

Long Novel Weekend 2018

July-August, 2018 – dates to be determined

We will discuss

East of Eden

By John Steinbeck

About the Book:

A masterpiece of Biblical scope, and the magnum opus of one of America's most enduring authors

In his journal, Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck called *East of Eden* "the first book," and indeed it has the primordial power and simplicity of myth. Set in the rich farmland of California's Salinas Valley, this sprawling and often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families—the Trasks and the Hamiltons—whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.

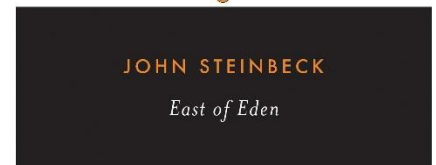
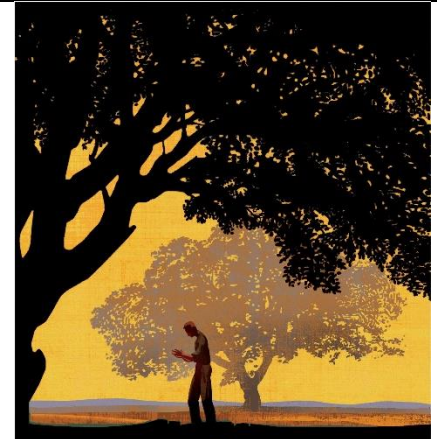
The masterpiece of Steinbeck's later years, *East of Eden* is a work in which Steinbeck created his most mesmerizing characters and explored his most enduring themes: the mystery of identity, the inexplicability of love, and the murderous consequences of love's absence. Adapted for the 1955 film directed by Elia Kazan introducing James Dean and read by thousands as the book that brought Oprah's Book Club back, *East of Eden* has remained vitally present in American culture for over half a century.

About the Author:



everyman protagonists.

John Ernst Steinbeck, Jr., (1902 – 1968) was an American author who won the 1962 Nobel Prize in Literature "for his realistic and imaginative writings, combining as they do sympathetic humor and keen social perception." He has been called "a giant of American letters," and many of his works are considered classics of Western literature. Most of Steinbeck's work is set in central California, particularly in the Salinas Valley and the California Coast Ranges region. His works frequently explored the themes of fate and injustice, especially as applied to downtrodden or



We will use the Penguin Twentieth Century Classics paperback edition with an Introduction by David Wyatt, published October 1, 1992.

ISBN-10: 0140186395
ISBN-13: 978-0140186390

Please purchase only this edition from your bookseller.
(The book is available in new and used versions on Amazon.com.)

Steinbeck himself said of the book,
"It has everything in it I have been able to learn about my craft or profession in all these years. I think everything else I have written has been, in a sense, practice for this."

For further information: Contact Event Coordinator Caroline Van Howe at carolinevanhowe@comcast.net or 415.453.1014. *Dates, venue and registration information will be announced in December, 2017.*