# Agnes Scott



# You are cordially invited

to participate in the third annual

Scottie Book Month Celebration scheduled during

October in more than 50 locations nationwide

Please join our first-year students in the common reading of

How to Breathe Underwater

by Julie Orringer

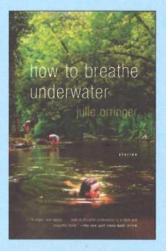


Locations and dates are listed inside the brochure.

R.S.V.P. by contacting the Office of Alumnae Relations at alumnae@agnesscott.edu or 404 471-6323. If sending an e-mail or leaving a message, be sure to indicate which location you are planning to attend.



# Join in the Scottie Book Month Celebration in October!



Back by popular demand, we are inviting alumnae and friends all over the country to share in the experience of the first-year students' common reading. Over the summer, all incoming first-year students read a book selected by the college and during the fall they gather with faculty and staff leaders to discuss it in depth. This year's book is *How to Breathe Underwater*, an awardwinning collection of nine short stories by Julie Orringer.

Scottie Book Month will be celebrated in October with alumnae opening their homes for conversation, refreshments and a lively book discussion facilitated by a special DVD presentation with Amber Dermont, associate

professor of English. We invite you to gather with fellow alumnae in your city, continue your own learning and actively participate in the life of the college by joining us for Scottie Book Month. Even if you do not find the time to read the book, you may enjoy discussing the book and spending time with a group of Agnes Scott women.

Book discussion locations are listed alphabetically by state and then city. If your city is near the border of another state, be sure to check the other state's listing too. There may be an event closer than you think!

Each event has its own R.S.V.P. deadline but the instructions are all the same. Contact the Office of Alumnae Relations at alumnae@agnesscott.edu or 800 868-8602 ext. 6323. If sending an e-mail or leaving a message, be sure to indicate the location of the event you are planning to attend.

# How to Breathe Underwater by Julie Orringer

What happens when a young girl accompanies her dying mother to Disneyland to meet an old flame? What happens when a teenage girl lives a life of hidden talent, mutely existing among mean girls, then gets to dance with the first boy she ever loved? What happens when a drug addict is asked to babysit her niece? How to Breathe Underwater is a collection of nine short stories about girls and women coming of age and coming to terms, swimming in the turbulent waters of life and learning, of necessity and with surprising grace, how to breathe underwater.

As novelist Monica Ali has written, "How to Breathe Underwater is unbelievably good: the humiliations and cruelties and passions of childhood, sparkling fresh prose, a writer with a big heart and an acute sense of the small things that loom large in our lives."

Student, staff and faculty members of the Common Reading Book Committee chose *How to Breathe Underwater* because it represents the kind of challenging, thought-provoking book we look for in our Common Reading program, which introduces incoming students to the richness, variety and excitement of a liberal arts education.

# **Tips to Enhance Your Reading Experience**

Amber Dermont, associate professor of English, advises her students to read each short story in one sitting in order to have a sustained experience and to feel the full impact of the story. We also recommend that alumnae refer to the college's LibGuide at http://libguides.agnesscott.edu/ CommonRead2011 for links to print and video interviews with the author. We especially enjoyed the video where Orringer described the impact of Flannery O'Connor's work on her short stories.



### Alabama

### Birmingham

Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. Home of Tippi Powell Lassiter '54 1300 27th Place South, Apartment 23, Birmingham R.S.V.P by Tuesday, Oct. 4.

### Huntsville

Thursday, Oct. 20, at 6 p.m. Home of Susan Holliday '06 1801 Randolph Avenue SE, Huntsville R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 13.

### Mobile Area/Daphne

Thursday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m. Home of Mary Jane Pickens Skinner '60 688 Deer Avenue, Daphne R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 20.

### Arizona

### Phoenix

Sunday, Oct. 16, at 3 p.m. Home of Jennifer Parker '97 3439 East Lazy Lane, Phoenix R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Tucson Area/Sahuarita

Saturday, Oct. 15, at 3 p.m. Home of Rebecca Rogers Hoy '04 553 West Camino Curvitas, Sahuarita R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### California

### Bay Area/Oakland

Sunday, Oct. 16, at 2 p.m. Home of Claire Hodges Burdett '72 6183 Acacia Avenue, Oakland R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Los Angeles Area/Studio City

Sunday, Oct. 23, at 2 p.m. Home of Mary Gay Bankston '74 3155 Dona Conchita Place, Studio City R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

### Colorado

### Denver

Thursday, Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. Home of Molly McCray-Finke '89 444 Fairfax Street, Denver R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Sept. 29.

