

Boulder Bookies is a discussion group at the Boulder Public Library, meeting by Zoom usually on the third Friday of each month from 1:00 until 2:30 PM. All are welcome.

**Joining information: email
john.dunn@colorado.edu.**

Book selections for January to June 2025

January 17, 2025

Orbital, Samantha Harvey

Orbital deftly snapshots one day in the lives of six women and men traveling through space. Selected for one of the last space station missions of its kind before the program is dismantled, these astronauts and cosmonauts—from America, Russia, Italy, Britain, and Japan—have left their lives behind to travel at a speed of over seventeen thousand *miles an hour as the earth reels below*.

February 21, 2025

The Women, Kristin Hannah

Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

March 21, 2025

The Dream Collector: Sabrine and Sigmund Freud – Book One, R.W. Meek

Impeccably researched, the novel is an extraordinary blend of science and the arts in the late 19th Century Paris. We meet the enigmatic Julie Forette, scribe to the complex Dr. Jean-Martin Charcot, the world’s expert on hysteria and the director Salpêtrière, the most famous teaching asylum in Europe, and the young and ambitious Sigmund Freud, an intern at the asylum.

April 18, 2025

Playground, Richard Powers

Twelve-year-old Evie Beaulieu sinks to the bottom of a swimming pool in Montreal strapped to one of the world’s first aqualungs. Ina Aroita grows up on naval bases across the Pacific with art as her only home. Two polar opposites at an elite Chicago high school bond over a five-thousand-year-old board game; Rafi Young will get lost in literature, while Todd Keane’s work will lead to a startling AI breakthrough.

May 16, 2025

The Vegetarian, Han Kang

When Yeong-hye awoke one morning from troubled dreams, she found herself changed into a monstrous . . . vegetarian. And that’s where the misleadingly simple echoes of a certain classic premise end. Han’s novella-in-three-parts zigzags between domestic thriller, transformation parable and arborphiliac meditation, told from the points of view of her lousy husband, who works at an office (Part I); her obsessive brother-in-law, who is an artist (Part II); and her overburdened older sister, who manages a cosmetics store (Part III).

June 20, 2025

When We Cease to Understand the World, Benjamin Labatut

When We Cease to Understand the World is a book about the complicated links between scientific and mathematical discovery, madness, and destruction. Fritz Haber, Alexander Grothendieck, Werner Heisenberg, Erwin Schrödinger—these are some of luminaries into whose troubled lives Benjamín Labatut thrusts the reader, showing us how they grappled with the most profound questions of existence. They have strokes of unparalleled genius, alienate friends and lovers, descend into isolation and insanity. Some of their discoveries reshape human life for the better; others pave the way to chaos and unimaginable suffering. The lines are never clear.

For a list of all books read in the group see <http://www.sackett.net/BoulderBookies.htm>.

12/02/2024