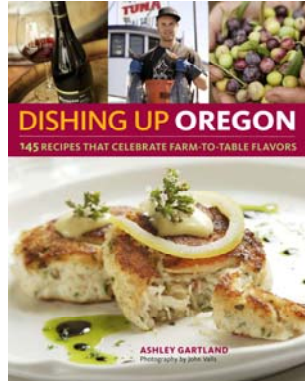




# Sunriver Books & Music

## December 2011 Newsletter

[Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com)  
541-593-2525



Join us for the last Author Event of 2011. December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM Ashley Gartland will give a presentation on ***Dishing Up Oregon***. With the Holiday Season in full swing it is a time families often gather in the kitchen. Just in time for all those holiday dinners Ashley has the perfect cookbook, concentrating on Oregon dishes. There are around 145 mouth watering recipes, with gorgeous pictures to really spike your appetite, many from chefs and farmers around the state.

This cook book is a foodie's treasure trove; it is not limited to just the recipes, gorgeous though they may be. There are also little vignettes about farms around the state. Gartland celebrates the slow food movement and the buy local movement with farms and farmer's markets highlighted throughout the book. Concentrating on food grown close to home on farms that practice environmentally safe and humane farming is good not only for the environment but healthier too. As an extra perk it tastes better. You can enjoy great tasting food

while feeling good about not wasting the gas to truck your veggies or cheese from hundreds of miles away. Also with the farms being local, you can find out about the quality of the food you will present to your family. One of the many farm features is on page 21 with a story on Viridian Farms growing local Basque ingredients along with pictures of the very attractive farmers.

I knew France and Italy have marvelous truffles, but I was totally unaware that Oregon, my home, has black truffles, brown truffles and white truffles. Page 24 will tell you all about the truffles and the Eugene truffle festival in January. In addition to farmer's markets, festivals are given cameos too. Hood River County Fruit Loop is a real treat for fruit lovers. Drive around to the various growers and buy your farm fresh fruit in season, it tastes marvelous.

For the seafood lovers Gartland has included vignettes on local fisherman, seafood markets, and even a cooking school in Cannon beach that specializes in seafood. If you love egg omelets but loathe the suffering of chickens kept in laying barns on large industrial farms, you are offered an alternative on page 109 where Champoeg Farms is highlighted with their heritage chickens reveling in a diet of healthy green grass. Restaurants are featured too, including Jen's Garden right up the road a piece in Sisters Oregon. Gartland highlights restaurants that concentrate on locally grown specialties. Vineyards and breweries are also a part of this sumptuous cookbook, after all you need something to serve with all the great food. .

There are so many delicious sounding recipes for all sorts of dishes and condiments. Black Butte Porter Mustard sounds good! So do Blackberry Cardamom Muffins, Heirloom Tomato Tart, Strawberry Risotto, Coastal Stew, Hazelnut crusted Salmon, Heritage Apple Pie and a passel of other scrumptious sounding dishes.

If you enjoy preparing food, or just enjoy eating good, healthy food the pages will hold your interest. I especially enjoyed the books focus on foods from Oregon along with the vignettes on Oregon farms, restaurants, farmer's markets, vineyards, and festivals. We are looking forward to hearing Ashley Gartland's presentation and learning a bit more about all of Oregon's artisan farm fresh food. She has written a book with a real difference, while it has many fabulous recipes, it is so much more. It offers great information on buying from local farmers and eating healthy humanely raised food all presented in an interesting format with beautiful color pictures. And just in time for the Holiday Season! There might be a perfect recipe for your family gathering. Signed copies of the ***Dishing Up Oregon*** would make great Holiday gifts too.

Refreshments will be served and there will be a drawing for door prizes. Sign up to attend by e-mailing [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) calling 541-593-2525 or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. The event is free and should be very interesting. We wish you the happiest of Holiday Seasons!

### Upcoming Author Appearances

- Saturday February 11th 2012 5:00 PM ***Contents May Have Shifted by Pam Houston!!!!***  
**Tuesday** February 14th 2012 **6:00 PM** ***The Mirage*** by Matt Ruff  
Saturday February 25th 2012 5:00 PM ***Until the Next Time*** by Kevin Fox  
Saturday March 30th 2012 5:00 PM ***Vanishing Acts*** by Phillip Margolin and Ami Margolin Rome  
Saturday May 19th 2012 **7:00 PM** ***Where Lilacs Still Bloom*** by Jane Kirkpatrick  
Saturday June 23rd 2012 5:00 PM ***West of Here*** by Jonathan Evison

Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Call or e-mail Sunriver Books & Music to attend and be entered in the prize drawings. Space may be limited for some events. Check our web site, [Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com), for changes and additions.

