**June - EDUCATED - Tara Westover**

**Discussion  on Friday, June 28**

An unforgettable memoir about a young girl, who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University. Tara Westover’s story, who started her education formally at the age of 17.

**July - NEITHER WOLF NOR DOG: on Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder-**

 **Kent Nerburn**

**Discussion on Friday, July 26**

A collection of interviews and writings with a Dakota-elder known as Dan, who preferred to keep his real identity secret. The book follows the two men as they take various road trips through reservation land in North and South Dakota. Its format, conversations between a white writer and a Native author, echoes that of the classic tale, *Black Elk Speaks*(1932). Nerburn’s book won the Minnesota Book Award in 1995 and was praised for its insistent focus on the realities of Native cultures, rather than a patronizing white vision of them. The book’s themes include idealism and stereotypes, myths, race relations, and healing. The title comes from a Sitting Bull quote that states that the projections white people place on Native Americans are grossly inaccurate.

**August - THE POISONWOOD BIBLE - Barbara Kingsolver**

**Discussion on Friday, August 30**

In 1959 a zealous Baptist minister drags his wife and four daughters deep into the heart of the Congo on a mission to save the unenlightened souls of Africa. The five women narrate the novel. From the outset, the attitudes of the five women cover a wide spectrum. The mother, Orleanna passively accepts the turn of events and accepts everything her husband tells her. Fifteen-year-old beauty queen Rachel resents her separation from normal teen life. Five year old adventurer Ruth May is both excited and frightened. Fourteen-year-old Leah, who alone shares her father's ardent religious faith, is enthusiastic. Leah's twin Adah a cripple and mute by birth, but also a brilliant observer, merely views the move, as she does all of life, with a wry and cynical detachment. One thing the women share, however, is the unwavering faith that they are carrying with them a culture far superior to the one existing in the village of Kilanga, and they will be masters of their new domain. It does not take long for this faith to waver.