

It's time for another...

Fairhaven Reads

Spring 2019

This is one big book club, made up of kids, adults and good reads. We get together to build community and connections through our discussion of a common book.

Our meeting will be held this spring. Prior to the meeting, participants read the current pick – on their own or with a friend or family member. Then, we all meet up one evening in the Commons for refreshments, activities, and to share our thoughts about the book. By the end of the night, readers achieve a greater appreciation for the book and one another!

This spring's meeting will be held in the Fairhaven Middle School Commons on Wednesday, May 1st, 2019, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

This year's book is *Amal Unbound* by *Aisha Saeed*.

You can pick one up in our FMS library, your language arts classroom or at a local bookstore. Mention you are part of the *Fairhaven Reads* book club at Village Books and you'll receive a 15% discount.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed

Life is quiet and ordinary in Amal's Pakistani village, but she had no complaints, and besides, she's busy pursuing her dream of becoming a teacher one day. Her dreams are temporarily dashed when—as the eldest daughter—she must stay home from school to take care of her siblings. Amal is upset, but she doesn't lose hope and finds ways to continue learning. Then the unimaginable happens—after an accidental run-in with the son of her village's corrupt landlord, Amal must work as his family's servant to pay off her own family's debt.

Life at the opulent Khan estate is full of heartbreak and struggle for Amal—especially when she inadvertently makes an enemy of a girl named Nabila. Most troubling, though, is Amal's growing awareness of the Khans' nefarious dealings. When it becomes clear just how far they will go to protect their interests, Amal realizes she will have to find a way to work with others if they are ever to exact change in a cruel status quo, and if Amal is ever to achieve her dreams.

"A beautiful and moving story about indentured servitude, economic class, family, resistance, and ultimately—freedom. Amal's story and the many people we meet in it are so thoughtfully and deeply rendered,

I remain haunted by their struggles and changed by their journeys."

JACQUELINE WOODSON, author of the Newbery Honor-winning *Brown Girl Dreaming*

"This heroic story about a girl's struggle to become educated against overwhelming odds will open readers' eyes and hearts. A gorgeous and compelling read."

LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON, author of the National Book Award Finalist *Chains*

"A moving novel about a young Pakistani girl forced into indentured servitude; *Amal Unbound* beautifully communicates the power of hope and positive change that can come from struggle."

Seira Wilson, Amazon Editor

"Saeed's timely and stirring middle-grade debut is a celebration of resistance and justice."

Kirkus Reviews, starred review