

## X –**Book Club: In-person**

Conveners: Judy Diner and Sue Shelley

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

- Tuesday, February 7
- Tuesday, March 7
- Tuesday, April 4
- Tuesday May 2

### **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 (2/7). a) Discuss *How Beautiful We Were*, by Imbolo Mbue (Sue Shelley & Judy Diner will lead the discussion). b) Select volunteers to lead future discussions; select books. Come to our first meeting with two books to propose and vote on.

Meetings: 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2.

### **WELCOME AND COURSE CONTENT – OLLI-WILMINGTON IN-PERSON BOOK GROUP – SPRING 2023**

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 7, will include a discussion of *How Beautiful We Were*, by Imbolo Mbue. 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 February 7 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 Spring semester.

All the best,

Sue Shelley and Judy Diner

**Summary:** *How Beautiful We Were*, by Imbolo Mbue. Available in hardback, paperback and in electronic format for e-readers.

**From Amazon**

**"A fearless young woman from a small African village starts a revolution against an American oil company in this sweeping, inspiring novel from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Behold the Dreamers*...."**

**"Mbue reaches for the moon and, by the novel's end, has it firmly held in her hand."—NPR ...**

Told from the perspective of a generation of children and the family of a girl named Thula who grows up to become a revolutionary, *How Beautiful We Were* is a masterful exploration of what happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community's determination to hold on to its ancestral land and a young woman's willingness to sacrifice everything for the sake of her people's freedom."