



Fiction Book Club

Coordinated by: Sharon Alvarado

10 a.m. – 12 noon

Third Thursday each month, Sept. 2023 – July 2024

First Fall 2023 meeting: September 21, 2023

Bethany Congregational Church,
556 N. Hope Avenue, Santa Barbara

805-967-6030

vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org



The VISTAS Fiction Book Group meets monthly for in-depth, highly satisfying discussions of a variety of types of fiction.

Titles are selected and presented by individual members of the group. All group members are responsible for contributing questions and observations to the discussion.

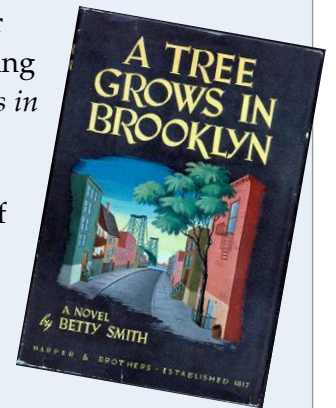
Books we read this past year include *The Night Watchman* (Louise Erdrich), *Stoner* (John Williams), *Out Stealing Horses* (Per Petterson), *People of the Book* (Geraldine Brooks), and *Demon Copperhead* (Barbara Kingsolver).

A complete list of books selected for this book club is posted on the VISTAS website, www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/book-clubs.

The book selected for our September 21, 2023 meeting is the classic *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, by Betty Smith.

Join us for the pleasure of reading, conversing, and deepening connections with other VISTAS members.

There is no limit to the size of the group.



PLEASE REVIEW THE STATEMENT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FLYER REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS.

Enrollment form: Fiction Book Club

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VISTAS members only, \$25 for the year (11 sessions)

- **EITHER pay online** on our website by secure credit card or through PayPal: <https://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/current-courses>
- **OR mail this form** and your check to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc.
P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara CA 93121

Number of persons _____ \$ _____ Check # _____

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Coordinator: Sharon Alvarado

Sharon grew up in Santa Barbara, then left to “expand her horizons”— but she could hardly wait to get back! She spent 50 years in the field of psychiatry, the last 18 in Santa Barbara, where she retired from Cottage Hospital.

“Reading has always been my way of preserving my own sanity,” she says. “Book clubs and the joy of reading have enriched my life!” She invites you to join this group and share great books you have read while becoming familiar with others that you might never have chosen for yourself. “It’s a group of discovery!” Sharon promises.



IMPORTANT COVID-19 POLICY

The health and safety of our attendees and their families are of utmost importance to us. **Accordingly, we are limiting attendance to those who are fully vaccinated.** Proof of vaccinations and boosters (digital Covid-19 Vaccination Card or a photo of your printed card) must be sent to our business manager via email (vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org) or text (805-967-6030). Participants may also be asked to show vaccination status on the first day of each course in case our records are incomplete. This needs to be done only once—your proof of vaccination will remain valid for all VISTAS events. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

VISTAS Fall 2023 Calendar

SUBJECT TO CHANGE; for up-to-date information, visit our website (VistasLifelongLearning.org) frequently!

Course / Event	Date(s)	Time	Venue
Annual Fall Picnic	Saturday, September 9	12:30 pm	Tucker’s Grove
Fiction Book Club / Sharon Alvarado	3rd Thursday monthly	10:00 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Monday Nonfiction Book Club / Dawn McGrew	4th Monday monthly	1:30 pm	Via Zoom
Flight—Ups and Downs of Aviation / Bruce Phillips	Mon. Sep. 11 and 18	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
Impact of Railroads on Am. Music / Norm Cohen	Wed. Sep. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Legendary Foods of France and Italy / Larry Canepa	Fri. Sep. 15 and 22	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Women behind Walls / Bee Bloeser	Thur. Sep. 28	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Rethinking Obesity / Dr. Fima Lifshitz	Tues. Oct. 3	9:30 am	Valle Verde
Money in America’s Political System / Ted Anagnoson	Mon. Oct. 16, 23, 30	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
The Nature of Time / Jim Hemmer	Wed. Oct. 18	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Pirates! / Peter Beuret	Thur. Oct. 26	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
History and Development of the Bible / Norm Cohen	Fri. Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17	9:30 am	Venue TBD
The US in the World: A Top-10 Summary / D. Stowell	Tues. Oct. 31	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Thirty-Six Years in the CIA / Heidi August	Mon. Nov. 6	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
<i>Sitting Bull: In His Own Words</i> / J. Ferry & G. DeSoto	Wed. Nov. 8	9:30 am	Valle Verde Theater
Church Music in the 16th Century / Henry Michaels	Mon. Nov. 13, 20, 27	10:00 am	Via Zoom
“The Opulent Summer” Mural / C. Garfinkle	Wed. Nov. 15	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Combating Human Trafficking / Florrie Burke	Fri. Dec. 1, 8	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Women Architects of S.B. / Rose Thomas	Mon. Dec. 4, 11	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
Science Behind the Botanic Garden / S. Windhager	Wed. Dec. 6	1:00 pm	Santa Barbara Botanic Garden