



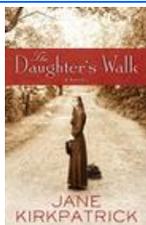
Sunriver Books & Music

May 2011

Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com

541-593-2525



A Daughter's Walk by Jane Kirkpatrick will be featured in a 3 day event. On Saturday May 14th at 5:00 PM Jane will give a presentation at Sunriver Books & Music. The Saturday author event is free, refreshments will be served and there will be a drawing for prizes. Jane gives great presentations and this is a fascinating bit of northwest history. Sunday May 15th at 11:30 AM Jane will lead a walk in Sunriver. Tickets are \$10 each with all of the proceeds going to Newberry Habitat for Humanity. Tickets can be purchased at Sunriver Books & Music or through Newberry Habitat for Humanity. A cruel economic reality is the difficulty many good hardworking people face in achieving the American Dream of a home. Newberry Habitat for Humanity is a way to help people here in Central Oregon achieve that dream. Jane Kirkpatrick's 3.1 mile walk will begin at Sunriver Books & Music, proceed to the Lodge, then across the meadow with a lovely view of Mt. Bachelor and return to Sunriver Books & Music.

On Monday May 16th Jane will lead a book club discussion. While Saturday's author presentation will give a great overview of **The Daughter's Walk** and background on Jane's writing, the book club discussion is a wonderful opportunity to discuss the book with Jane in an intimate setting.

Jane Kirkpatrick gives us inspiring stories of women who accomplish amazing feats. I am grateful to her for keeping these stories alive. She has done it again with the poignant story of Clara Estby who walked with her mother from Spokane to New York in a desperate bid to save the family farm from foreclosure. What was left for this daughter when her connection to family was severed? Jane brings Clara's story to life.

Linda Hunt's award winning nonfiction **Bold Spirit** told the story of Helga Estby, but what happened with the daughter who accompanied Helga on her journey? Jane Kirkpatrick was intrigued. She set about her usual meticulous research and brings us a fictional account of the walk and Clara's life after all the notoriety. In

1896 both women set out to walk from Spokane to New York. A \$10,000 prize was being offered by a consortium to a woman who would make the trek wearing a new dress style that was slightly shorter, with less bustle, and easier for movement. It was a fortune in 1896! Helga was desperate to save the family farm, foreclosure loomed, so she grabbed 19 year old Clara and set out. On foot, without a tent, no gortex rain jacket, no hiking boots either, just the two women in their dresses, old fashioned shoes, and the weather. There are a few obstacles between Spokane and New York, like the Rocky Mountains for instance. It is an arduous, challenging, exhilarating trip, quite an accomplishment for two lone women in 1896.

What happened after the great trek? Jane fleshes out Clara's life. It is an interesting portrait of what a strong willed woman might have accomplished. And it is a quintessentially North-western story.

May 21st at 5:00 PM we have a slide show and presentation you will not want to miss. Scott Cook is the go to guy for fun things to do in Central Oregon's out of doors. **Bend Overall** by Scott Cook is a great guide for our area. Scott stays focused on having a good time! His guide is chock full of the best hikes, drives, and attractions like the High Desert Museum and The Sunriver Nature Center. Scott takes great care to make his book the best resource for local and tourist alike. Now he is going to share his favorite hikes with us in a slide show presentation. Scott is an inventive, fun fellow so expect anything! Last year he gave us a great slide show of the movies made in Central Oregon, the audience loved it. Of course he threw in slides of the gorgeous scenery in Central Oregon too. And detail on interesting hikes. Did I mention that Scott has a well developed sense of fun? He is bound to put on a good show, reveal his secrets for the best places to hike, and keep us entertained.

Both author events include refreshments and drawing for door prizes. The events are free with the exception of Jane Kirkpatrick's walk benefiting Newberry Habitat for Humanity at \$10 per ticket. Stop by Sunriver Books & Music, e-mail sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or phone 541-593-2525 to sign up to attend.



Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday June 11th at 5:00 PM **Pilgrimage to the Edge** by Jonathan Stewart (slide show)

Saturday June 18th at 5:00 PM **Damaged Goods** by Heather Sharfeddin

Sunday July 3rd at 5:00 PM Hell is Empty by Craig Johnson. The location is still being determined. Sign up early, Craig's audience fills up fast. He puts on an excellent show!

Saturday July 9th at 5:00 PM **Oregon Favorites: Trails and Tales** by William Sullivan (slide show)

Saturday August 13th at 5:30 PM **Joy for Beginners** by Erica Bauermeister

Saturday August 20th at 5:00 PM **Memory Wall** by Anthony Doerr (winner of the 2011 PNBA Award)

Saturday October 8th at 5:00 PM **Feathers** by Thor Hanson

Saturday October 22nd at 5:00 PM **Birds of Paradise** by Diana Abu Jaber

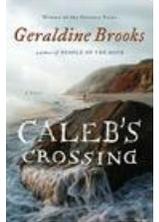
Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Author readings are free unless otherwise noted with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Call or e-mail Sunriver Books & Music to attend. Space may be limited. Check our web site, Sunriverbooks.com, for changes and additions.

Books, Books, & More Books!



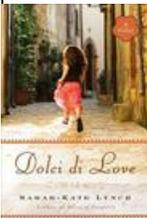
The Year We Left Home by Jean Thompson is a family saga. Family can be a quagmire of differences, love, conflict, and drama. Thompson tells the story of an Iowa clan whose four children grow, strive, and find lives different from their parents. Audrey reminds me so much of my own mother, never content unless she is feeding someone, often against their will and contrary to their best interest. Her heart is in the right place, but food will not solve the complexities or tragedies of life, nor will it help her offspring navigate the challenges of today's world. Anita marries with the intention of living well, her marriage to the son of a banking family considered a good match. But what do you do when the family farms start to fail? Where are your loyalties bound? Ryan moves to the big city, but is life in Chicago any more relevant than small town Iowa. Torrie longs to graduate and move out into that big undiscovered world. Cousin Chip comes home from Vietnam with his own ghosts; his restless wanderings take him across country looking for something he cannot identify. This is a wonderful book, a caring look at family, an examination of the changes in our time, and a great story.

Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks is fascinating historical fiction based on a real character. Caleb Cheeshahteumuck crossed over from his native culture to the white man's world becoming one of the earliest graduates of Harvard University. His story is narrated by the fictional character Bethia Mayfield. She meets Caleb when she is a mere slip of a girl, while gathering food away from the colony. The two children cross cultural barriers to form a secret friendship that will last their lifetime despite the considerable pressures of their respective clans. Caleb is the son of a Chief, the nephew of a Shaman, neither would approve of his friendship with the little white girl. Bethia is the daughter of the local minister and granddaughter of a magistrate. Her people view the natives as savages. Yet understanding grows between the two youngsters that bridges their differing cultures to offer glimpses of common ground and understanding.



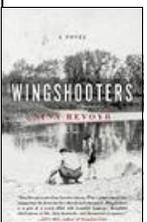
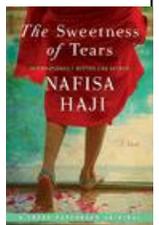
Doc by Mary Doria Russell gives us a new slant on a rather famous historical figure. Doc Holliday is an icon of the old west, remembered for a nasty gunfight at the OK Corral. But the man was so much more than the legend. Russell brings back the southern gentlemen, banished from his Georgia family by the wasting disease that would one day take his life. She shows us a frightened, young man crossing the country alone, trying to elude death, moving from the lush southern countryside into dusty western cattle towns. She introduces us to a dentist who was a gifted scholar who cared about reducing suffering where he could do so. She shows us a Doc Holliday who was a gifted raconteur, enjoyed entertaining friends, and was fiercely loyal. Yes he was a gambler, a gunfighter, and the paramour of a fallen woman. But he was funny, witty, yearning for home, and a man buffeted by the hand fate dealt him.

