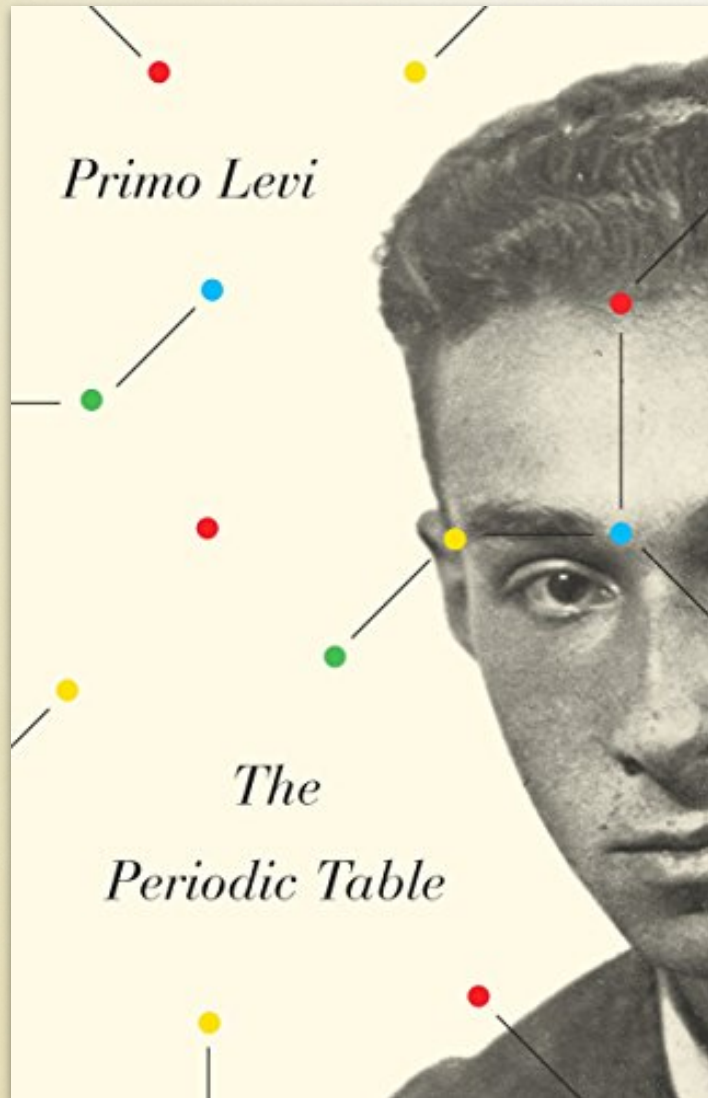


WHAT WE ARE READING



Author: Primo Levi

The Periodic Table (1975)

The Periodic Table is largely a memoir of the years before and after Primo Levi's transportation from his native Italy to Auschwitz as an anti-Facist partisan and a Jew.

An extraordinary work in which each of the 21 chapters takes its title and starting point from one of the elements in the periodic table. Mingling fact and fiction, history and anecdote, Levi uses his training as a chemist and his experiences as a prisoner in Auschwitz to illuminate the human condition.

The Periodic Table celebrates the pleasures of love and friendship and the search for meaning, and stands as a monument to those things in us that are capable of resisting and enduring in the face of tyranny.

"I immersed myself in *The Periodic Table* gladly and gratefully. There is nothing superfluous here, everything this book contains is essential. It is wonderful pure, and beautifully translated...I was deeply impressed." –Saul Bellow

"Brilliant, grave and oddly sunny; certainly a masterpiece." –*Los Angeles Times*

"One of the most important Italian writers." –Umberto Eco

"Every chapter is full of surprises, insights, high humor, and language that often rises to poetry." –*The New Yorker*