

# Women Transcending Boundaries Monthly Newsletter



All information also available on our website [wtb.org](http://wtb.org)

**April 2026**

## WTB PROGRAM MEETING

### **SAREES - 6 YARDS OF TIMELESS TRADITION**

WHEN: Sunday, April 19th  
TIME: 2:00-4:00 pm  
WHERE: [Jowonio School](#)  
3049 East Genesee St  
Syracuse, NY

Our very own Smita Rane will present a program about the saree with a focus on Indian Culture!

Everyone is invited...there will be beautiful sarees on display, Smita will show us how to wrap a sari, and we will discuss sarees as part of the timeless cultural traditions of India. We will have some Indian finger foods to sample.

If you've ever worn a saree or ever wondered about them, please join us. We'll have time to mix and mingle as well as explore.

Park and enter in the back of the building. Finger foods to share are welcomed.

**April Schmai**  
**Pomegranate Grill & Deli**  
**[2727 James St. Syracuse](#)**  
**Thursday, April 23**  
**12:30 pm**

A new restaurant in the old Sinbad space that serves Syrian, Lebanese, and Turkish dishes along with American deli items. Some off street parking behind restaurant. We each order off the menu — come and bring a friend!





*Wishing all our Jewish  
friends a blessed  
PASSOVER.*



The holiday of Pesach, or Passover, falls on the Hebrew calendar dates of Nissan 15-22. Pesach 2026 (Passover) begins before sundown on Wednesday April 1, 2026, and ends after nightfall on April 9, 2026.

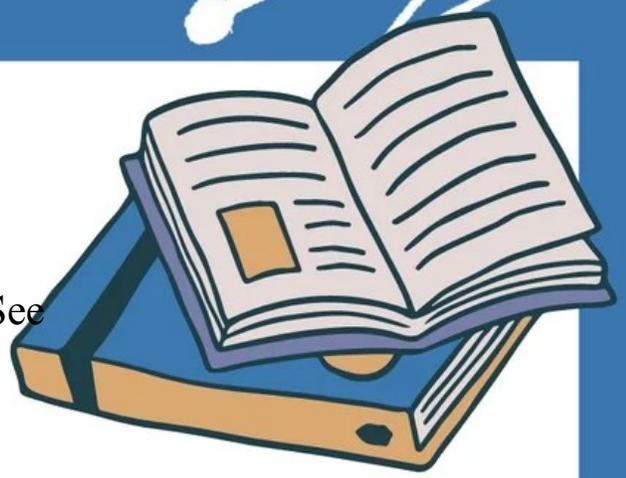
The first day (and night) of Passover is generally considered the most important as it features the Seder, retelling the Exodus story and eating matzah. However, the seventh day is also highly significant, as it commemorates the splitting of the Red Sea.

Spring is on the horizon, and it's time for that perennial question: **When is Easter?** Much like the [Easter Bunny](#), this holiday hops around. But it's always on a Sunday somewhere from March 22 to April 25. This year, the holiday is on the early side—**April 5**.



Easter Sunday is considered one of the most important Christian holidays, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the United States, it is commonly observed by attending church services, joining Easter egg hunts, and sharing meals with family and friends.

## WTB BOOK CLUB



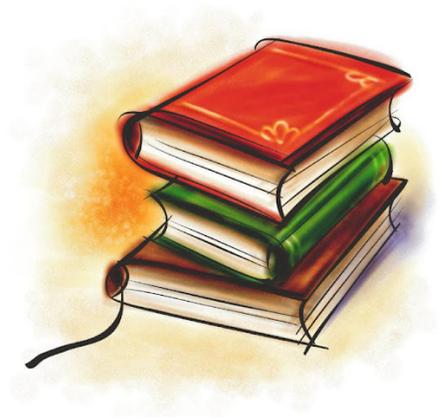
- January 12 Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See
- February 9 Prophet Song by Paul Lynch
- March 9 Dreams of Freedom by Marilyn Higgins
- April 13 The Lion Women of Tehran by Marjan Kamali
- May 11 Mater 2-10 by Hwang Sok-yong
- June 8 The World We Found by Thrity Umrigar
- July 13 Feeding Ghosts by Tessa Hulls  
(we may need copies)
- August 10 The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of  
Dorothy Day
- Sept 14 An African History of Africa: From the Dawn of  
Humanity to Independence by Zeinab Badawi read the first half
- October 12 continue reading the September book
- November 9 Let Only Red Flowers Bloom by Emily Feng

