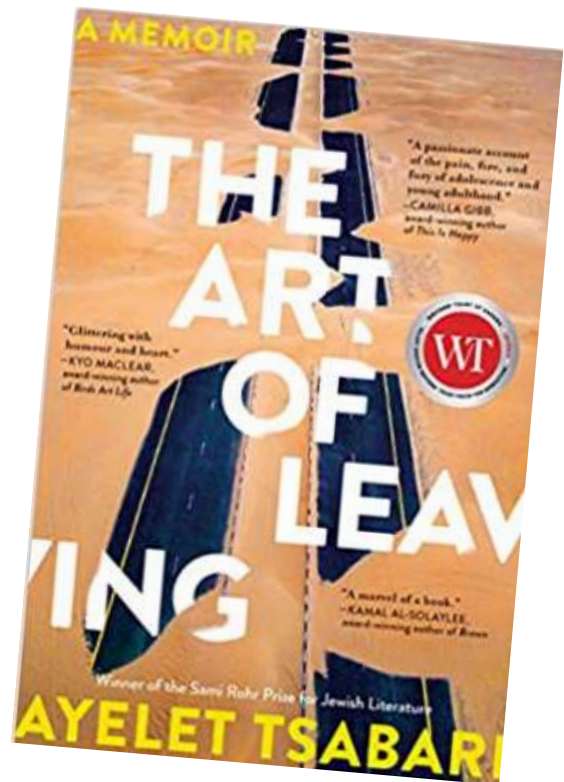


**Parkdale United Church
Zoom Book Club**

**Saturday, March 11th, 2023
at 10:00 am**

The Art of Leaving

by Ayelet Tsabari



From Amazon:

"Ayelet Tsabari was 21 years old the first time she left Tel Aviv with no plans to return. Restless after two turbulent mandatory years in the Israel Defense Forces, Tsabari longed to get away. It was not the never-ending conflict that drove her, but the grief that had shaken the foundations of her home. The loss of Tsabari's beloved father in years past had left her alienated and exiled within her own large Yemeni family and at odds with her Mizrahi identity. By leaving, she would be free to reinvent herself and to rewrite her own story.

For nearly a decade, Tsabari travelled, through India, Europe, the US and Canada, as though her life might go stagnant without perpetual motion. She moved fast and often because—as in the Intifada—it was safer to keep going than to stand still. Soon the act of leaving—jobs, friends and relationships—came to feel most like home.

But a series of dramatic events forced Tsabari to examine her choices and her feelings of longing and displacement. By periodically returning to Israel, Tsabari began to examine her Jewish-Yemeni background and the Mizrahi identity she had once rejected, as well as unearthing a family history that had been untold for years. What she found resonated deeply with her own immigrant experience and struggles with new motherhood.

Beautifully written, frank and poignant, *The Art of Leaving* is a courageous coming-of-age story that reflects on identity and belonging and that explores themes of family and home—both inherited and chosen."

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82432011683?pwd=SEgwSFFIOTRZODVtSmVuYW1vOXNwdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 3201 1683

Passcode: 284356

If you're not able to join the meeting, you are welcome to send your comments about *The Art of Leaving* to bethbalshaw@shaw.ca or sloanelm@shaw.ca before March 11th so they can be shared with the group and included in our next Book Club Newsletter.

If you think of themes from the book that you would like to discuss at our meeting, you're welcome to pass those on to Lynn or Beth ahead of time.