



Sunriver Books & Music

June 2017

Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com
541-593-2525



As the summer weather is here, one of our customers, a retired policeman, requested we alert people to the danger of leaving dogs in parked cars. Please do not. They can die very rapidly. In minutes at an outside temperature of 78 degrees the temperature inside a parked car reaches lethal levels. If you see a dog in a parked car in Sunriver, please call the Sunriver Police Department 541-593-1014.

While we are alerting dog owners to local dangers, the wonderful local veterinarian Dr. Wendy Merideth of Sunriver Veterinary Clinic 541-636-9945 has alerted us to the danger of mushrooms. You should be aware that every year dogs ingest poisonous mushrooms, sometimes fatally, always requiring prompt medical attention.

In the Deschutes National Forest you also need to be cautious as there are leg hold traps that can grievously injure a pet, or a person for that matter. In Sunriver, there are gopher traps to be avoided on the golf courses that can cause injury to children or pets. Dogs in Sunriver must also either be on a leash or under firm voice control, this keeps them from unhappy interactions with resident's cats and other small animals.

Sunriver is a great place for dogs, they love it here! We welcome them with treats at Sunriver Books & Music. Dogs enjoy swimming in the river, walking on the trails, relaxing on decks, and having a fine doggy time on their Sunriver Vacation. There are hikes to go on, squirrels to watch, some of the restaurants such as the Sunriver Brewing Company and the Village Bar and Grill welcome dogs on their decks. Much to do and enjoy for the canine member of the family. Have a happy time, just be aware of dangers, so we can all do our best to protect our pets.



It started with the **Outlaw Tour**, the adventure continues with Craig Johnson's appearance Thursday September 7 for a presentation on **The Western**

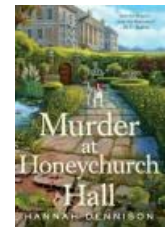
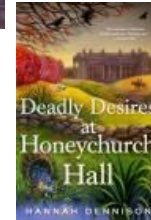
Star, the latest in the award winning, New York Times bestselling Walt Longmire series, and inspiration for the hit TV show. We are very grateful to Craig Johnson for his loyalty and continued support of Sunriver Books & Music and his many readers in Central Oregon. We appreciate his dedication in returning to us to give fabulously entertaining events.

Please sign up early to attend, space is limited and spaces are being reserved quickly.

The Western Star releases September 5, we are happy to pre-

order for you.



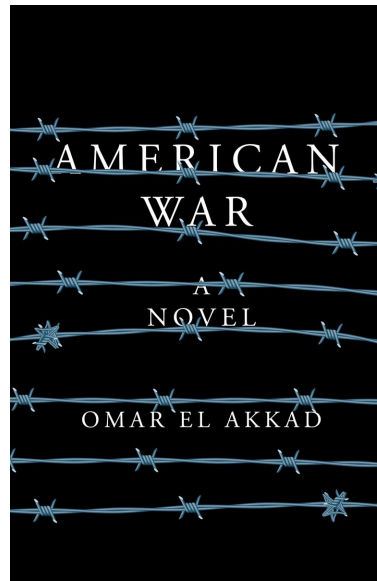


Saturday June 3rd at 5:00 PM Hannah Dennison will give a presentation on ***Murderous Mayhem at Honeychurch Hall***, fourth in her series set in the Devon countryside. Feeling a bit stressed? Pick up one of Hannah Dennison's mysteries spiced with romantic comedy and relax. Enjoy the lush landscape and country air as Kat tries to organize her mother, Iris, and ends up solving crimes. They are fun to read and will give you a taste of the English country life.

Murderous Mayhem at Honeychurch Hall has a lot going on. Iris is in a tizzy because the only copy of her latest manuscript was mailed but did not show up at the publisher's office. It is not just the missing manuscript, Iris fears her identity will be unveiled if the postmistress has been snoopy. Her country neighbors know her as Iris, not the bestselling author of romantic suspense Krystalle Storm. She writes her tomes under a pseudonym and would like to remain anonymous. Things get even dicier when the aforementioned postmistress's husband dies leaving her in debt and willing to undertake any means to raise money quick. Kat is also busy establishing her antique shop at the old gate house to Honeychurch hall and settling in to her new home. It was a big move to leave London, but she has fallen in love with the countryside and the historic estate. Honeychurch Hall was a pivotal piece of geography in the English Civil War. A battle is reenacted annually with the Royalist Honeychurches facing off against the Carew Roundheads. Past meets present when the body of a woman who disappeared in the Civil War is found on the Honeychurch estate. Two dead, albeit centuries apart, a missing manuscript, and the possible discovery of Iris's secret identity creates plenty mayhem for Kat and Iris to solve.