### Staff Changes

We have had some changes. Connie Goodman retired and is concentrating on her dance career. Ann Juttelstad accepted a position with The Kitchen Store in Bend's Old Mill District. Our good friends Sandy Landis and Marnie Brown now work at the bookstore. You might recognize Marnie if you have a pet, she used to work for Sunriver Veterinary Clinic, their loss is our gain. Dr. Sandy Landis is the most over-qualified of booksellers, she is a treasure, Nancy Nelson is still with us and we are very glad. Nancy is a highly ranked All American Track Star. We are a tight knit group at Sunriver Books & Music.

**The Holidays are Here!**  
**This Holiday Season shop Local! Avoid the crowds.**  
**Time to Shop for Gifts! We have some suggestions!**

**Carole's Surprise** makes a great Holiday gift! Purchase a subscription for yourself too, be nice to yourself this Holiday season!

**Carole's Surprise** is a subscription to a surprise book from Sunriver Books & Music every month. It is a gift that keeps on giving. In the past we have featured *Day After Night* by Anita Diamant, *Sweet Thursday* by John Steinbeck, and *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson. Purchase a subscription and read the next surprise book. **Carole's Surprise** is available in the following formats. The first 3 months of 2012 for \$44.99 picked up in the store or \$50.99 mailed in the US, the first six month of 2012 for \$90.98 picked up in the store or \$102.98 mailed in the US or for the year of 2012 \$181.87 picked up in the store or \$205.87 mailed in the US. Every month brings a surprise book. Holidays are so soon over, but a subscription to **Carole's Surprise** keeps on giving. Great as a gift and treat yourself too! For \$19.99 extra you can add on a beautiful edition of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

### Pens make wonderful gifts!

Every time the pen is picked up the giver will be remembered. Pens are wonderfully intimate, sensuous gifts and can be enjoyed for years. We have pens in price ranges from \$74.99 to the thousands. We have pens made in the USA, hand crafted in Italy and Asia.



Pictured is **Dogs by Acme Studio** from a design by **Nancy Wolf** priced at \$74.99.

Signed books make wonderful Holiday gifts! Author Anthony Doerr mentioned them as one of the gifts he likes to give. We have an assortment of signed books while quantities last to consider. Signed copies do delight and there is no extra charge. By Diana Abu-Jaber: *Birds of Paradise* (this title is on our Top Ten List for 2011), *Crescent*, *Arabian Jazz*, *Origin*

By Anthony Doerr: *The Memory Wall*, *The Shell Collector*, *About Grace*

By Thor Hanson: *Feathers* (this title is on our Top Ten List for 2011)

By Craig Johnson: *Dark Horse* and just a couple signed copies of *Another Man's Moccasins* and *Junkyard Dogs*

By Jane Kirkpatrick: *Barcelona Calling*, *The Daughter's Walk*, *A Log Cabin Christmas*, *Aurora*, *A Clearing in the Wild*, *A Tendering in the Storm*, *A Mending At the Edge*, *A Flickering Light*, *An Absence So Great*, *A Name of Her Own*, *Hold Tight the Thread*, *Every Fixed Star*, *A Land of Sheltered Promise*, *What Once We Loved*, *No Eye Can See*, *All Together in One Place*, *Love to Water My Soul*, *A Sweetness to the Soul*.

By Jessica Maxwell: *Roll Around Heaven*

By Jeffrey Ostler: *The Lakotas and the Black Hills*

By Arlene Sachitano *Quilt by Association*, *Quilt As You Go*

And after December 10th we will have signed copies of *Dishing Up Oregon* by Ashley Gatland

In addition to lots of books we also have a wide assortment of puzzles, bookmarks, games, journals, book lights, Windstone Dragons, fetching dog collars, dog toys, totes, reading glasses, music and Victorinox travel gear.