The WTB book club is an egalitarian community of women from many faith and cultural traditions. We seek to nurture mutual respect and understanding by reading about diverse beliefs, customs, and practices. We choose books - fiction, non-fiction, and memoir - that reflect diversity of faith and culture, either internationally or within our own country.

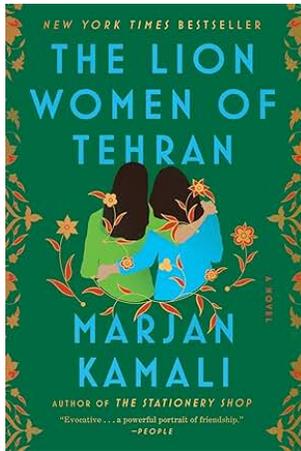
Whenever possible, we prefer to choose books written by women or featuring female characters. If you would like to join the book club either in person or on Zoom, please call or text Jennifer at 315-345-9217



# WTB Book Club



Monday, April 13  
7-9 pm via zoom

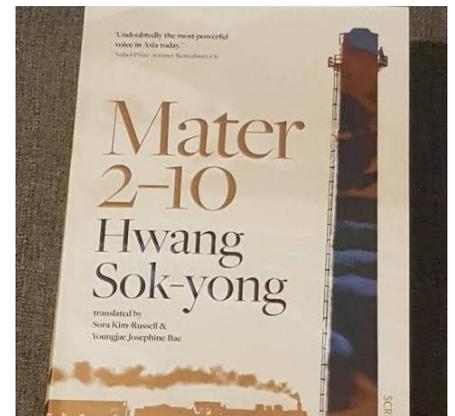


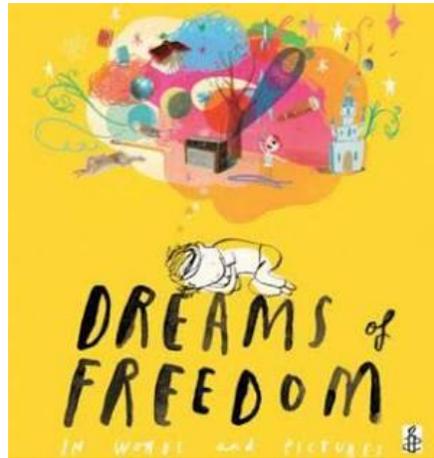
*The Lion Women of Tehran* (2024) by Marjan Kamali is a historical fiction novel spanning three decades from 1950s Iran to the 1979 Revolution and beyond. It follows the intense, complicated friendship between Ellie and Homa, two girls from different social classes navigating political turmoil, intense social changes, and a devastating betrayal.

*Mater 2-10* by Hwang Sok-yong

Centered on three generations of a family of rail workers and a laid-off factory worker staging a high-altitude sit-in, *MATER 2-10* vividly depicts the lives of ordinary working Koreans, starting from the Japanese colonial era, continuing through Liberation, and right up to the twenty-first century.

Monday, May 11  
7-9 pm via zoom





WTB Book Club met March 9 to discuss "**Dreams of Freedom**" by local author Marilyn Higgins. We were honored to have Ms. Higgins join our book club discussion. Her novel is set along the Erie Canal in the years leading up to the Civil War. New York was the center of trade and growth, home to religious cults and sects, and involved in the abolitionist movement. If you are interested in learning more about the rich history of our area, follow the journey of Irish immigrant heroine Aileen O'Malley as she searches for her lost siblings! Inspired by Ms. Higgins' insights and her novel, WTB is hoping to organize a trip to Auburn to visit the Seward House and Harriet Tubman cites later this year. More info to follow!