The Bride's House by Sandra Dallas is the story of three generations of women in a Colorado mining town who try to discover love and are marked forever. In 1880 Nealie Bent turns heads as she walks by, a bright, fiery headed gamine with a lively interest in life. She works at Lidie Travers' boarding house where the men take a keen interest in her. Nealie is enchanted by a beautiful house, the Bride's House. Decades later her daughter will lose her love as her father keeps her bound to his side. The final story has Nealie's granddaughter confronting some of the same complications she encountered so many years ago in the same house. If you are in the mood for interesting historical fiction that looks at the way women's lives have changed while telling a good love story, this is your book.



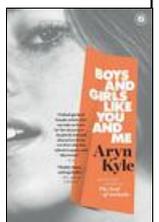
Dolce di Love by Sarah-Kate Lynch is an unusual tale of love set in a beautiful Tuscan village. Lily Turner's life goes seriously off the rails when she discovers a picture in her husband's golf shoe. She is a successful executive in Manhattan; married to the man of her dreams, under the false impression her life is all set. The picture shows Daniel in Italy with another family, a happy family with children. Lily flies off to Italy to learn the truth; she tracks her erstwhile mate to the hill town of Montevodova. Then things get interesting when the Secret League of Widowed Darners take an interest in the pretty American. My favorite part of the book was the lively group of widows who band together to mend broken hearts. They are a kick. If you are in the mood for a light hearted love story set in beautiful Italy, this will be just fine.

The Sweetness of Tears by Nafisa Haji is set to release mid May. Jo was named for a character in **Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott, like her namesake she has a questioning nature and a strong sense of what is right in her world. Her twin, Chris, is easier going. They are raised in a devout Christian household. Every year their Mom, Angie, runs a summer camp for Christian families. Deena was widowed young; her comfort was her son Sadiq. Their household is devout Muslim. This is a book that is right for the time and absolutely needed to be written. It is also a wonderful, life affirming, heartwarming story, it grants a spark of hope for the future. Characters will be caught up in world events that cast shadows over them and test their resolve. A secret, born of youthful indiscretion, will change their lives. Is redemption possible? Maybe? Where do our loyalties lie? With our family? With the truth? With our country? With our religion? This is both an interesting story and an important book for our times.



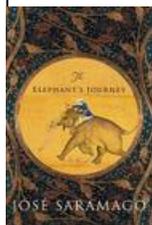
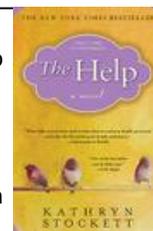
Wingshooters by Nina Revoyr is powerful stuff; family, racism, loyalty, and small town justice. Charlie has lived his whole life in Deerhorn Wisconsin. Everything he needs is right close to hand, his family, his friends, woods to go hunting, a baseball field. Charlie is a popular guy, a baseball hero, a man's man and his town suits him to a T. He has no desire to roam, his attitudes and loyalties are formed by his hometown. Charlie's son is another matter, he goes off to college and falls in love with a Japanese woman. Charlie bitterly opposes his son's marriage, doesn't even attend the ceremony. But a child is born who will grow to steal his heart, a child his friends would class as other. Michelle is dropped off with her grandparents at the tender age of 8, she has spent most of her young life in Japan. Her entry into the closed society of Deerhorn is not easy, she is other, not acceptable. But Charlie loves his plucky granddaughter and that protects her somewhat. She takes comfort in her dog Brett and adores her Grandfather. Life isn't too bad despite being an outsider until a black couple move to town and tensions escalate. Gripping, poignant, beautifully written, it explores the frightening power of racism.

Boys And Girls Like You And Me by Aryn Kyle is a series of short stories about young girls making the sorts of choices that make youth so fraught with drama. The characters in the story vie for the lead role in high school drama, lie to cover the ache of missing a mother who moved on and left her daughter behind, fall in ill chosen love, and grow up through the consequences of their actions. The stories are engaging and make the angst of the young women quite real.



