

***The Great War in Prose and Poetry***  
**A SPRING RETREAT SPONSORED BY**  
**THE NEW ENGLAND GREAT BOOKS COUNCIL**

**WISDOM HOUSE, LITCHFIELD, CT**

**APRIL 5-7, 2019**

Please join us for our fourth annual Spring Retreat at Wisdom House. We are exploring an important but often neglected topic, "The Great War in Prose and Poetry," and will be discussing some of the most powerful antiwar literature in modern English poetry, memoir, and fiction:

***Selected Poems*** by Poets of the Great War, including Siegfried Sassoon, Wilfred Owen, Robert Graves, Isaac Rosenberg

***Testament of Youth*** by Vera Brittain, the elegiac memoir that defined a generation and that speaks to anyone whose life has been changed by war.

***Regeneration*** by Pat Barker, a war saga in which no guns are fired: the battle is for a man's mind, and the reader must decide who is the victim, the victor, or the vanquished. The novel explores the effect of the war on identity, masculinity, and social structure.

***Birdsong*** by Sebastian Faulks, a war novel and family saga that focuses on how the experience of trauma shapes individual psyches. It also addresses metahistorical questions of how we recover and document narratives of the past.

**Wisdom House** is an interfaith retreat and conference center on 70 quiet country acres in the foothills of the Berkshires in Northwest Connecticut. The quiet, comfortable bedrooms are **dormitory-style with shared bathrooms** and are accessible by elevator. Delicious healthy meals are prepared by Chef Margaret Jacobs, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your dietary requests, and refrigerators are available for any food items your special diet requires. The Wisdom House does not serve alcoholic beverages, so it's **strictly BYOB**. Please explore their website for details on the venue: [www.wisdomhouse.org](http://www.wisdomhouse.org)

The **cost per person** for the Spring Retreat is **\$390.00 single occupancy, \$350.00 double**, and includes 2 nights' accommodations, 6 meals, books and group discussions, hospitality, a light-hearted competition, and our simple festivities. Commuter rates are available for those who would rather stay at a local inn or B&B. **Cancellation policy:** Your refund request will be honored, less a \$60.00 charge for books and mailing, if postmarked by February 25, 2019. Please return the form below and your **check payable to New England Great Books Council** to:

**Alexis DesRoches, 112 Willow Springs Drive, Apt. 104, Farmington, ME 04938**

**FMI:** Alexis DesRoches, 207-779-8979 or [newenglandgreatbooks@gmail.com](mailto:newenglandgreatbooks@gmail.com)  
Roberta Tansman, 203-621-4417 or [rtansman@gmail.com](mailto:rtansman@gmail.com)

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Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Single Room: \_\_\_\_\_ Double Room: \_\_\_\_\_ Rooming with: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Request (if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPOSIT ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$240.00 per person/Single Occupancy for \_\_\_\_ person(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$200.00 per person/Double Occupancy for \_\_\_\_ person(s)

**Make check payable to New England Great Books Council and mail with this form to the address above. You may pay your balance due of \$150.00 per person at arrival by CASH OR CHECK ONLY. If you need special arrangements, want to find a ride or a roommate, need early arrival/late departure, please call or email Alexis prior to registering. Thank you.**