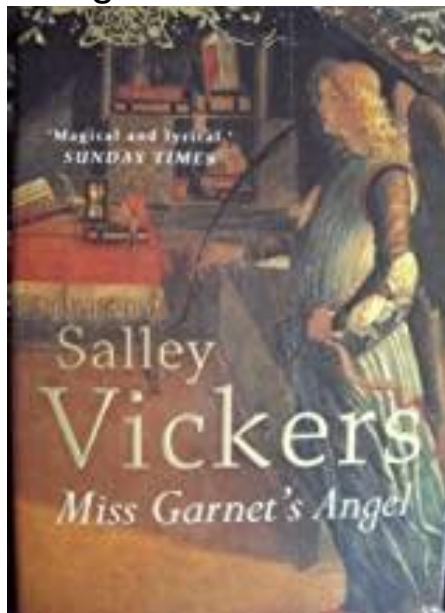


October found us reviewing “Miss Garnett’s Angel” by Salley Vickers. This was a firm favourite with everyone in the group and we agreed we will all be reading more of this author’s work.



The book tells the story of Julia Garnett, a retired teacher whose long term friend Harriet dies unexpectedly. Now without commitments, she discovers the confidence to travel to Venice and encounter the pitfalls of new relationships and the mystery surrounding the architecture of a very special city (with a very special Angel) and the spirituality contained in different ways of living.

The story runs parallel with a story of Tobit from the Apocrypha which added to the interest. It also depicts the beauty of the city perfectly, bringing back happy memories to those of us who have been lucky enough to visit in the past.

Julia blossoms both personally and spiritually and throughout her transformation runs the thread of her essential goodness and generosity of spirit. Her adventures and the well-drawn characters she encounters are beautifully written, holding the reader’s interest throughout. One of the phrases particularly noted by one of our group described Tobit’s description of his wife “he saw her but he didn’t see her” which perfectly summed

up the nature of their relationship and that a few of us could relate to! As the story unfolds and reaches its conclusion, it is clear that Julia cared more for her friend than she knew. In brief, an extraordinarily good read!