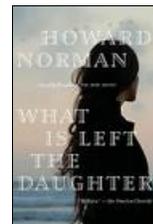
Here are a few selections releasing in May or recently released in paperback.

The Help by Kathryn Stockett has released in paperback. This dynamite first novel is being made into a major motion picture to release soon. Black women in the south during the 1960's worked as servants in white households where they cooked and served the food, changed the linen, and raised the children. But if these women needed to use the facilities, they had to go outside the house. Eugenia Skeeter Phelan comes home from college determined to be a writer. She is a bit of a wild card, able to think for herself. She begins collecting the stories of the black maids, an activity not without some serious risk in the south at the time. Most of all for the maids, whose jobs keep food on the table and who know that some of the white population favor white sheets as an evening fashion. **The Help** won the Indie Choice award for best Debut Fiction of 2010. It is a compelling story. In June we will be focusing on Southern literature for our Month of Americana.



The Elephants Journey by Jose Saramago is a rather unusual work of historical fiction based on a real incident. King Joao III of Portugal sent the Archduke Maximilian an unorthodox gift in 1551. He sent the Elephant Solomon. Maximilian was heading from Spain to Vienna. The Elephant was in Lisbon. Solomon voyaged by sail and by foot, accompanied by his trusty mahout Subhro. Along the way they had adventures. This is a story that should not be lost to history. Written with Saramago's wit, it is a pleasure to read

What is Left the Daughter by Howard Norman is a complex wonderful story. On the same day, from two separate bridges, Wyatt's parents jumped into the cold, turbulent water leaving him orphaned. Only 17, Wyatt needs the comfort of family; his uncle offers him an apprenticeship in his toboggan shop. Tilda, his bodacious cousin, claims his heart. The course of young love rarely runs smooth; Wyatt's cousin gives her heart to a German university student. Fear and rumor make being a German difficult during WWII in the small burg of Middle Economy. Howard Norman masterfully blends fact and fiction in this gripping novel.



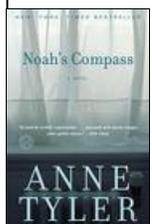
The Hand That First Held Mine by Maggie O'Farrell is breathtaking! Lexie wants to live big, experience life to the fullest. And for a while she succeeds. Taken under the wing of her lover, flamboyant Innes Kent, she explores the ins and out of reporting on fine art. Decades later Elina nearly dies in childbirth, frightening her lover Ted. She hazily navigates the first days of motherhood as Ted starts to remember. Their lives will be connected by a long hidden secret. Twists and turns aplenty flourish in this compelling story with great characters.

Matterhorn by Karl Marlantes is a work of staggering intensity. Every generation seems to have its war, for my generation it was Vietnam, a war that tore the country asunder and leaves gaping wounds that are painful to probe even today. I cannot think of anyone of my generation who has not been touched in some way by Vietnam. Books and movies can give a voice to the experiences of a war. Until now I thought the defining works on Vietnam were Oliver Stone's heartbreaking movie, Platoon, **The Brothers K** by David James Duncan gave a clear view of the effects of Vietnam on the home-front, and **Tree of Smoke** by Denis Johnson, winner of the National Book Award, with its intricate look at the forces that fueled the war. **Matterhorn** brings to vivid, terrifying life the experiences of the troops. I just bet there are guys who will pick up this book and feel like they have been given a voice for the first time. This is, in my opinion, the definitive work of fiction on Vietnam. It is devastating, visceral, and oh so real. And Marlantes can write! In chapter two he describes dusk turning to dark in Vietnam. *The light died. Voices were silenced. Darkness and fear replaced light and reason. The whisper of a leaf scraping on bark would make heads turn involuntarily and hearts gallop. The surrounding blackness and unseen wall of dripping growth left no place to run. In that black wet nothingness the perimeter became just a memory. Only imagination gave it form.* The New York Times Book Review described this book as being more like a deployment than reading, it is that real.



