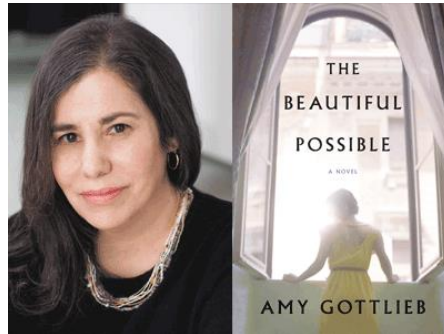


ICCJ BOOK CAFÉ
JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL BOOK CAFÉ OF THE SEASON
SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018
WHEN WE WILL DISCUSS
"THE BEAUTIFUL POSSIBLE" BY AMY GOTTLIEB



The Book

Spanning seventy years and several continents—from a refugee’s shattered dreams in 1938 Berlin, to a discontented American couple in the 1950s, to a young woman’s life in modern-day Jerusalem— this novel tells the braided love story of three unforgettable characters. In 1946, Walter Westhaus, a German Jew who spent the war years at Tagore’s ashram in India, arrives at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, where he meets Sol Kerem, a promising rabbinical student. A brilliant nonbeliever, Walter is the perfect foil for Sol’s spiritual questions—and their extraordinary connection is too wonderful not to share with Sol’s free-spirited fiancée Rosalie. Soon Walter and Rosalie are exchanging notes, sketches, and secrets, and begin a transcendent love affair in his attic room. Months later they shatter their impossible bond, retreating to opposite sides of the country—Walter to pursue an academic career in Berkeley and Rosalie and Sol to lead a congregation in suburban New York. A chance meeting years later reconnects Walter, Sol, and Rosalie—catching three hearts and minds in a complex web of desire, heartbreak, and redemption. *The Beautiful Possible* considers the hidden boundaries of marriage and faith, and the mysterious ways we negotiate our desires.

The Author

Amy Gottlieb’s debut novel, *The Beautiful Possible*, was a runner-up for the 2016 Edward Lewis Wallant Award and a 2016 National Jewish Book Award Finalist. Her fiction and poetry have been published in *Other Voices*, *Lilith*, *Puerto del Sol*, *Zeek*, *Storyscape*, *The Bloomsbury Anthology of Contemporary Jewish American Poetry*, and elsewhere. She has received a Literary Fellowship and Residency from the Bronx Council on the Arts, and an Arts Fellowship from the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education. Amy is a graduate of Clark University and the University of Chicago. She lives with her family on the edge of the Hudson River in New York City.

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