

Kathleen's Recent Reads—June 2022

Non-Fiction

Women Rowing North: Navigating Life's Currents and Flourishing As We Age by Mary Pipher

Despite the challenges posed by our culture's ageism and misogyny, Pipher believes older women are able to find more joy in their everyday lives, and uses examples from her own life and that of others to illustrate and celebrate the greater clarity that comes with age.

Fiction

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

A book within a book; 5 main characters, separated by centuries and continents; war, illness, thwarted dreams, abuse, redemption: this is not an easy book to read in the beach-read sense of the term, but oh, is it worth sticking with! Doerr, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for *All the Light We Cannot See*, continues his non-traditional plot structure with this book, moving back and forth between eras and characters, a lost manuscript and present-day action. It takes a good chunk of the book to start to see how the threads could come together, but the patient reader will be rewarded and their faith in humanity reaffirmed with this lovely, lyrical ode to the power of the written word.

Greenwich Park by Katherine Faulkner

Long standing relationships are threatened when expectant mother Helen befriends a young woman at her prenatal class, who after insinuating her way into Helen's life and home, then disappears. Helen's husband, brothers, and best friend all seem to have a prior connection with Rachel, the missing woman, and the secrets come tumbling out as the suspicion and paranoia grow.

Audiobooks (available on cloudLibrary)

The Golden Couple by Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen

A couple who seemingly have it all turn to an unconventional therapist for help when their marriage flounders. Hendricks and Pekkanen specialize in thrilling psychological suspense, and deliver yet again, releasing details sparingly to keep the suspense building and the reader guessing.

Great Circle by Maggie Shipstead

In 1914, infant twins Marian and Jamie Graves are sent to live with their uncle in Montana after their father, a ship's captain, rescues them and himself after a disaster at sea and is subsequently charged for his desertion of the ship. In Montana, Marian meets a married couple, pilots, who ignite a love of flying in her, setting her on her destined path as a pioneering female aviator. Marian's story alternates with that of Hadley, a young Hollywood star eager to make her mark playing Marian in a biopic. Shipstead tells a detailed, consuming, magnificent story; this sprawling novel is a good choice for lovers of historical fiction.