If you are contemplating an electronic reader for a Holiday purchase may we make a suggestion? Please consider an I-Pad, a Nook, A Sony Reader, anything but a Kindle. A Kindle is the only device that limits your purchases to Amazon. The other electronic readers allow you the choice of where to purchase books, even with Independent Bookstores. I still like holding a book in my hand, it gives me great pleasure to see my old friends in my bookcases and to pick them up returning to favored passages. But I understand that electronics are here to stay,

### December 27– January 2 Share the Holiday Spirit! Donate a book to Three Rivers School!

It is hard for school districts to find the funds to keep their libraries and classrooms thriving with good literature. Help fuel the school children's passion for reading. Buy any book in the children's section at 35% off, we keep the book and deliver it to Three Rivers School with your name & address. The first child to read the book will write you a thank you note, thereafter the book is available for the Three Rivers students. A \$19.99 book would cost you \$12.99, a \$16.99 book will be \$11.05, a \$12.99 book becomes \$8.44, \$9.99 reduces to \$6.49, and \$6.99 is just \$4.54. It is not expensive to spread the joy of reading!



Lets Celebrate the Best Books Of The Year. Here are our choices for the Best Books of 2012.

Top Ten Fiction.

- West of Here** by Jonathan Evison is set in a fictional town on the Olympic Peninsula. Evison gleefully chews up the landscape from 1890 to 2006. Dreamers and drifters, entrepreneurs, scoundrels, and hardworking everyday people all had a hand in settling the Northwest. Big trees, lots of rain, and an unparalleled lushness defined the land. In the 1890's the settlers had lots of beautiful blank canvas to sculpt their desires. Jagged peaked, majestic Olympic Mountains, windswept sea, deep lakes, and the roar of the rushing river, all stood splendidly untouched before them. By 2006 the consequences of their choices were home to roost. He captures the landscape as only someone who loves it can understand this gorgeous wild piece of the northwest.
- Birds of Paradise** by Diana Abu Jaber. Miami heat, the pulsing neon lights in the night sky, and a young girl carries secrets creating the drama of a family torn asunder. Felice is a beautiful child, adored by her family. And then she leaves, running off into those hot Miami nights as a vulnerable 13 year old child, taking all the magic away. As her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday approaches Felice's loss haunts her family while the girl grapples with the secrets she bears and the choices that set her adrift on the streets of Miami.
- The Tiger's Wife** by Tea Obreht is a stunning debut novel. Natalia's beloved Grandfather took her often to the zoo, to visit the tiger and hear the story of the Tiger's Wife. He carried with him a well worn copy of The Jungle Book by Kipling. Natalia followed in her Grandfather's footsteps, becoming a doctor. She is on her way to inoculate the children of a poverty stricken Balkan village when she learns her Grandfather has died miles from home in a remote village.
- State of Wonder** by Ann Patchett is pervaded with moral ambiguity. Vogel pharmaceutical's star researcher goes rogue in the Amazon. She ignores headquarters for two years, just keeps spending money and staying in the jungle. Anders is sent to fetch her back to the head office, where she can be monitored. Instead a letter arrives disclosing his death and burial in the jungle. Details are brief. His widow wants to know how he died, why he died. Marina heads into the jungle for her boss & Anders' widow.
- The Marriage Plot** by Jeffery Eugenides. Have all the great loves stories already been written? What relevance does Jane Austen or George Eliot have for today's woman? Set in the 1980's, Madeline is wrestling with these questions both for her college thesis and as a woman fielding the attentions of two suitors. Leonard is charismatic, flawed, and tragic; of course he is of great interest to Madeline. Mitchell is a seeker, trying to figure out how he fits into the general scheme of the Universe and totally smitten by Madeline. It is a lovely story, with a cutting edge look at life a hundred years after Jane Austen.
- The Cat's Table** by Michael Ondaatje follows Colombo as the 11 year old boy boards the Oransay to travel alone from Sri Lanka, the only home he has known, to London and a Mother he does not really remember. While aboard ship he befriends Cassius and Ramadhin, their adventures will remind with him the rest of his life.
- 1Q84** by Haruki Murakami is a challenging, wonderfully absorbing epic that is hard to put down. Aomame enters a strange parallel world when she ditches her cab stuck in traffic and climbs down an emergency exit. Tengo is given the opportunity to re-write a work fiction by a rather odd 17 year old. The story twists, turns, and meanders as it takes you on the trip of a lifetime.
- The Barbarian Nurseries** by Hector Tobar. Araceli is the maid in the Torres-Thompson household, the last Mexican after financial reversals trim first the nanny then the gardener. Fights over money escalate, after a particularly vicious argument, Araceli wakes to find her employers gone and their two young sons very much at home. Not knowing what to do, she sets off with the boys in search of a grandfather they haven't seen in years. It is an adventure with unforeseen consequences.
- Shards** by Ismet Prsic is gritty and bold, two young men try to survive in war torn Bosnia. Ismet escapes through Scotland on into the US. Mustafa is drafted into the military. What I found most compelling, is the way the everyday lives of the people were blown apart. Families living normal lives, visiting the country on the weekend, browsing the shops, going to dinner, never expecting that violence and hatred were going to destroy their lives. They are just like us, then one day they are not. How do you feed the family pet when you are starving? This is a unique, disturbing, insightful novel.
- The Summer of the Bear** by Bella Pollen is endearingly quirky, sad, and funny. This is the story of a family who mourns the death of their father and husband. Dad was a career diplomat posted to Bonn, but the British government needs the dead diplomat's house for the new chap so the family has to move. And move they do, all the way to a remote Scottish island. This is also the story of a bear who got lost and spent several weeks of freedom and hunger on the same island.