Spring seems far off,  
impossible, but it is  
coming. Already there  
is dusk instead of  
darkness at five in the  
afternoon; already  
hope is stirring at the  
edges of the day.

KATHLEEN NORRIS



A new sewing class began on March 5 with eight students. They are from Rwanda, Iraq, Burma, and Afghanistan. They are a lovely group. This class overlaps with Ramadan and Eid al Fitr, so the students have been doubly busy. The teachers were even invited to attend an end of Ramadan celebration at the Northeast Community Center where we were enthusiastically greeted by former and current students. We were fed mountains of delicious foods and enjoyed meeting old friends and new.

Please feel free to come visit us someday. This class will end on May 7, then the next class won't begin until September. Call me, Jennifer, at 315-345-9217.



We finished up a session of our refugee sewing classes today. I will miss these fabulous students! Eight volunteer teachers and eight terrific students.

# Spring COOKING CLASS



\* Tenderness Salad



\* Siberian Dumplings  
(Pelmeni)



\* Sweet Cheese Pastry

Join us to discover special recipes, expert tips,  
and enjoy a hands-on cooking experience.



**APRIL 12, 2026**

**1:00 – 3:00 PM**



**\$30**

(All Ingredients  
Included)



**CNY RISE CENTER**  
**275 W Seneca**  
**Turnpike, Syracuse,**  
**NY 13207**

**RSVP**



**\* PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 12th\***



Would you be interested in getting more involved in WTB leadership next year? We would absolutely welcome your participation!! Women Transcending Boundaries is a 501(C3) charitable organization led by a Council of about a dozen women--Council meets once a month via Zoom. We have several openings on Council for next year.

Please consider taking a role in shaping the future of WTB! We look forward to getting to know you better and appreciate the ideas and talents you would bring to the organization!!

For further information, email [wtbcny@gmail.com](mailto:wtbcny@gmail.com); we will contact you. Alternatively, you can email Barb Bova [babova@aol.com](mailto:babova@aol.com) or President Lorraine Markley [lgbbeads@verizon.net](mailto:lgbbeads@verizon.net) directly. Please consider taking a role in shaping the future of WTB! We look forward to getting to know you better and appreciate your ideas and talents!!



# Women Transcending Boundaries

## MEMBERSHIP

Please consider **renewing your membership!** Dues are \$25.00 per year. Although not mandatory for membership, dues are most important. Programs, business expenses, scholarships and more are funded with dues and fundraising.

We hope you will become an official member—just fill out the form below and bring it to a meeting, mail it to the address on the form, or email to [wtbcny@gmail.com](mailto:wtbcny@gmail.com).





# Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc.

*A Metro Syracuse Women's Group Founded After 9/11/01*

P.O. Box 6847, Syracuse, NY 13217

www.wtb.org

## 2025–2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

[for the program year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I am a NEW MEMBER. [Please fill in *all* the information below.]

\_\_\_ I am a RENEWING MEMBER. [Please tell us only what has changed.]

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Faith Tradition (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Native Country (optional) : \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have special skill sets that you would like to share with WTB, such as writing, accounting, public relations/advertising, social media, or any other areas of expertise? \_\_\_\_\_

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### Dues & Donations:

**Dues** (\$25 per year) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Dues are WTB's main source of revenue. They are appreciated but not required except for Council, Advisory Board, or Standing Committee members.*

\_\_\_ I am a Council, Advisory Board, or Standing Committee member and, as such, am required to pay dues.

**Donation**  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Your additional donation will help fund WTB projects, activities and scholarship awards as well as dues for those who cannot afford to pay. Thank you!*

**Total** paid on \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ by cash  or by check  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable corporation. All dues and donations are tax deductible.*

**Please submit this completed form at any WTB meeting or by mail to the address at the top of this form.**

*WTB Mission Statement: We are an egalitarian community of women coming together to respect and learn more about each other's various spiritual beliefs, cultures, and common concerns. It is our intent to share our experiences with the wider community, to educate, and to serve.*