Murder at Honeychurch Hall is the first in the series. Kat earned notoriety as the host of *Fakes & Treasures*, a reality TV show set in the world of antique collectables. What she wants to do now, is give up on television to open an antique shop with her recently widowed mother. Kat does her bit, quitting the show, but her mother has gone off script, deserting London for a dilapidated carriage house on the Honeychurch estate in the Devon countryside, two hours from London, and stating emphatically that she has no intention of being a part owner of an antique shop. Iris accomplished all of this, selling her London home, purchasing the carriage house, and moving without letting Kat have the least little clue what Mum was up to. As the story continues it is clear this is just one of many secrets Iris keeps, frustrating Kat who is all for full disclosure. By the time Kat reaches Iris on the phone and learns of her mother's departure for the country, Iris has broken her wrist and could really use a little daughterly assistance. Kat is horrified, positive her mother does not belong in the country, and convinced Iris has somehow used the money her father left for the purchase. Kat knows her father counted on her to keep watch over her mother and see that Iris did not injudiciously use the capital meant to fund her remaining years; clearly the woman has slipped the leash. How else would she afford even a rundown carriage house in such a tony location? When Kat arrives in Devon it is worse than she suspected, the carriage house has holes in the roof open to sky and weather, there are holes in the floor too, the water doesn't always work, there are craters in the yard, and it is a mess. Kat is blissfully unaware that her Mom is really an international bestselling author of romantic suspense with funds of her own. It is one of the many discoveries Kat will make as she struggles to compel her mother to see reason, return to London, and enter the antique business.

The stories are filled with a cast of interesting characters. Lady Edith, dowager of Honeychurch Hall, who in her 80's still rides her magnificent horses sidesaddle. Rupert, the current Earl, shows interest in ladies other than his wife and has his own nefarious schemes for the future. Lady Lavinia, Rupert's second wife, feels overshadowed by Rupert's greater affection for wife number one who died under odd circumstances. Their son, a seven year old who calls himself Biggles, the name of his hero, a fighter pilot, and recreates adventures to amuse himself in a household obsessed with adult concerns. And a slew of other characters making Honeychurch Hall with its meadows and fields a grand place to visit.



Saturday June 17th at 5:00 PM we are honored to have Omar El Akkad for a presentation on his masterful novel, ***American War***, one of the most significant and powerful novels this year. Omar El Akkad lives with his family in Portland, Oregon. He is a journalist who has reported on such diverse subjects as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, violence in Ferguson, Missouri, and the loss of land as sea levels rise in Florida and Louisiana. For recreation, he enjoys rock climbing at Smith Rock. And I understand we share some of the same favorite books, including ***The Cairo Trilogy*** by Naquib Mahfouz, ***Song of Solomon*** by Toni Morrison, and ***Love in the Time of Cholera*** by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Omar El Akkad is a truly gifted author, this is his debut novel, please join us in hearing from a man surely destined to a role of importance in literature.

The world has become for many a frightening place, people struggling to live through horrific conditions brought on by armed conflict and in the western world people worried about the tragic effects of terrorism. For my generation, the conflict was the Vietnam War. Who among us will ever forget some of the haunting images taken by brave photo journalists? A young girl runs naked, her mouth open in a shriek of terror, down a dusty road, a living personification of Edvard Munch's painting, *The Scream*. Our more recent conflicts seem to remain, ominously, more distant. I say ominously because you cannot treat people the way the Syrians and others from the Middle East are being treated and expect them to feel warm and fuzzy toward you in future, it just is not going to happen. And that brings us to the importance of this brilliant book.

What happens when a society is broken down with violent conflict? How is a terrorist created? Omar El Akkad puts a very American answer to that question. His main character, Sarat, is a southern girl who loves her family, has a bright questioning mind, likes to be outside in nature, and grows into an attractive young woman. She will grip you right from the beginning of her journey, a life that will impact many, and will give a glimpse at the shaping of a human heart.

It is 2074 when the Second American Civil War begins; the country is again split along ideological and economic lines. Ecological change has been radical, coasts are underwater and great swaths of the country are dry dust. The North banned the use of fossil fuels, the South objected. Sarat's family is poor as dirt, living in an old container that is hot as the Dickens in summer and sounds like a kettle drum when the rain comes. Jobs are few; her father has a chance at securing employment and maybe getting his family into the more affluent North with the opportunity for a better life. It doesn't work out; instead he is killed leaving his family unprotected in a time of war. They flee to a camp for refugees where they stay for years and years. Little Sarat grows from a child to an independent minded teenager seeking answers to the reality of her situation. As the fighting intensifies and her world is torn asunder, her passions are shaped in response, turning her into a fighter who will use any means in her power to defeat her foes. The story is narrated by Sarat's nephew, a college professor trying to make sense of that violent period in history and a horrific act that shaped both his family and the era.