Flashman's Top Ten on Nature and Animals.

- Feathers** by Thor Hanson is an absorbing book, from the story of a fossilized wing being used in a debate on evolution onto the many ways man has benefited from fly fishing to downy pillows. **Feathers** reads like sitting down for a lively chat with a particularly bright friend.
- My First Summer in the Sierra** by John Muir, Scott Miller combines the writings of Muir on the wilderness with spectacular photography.
- The Eighty Dollar Champion** by Elizabeth Letts is a story of winning against all odds. America loves underdogs. You couldn't get longer odds than a plow-horse headed for the knackers yard and a cash strapped Dutchman winning the National Horse Show in Madison Square Garden. But win they did, inspiring the nation with the Cinderella story of a horse who escaped the butcher and learned to fly.
- Unlikely Friendships** by Jennifer Holland is filled with endearing pictures of animals in friendships that go way beyond the norm.
- Thunder Dog** by Michael Hingson is the amazing story of Roselle, a seeing eye dog who brought her man down the Twin Towers on 9/11.
- Dogs Make Us Human** by Art Wolfe & Jeffery Moussaleff Masson is a gorgeous picture book celebrating the bond between man and dog from Paris to Mongolia to Ghana to just everywhere.
- Dog Days & Raven Nights** by John & Colleen Marzluff is an interesting account of their time in Maine researching wily Ravens and cavorting with sled dogs.
- Dogs in Books** by Catherine Britton celebrates the role of dogs in literature with over 30 examples in a nicely illustrated tome.
- The Dog Who Knew Too Much** by Spencer Quinn has Chet and Bernie hot on the case again after a missing child, finding not gold but a dead body in a mine, and trying to stay alive.
- Affirmed** by Lou Sahdi tells the story of the last horse to win the Triple Crown and his battle with Alydar, the heroic rival he beat by a nose.



