

**Reading Calendar (7 Added Time Sessions/ 9 Weeks): Fromm: Winter, 2020**

**Week One (January 6, 2020):**

Introduction to Jewish American Literature: Origins. Progenitors. Emergence into the mainstream. Second and third generation progeny. Current Wave.

The mainstream of American and Modernist literature: What have Jewish writers inherited from the masters and where do they presently fit in the pantheon?

What constitutes Jewish American “literature” for our purposes?

-Novels and short stories, principally, with Jewish themes and protagonists. But, can non-Jewish authors be considered in the mix (e.g. John Updike, Gish Gen, Bharati Mukherjee)? Conversely, Saul Bellow’s hero in Henderson the Rain King?

-Drama (e.g. Lillian Hellman, Arthur Miller, Tony Kushner)?

-Poetry (e.g. Emma Lazarus, Allen Ginsberg, Philip Levine)?

-“Broadway Musicals, A Jewish Legacy” (Trailer, Great Performances PBS)?

-Comedy (e.g. Groucho Marx, Lenny Bruce, Mel Brooks, Joan Rivers, etc. etc. etc.)?

-Pop/Rock Music (e.g. Barbara Streisand, Leonard Cohen, Bob Dylan, Paul Simon)?

-Comic books (e.g. Superman, Marvel Superheroes, Graphic Novels)?

-Filmmakers (e.g. Woody Allen, Steven Spielberg, Mike Nichols, Stanley Kubrick)?

- TV Sitcoms (e.g. The Goldbergs, Seinfeld, The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel)

-Public Intellectuals and Critics (e.g. Lionel Trilling, Irving Howe, Leslie Fiedler, Susan Sontag)?

**Week Two (January 13, 2020):**

“My Grandmother Tells Me This Story” by Molly Antopol (The UnAmericans)  
\_ (also on lithub.com O. Henry Prize Winner, May 21, 2015)

“Apple Cake” by Allegra Goodman (New Yorker, June 21, 2010)

**Week Three (January 20, 2020):**

Holiday—Martin Luther King Jr. Day----NO CLASS

**Week Four (January 27, 2020):**

Everything is Illuminated by Jonathan Safran Foer (novel)

“Super Goat Man” by Jonathan Lethem (New Yorker, December 30, 2019—Cartoon Issue) supplemented by introduction to “Motherless Brooklyn” (novel by Lethem, 2019 movie by Edward Norton Jr.)

**Week Five (February 3, 2020):**

“The Quietest Man” by Molly Antopol (The UnAmericans)

“Waiting for the Miracle” by Lara Vapnyer (New Yorker, April 18, 2016)  
(Song by Leonard Cohen—film clip)

“The Young Painters” by Nicole Krauss (New Yorker, June 21, 2010)

**Week Six (February 10, 2020):**

The World to Come by Dara Horn (novel)

“The Luck of Kokura” by Gary Shteyngart (New Yorker, June 18, 2018)

**Week Seven (February 17, 2020):**

Holiday- Presidents Day- NO CLASS

**Week Eight (February 24, 2020):**

“The Unknown Soldier” by Molly Antopol (The UnAmericans)

“What We Talk About, When We Talk About Anne Frank” by Nathan Englander (New Yorker, December 5, 2011)

“Literature” (Story Telling) in other genres of the arts: Poetry, Drama, Comics, Broadway Musicals, Comedy, Pop/Folk/Rock music, Film, TV, Comedy

**Week Nine (March 2, 2020) Make-up Week:**

“Retrospective” by Molly Antopol ([The UnAmericans](#))

Moonglow, by Michael Chabon (novel)

Please purchase and read as much of Moonglow as is comfortable. If you are an avid reader, try to read this in segments throughout the session. If you complete the novel, more power to you, but no pressure to finish. Our discussion will introduce and discuss many elements of the novel but without spoilers. (We shall see when we get there). This novel can be found on the remainders table at The Green Apple Bookstore on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Clement St. for less than \$10.

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