Choices

Congratulations to Joyce and **Tye Preston Memorial Library Book Bunch** from New Braunfels Texas for winning the random drawing of the Discussible Book Choices Drawing!

We enjoy getting emails from book club members and sharing their choices with everyone. Please [email us](#) with your group's discussible choices, and you may win a book-related prize for every member of your reading group. Please remember to include your group name, number of people in your group, and

mailing address to send the prizes.

Other Discussible Choices

email: info@readinggroupchoices.com
phone: 866-643-6883
web: <http://www.readinggroupchoices.com>

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