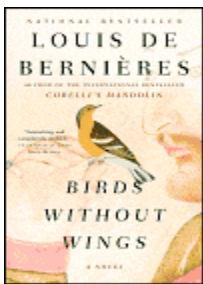
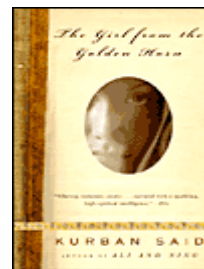




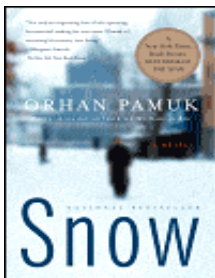
The **ATS Book Club** is a new program of the American Turkish Society that will provide members with recommendations, resources, and lively discussions in order to promote a greater understanding of Turkey through books. We will be reading critically acclaimed fiction and non-fiction that offer insights into Turkey's history, current affairs, people, culture, and relations with the world. The recommendations below represent a wide variety of books – set during the Ottoman times and in modern Turkey; contemporary works and those from as early as the 30s; written by Turkish and non-Turkish authors; touching on women's issues, urban and rural life, religion, and much more. We will discuss these books with assistance from moderators such as book critics, academics, and, when possible, authors. At each meeting of the Club, members will together decide on the next selection. Please enjoy the books and feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions.



**Birds Without Wings**  
**Louis de Bernieres**  
*Discussed on September 7, 2006*  
The author of *Corelli's Mandolin* offers an epic chronicle of the making of modern Turkey. The novel traces the fortunes of a small community in southwest Turkey, where Christian and Muslim lives and traditions co-existed peacefully over the centuries.



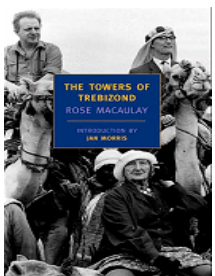
**Girl from the Golden Horn**  
**Kurban Said**  
The author of *Ali and Nino* tells the tale of a love between the young daughter of a Turkish pasha exiled in Berlin post WWI and an Austrian doctor. The intriguing life of the author was recently chronicled in the bestselling *The Orientalist*.



**Snow**  
**Orhan Pamuk**  
*Discussed on January 11, 2007*  
The prominent contemporary Turkish author examines the clash between East and West in modern Turkey. Ka, an exiled poet, travels to a small Turkish town near the Armenian border to investigate a wave of suicides and search out a past love.



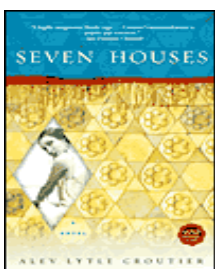
**The Flea Palace**  
**Elif Shafak**  
An offbeat novel with a *Thousand and One Arabian Nights* story-within-a-story structure, it is set in a stately residence in Istanbul—now dilapidated, flea-infested and home to ten families – and features an eccentric cast of characters.



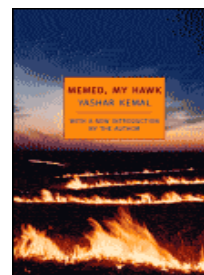
**The Towers of Trebizond**  
**Rose Macaulay**  
First published in 1956, the novel is the witty account of an eccentric party of British travelers who set off for the legendary Trebizond to establish a mission. It includes much information on the region and its ancient history.



**My Name is Red**  
**Orhan Pamuk**  
In 16th-century Istanbul, famous artist Enishte Effendi is commissioned to illustrate a book celebrating the sultan. His sudden death prompts various narrators to testify about the murder. The novel combines a murder mystery, artistic debate and a love story.



**Seven Houses**  
**Alev Lytle Croutier**  
The novel chronicles the lives of four generations of women, from the last days of the Ottoman Empire to Turkey's transformation into a republic and the present day. The saga of the silkmaking family is told through their houses.



**Memed, My Hawk**  
**Yashar Kemal**  
The deceptively simple tale of a rebellious boy in the Taurus mountains of Southern Turkey in the 1930's by a master storyteller – and one of Turkey's best known contemporary writers. Kemal dramatizes the struggle of the villagers against the tyranny of local landowners.



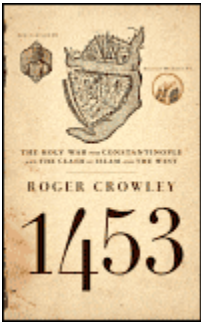
*Discussed on November 9, 2006*  
Set in the final years of the Ottoman Empire, in a society undergoing massive change, this novel is loosely inspired by the life of the great Turkish writer and early feminist Halide Edib Adivar.



*of Istanbul* is a bold, powerful tale that will confirm Shafak as a rising star of international fiction.

**Seraglio  
Janet Wallach**

At the age of thirteen, when en route from school in France to her home in Martinique, Aimee du Buc is kidnapped by Algerian pirates. She is soon placed in service in the Seraglio, the Ottoman sultan's private world - in Topkapi Palace. She is then awarded control of the harem as the valide, mother of the sultan.

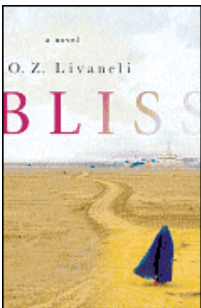


**1453  
Roger Crowley**  
1453 is brought to life by the stories of its two ambitious battling leaders-Mehmed II, sultan of the Ottoman Empire, and Constantine XI, the 57th emperor of Byzantium. The book explores the issues that led up to and resulted from the fall of Constantinople.

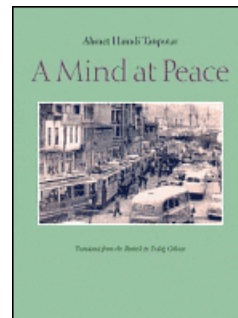


**Other Side of the Mountain  
Erendiz Atasu**

A remarkable and important novel, a powerful evocation not only of Turkish history through the twentieth century, but also of world history and of the interweaving of nationalism and ideology.



**Bliss  
O.Z. Livaneli**  
Meryem, a fifteen-year-old girl, lives in a rural village on the shores of Lake Van in Eastern Turkey. Her simple life changes dramatically after her uncle, a sheikh in a dervish order, rapes her. Already an international bestseller, this lyrical and moving tale juxtaposes the traditional and modern and draws attention to human rights violations against women in the Middle East.



**A Mind at Peace  
Ahmet Hamdi Tanpinar**

Set on the eve of World War II, *Peace of Mind* captures the anxieties of a Turkish family facing the difficult reality entrenched in the early Republic, founded on the ashes of the Ottoman Empire in 1923. Poetically drawing on the effects of cultural upheaval on the individual, Tanpinar illuminates the precarious balance between tradition and modernity, East and West. *Translation supported by The American Turkish Society.*



**Istanbul  
Orhan Pamuk**  
In this engaging travel narrative, the Dublin Literary Award-winning novelist returns to his teeming home city, reflecting on its unique role as a gateway to both the East and the West. Pamuk mixes urban and personal history, sociology and legend to render an Istanbul that meaning, conflict, and cultural contradictions. A portrait of one of the world's great cities by its foremost literary resident.

**The Bastard of Istanbul  
Elif Shafak**

Elif Shafak confronts her country's violent past in a vivid and colorful tale set in both

