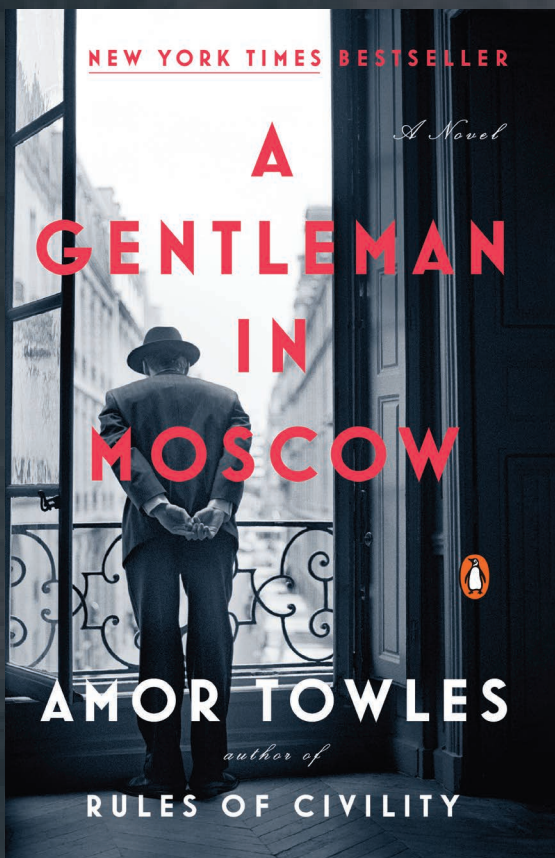


A Gentleman in Moscow

*is a grand adventure that takes place within the walls of
a single luxury hotel.*



In 1922, a Bolshevik tribunal sentences Count Alexander Rostov to house arrest in the luxurious Hotel Metropol. For the next 30 years, the Count experiences his country's upheaval and transformation from the confines of his attic room, the building's grand public spaces and the behind-the-scenes domains of hotel employees-turned-friends. While Rostov cannot go out into the world, the world comes to him in the form of Nina, a bureaucrat's precocious daughter; the film actress Anna Urbanova; American intelligence officer Richard Vanderwhile; and even political leaders like Nikita Khrushchev. This novel is a lightly drawn, episodic portrait of Russia's 20th century political history, as well as a charming tale of one man's dedication to family, memory and home.



Event Guide

2020 Community-Wide Reading Program



photo: Bill Hayes

Authors Talk Amor Towles



Tuesday, September 22 • 7 p.m.
Live Event via Zoom

Join author Amor Towles for a live conversation with KFRU's David Lile about his bestselling book "A Gentleman in Moscow."

Submit your questions for Mr. Towles through September 18 via oneread.org or by mail to:

DBRL
Attn: *One Read*
PO Box 1267
Columbia, MO 65205

This presentation will also be streamed live on 89.5 KOPN.

Register at www.oneread.org/events to get a link for this event.

About the Author

Born and raised in the Boston area, Amor Towles graduated from Yale College and received an MA in English from Stanford University. Having worked as an investment professional for over twenty years, Mr. Towles now devotes himself full time to writing in Manhattan, where he lives with his wife and two children.

Mr. Towles' first novel, "Rules of Civility," which was published in 2011, was a New York Times bestseller and was named by the Wall Street Journal as one of the best books of 2011. The book has been translated into over 20 languages, its French translation receiving the 2012 Prix Fitzgerald.

Mr. Towles' second novel, "A Gentleman in Moscow," which was published in 2016, was on the New York Times bestseller list for over a year in hardcover and was named one of the best books of 2016 by the Chicago Tribune, the Washington Post, the Philadelphia Inquirer, the San Francisco Chronicle, and NPR. The book has been translated into over 35 languages including Russian. In the summer of 2017, the novel was optioned by EOne and the British director Tom Harper to be made into a 16-hour miniseries starring Kenneth Branagh.

About the Program

One Read, coordinated by the Daniel Boone Regional Library, is a community-wide reading program sponsored by a task force of local media, educational institutions and community agencies. It is designed to encourage adults of all ages to read one book and participate in discussions and activities.

Suggestions for each year's book come from the community in the fall and winter. In January, a panel of community members reviews the suggestions, narrows the list down to 10 titles and then chooses two or three books to present for a public vote. We'll be accepting suggestions for next year during the month of November at our libraries or at www.oneread.org.

One Read in the Columbia Daily Tribune

Each Sunday September 6-27, the Ovation section of the Columbia Daily Tribune will feature an article by Library Associate Ida Fogle reflecting on a topic or theme in this year's *One Read* selection. Keep up with year's *One Read* events on the Ovation calendars.

One Read Window Display

The Callaway Bank, Fulton • September 14-28

Stop by this Court Street window display to view images of Moscow as it appeared during the early 1900s.

Book Discussion With Kit and Cathy Salter

Thursday, September 3 • Noon-1 p.m.
Live event via Zoom

Join local authors Kit and Cathy Salter for a virtual discussion of "A Gentleman in Moscow." Please register to get a link for this Zoom event.