### Top Ten Mystery.

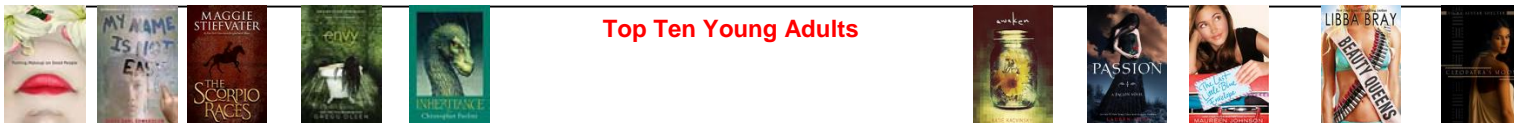
1. **Hell is Empty** by Craig Johnson, all the devils are loose on a mountainside in Wyoming. Walt Longmire transports some stone cold killers across his territory to turn over to the Feds. The hand off goes terribly awry in a remote location, with a ferociously bad storm approaching. The Heavens are set against Walt, winds howl, snow swirls, it is not fit out for man nor beast. He goes alone after a pack of heavily armed evil men, climbing higher up that cold mountain, deeper into the circles of hell.
2. **Red on Red** by Edward Conlon. Muscular prose, powerful storytelling sets apart this novel about two New York cops. Meehan is intellectual and aloof; puzzles interest him, connecting with people is difficult. Esposito is sensuous, impulsive, and intuitive, he touches people quickly. Esposito has no middle ground. They remind me of Dostoevsky's Ivan and Dmitri, I see Ivan in Meehan, with his yearning to understand. Esposito has Dimitri's wild, passionate nature. The plot is complex and deftly brought together.
3. **Started Early Took My Dog** by Kate Atkinson has a a quirky sense of itself. Jackson Brodie is in Yorkshire, hired to find the origins of Hope McMasters, an Australian woman whose adoptive parents gave no details on the biological set. Tracey Waterhouse, a retired police detective, is head of security for a shopping mall. She makes a snap decision when witnessing a child being abused.
4. **Snowman** by Jo Nesbo. Is there a fjord in Scandinavia not being combed by hopeful publishers seeking the next Steig Larsson? An author being lauded as a successor is Jo Nesbo and boy can he write. Nesbo's detective is Harry Hole, troubled by drink, driven to win, a guy with a good heart who gives his all. If you want to be scared witless, this should do it.
5. **The School of Night** by Louis Bayard is dark and mysterious. Henry mourns the suicide of his friend, why did Alonzo jump into that cold dark water? Why does Clarissa have a strange connection to a woman who lived 300 hundred years ago? Time frames shifts to the era of Sir Walter Raleigh when Thomas Harriot tried to bend the elements to his bidding.
6. **Terror of Living** by Urban Waite is taut, fast paced, and gripping.. Phil keeps his horse ranch afloat by guiding the occasional shipment across the border in the rugged North Cascades. This time they sent him a courier who is trouble. Bobby is a lawman with a family history, his Dad made a few dollars just like Phil. Bobby and Phil's paths will cross on a trip gone horribly wrong.
7. **Killed At the Whim of a Hat** by Colin Cotterill is endearing, and delightfully quirky. Jimm Jureee leaves her journalist job in the city following her odd but loveable family into remote South Thailand. She mourns the loss of her career until 2 skeletons are discovered in a Volkswagen in a farmer's field giving her a juicy scoop. Chapters begin with a former president's lapses in language.
8. **The Informationist** by Tayolor Stevens. Perhaps publishers should skip Scandinavian fjords and check out Africa where Vanessa Michael Munroe is set to give Salander a run for her money. This girl takes no prisoners! She is all action right from the start.
9. **Triple Crossing** by Sebastian Rotella pits a young border patrol officer against some seriously bad guys. Handled by a female agent he is attracted to but doesn't completely trust, his loyalties are tested when things start to go awry.
10. **The Death Instinct** by Jed Rubenfeld is filled with historical detail. In 1920 a bomb blasted a crater in Wall Street, the crime remains unsolved. Rubenfeld builds his story around this event and the kidnapping of a beautiful French radio-chemist. Dr. Younger and Captain Littlemore return from **The Interpretation of Murder**.

### Top Ten Non Fiction

1. **The Swerve** by Stephen Greenblatt. Poggio Bracciolini picked up the manuscript and with his heart beating faster realized what he held in his hands. It was the last surviving manuscript of "**On the Nature of Things**" by Lucretius, an epic poem that contained ideas dangerous to the powers of the time. Many believe the rescue of that manuscript was instrumental in the rise of the Renaissance and later influenced Galileo, Freud, Darwin, Einstein and others. Greenblatt weaves historical facts with Poggio's discovery.
2. **To End All Wars** by Adam Hochschild is an incisive history of WWI that juxtaposes the appalling losses suffered by the average soldiers ranks and the loud, idealistic war dissenters. The class distinction between the lower class soldiers and the upper class protestors is used well, shifting between the despair that each felt as they saw the cream of their class slaughtered and lost forever.
3. **What It Is Like To Go To War** by Karl Marlantes. As with his award winning first book, **Matterhorn**, Marlantes succeeds in giving a comprehensive and harrowing look at what it is like to live continuously in imminent danger of losing your life through violent and sudden means. His shows the consequences of war for young warriors, to provide guidance for the warrior and those who send them to war.
4. **Confidence Men** by Ron Suskind is a fascinating account of the Obama Administration as it inherited the impending financial catastrophe. Campaigning on a platform of fundamental change from Wall St. to Main St. Obama then surrounded himself with Washington and Wall St. insiders. If he thought they would have Main St. in mind, he was stupendously mistaken.
5. **With Liberty and Justice for Some** by Glenn Greenwald is an important and timely book. Greenwald makes the case that the rule of law in the USA is being destroyed and in its place is a legal system that favors a political and business elite. He sites elites avoiding serious consequence for a variety of serious crimes up to and including the frauds committed leading to the financial crises of 2007.
6. **Townie** by Andre Dubus III. After their father, the author Andre Dubus, left his family for a younger woman, Andre Dubus III, his siblings, and mother were left to lead a harsh, poor life. While their father lived it up on a college campus, Andre Dubus III grew up in neighborhoods marred by drugs and fighting. Andre gave up violence after meeting the love of his life and developing a closer relationship with his father.
7. **Midnight Rising** by Tony Horwitz paints a complete picture of John Brown, a man who was viewed before the Civil War as both a Freedom Fighter and a Terrorist. Even today there is disagreement over which label fits and he can be both compared to current terrorists and lauded for helping bring down slavery.
8. **The Greater Journey** by David McCullough is another masterpiece of history written in the knowledgeable and readable style that is his trademark. McCullough uses Paris as a focal point for what was at the time the center of arts, architecture, science and political thought. From 1830 to 1900 many of America's future artists, writers, politicians and doctors made the pilgrimage to Paris, both societies benefited.
9. **In The Garden of Beasts** by Erik Larson is a fascinating account of the rise of Hitler and the German threat to Europe, and specifically to the Jews as the world increasingly turned a blind eye to the looming oppression and terror to come. William Dodd was a University of Chicago professor who wanted an easy, quiet government job, he became US Ambassadorship to Germany in 1933.
10. **Destiny of the Republic** by Candace Millard. Garfield was President only a few months before being shot by a deranged man. However the gunman was not the ultimate cause of death, the doctors killed the President through a series of misjudgments and errors.

