

CFA 2020 KICKOFF EVENT
2020 Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award
for Excellence in American History

Presented to:

Jill Lepore

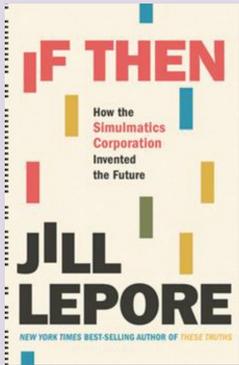
Friday, October 16, 7PM

LIVE online presentation
with Q&A

Sponsored by the Friends of
the Concord Free Public Library



The Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award for
Excellence in American History was established
in 1998, and is sponsored by her four children to
honor the life of their mother, Ruth Ratner Miller,
civic leader, businesswoman, and philanthropist.



Jill Lepore is the David Woods
Kemper '41 Professor of
American History at Harvard
University and is also a staff
writer at *The New Yorker*. A two-
time Pulitzer Prize finalist, her
many books include the interna-
tional bestseller *These Truths*,
and *This America*. Her latest book
is *IF THEN: How the Simulmatics
Corporation Invented the Future*.



ConcordFestivalofAuthors.org

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:

A Mighty Blaze
Be Well Be Here
CFPL Corporation
Concord Free Public Library
The Concord Bookshop
Concord Museum
Debra's Natural Gourmet
Friends of the CFPL
Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House
The Robbins House
Thoreau Farm
Thoreau Society
Transcendentalism Council
Turning Life On
The Umbrella Arts Center
The Walden Woods Project



CFA 2020
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Jennifer Haigh
Friday, October 23, 7PM

Why Stories Still Matter

In a time of national crisis — political, medical,
financial, environmental and moral — storytelling is
more important than ever. Novelist **Jennifer Haigh**
talks about what literature has to teach us, and why
it is urgently necessary in these troubled times.

Jennifer Haigh is a novelist and short story writer.
Her sixth book, *Heat and Light* was named a Best
Book by *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*,
The Washington Post, and NPR. She has won the
PEN/Hemingway Award, the Massachusetts Book
Award and the PEN New England Award in fiction.
She has been awarded fellowships by the National
Endowment for the Arts, the James Michener Foun-
dation and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation.

Introduced by

Helen Elaine Lee, author
of novels *The Serpent's Gift*
and *Water Marked*, and
Professor of Comparative
Media Studies/Writing at
MIT and Director of MIT's
Program in Women's &
Gender Studies.



THE CFA 2020 PLANNING TEAM INVITES YOU TO JOIN US ONLINE OCTOBER 16–31, 2020



Be Well Be Here



Louisa May Alcott's
ORCHARD HOUSE

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT



Calendar of Events October 2020

Now in its 28th year, the Concord Festival of Authors goes **LIVE online** to celebrate the written and spoken word with a global audience. To register for events, please visit ConcordFestivalofAuthors.org

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7PM

KICKOFF EVENT: 2020 Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award for Excellence in American History

presented to:

Dr. Jill Lepore

Presented by the Friends of the CFPL

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2PM

A History of Slavery in New England

Jared Ross Hardesty
Presented by the Transcendentalism Council of First Parish Church

8PM

Unboxed A New Play by Libby Schap
Presented by The Umbrella Arts Center @ Home

18

2PM

Goodbye, Ice: Arctic Poems

Presented by the Thoreau Society and The Write Connection at Thoreau Farm

5PM

Anti-Racism and Reconstruction, Then and Now

Presented by The Robbins House

7:30PM

Writing Workshop for Democracy

Presented by Be Well Be Here

19

7PM

Applying History to Present Challenges

Lizabeth Cohen
Presented by the Concord Museum

20

5PM

The Boy in the Field

Margot Livesey
Presented by The Concord Bookshop

7PM

Little Women from Page to Screen

Jan Turnquist
Presented by Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House

21

4PM

CFA Writing Workshop: Historical Fiction

Whitney Scharer
Presented by Be Well Be Here

7PM

Debra's Natural Gourmet: The Little Shop That Could

Presented by Debra's Natural Gourmet

7:30PM

The Power of Agency

Dr. Anthony Rao
Presented by Turning Life On

22

7PM

Leave It As It Is: A Journey Through Theodore Roosevelt's American Wilderness

David Gessner
Presented by The Walden Woods Project

23

7PM

KEYNOTE EVENT: Why Stories Still Matter

Jennifer Haigh

Introduced by author Helen Elaine Lee
Presented by the Friends of the CFPL

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9AM

Breakfast with the Authors

Adrienne Brodeur, Caroline Leavitt, Marjan Kamali

4PM

Young Adult Writers

Susan Kaplan Carlton, Jennifer De Leon, Marcella Pixley

7PM

Children's Authors

Rajani LaRocca, Susan Tan
Presented by the CFPL Friends

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3PM

Language for a New Century: Contemporary Poetry from the Middle East, Asia and Beyond

Presented by the Friends of the CFPL

7PM

Civil War Legacies

John Matteson
Presented by Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House

26

5PM

Writing about Coronavirus

Dr. Robin Schoenthaler
Presented by the Friends of the CFPL

7PM

Debut Authors

Rachel Barenbaum
Presented by A Mighty Blaze and the Friends of the CFPL

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7PM

JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century, 1917-1956

Fred Logevall
Presented by the Concord Museum

28

4PM

CFA Writing Workshop: Short Story

Ron Maclean
Presented by Be Well Be Here

7PM

20th Annual Mass Book Award

Presented by the Concord Free Public Library and the Massachusetts Center for the Book

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7PM

What Makes a Good Writing Group? The Chunky Monkeys Share Tips

Christopher Castellani, Chip Cheek, Celeste Ng, Whitney Scharer, Grace Talusan and others
Presented by the Friends of the CFPL

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7PM

LGBTQ Memoir Authors

Alex Marzano-Lesnevich, Michelle Bowdler
Presented by the Friends of the CFPL

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7PM

MYSTERY NIGHT Casting Call: How We Find Our Characters

Emcee Kate Flora
Presented by the Friends of the CFPL