Book Discussion With Svetlana Grobman

Thursday, September 10 • 7-8 p.m.
Live event via Zoom

Join local author Svetlana Grobman for a discussion of "A Gentleman in Moscow." Svetlana is a Jewish immigrant from Moscow, Russia. She moved to the United States in 1990 and is a freelance writer living in Missouri. Please register to get a link for this Zoom event.

One Read at Ragtag Cinema: "Russian Ark"

Monday, September 14 • 7-9 p.m.
Ragtag Cinema, 10 Hitt St.

View a free screening of "Russian Ark," an experimental, feature length film, and the first of its kind to be shot in a single take. You'll follow an unnamed narrator as he travels through the museum and explores three centuries of Russian history. The entire film was shot in one day on a single camera, and displays 33 rooms with a cast of over 2,000 actors and three orchestras. "If cinema is sometimes dreamlike, then every edit is an awakening. 'Russian Ark' spins a daydream made of centuries," said Roger Ebert. A panel discussion will follow. (2002, unrated, 95 minutes)

The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and a limited number of seats will be available. Free tickets can be picked up at the Ragtag box office starting at noon the day of the show. Limit of four free tickets per person.

A free streaming option to view the film and the panel discussion is available for those who want to watch it at home. Check the Ragtag website, www.ragtagcinema.org for more information.

Co-sponsored by Ragtag Cinema and the Museum of Art and Archaeology.



One Read Panel Discussion

Tuesday, September 15 • 7-8 p.m.
Live event via Zoom

Join us for this annual event as David Lile of KFRU moderates a panel of local experts, each discussing the novel "A Gentleman in Moscow" from their perspective. Dr. Chris Lawrence, a licensed clinical psychologist, will talk about her work on psychological trauma and its relationship to isolation and confinement. Dr. Martha Kelly, associate professor of Russian studies, will share her knowledge and research on Russia. Mataka Askari, a certified peer specialist, will discuss his experience being incarcerated and his life after his release. Columbia City Council member Mike Trapp will talk about his work with the CoMo Crisis Shelter, an initiative to provide shelter and health monitoring to those experiencing homelessness in our community during the Covid-19 pandemic. Please register to get a link for this event.

Museum of Art & Archaeology Virtual Tour

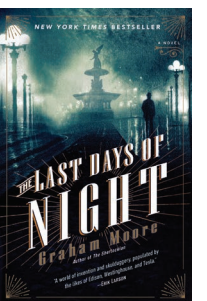
Sunday, September 20 • 2-3 p.m.
Live event via Zoom

Join Museum of Art and Archaeology docent Valerie Hammons for a virtual tour of artwork in the museum that complements this year's *One Read* program. This tour will highlight works of art from Russia as well as works that reflect Count Rostov's experience in the Metropol Hotel. Please register to get a link for this event.

Runner-up Book Discussion with Matt Dube

Thursday, October 1 • Noon-1 p.m.
Live event via Zoom

Join Dr. Matt Dube, professor of English and director of online education at William Woods University to discuss "The Last Days of Night" by Graham Moore, the *One Read* runner-up book. In this historical legal thriller set in the 1890s, rivals Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse, both racing to be the one to electrify America, are locked in the so-called "War of the Currents." Please register to get a link for this event.



Flash Fiction Writing Contest: Nostalgia

Author Amor Towles tells the tale of a man who lives isolated from the outside world after being sentenced to house arrest. He watches the world pass him by and reminisces about his past.

Taking inspiration from "A Gentleman in Moscow," we invite you to tell a nostalgic tale in 250 words or less. Your story can be about anything and anyone, but make sure it evokes longing, explores a memory or reflects on better days past. The tone can be bittersweet, celebratory or anywhere in between. Winning entries and honorable mentions will be published online and in the Columbia Missourian, and the winners will receive bookstore gift cards.

Submit entries September 1-25 at www.oneread.org or at any library or bookmobile. Participants must be age 16 or older and residents of Boone or Callaway Counties. See full rules and enter at www.oneread.org or at any library or bookmobile.

Confinement: A Virtual *One Read* Art Exhibit

September 1-26 at www.orrstreetstudios.com

Mid-Missouri artists ages 16 and older were invited to contribute works that explore the experiences of isolation and confinement. The exhibit will be displayed online. Cash prizes will be awarded for three winners, courtesy of Columbia's Office of Cultural Affairs along with a one-year membership to the Columbia Art League for the first place winner.



One Read Task Force

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs

Columbia Art League

Columbia College

Columbia Daily Tribune

Columbia Missourian

Ellis Library

Fulton Sun

KBIA-FM

KFRU-FM

KOPN-FM

Museum of Art & Archaeology

Orr Street Studios

Ragtag Cinema

Skylark Bookshop

Stephens College

Well Read Books

Westminster College

William Woods University



Daniel Boone Regional Library

(573) 443-3161 or (800) 324-4806

www.dbrl.org

Callaway County Public Library

Columbia Public Library

Holts Summit Public Library

Southern Boone County Public Library

www.oneread.org