We are lucky to call the Pacific Northwest home, to be living in a beautiful countryside, with peace all around us. Thankfully we do not experience the horror of missiles exploding, of poison gas, or tanks destroying our homes. It is peaceful here, we are allowed the great pleasure of going for hikes, sitting on our decks enjoying good books perhaps with our pets by our side, and dining in a variety of fine restaurants. For all of this I am sincerely grateful. This is not the world occupied by hundreds of thousands of people today. They live in a world of danger, devastation, and chaos. We are far removed from their world. But what if this happened on American soil? Perhaps through Omar El Akkad's fine book we can gain some understanding while being introduced to unforgettable characters. .

This is an important book for our time and I urge everyone to read it. The writing is engaging, it tells a compelling story that draws the reader in but it also touches on many themes relevant to current events. How do outside influences fan the flames of hate? How are terrorists born? What can bring a person to fully embrace nihilism, to value the destruction of the foe over everything that is good? How do we create such hate? The question is answered by the characters this gifted author will make you care about; the answer is relevant to what is happening right now, today. Treating people with respect and realizing that every life counts should not be abandoned for an ideology.

I had the great pleasure of meeting Omar El Akkad in Minneapolis; he is a charming man and will, I am certain, give a fascinating presentation touching on subjects of importance. The photo above was taken by Michael Lionstar.



Saturday June 24th at 5:00 PM Janie Chang will give a presentation on her latest novel, ***Dragon Springs Road***.

Shanghai in 1908 is not an easy place for a girl on her own, even less so if she is Eurasian. Jialing is only 7 when the Fong family's wealth is exhausted and they are forced to relinquish their estate. She lived with her mother in the western portion of the property, behind courtyard walls that separate them from the central home. Left with instructions to hide quietly and await her mother's return, days pass and Jialing is soon hungry and out of food. Luckily she is guided by Fox, a wise spirit of many years, who urges her to show herself to the eldest daughter of the estate's new owners, Anjuin Yang. The older girl takes Jialing to

her grandmother who decides to shelter the child as a bound servant. A friendship develops and deepens between Jialing and Anjuin, giving comfort to the motherless child. Jialing is determined to someday find her mother and learn why she was abandoned. As she fits into the Yang household, working as a servant, opportunity comes her way when the eastern compound is rented to a group of teachers from a missionary school. The headmistress arranges for Jialing to be educated. The first half of the story has an interesting historical perspective of what it would be like for an orphaned girl in that era, the close friendship of two girls as they mature into women, and the coming of age of a young woman whose prospects may be limited by her Eurasian ancestry, and lack of dowry.

The second half of the story picks up the pace when the Yang's fall on hardship that leads to danger, intrigue and a thrilling climax. The historic detail is rich and enlightening. I was impressed by the way Janie Chang blends into the story belief in spirits alongside the work the missionaries did to educate young women and try to save them from lives of prostitution and poverty. I confess my favorite character was Fox! I loved the scenes where he takes Jialing on excursions, allowing her to feel what it is like to be a fox. What a grand thing, to have a beautiful, wise fox as a spirit to guide and protect you, while allowing you to roam through time and place.

Janie Chang has travelled extensively, living in a variety of countries and cultures including Taiwan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Iran, Thailand, and Canada. I had the pleasure of hearing her speak in Tacoma, Washington and she was both fascinating and friendly. Join us for an entertaining event.

Author events are free and include refreshments and drawings for door prizes. Sign up to attend by calling 541-593-2525, emailing sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. Please check sunriverbooks.com for updates, additions and changes.

Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday July 1, 2017 at 5:00 PM ***Suspects*** by Ted Haynes

Saturday July 15th 2017 at 5:00 PM ***The Widow Nash*** by Jamie Harrison

Saturday July 29th at 5:00 PM ***Cold Hearted River*** by Keith McCafferty

Saturday August 5th at 5:30 PM ***Double Wedding Death*** by Arlene Sachitano

Saturday August 12th, 2017 at 5:00 PM ***The Case of the Reborn Bhagwan*** by Bill Sullivan

Friday August 25th, 2017 at 5:30 PM ***Eruption: The Untold Story of Mt. St. Helens*** by Steve Olson

Thursday September 7th 2017 ***The Western Star*** by Craig Johnson

Saturday October 14, 2017 ***All She Left Behind*** by Jane Kirkpatrick

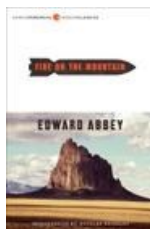
Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Call or e-mail Sunriver Books & Music sign up to attend by calling 541-593-2525, e-mailing sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com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

