



Sunriver Books & Music

January 2019 Newsletter

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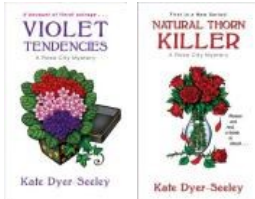
Happy New Year!
May 2019 bring happiness, good health, and be a year filled with delight.



Saturday January 12 at 5 PM Kate Dyer-Seeley returns for the latest in three of her mystery series. ***Violet Tendencies*** released November 27. Writing as Ellie Alexander ***The Pint of No Return*** released October 2, and ***Live and Let Pie*** released December 31. Have I mentioned that Kate is an especially hardworking author?

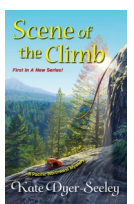
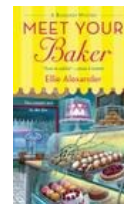
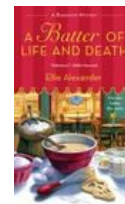
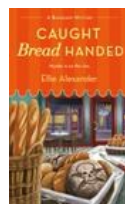
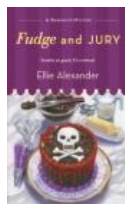
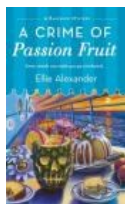
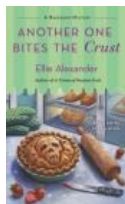
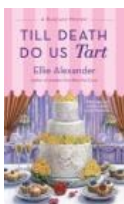
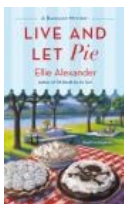


The Pint of No Return is the second of her series set in a brewpub in picturesque Leavenworth Washington after ***Death on Tap***. Sloan Krause was an orphan welcomed into the Krause family with her marriage to Mac. The best things from her marriage are the Krause parents, salt of the earth German immigrants, and her son Alex. Mac on the other hand was less of a success; his philandering has caused a rift in the marriage that may be irrevocable, although he has been trying unsuccessfully to woo her back. Meanwhile Sloan is brewing beer at the edgy new pub in town, Nitro, working with Garrett, a Seattle tech guy with a passion for innovative beer. Octoberfest, a big deal in Leavenworth, is just kicking off as the story opens. Complications ensue when a documentary film crew descends on the Bavarian themed town in the North Cascades. The show's host, Mitchell Morgan, was a child star now grown into an obnoxious adult with an inflated sense of self-importance and no empathy. Feathers will be ruffled, a dead body will be found, and Sloan will be right in the middle of it all.



group of anarchists led by Sham, have been protesting the Rose Festival, threatening to disrupt events forcefully. Tensions are high. Interactions between the Rose Festival officials and the protesters escalate culminating with a murder linked to Bloom's float and discovered by Britta. Her friend Officer Tomo Iwamoto and handsome Detective Pete Fletcher try to keep Britta away from their investigation but she will not be deterred. There is an entertaining video of Kate's last presentation at Sunriver Books & Music including an appearance by Charla Hanson of Wild Poppy Florist. Charla is also expected to participate in the January 12 author event. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6B2TIDKwK0>

Live and Let Pie is the 9th in the popular series featuring Jules Chapshaw set in Torte Bakeshop in Ashland Oregon home to the famous Shakespearean Festival. Taking a respite from the bakeshop, Jules is enjoying a lakeside picnic when a skull is discovered that may be linked to a decades old missing person case. Then Jules landlord is murdered, giving her two mysteries to solve. Meanwhile Jules still has to deal with her estranged husband Carlos. A full plate for Jules this time! Recipes are included in the back of the book. The rest of the titles in order are ***Meet Your Baker***, ***A Batter of Life and Death***, ***On Thin Icing***, ***Caught Bread Handed***, ***Fudge and Jury***, ***A Crime of Passion Fruit***, ***Another One Bites The Crust***, and ***Till Death Do Us Tart***.



Kate also writes an amusing series featuring Meg Reed, a journalist writing for an outdoor adventure magazine that sends her into precarious predicaments all over Oregon. Meg's occupation is complicated by being a secret wuss, trying to hide from her boss a lack of outdoor acumen while also writing good stories. She has a penchant for finding dead bodies thus putting herself in peril. They are fun to read, especially with all the great Oregon settings. The first in the series is ***Scene of the Climb***.

Sign up to attend this free author event by emailing sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com calling 541-593-2525, or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. There will be refreshments and drawings for prizes. More information is available at sunriverbooks.com.