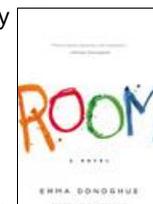
The Ape House is Sara Gruen's latest book, following her wildly successful **Water for Elephants**. This time Sara Gruen writes about animals not so far removed genetically from humans. Isabel's biological family was dysfunctional and unreliable. She found a logical family, full of love and caring, amid the bonobo apes in her care. Her life and the safety of the apes is about to go up in an explosive fireball. Before the ashes can cool, the apes are spirited away to reappear as stars of a reality based TV show, not a good outcome. Isabel's only hope may be her volatile assistant and a reporter with a refreshing thirst for truth.

The Forty Rules of Love by Elif Shafak zips back and forth through the centuries. What does a forty year old suburban housewife have in common with a thirteenth century Sufi mystic? Maybe everything important. The writing is sublime, the story a magic carpet ride through the ages.



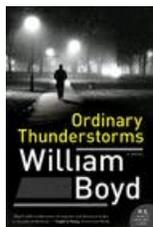
Noah's Compass by Anne Tyler is one of those quiet, wonderful books that make you think about life and still tells a very entertaining yarn. Liam is forced into early retirement from his job teaching fifth graders. He thinks it will be okay, he can get by on his small pension and savings if he just economizes and downsizes. Liam throws himself into downsizing with fervor. He gets rid of a good portion of his belongings and moves from his spacious apartment to a tiny space across from a shopping mall in a poorer neighborhood. The move doesn't take long because Liam has divested himself of so many belongings. By nighttime he is snuggled into bed in his new apartment thinking things are working quite manageably. He wakes up in the hospital with a concussed head, stitches, and a lost day. Liam goes a little batty trying to recapture his memory of that lost day and along the way he discovers a few truths about himself.

The Room by Emma Donoghue is an edge of your seat sort of story told from the perspective of a 5 year old boy. The only world Jack knows is the room where he has been confined with his mother since birth and the scary man who visits in the night.



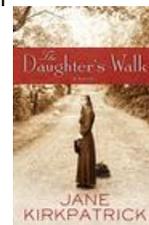
May 2011 Book Clubs

May 2nd the Non Fiction Book Club discusses **The Big Burn** by Tim Egan. This one roars to life from the first page! Pick it up, if you dare. Imagine a fire covering millions of acres, the heat reaching 2000 degrees, whipped into a frenzy by the wind the fire races faster than Secretariat on his best days, flames shooting so high they paint the night red in the next state! Egan makes it real, you can hear those crackling flames, feel the heat, and see the fire advancing. I had to keep looking up to make sure I was still safe in my chair; his writing is so incredibly vivid. In 1910 the biggest fire in US history turned 3 million acres to cinders. Men died, towns were piles of ash. Egan pays tribute to the heroes and calls out the scoundrels. Teddy Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot had plans for the forests; they wanted to preserve them for generations to come. But they had foes, big business saw the forests as opportunity for cash, they tried to cripple the Forest Service, leaving it ill equipped to fight a blaze of such ferocity. Roosevelt and Pinchot would be good to have around today. We need men with their vision and passion.

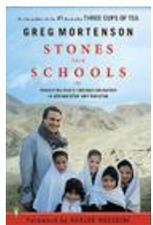


May 9th the Mystery Book Club discusses **Ordinary Thunderstorms** by William Boyd. London seems a good place to make a new start, and climatologist Adam Kindred thinks his job interview went well. He stops at a bistro for a cup of coffee where he meets and strikes up an amiable conversation with immunologist Phillip Wang. The two men get along quite well; they exchange phone numbers and planned to stay in touch. Adam notices Phillip left behind his portfolio; he rings Phillip and offers to drop it round. By the time Adam arrives Phillip has had another caller and the portfolio is the least of his worries, the knife sticking out of him is of more pressing concern. Adam is panicked, he runs earning himself first place as a suspect with the cops. Soon darker forces are looking for him too.

