

## X – OLLI Book Club: In-person

Conveners: Judy Diner and Sue Shelley

**Meeting Dates, Spring 2024** (Monthly) – Tuesday 2:30 – 4:00

- Tuesday, 2/6
- Tuesday, 3/5
- Tuesday, 4/2
- Tuesday, 5/7

### Catalogue Description

Good books are meant for sharing. Come join our collaborative monthly book group to share ideas about agreed-upon books (fiction and non-fiction) in a relaxed atmosphere. Members propose and select books and take turns leading the discussion.

First meeting (2/6). a) Discuss the novel *All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr (Sue Shelley & Judy Diner will lead the discussion). b) Select volunteers to lead future discussions; select books. For those interested in volunteering, please come to our first meeting with two books to propose and vote on. Meetings: 2/6, 3/5, 4/2, 5/7.

Scroll down for a summary of *All the Light We Cannot see*, Anthony Doerr and a sampling of critical opinions.

## WELCOME AND COURSE CONTENT – OLLI-WILMINGTON IN-PERSON BOOK GROUP – SPRING 2024

Dear Book Lovers,

Welcome! Thank you for signing up for our in-person monthly book discussion group. We are excited to be back at in-person OLLI classes and look forward to meeting all of you.

Because this is a collaborative group, we count on you to take turns leading our discussions. We also count on you to propose books for the group to select by a vote.

**Our first session, February 6, will include a discussion of *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr. Sue Shelley and Judy Diner will lead the discussion. We will also ask for volunteers to lead future discussions and vote on books for the rest of the term.**

Here is what we ask of you:

Please give serious consideration to leading a discussion and be ready to volunteer at the September 5 meeting. Also, if you plan to volunteer, please come with two possible reading selections. The group will vote on the selections for future meetings.

We look forward to meeting you and of course we wish you and yours health, fulfillment and connection and a satisfying OLLI Fall semester.

All the best,

Sue Shelley and Judy Diner

*All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr, 2014 . Genre: Historical Fiction.

### **Awards**

Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, 2015; a New York Times Book Review Top Ten Book (2014), National Book Award Finalist (2014). Chosen by Goodreads members as the best historical fiction of 2014.

### **Summary and Critical Reception**

A New York Times instant best-seller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as they try to survive the devastation of World War II. Janet Maslin (NYT) called the style "acutely sensory" and "stunningly beautiful," an opinion shared by numerous other reviewers.

From the Guardian, Justin Cartwright wrote, "A small thank you to Mr. Doerr for deliberately giving this intricate book an extremely readable format, with very short chapters, many about a page and a half long. As Anthony Doerr told the Powell's Books blog in a recent interview: "This was a gesture of friendliness, maybe. It's like I'm saying to the reader, 'I know this is going to be more lyrical than maybe 70 percent of American readers want to see, but here's a bunch of white space for you to recover from that lyricism.' "

### **Series in the works**

In March 2019, Netflix and 21 Laps Entertainment acquired the rights to develop a limited television adaptation of *All the Light We Cannot See*, with Shawn Levy, Dan Levine, and Josh Barry as executive producers. ...The adaptation is set to star Aria Mia Loberti as Marie-Laure, Louis Hofmann as Werner, Mark Ruffalo as Daniel, Hugh Laurie as Etienne, Lars Eidinger as von Rumpel, and Nell Sutton as the young Marie- Laure. Netflix announced the release date of the adaptation as November 2, 2023