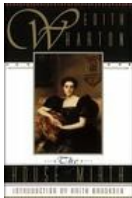
Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday February 9, 2019 at 5:00 PM **Deep Creek** by Pam Houston
Saturday February 23, 2019 at 5:00 PM **Don't Skip Out On Me** by Willy Vlautin
Saturday April 13, 2019 at 5:00 PM **Perfect Alibi** by Phil Margolin
Saturday April 20, 2019 at 5:00 PM **Hope on the Inside** by Marie Bostwick
Saturday April 27, 2019 at 5:00 PM **The Last Woman in the Forest** by Diane Les Becquets

Join us to enjoy fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Sign up to attend these free events by calling 541-593-2525, e-mailing sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. Space may be limited for some events. Check sunriverbooks.com for changes or additions to the schedule.

At Sunriver Books & Music we enjoy our book clubs! 2019's selections are listed on our website, there are many great books to anticipate. Annually our Book Clubs vote on their favorites of the year's selections. Here are the winners of the voting for 2018.

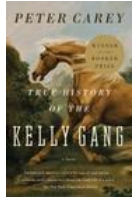
Classics Book Club's 2018 winners.



The House of Mirth by Edith Wharton, is set in a world the author knew well, a world of wealth, privilege, and high society. Wharton had a wicked sharp wit that she wielded gleefully in her fiction. **House of Mirth** introduces Lily Barton, an attractive young woman with champagne tastes lacking funds to match. Even without the funds, Lily is determined to live luxuriously as a part of the smart set. The surest path to prosperity for a beautiful young woman with social graces is to marry well, in this endeavor Lily scuttles her chances and tarnishes her reputation thus hastening her reduction in circumstances. It is an interesting story about class, the role of a woman, and the disadvantages of not carefully considering consequences.



Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury, a Banned Book selection. In 1953 it was amazingly prescient about the future. Over 50 years on, people have wall sized (or nearly) televisions, devices to fit in the ear and listen to music or converse with other people. In Bradbury's tale of the future books are banned. Those caught harboring the written word are arrested, their books destroyed. Guy Montag is a fireman, his job to destroy books; houses are sheathed in unburnable plastic so firemen start fires, with books, rather than put them out. He doesn't think much about his role in the world or his personal happiness. Until he meets Clarissa, a young neighbor, who challenges Guy's complacency. A call that gets out of hand tips Guy over the edge, he starts questioning his role.

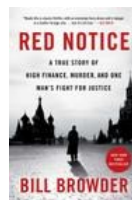


The True History of the Kelly Gang by Peter Carey, winner of the Booker Prize. We had Billy the Kid, the Australians had Ned Kelly. Both men had strong pushes into a life of crime from local law enforcement. Young Ned Kelly is born into a boisterous family, a gifted horseman, wanting only to set himself up with a ranch. It was not to be, bad decisions, timing, and the power of the local establishment all played against him. As pressures mounted, he eventually fled with a gang, trying to explain their situation directly to the governor with a letter laying out police involvement. There are dramatic flights on horseback, gun battles, and a unique final confrontation. Inside the action is the tragic story of a young man, downtrodden and ill-used by the authorities.

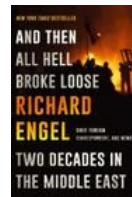
Non-Fiction 2018 Winners.



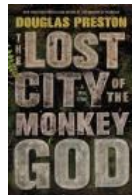
Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann. The Osage Nation was driven onto a reservation in Oklahoma because the land was worthless; rocky, dry, unfit for cultivation. In the late 1800's black gold was discovered underground. By the early 1920's the Osage Nation's Native Americans were the richest people in the world. They were swindled by guardians appointed to handle all the cash because the government couldn't let the Indians be in charge. Whites were seething at the wealth of the Osage Nation. Murder was the solution, not just one murder but conspiracies of murders. A fledgling bureaucracy was beginning, it would be called the FBI, its director, a young chap named J. Edgar Hoover sent agent Tom White to Oklahoma to put a stop to the killing.



Red Notice by Bill Browder reviewed by Rich Stonehouse. Red Notice begins with the author graduating from Stanford Business School and moving into the high-flying hedge fund world of Russia in the 1990's. Making millions of dollars in his fund, Browder was swindled by the Russian oligarchs who were raiding his fund's wealth, so he set out to expose the corruption and theft perpetrated by the Russian government. Led by Putin, Browder was expelled from Russia. Browder's tax attorney, Sergei Magnitsky, uncovered a vast, corrupt enterprise, which ultimately led to his arrest and imprisonment. Not willing to let the full extent of the corruption become known, Magnitsky was beaten to death in his cell. Browder lobbied the U.S. Congress which imposed sanctions on Russia which infuriated Putin. This is a great financial mystery and a thrilling political revenge story.