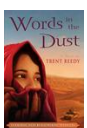
Honorable mention to **The Good Book** by AC Grayling, a humanist Bible and guide to living a moral life.





## Top Ten Young Adults

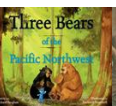
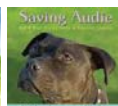
1. **Putting Makeup on Dead People** by Jen Violi. Donna still mourns her Dad. When a senior dies suddenly Donna sees the comfort given by the mortician's care in preparing her classmate for viewing. She makes a life altering decision when she changes career paths to become a mortician, not a good idea in Mom's opinion. This is a clever, insightful, funny and very original story.
2. **My Name Is Not Easy** by Debbie Dahl Edwardson tells the story of families broken apart in arctic Alaska as Native children were sent to boarding schools far away in the south. It gives a real feeling for what it would be like to be sent outside your culture, far away.
3. **Scorpio Races** by Maggie Stiefvater is a beautiful and eerie novel about an Irish like fantasy land where water horses come out of the sea once a year, dangerous horses who will kill those who try to tame them. Except Puck must succeed, she must tame a water horse to ride in the race and save the family farm. Sean is a master at taming the wild horses, he will ride against her.
4. **Envy** by Gregg Olson is set in Port Gamble Washington, a picture perfect town that seems safe. But there is evil afoot. Is the demise of a teen, pushed beyond endurance by cyber bullying, suicide, murder, or something more chilling. Olson was inspired by a true story.
5. **Inheritance** by Christopher Paolini is the long awaited conclusion to the **Inheritance** cycle began with **Eragon**. The fate of civilization is in the hands of Eragon and Saphira as they confront Galbatorix and his deadly forces. They must prevail, there is no one else.
6. **Awaken** by Katie Kacvinsky. In a not too distant future everyone lives in a world where all social interaction happens on computer with virtually no face to face meeting. Everything Maddie does is online (school, friends, everything) until she meets Justin. He wants more, as he tells her of closeness and physical contact she begins to awaken, but society has other ideas.
7. **Passion** by Lauren Kate is the third book in her series about Luce and Daniel. Chapters alternate between them as they go back and relive past lives. Historical scenes give an interesting perspective to the story as the characters are reincarnated and travel through time.
8. **The Last Little Blue Envelope** by Maureen Johnson continues the adventures of Ginny. She is upset at the loss of the last envelope with her dying aunt's instructions. Fearing she will never know what he last task was when a stranger comes to the rescue.
9. **Beauty Queens** by Libba Bray. What happens when 50 beauty contestants are stranded on a desert island after a plane crash and must learn to work together to survive?
10. **Cleopatra's Moon** by Vicky Alvar Shecter. Selene is the daughter of Cleopatra and Marc Anthony. Octavianus covets all of Egypt, he takes Selene and her brothers after his victory. Mourning the loss of her parents she must forge a new life in Rome.



