



**Parkdale United
Zoom Book Club
Saturday, June 13th
at 10:00 am**

The Bookbinder

by Pip Williams

From Goodreads:

“It is 1914, and as the war draws the young men of Britain away to fight, women must keep the nation running. Two of those women are Peggy and Maude, twin sisters who live on a narrow boat in Oxford and work in the bindery at the university press.

Ambitious, intelligent Peggy has been told for most of her life that her job is to bind the books, not read them—but as she folds and gathers pages, her mind wanders to the opposite side of Walton Street, where the female students of Oxford’s Somerville College have a whole library at their fingertips. Maude, meanwhile, wants nothing more than what she has: to spend her days folding the pages of books in the company of the other bindery girls. She is extraordinary but vulnerable, and Peggy feels compelled to watch over her.

Then refugees arrive from the war-torn cities of Belgium, sending ripples through the Oxford community and the sisters’ lives. Peggy begins to see the possibility of another future where she can educate herself and use her intellect, not just her hands. But as war and illness reshape her world, her love for a Belgian soldier — and the responsibility that comes with it — threaten to hold her back.

The Bookbinder is a story about knowledge — who creates it, who can access it, and what truths get lost in the process. Much as she did in the international bestseller *The Dictionary of Lost Words*, Pip Williams thoughtfully explores another rarely seen slice of history through women’s eyes.”

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 Bookbinder* to sloanelm@shaw.ca or bethbalshaw@shaw.ca before June 13th so they can be shared with the group and included in our next Book Club Newsletter.