May 16th the Fiction Book Club has a real treat. Jane Kirkpatrick will lead a book club discussion of her latest book, **The Daughter's Walk**. In 1896 Helga Estby's family was losing the family farm to foreclosure. A New York consortium offered a \$10,000 prize to a woman for walking across the US wearing their latest style dress. Helga saw the offer as the salvation of their property. She headed cross country with her 19 year old daughter Clara. What must it have been like for these two women walking in dresses across such a vast, challenging landscape? This is an intriguing piece of northwest history masterfully turned into a compelling story by Jane. It should be a very enjoyable evening.



May 23rd the Non Fiction Book Club discusses **Stones Into Schools** by Greg Mortenson. Since this book was chosen as a book club selection controversy has erupted. Sixty Minutes did an expose alleging all sorts of nasty things including the misuse of funds and lying. The Sixty Minutes piece struck us a bit of a witch hunt, no supporters or alternative views were presented. Following the Sixty Minutes piece Greg Mortenson refuted the allegations. The vigor of his self defense is impeded by his health; Sixty Minutes chose to air their bit when the man was scheduled for heart surgery. It seems unfair. What is certain is that events in the books were condensed to form a more readable narrative. So the opening bits in the village of Korphe which actually occurred over several visits were condensed into one. The number of schools built may vary from the published account. At this time the jury is out on financial improprieties and we would like to give Mortenson the benefit of the doubt until he is well enough to launch a reasonable defense. What is not disputed is that Greg Mortenson has built schools in some of the most remote and dangerous parts of Afghanistan and Pakistan and that those schools have educated children who otherwise would have lacked the opportunity. We are very sorry that controversy has embroiled what heretofore was such a heartwarming accomplishment and hope the allegations do not destroy the good work. Of course the charges must be investigated, but we will wait to hear a full account. This man has exemplified the face America should show to the world. He continues his quest build schools in rural communities with an emphasis on educating little girls while respecting the culture. Local tribes are involved in the planning and operation of the schools, so they know it is their school and feel invested in its success. Mortenson doesn't come in and tell people what they need, he listens and responds to help achieve the goal of educating children. You go Greg!



May 30th the Classics Book Club discusses **Passing** by Nella Larsen. In the 1920s life held more comfort with white skin. If you were middle class and white life held the promise of riding an elevator to an air conditioned restaurant to sip cool tea on a sweltering day while blacks suffered in the blazing heat. Irene and Claire have not seen each other in over a decade when they meet on such a day in a Chicago restaurant taking shelter from the heat. Irene stayed within her community but "passes" occasionally. Claire is living a more dangerous life, "passing" full time. Their chance meeting will ignite emotions that change both lives.



[Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM](#)

June 6th 2011 **Bootlegger's Daughter** by Margaret Maron [Mystery Book Club](#) [Month of Americana, the South](#)

6/13/11 **Adventures of Huckleberry Finn** by Mark Twain [Classics Book Club](#) [Month of Americana, the South](#)

June 20th 2011 **Prince of Tides** by Pat Conroy [Fiction Book Club](#) [Month of Americana, the South](#)

June 27th 2011 **Old Glory** by Jonathan Raban [Travel Essay Book Club](#) [Month of Americana, the South](#)

July 11th 2011 **Six Suspects** by Vikas Swarup [Mystery Book Club](#)

July 18th 2011 **The Night Birds** by Thomas Maltman [Fiction Book Club](#)

July 25th 2011 **The Way We Live Now** by Anthony Trollope [Classics Book Club](#)

August 1st 2011 **The Man Who Walked Through Time** by Colin Fletcher [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

August 8th 2011 **Stone's Fall** by Ian Pears [Mystery Book Club](#)

August 15th **Devil in the White City** by Erik Larson [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

August 22nd 2011 **Cutting for Stone** by Abraham Verghese [Fiction Book Club](#)

August 29th 2011 **The Razor's Edge** by W. Somerset Maugham [Classics Book Club](#)

September 5th 2011 **The Last Child** by John Hart [Mystery Book Club](#)

September 12th 2011 **Empire of the Summer Moon** by S.C. Gwynne [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

Comment on book clubs, look up future book clubs, or find more information at [Sunriverbooks.com](#)