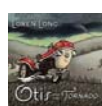
## Children 9-12



1. **Wildwood** by Colin Meloy and Carson Ellis is set in Portland. Prue is charged with watching her baby brother, a moment's inattention results in a murder of crows carrying the child away into the Impassable Wilderness (based on Forest Park). Prue must rescue her brother by going into the forbidden forest where she encounters all kinds of amazing creatures.
2. **Son of Neptune** by Rick Riordan continues the saga of the **Lost Hero**. Percy Jackson returns in this story combining the lore of ancient Greece and Rome. This part of the saga takes place along the west coast of the US and Canada.
3. **Throne of Fire** by Rick Riordan continues the Kane Chronicle series with Carter and Sadie fighting chaos and attempting to revive Ra, the Sun god while outmaneuvering the forces of evil. Action takes the pair from the US to London to St. Petersburg.
4. **Vanishing Acts** by Ami Rome Margolin and Phillip Margolin takes place in Portland Oregon where Madison and Jake have missing persons to find. Madison's best friend did not turn up at school this year. Her third grade teacher is missing and her husband has been accused of murdering the missing woman, Madison's father accepted the case. Madison and Jake have mysteries to solve!
5. **Words in the Dust** by Trent Reedy. When the Americans come to her village, there are new opportunities, dangers, and challenges for Zulaikha. She wants to embrace the opportunities but her brother is not so sure. A wonderful story blending cultures.
6. **Okay for Now** by Gary Schmidt. Doug seems to have everything going against him, an abusive father, a move to a new town, a new school and a reputation that has teachers and cops expecting the worst from him. A new friend opens new vistas.
7. **The Trouble With Chickens** by Doreen Cronin. A retired search and rescue dog is approached by a family of chickens to find a missing chick. He must solve a case involving a missing chicken and an evil Dachshund. This is very clever story, we enjoyed it!
8. **Scorpius Rising** by Anthony Horowitz. Alex Rider retired from the spy business, but M16 needed him so he is back in the game of espionage and danger. In Cairo he battles terrorists knowing failure is not an option.
9. **Septimus Heap: Darke** by Angie Sage is the 6th book in this fantasy adventure series. Septimus Heap must gather all his forces and allies to defend the castle from the Darke Domaine.
10. **Emperor of Nihon—Ja** by John Flanagan is the 10th in the series. Horace is sent to the Nihon-Ja to learn their ways and fighting techniques. When the Emperor is betrayed Horace flees with him to the mountains where they train their loyal followers to resist.



## Top Ten Children's Ages 4-8



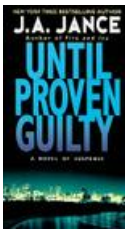
1. **Blowin' in the Wind** by Bob Dylan and John Muth is an absolutely gorgeous picture books set to the words of Dylan's song.
2. **Saving Audie** by Dorothy Hinshaw & William Munoz is a heartwarming story of a loving dog saved from the cruelty of evil Michael Vicks.
3. **No Dogs Allowed** by Linda Ashman and Kristin Sorra. Albertino's restaurant learns it can be a lot more fun to include our furred friends.
4. **The Three Bears of the Northwest** by Richard & Marcia Vaughan and Jeremiah Trammel. Gorgeous art and a very NW bear story.
5. **Wiener Wolf** by Jeff Crosby. Wiener Dog is bored with the easy life, he sets off to join a wolf pack but all does not go as planned.
6. **Otis and the Tornado** by Loren Long. Otis must save the farm animals from the coming storm, even the bully bull.
7. **Sniffles for Bear** by Bonnie Becker and Kady MacDonald Denton. Bear catches a cold and his friend mouse takes good care of him.
8. **Tumford the Terrible** by Nancy Tillman. Tumford is into everything, causing damage all over, he must learn to say I'm sorry.
9. **A Friend for Einstein** by Charlie Cantrell and Dr. Rachel Wagner. Einstein is a miniature, miniature horse, the size of a cat.
10. **The Lost and Found Pony** by Tracy Dockray. Any child who has ever gone on a pony ride will love this story.

## December 2011 Book Clubs

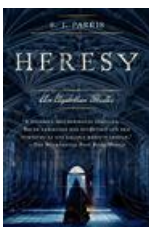
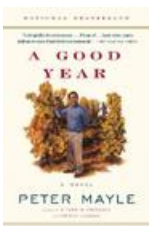
December 5<sup>th</sup> the Fiction Book Club discusses *The Wild Girl* by Jim Fergus. Ned Giles is orphaned at 17 by the death of both his parents. In a few short months he goes from a young man in college to a kid trying to avoid being placed in foster care. Ned has been working in an upscale men's club, he sees an advertisement for the 1932 Great Apache Expedition, Apaches have taken the son of a wealthy Mexican rancher; the expedition hopes to rescue the child. Ned sees this as the solution to his problem; he will quit school, head out of Chicago before the social workers return to take him into care, and drive west to join the expedition as a photographer. Ned has always had a passion for taking pictures, his Dad left him enough money for a good camera and a letter suggesting he buy one. Right from the start this new life is not quite what Ned expected. Things are complicated when the expedition finds an Apache girl in a Mexican jail and determines to use her as bait to recover the boy. Ned's allegiance is tested as he sympathizes with the girl. Needless to say Ned gets more of an adventure than he anticipated when he left the cold winter of Chicago for the deserts of the Southwest.