### Connecticut

Greenwich Area/Cos Cob Thursday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. Home of Rebecca Bradley Fretty '89 107 Cognewaugh Road, Cos Cob R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 13.

### **Delaware**

Wilmington Area/Greenville Saturday, Oct. 1, at 10 a.m. Home of Betty Shannon Duncan '72 607 Edgehill Road, Greenville R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 26.

### Florida

### Gainesville

Sunday, Oct. 9, at 2 p.m. Home of Ann Lindell '85 6305 NW 37th Drive, Gainesville R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 3.

### **Tacksonville**

Saturday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. Home of Deedie Merrin Simmons '47 8133 Fort Caroline Road, Jacksonville R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

### Lakeland

Monday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. Home of Rebecca Baum Knowles '02 6110 Sunset Vista Drive, Lakeland R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 26.

### Orlando

Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. Home of Mary Ann Gregory Dean '63 1907 Lakeside Drive, Orlando R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 18.

### Pensacola Area/Pace

Thursday, Sept. 29, at 6:30 p.m. Home of Lynne Oswald '78 5184 Rowe Trail, Pace R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Sept. 22.

### Georgia

### Albany

Sunday, Oct. 16, at 3 p.m. Home of Jere Keenan Brands '65 2208 Trowbridge Road, Albany Co-hosted by Juby Fountain Phillips '81 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Athens

Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m. Home of Liza Lucht '06 188 Williams Street, Unit 15, Athens R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, Oct. 12.

### Atlanta

Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. Hosted by the Atlanta Chapter with special guest Amber Dermont, associate professor of English The Cathedral of St. Philip 2744 Peachtree Road NW, Atlanta R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Sept. 27.

### Decatur

Thursday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m. Hosted by Gué Pardue Hudson '68 with special guest Amber Dermont, associate professor of English Agnes Scott College, Anna I. Young Alumnae House R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 20.

### Gainesville

Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 10:30 a.m. Home of Anne Dewitt George '53 4211 Misty Morning Way, Apartment 2419, Gainesville R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, Sept. 28.

### Macon

Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Home of Ann Herman Dunwody '52 4992 Guerry Drive, Macon R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Sept. 27.

### Newnan

Saturday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. Home of Crystal Purser Manis '09 14 Jefferson Pkwy, Apartment J, Newnan R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

North Georgia Area/Tiger Saturday, Oct. 15, at 11 a.m. Home of Becky Evans Callahan '60 146 Rainbow Village Lane, Tiger R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Savannah

Saturday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. Home of Jennie Albritton Rimes '97 2703 River Drive, Savannah Co-hosted by Sarah Hendrix Chumley '98 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

## St. Simons Island

Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 5 p.m. Home of Susan Johnson Marett '67 183 Merion, St. Simons Island R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Sept. 20.

### Tifton

Saturday, Oct. 8, at 10 a.m. Home of Helen Smith Rogers '59 604 West 12th Street, Tifton R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 3.

### Hawaii

Honolulu Area/Waimānalo Saturday, Oct. 1, at 10 a.m. Home of Barb Symroski Mayer '66 41-1019 Nenue Street, Waimānalo Co-hosted by Sandy Prescott Laney '65 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 26.

### Illinois

Chicago Area/River Forest Saturday, Oct. 22, at 10 a.m. Home of Garnett Foster '64 410 Ashland Avenue, Unit 3B, River Forest R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

### Kansas

(See also Missouri)

### **Kentucky**

### Lexington

Thursday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. Home of Debbie Miles '93 Joseph-Beth Booksellers & Café, 161 Lexington Green Circle #B, Lexington R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 6.

(See also Ohio)

### Louisiana

### New Orleans

Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 6:30 p.m. Home of Merisa Aranas Pasternak '95 3042 Ursulines Avenue, New Orleans R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 4.