Tied for 3rd place, **And Then All Hell Broke Loose** by Richard Engel, reviewed by Richard Stonehouse. Engel, the chief foreign correspondent for NBC News has been in every hot spot in the Middle East and beyond, reporting on the front lines of every war, acts of terrorism and momentous political changes as they happened. He has been kidnapped, blown out of his hotel room and accompanied Al Qaida and ISIS into battle to report on both sides of the conflict. He also is good at explaining the political, cultural and religious nuances that accompany all of these historical events. This is a real page turning adventure.

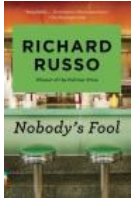


Lost City of the Monkey God by Douglas Preston, an account of his participation in a scientific expedition to discover a city lost for 500 years in the Honduran jungle using the advanced technology of lidar. Preston and the team were flown close to the site, where they would camp and evaluate the discovery. This is a jungle whose animals had not been exposed to humans in centuries, so they were interested and not as fearful or cautious as animals who know the danger of our species. There were other dangers; rumor had it a curse had been placed on the site. It was a rumor that proved to be true for the members of the expedition.

Fiction Book Club 2018 Winners.



A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles. In 1922 Count Alexander Rostov is sentenced to house arrest at the Metropol Hotel. The hotel was choice digs of the hoi polloi until the monarchy was overthrown. Count Rostov was fortunate, he could have been shot for his aristocratic heritage, instead he would spend decades inside a hotel well known to him from happier times. He experienced the changes in Russia from the glittering days when the Metropol was an international destination to the years of deprivation and slogan spewing bureaucracy. Count Rostov is one of those grand characters familiar to readers of Tolstoy or Dickens, simply splendid, time spent with him is a gift. He adapts as his circumstances change, his world is rich in emotional experiences and he never loses his charisma. Towles is a playful author with an elegant turn of phrase.



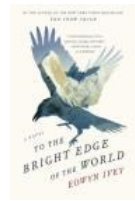
Nobody's Fool by Richard Russo. Suffused with humor and compassion, the story is full of quirky, well drawn characters that take you into their village and remain as friends in your memory. Sully is an entertaining rascal, full of fun and short on responsibility. He cares about people and having a good time, not so great at steady employment, fiscal caution, or being a dependable father. At 60, the results of living life at full tilt are being felt; he is not as spry as he used to be. Sully's son Peter is a college professor with a healthy respect for schedules and doing the right thing. Thus the relationship between the two is strained. Then again both of the Sullivans have trouble with the women in their lives. In 1994 Paul Newman starred in a film of version of **Nobody's Fool**.



Tied for 3rd place, **Constellation of Vital Phenomena** by Anthony Marra is set in Chechnya. Akhmed is a good man, but good men can succumb to fear, especially when resistance is pointless. He cowers with his invalid wife in his house when Russian soldiers come for his neighbor and friend. Akhmed watches as startling red flames claim his neighbor's house, until he is certain the Russians will not return. Cautiously he searches for his neighbor's daughter Havaa. He finds the child at the edge of the woods. Keeping her in the small village is impossible; the neighborhood informant would tell the Russians. He takes the child to the hospital, persuading Dr. Sonia Rabina to hide Havaa. Like all momentous actions, this one will bear consequences.

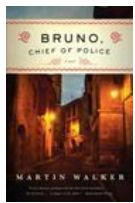


Tied for 3rd place. **The Widow Nash** by Jamie Harrison. Dulcy normally travels with her father on all his jaunts, has since she was a girl of 15, this time she stayed behind. Walton Remfrey is an engineer and an inventor; he made a fortune traveling the world, with Dulcy at his side, to places where the earth's wealth can be extracted. Walton suffers from syphilis, has for twenty years, and in 1904 it was a death sentence. He avoided the more horrific side effects of the disease, until now when it seems to have taken his mind. His ship docked in Seattle, Walton disembarked without either his wits or the money from selling mines in South Africa. Dulcy is summoned, a fortune is missing. When Walton dies, Victor, her father's business partner, believes he has her in his clutches. On the journey to take her father's body back east for burial, Dulcy risks everything, disappearing to live life on her own terms.