December 12<sup>th</sup> the Mystery Book Club discusses *Until Proven Guilty* by J.A. Jance. Set in Seattle, the Beaumont Series by J.A. Jance is hugely popular, *Until Proven Guilty* is the first book in the series. Beaumont is that standard of the mystery genre, a troubled cop, battling alcoholism but trying his best to get it right. Jance uses the Seattle setting well giving this mystery series a very northwestern feel. *Until Proven Guilty* opens with Beaumont and his partner called to the scene of a little girl's murder. Her body was discovered by a trucker in the Magnolia neighborhood. She lies in a patch of blackberry bushes with her pink nightgown still tangled around her neck. Angela's Mom delayed calling the cops for several hours after discovering her child missing. Wrapped up in a religious cult, that frowned on calling the authorities she kept silent for hours as her little girl lay in the blackberry vines. The case will twist through the fanaticism of some very unsavory characters and test Beaumont's resolve.



December 19<sup>th</sup> is the last book club meeting of 2011 for the Travel Essay Book Club's discussion of *Holy Cow* by Sarah MacDonald. With a great job in broadcasting, living in Australia a country she loved, Sarah decided to chuck it all and move to India. Of course a man was involved in all this turmoil. Jonathan is a journalist and his post is in India, so Sarah makes a leap of faith and follows her heart to India too. The transition was not smooth. She almost dies of pneumonia, has difficulty with the language, is overwhelmed by the traffic and noise. Her understanding of the country grows as she makes friends and starts to investigate some of the shrines of India's many faiths. MacDonald's writing style is a bit on the madcap side, but she puts her heart into trying to understand the spiritual side of India. For spiritual beliefs, we also recommend *Roll Around Heaven* by Jessica Maxwell.



### Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM

January 2nd 2012 *At Home* by Bill Bryson [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

January 9th 2012 *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter* by Tom Franklin [Mystery Book Club](#)

1/16/12 *Most Beautiful Walk in the World: A Pedestrian in Paris* by John Baxter [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

January 23rd 2012 *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chevalier [Fiction Book Club](#)

January 30th 2012 *The Virgin & The Gypsy* by DH Lawrence [Classics Book Club](#)

2012 February 6th 2012 *City of Fallen Angels* by John Berendt [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

February 13th 2012 *Faithful Place* by Tana French [Mystery Book Club](#)

February 20th 2012 *Massacred for Gold* by Gregory Nokes [Non Fiction Book Club](#), [Author Leading](#)

February 27th 2012 *A Good Year* by Peter Mayle [Fiction Book Club](#)

March 5th 2012 *Heresy* by S. J. Parris [Mystery Book Club](#)

March 12th 2012 *Cleopatra* by Stacy Schiff [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

March 19th 2012 *Reservation Blues* by Sherman Alexie [Fiction Book Club](#)

March 26th 2012 *Modoc* by Ralph Helfer [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

April 2nd 2012 *The Tourist* by Olen Steinhauer [Mystery Book Club](#)

April 9th 2012 *Enchanted April* by Elizabeth Von Arnim [Classics Book Club](#)

April 16th 2012 *Room* by Emma Donoghue [Fiction Book Club](#)

April 23rd 2012 *Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

May 7th 2012 *Time Was Soft There* by Jeremy Mercer [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

May 14th 2012 *Arcadia Falls* by Carol Goodman [Mystery Book Club](#)

May 21st 2012 *The Wedding Officer* by Anthony Cappella [Fiction Book Club](#)

May 28th *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

June 4th 2012 *The Emperor of Ocean Park* by Stephan Carter [Mystery Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

June 11th 2012 *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo [Fiction Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

June 16th 2012 *The Human Stain* by Phillip Roth [Classics Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

June 25th 2012 *Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbrick [Travel Essay Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

July 2nd 2012 *Junkyard Dog* by Craig Johnson [Mystery Book Club](#)

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