### Massachusetts

Boston Area/Jamaica Plain Sunday, Oct. 16, at 3 p.m. Home of Becky Smith Jandhyala '00 103 Day Street, First Floor, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130\* Co-hosted by Charla Bland Whitley '94 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Maryland

Baltimore Area/Ellicott City Saturday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. Home of Valerie Case Bayham '98 10367 Boca Raton Drive, Ellicott City R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

(See also Virginia)

### Michigan

### Ann Arbor

Saturday, Oct. 15, at 1 p.m. Home of Stacy Swennes '00 1362 East Greenfield Court, Ann Arbor R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Minnesota

### Minneapolis

Saturday, Oct. 8, at 2 p.m. Home of Kathy McKee '87 4236 42nd Avenue South, Minneapolis R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 3.

### Missouri

### Kansas City Sunday, Oct. 2, at 2 p.m. Home of Katya Mason Woolard '99 4700 North College Avenue, Kansas City R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 26.

St. Louis Area/Glendale Sunday, Oct. 30, at 2 p.m. Home of Julia Doar Grubb '61 218 Elm Avenue, Glendale Co-hosted by Ann Roberts Divine '67 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 24.

### **North Carolina**

### Asheville

Sunday, Oct. 23, at 2 p.m. Hosted by Holly Demuth '95 The Wine Studio 169 Charlotte Street, Asheville R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

### Charlotte

Thursday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. Home of Sarah Petty Dagenhart '55 1601 Biltmore Drive, Charlotte R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 13.

### Greensboro

Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. Home of Marge Joyce Cromer '65 3109 Saint Regis Road, Greensboro Co-hosted by Sarah Campbell Arnett '81 & Laura Allen Vail '88 R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 4.

### Morganton

Saturday, Oct. 1 at 10 a.m. Home of Mary Ward Danielson '43 120-B Ridgeside Terrace, Morganton Co-hosted by Mary Ann McSwain Antley '61 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 26.

### Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill

Saturday, Oct. 1, at 10 a.m. Home of Bette Ota P '09 332 Oxfordshire Lane, Chapel Hill R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 29.

<sup>\*</sup>Be sure to include zip code in GPS directions.

### Wilmington

Thursday, Oct. 6, at 6:30 p.m. Home of Jerre Jones Garnett '60 21 Pipers Neck Road, Figure Eight Island, Wilmington R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Sept. 29.

(See also North Georgia)

### **New Jersey**

Newark Area/Westfield Saturday, Oct. 15, at 10:30 a.m. Home of Sallie Rowe Roberts '83 514 Fairmont Avenue, Westfield R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### **New York**

New York Area/Brooklyn Sunday, Oct. 30, at 2 p.m. Home of Jenny Wiese '05 96 Madison Street, Brooklyn R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 20.

### Ohio

### Cincinnati

Thursday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m. Home of Cathy Alexander DeFoor '93 3452 Aultwoods Lane, Cincinnati R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 20.

### Oklahoma

### Oklahoma City

Sunday, October 16, at 3 p.m. Home of Anne Luke Boozer '83 721 NW 14th Street, Oklahoma City R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Pennsylvania

### Philadelphia

Sunday, Oct. 23, at 3 p.m. Home of Jane Gilbertson McGuffin '63 2424 Naudain Street, Philadelphia Co-hosted by Sarah Chipps '03 R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

### Pittsburgh Area/Sewickley

Friday, Oct. 7, at 12 p.m. Home of Nell Tabor Hartley '63 230 Thorn Street, Sewickley R.S.V.P. by Friday, Sept. 30.

### South Carolina

### Charleston

Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. Home of Sandy Fowler '79 9 Simonton Mews, Charleston R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 11.

### Columbia

Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. Home of Keller Henderson Barron '53 3215 Sunbury Lane, Columbia R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Sept. 27.

### Greenville

Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. Home of Mary Lang Olson Edwards '66 400 Belmont Avenue, Greenville Co-hosted by Kacky Chambers Elliott '61 R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 11.

### Hilton Head

Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 4:30 p.m. Hosted by Belle Miller McMaster '53 16 Surf Scoter, Sea Pines Plantation, Hilton Head R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, Sept. 7.

### **Tennessee**

### Chattanooga

Monday, Oct. 10, at 7 p.m. Home of Ella Porter Ivey '93 627 Pine Brow Trail, Chattanooga R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 3.

### Memphis

Thursday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. Home of Mary-Knox Abernethy Lanier '63 1825 Galloway Avenue, Memphis R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 6.

### Nashville

Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. Home of Lancaster Reese '80 2107 32nd Avenue, Nashville R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 4.