To The Bright Edge of the World by Eowyn Ivey, set in a remote and undiscovered part of Alaska. Colonel Allen Forrester had resigned himself to being a bachelor when he met Sophie Ada Swanson, a woman brimming with a sense of curiosity and wonder to match his own. Months after their marriage he would leave her in Vancouver, Washington to lead a small expedition into Alaska's interior along the Wolverine River, a cold place, the site of an earlier massacre of a Russian expedition, and virtually unknown to the Americans who now considered themselves the area's rulers. The story shifts between Colonel Forrester's explorers as they travel into a land of wonders they are unprepared to understand, Sophie's time alone in Vancouver where she discovers a passion for photography and grows as an artist, and a current day relative trying to find a home for their memorabilia.

Mystery Book Club's 2018 Winners.



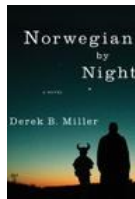
Tied for first place, **Bruno Chief of Police: A Mystery of the French Countryside** by Martin Walker. Bruno likes his quiet life in his village in the Perigord. He enjoys cooking scrumptious meals for his friends, goes riding in the countryside, likes good wine, and attractive women. Being Chief of Police in sleepy St. Denis fits him perfectly. So he resents it when an elderly War Hero is murdered, but Bruno is a capable officer and will set to work catching a killer while the crime leads back to the dark days of WWII. Reading one of Martin Walker's Bruno series is the next best thing to visiting the French Dordogne.



Tied for first place, **The Dry** by Jane Harper. Twenty years ago Federal Agent Aaron Falk, then in his teens, left his childhood home in the farming community of Kiiwarra under a cloud of suspicion. The only thing that saved him from a murder charge was the alibi provided by his best friend Luke. A teenage girl was dead, Aaron was the prime suspect. Falk lives in Melbourne and tracks criminals in the finance sector, a job he does well. Luke saved him all those years ago, now he is going back to attend Luke's funeral. Luke murdered his wife and son, and then took his own life, sparing only his baby daughter. But Luke's parents want to be sure; they want Aaron to repay the debt to Luke from years ago by ascertaining if things might have happened differently.



The Magpie Murders by Anthony Horowitz. Susan Ryland has edited all of Alan Conway's bestselling Atticus Pund mystery series. They made Alan wealthy. While Susan doesn't like Alan, she enjoys his mysteries, as **Magpie Murders** opens Alan has just turned in the latest manuscript. Susan settles down to spend a pleasant weekend with Atticus Pund. Susan and the reader are drawn into a clever mystery as Atticus and his assistant James are called to a picturesque English Village. However, Susan is soon convinced that something different is going on with this story, and there are clues within the mystery. Soon the reader is involved in two mysteries full of all those juicy stalwarts of the genre: greed, jealousy, and dark secrets along with a few murders to spice things up.

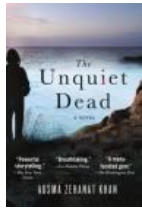


Tied for 3rd place **Norwegian by Night** by Derek Miller. Sheldon Horowitz is in his 80's, bereft over the death of his wife, burdened by guilt over his son's death in Vietnam, and weighed down by memories of his service during the Korean War. Granddaughter Rhea suspects Sheldon is in the beginning stages of dementia. She persuades him to move to Norway to live with her and her husband Lars. Norway is a new world for Sheldon; he misses New York. Sheldon gives refuge to their Balkan neighbor and her young son, hiding from a violent man. Things get way out of control leaving behind a dead woman and an octogenarian New York Jew on the lam with a traumatized, silent young child. Segrid, the police officer in charge, finds herself matching wits with the surprisingly resourceful Sheldon and the Serbian thug who will surely do him harm in a mad dash across Norway.

Mystery Book Club 2018 Winners Continued.



Tied for 3rd place ***Darktown*** by Thomas Mullen. In 1948 Atlanta hires 8 black officers, though they will not be allowed to arrest white men, nor will they be provided patrol cars or allowed to use the police department's buildings. The men will work out of the YMCA's basement in the black district, with a white cop to oversee their efforts. Atlanta's white cops are not happy about black men in uniform, harassment is frequent, although not all of the white cops feel the same. Lucius Boggs and Tommy Smith are walking their beat one night when a white man driving negligently hits a light pole. An attractive black woman is a passenger in the man's car. Days later the woman's body is discovered; setting Boggs and Smith on an investigation that will not only put their jobs in jeopardy but will put their lives on the line.



The Unquiet Dead by Ausma Zehanat Khan set in Toronto Canada. Esa Khattack, a former homicide detective and intelligence officer, now is chief of the Toronto Community Policing Section. He is attractive, articulate, intelligent and kind. He is also a Muslim. This influences the way fellow officers see him, while his job as a police officer keeps him at arm's length from some in the Muslim community. As the story opens, he is asked to look into the death of a wealthy man, Christopher Drayson, who perished after falling from a bluff. On the surface it appears to be an accident, but there are disquieting under currents of a possible connection to the genocide of Moslems in Bosnia that bear investigating. Esa is aided by Sergeant Rachel Getty, the daughter of a cop and a competitive hockey player. The two leads in this series, Esa and Rachel, are likeable and good at their jobs. It is refreshing to have a Muslim cop portrayed as competent, trustworthy, and caring.

