

Updike Short Stories Discussion Group
Wednesday 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Syllabus

Week 1: March 31

Two Girls

“A & P”

<https://www.currituck.k12.nc.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=6236&dataid=11410&FileName=AandP%20John%20Updike.pdf>

“The Walk with Elizanne” p. 728-740

Week 2: April 7

Families

“Brother Grasshopper” p. 336-350

“Grandparenting” (PFD will be supplied)

Week 3: April 14

Faith and Doubt

“Pigeon Feathers”

http://www.berean9-10english.com/uploads/7/3/3/1/7331350/pigeon_feathers_text.pdf

“Varieties of Religious Experience” p. 753-776

Week 4: April 21

Trust

“Trust Me” p. 82-89

“The Happiest I’ve Been” (PFD will be supplied)

“Farrell’s Caddy” p. 478-485 (Just for fun)

Week 5: April 28

Two Women

“New York Girl” p. 611- 623

(For a reading of the story by Tessa Hadley, go to:

<https://www.newyorker.com/podcast/fiction/tessa-hadley-reads-john-updike>)

“The Bulgarian Poetess” (PFD will be supplied)

Week 6: May 5

Deaths in the Family

“A Sandstone Farmhouse” p. 420-446

“My Father’s Tears” p. 838-851

Week 7: May 12

Memory/ Intimations of Mortality

“The Other Side of the Street” p. 447-456

“The Journey of the Dead” p. 354-370

Week 8: May 19

The Afterlife

“The City” p. 129-143

“The Afterlife” p.303-316