Tri-Cities Area/Johnson City Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. Home of Shaunda Blackwell-Rugovac '99 9 Moccasin Court, Johnson City R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 11.

### Texas

# Austin Area/Round Rock

Sunday, Oct. 9, at 3 p.m. Home of Paula Barnes Holmes '73 2307 Woodway Drive, Round Rock R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 3.

### Dallas

Monday, Oct. 24, at 6 p.m. Home of Deborah Watters Adams '93 5606 Vickery Boulevard, Dallas R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 17.

### Fort Worth

Thursday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. Home of Mary Pensworth Reagor '67 6116 Bellaire Drive, Fort Worth R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 7.



# Houston Area/Sugar Land Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m.

Home of Kathy Hensler P '12 3906 Colony Woods Drive, Sugar Land R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, Sept. 28.

### San Antonio

Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m. Home of Nelda Keller Greer '65 150 Argyle Avenue, San Antonio R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Oct. 4.

### Virginia

Northern Virginia/Vienna Saturday, Oct. 15, at 2 p.m. Home of Lucia Rawls Schoelwer '81 1313 Tulip Poplar Lane, Vienna R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10.

### Richmond

Thursday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. Home of Ann Alvis Shibut '56 804 Derby Drive, Richmond R.S.V.P. by Thursday, Oct. 6.

(See also Maryland and Tennessee: Tri-Cities Area)

# Washington

# Seattle Area/Shoreline

Saturday, Oct. 1, at 2 p.m. Home of Annie Chanpong Kuo '99 19330 3rd Avenue NW, Shoreline R.S.V.P. by Monday, Sept. 26.

### Washington, D.C.

(See Maryland and Northern Virginia)

# About the Author

Julie Orringer is the author of *The Invisible Bridge*, a novel (Knopf, 2010), and *How to Breathe Underwater*, a short story collection (Knopf, 2003). Her stories have been published in *The Yale Review*, where they've twice been awarded the Editors' Prize for best story of the year; the *Paris Review*, which awarded her the Discovery Prize in 1998; *Ploughshares*, which selected her work for the Cohen Award for Best Fiction;



Zoetrope All-Story, which nominated her for a National Magazine Award; and by the Washington Post Magazine. She is the recipient of two Pushcart Prizes and her work has appeared in numerous anthologies, including The Granta Book of the American Short Story, The Best American Nonrequired Reading, and The Scribner Anthology of American Short Fiction.

She is a 1996 graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where she held a two-year Creative Writing Teaching Fellowship. She was a Stegner Fellow at Stanford from 1999 to 2001, and was Stanford's Marsh McCall Lecturer in Fiction from 2001 to 2003. Her short story collection, *How to Breathe Underwater*, won the Joseph Henry Jackson Award and the Northern California Book Award; it was a *San Francisco Chronicle* and *LA Times* Best Book of the Year and a *New York Times* Notable Book. Stories from the collection have been presented on NPR's "Selected Shorts" and BBC Radio 4, have been read at the Steppenwolf Theater's Stories on Stage, made into short films and adapted into full-length plays presented by Word for Word Theater Company in San Francisco. The book has been translated



into Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian and Italian. In 2006 it was selected for Stanford's Three Books series, which made it required reading for all Stanford first-year students.

Orringer received a 2004-05 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for *The Invisible Bridge*. She continued work on the novel with the assistance of fellowships from the MacDowell Colony in the summers of 2005 and 2006 and from the Corporation of Yaddo in the summer of 2007; in 2006 she won the Anne and Robert Cowan Writers' Award from the Jewish Community Foundation. Orringer has been the Distinguished Visiting Writer at St. Mary's College of California and California College of the Arts and was the Helen Herzog Zell Visiting Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Michigan. In 2008-09 she was the Rona Jaffe Foundation Fellow at the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library, and in the fall of 2009 she taught at Columbia University. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, the writer Ryan Harty, and she is at work on a novel about Varian Fry.



# Can't find a Scottie Book Month event near you?

If you are unable to attend a book discussion, we hope you will read the book and participate in our virtual discussion with the students. Alumnae are invited to visit the college's weblog on *How to Breath Underwater* titled "Talking, Reflecting, Blogging the Common Reading Experience" at http://ascreads.wordpress.com.



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Alumnae Weekend
April 20-21, 2012