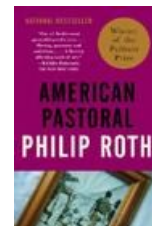
January 2019 Book Clubs



January 7 the Fiction Book Club discusses ***Bar Harbor Retirement Home for Famous Writers***, by Terri-Lynne DeFino reviewed by Nancy Nelson. The Bar Harbor Home has just become Alfonse Carducci's new residence. Alfonse, the famous writer known almost as much for his excesses in living well as for the greatness he has achieved in writing. His health failing, unable to do the thing he loves most, he finds his writer's mind is blocked. At the home he finds Olivia Peppernell, friend and former lover. Their stories intertwine and a love story that has not gone stale resurfaces. The staff of Bar Harbor are caught up in the magic of these famous personalities, most especially Cecibel Bringer, an orderly. She is enchanted with Alfonse, and a huge fan of his writing. Like the residents, Cecibel has her own story. Half of her face is severely scarred, the other half beautiful. Alfonse's response to Cecibel is magic, and that magic enables him to write. Olivia and Alfonse collaborate in creating a novel as his last hurrah before his heart stops beating. I loved every single moment spent on this book. All of it!



January 14 the Mystery Book Club discusses ***The White Mirror*** by Elsa Hart. Li Du is traveling with a caravan carrying tea from China across the mountain passes in Tibet bound for Lhasa. Travel is made more arduous by the lateness in the season, winter is coming on and the caravan is exploring a new route. They expect to be welcomed by the Lord and his family in a sheltered valley. Hamza, the storyteller, has gone ahead to pave their way with the family. An early snow storm descends on the region as they near their goal. Approaching the bridge that will take them across a swirling river to the other side where shelter awaits, they see a monk sitting in the middle of the bridge. It is soon evident this monk is quite dead, the assumption made that it was suicide. The snow storm intensifies trapping the little group in the valley along with several other travelers relying on the Lord's hospitality. Li Du suspects the monk's death was inflicted by another, not suicide. There are many curious things to make Li Du uneasy. The monk was a noted painter, demons often featuring prominently in his work. A priest and his translator, a government official, and a woman traveler are all journeying through the area, snowed in with everyone else. As the story culminates we learn more about Li Du's banishment from the Forbidden City, home to the Emperor of China. The 1700's were a fascinating period, and Li Du is very likeable. This series is truly enjoyable.



Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:00 PM

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

Happy New Year! 2019!

February

February 11 ***Lady Cop Makes Trouble*** by Amy Stewart. [Mystery Book Club](#)

February 18 ***American Pastoral*** by Phillip Roth [Classics & Fiction Book Club](#)

February 25 ***The Fifth Risk*** by Michael Lewis [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

March

March 11 ***Kill The Father*** by Sandrone Dazieri [Mystery Book Club](#)

March 25 ***Boston Girl*** by Anita Diamant [Fiction Book Club](#)

April

April 8 ***Last Thing I Told You*** by Emily Arsenault [Mystery Book Club](#)

April 15 ***White Houses*** by Amy Bloom [Fiction Book Club](#)

April 29 the Deschutes County Library's Novel Idea selection

May

May ***Nightingale*** by Kristin Hannah [Fiction Book Club](#)

May ***Woman in the Window*** by A.J. Finn [Mystery Book Club](#)

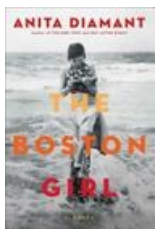
June Month of Michigan

June 52 ***Pickup*** by Elmore Leonard [Mystery Book Club Month of Michigan](#)

June ***True North*** by Jim Harrison [Fiction Book Club Month of Michigan](#)

June ***Two Hearted River*** by Ernest Hemingway [Classics Book Club Month of Michigan](#)

Comment on book clubs, look up future book clubs, or find more information at Sunriverbooks.com



If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy using space in Sunriver Village, please remember the Village owners have kindly provided space in the loft area above Sunriver Books & Music. The space is available for uses compatible with the bookstore during Sunriver Books & Music's hours of operation. Using the space is free. To reserve the space for your group contact Deon at Sunriver Books & Music. Sunriver Village is an ideal place to meet. After concluding the day's agenda enjoy a meal at one of the Village restaurants and browse in the many shops.