SUNRIVER STARS COMMUNITY THEATER

"Play It Again, Sam" by Woody Allen, and directed by Sandy Silver will be our 2017 spring performance. Allan Felix has this thing about Humphrey Bogart -if only he had some of Bogart's technique. Bookish and insecure with women, Allan's hero, Bogey comes to the rescue, with a fantastic bevy of beauties played out in hilarious fantasy sequences. "Hilarious... a cheerful romp. Not only are Mr. Allen's jokes and their follow ups, asides and twists audaciously brilliant, but he has a great sense of character." – *The New York Times* "A funny, likeable comedy that has a surprising amount of wistful appeal." – *The New York Post* Show dates are **Fri. June 2 and Sat. June 3 at 6:30 PM and Sun. June 4 at 2:00 PM (Matinee)**. Following a successful winter performance of "Nana's Naughty Knickers" at The Door, we will be returning to the SHARC for "Play it Again Sam" since it is a more conducive venue for this show. We recommend early ticket purchase online at www.sunriverstars.org as the preferred option. Simply purchase and print. Tickets are also available at the door unless we sell out online. See May's newsletter for more information on upcoming shows.

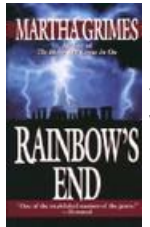
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A Month of New Mexico

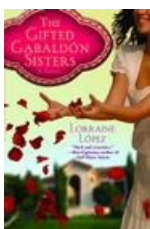


Each year we focus for the month of June on a region, state, or city in the United States. As a lead up to the Fourth of July we wander the country through the pages of books, reflecting on our rich diversity and cultural heritage. Books allow us to visit other areas, learn about the people who live in them, and appreciate the differences that enrich our country. We are a vast country with an amazing variety of landscapes, treasured mountains, swift moving rivers, deep canyons; all must be protected and cherished, the land is irreplaceable. This year we focus on New Mexico. We hope you join us in reading some interesting books! Attend a Book Club meeting at 6:00 on Mondays, we will be discussing novels set in New Mexico, everyone is welcome.

Fire on the Mountain by Edward Abbey. The characters in this story are western to the core and will stay with you long after the last page. The story is narrated by Billy, a twelve year old boy spending the summer on his grandfather's ranch in New Mexico. Billy is fond of his grandfather, John Vogelin, and his grandfather's best friend, Lee Mackie. He is looking forward to the summer but there is trouble on the horizon. The US Government wants to turn the ranch into part of the White Sands Missile Testing Range. John Vogelin is the last holdout, defying the government. John is not about to give up the ranch he loves and figures the government shouldn't be taking a man's land. As the summer progresses neither the federal government or John Vogelin are willing to back down. Lee tries to persuade his friend that he cannot beat the government, but John is not about to give up his ranch. This is a story that resonates with Abbey who once said "A Patriot Must Always Be Ready To Defend His Country Against His Government". The man was a handful!



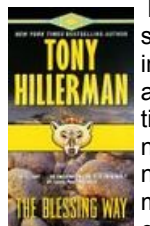
Rainbow's End by Martha Grimes brings her Scotland Yard Superintendent Richard Jury to the Southwest USA. Three women have died of "natural causes" in London and the West County. But were the causes really "natural"? Or were they murdered? The only thing linking the three women, one American and two Brits, is New Mexico. Jury heads across the sea where he meets a strange young girl with a pet coyote while back in London his pal, wealthy Melrose Plant, continues making discreet inquiries. Grimes combines nimble writing with a sprinkling of humor and intriguing plots. Most of the series is set in London. Grime's stories are rich in fine plotting, interesting characters, and a dash of humor. Mary Dark Hope from this story is also featured in ***Biting the Moon***, this month's Mystery Book Club selection.



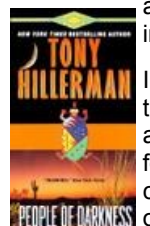
The Gifted Gabaldon Sisters by Lorraine Lopez. Fermina, a Pueblo nanny, loves her young charges, four sisters and a brother, ferociously. Their mother gave them each a movie star's name then died when they were very young. Fermina filled the void, promising each sister that she would be given a "special" gift upon Fermina's death. When Fermina dies the girls try to figure out their special gift. The ramifications of the bequest shape their lives in unusual ways.



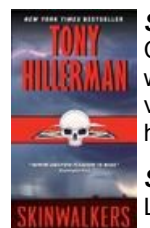
The Night Journal by Elizabeth Crook takes place in the past and present of New Mexico. At 37 Meg has lived her life in the shadow of her difficult, determined grandmother Bassie. Orphaned as a young child, Bassie's knowledge of her mother comes from her mother's journals. Bassie is a noted historian, made famous by publishing the journals. Meg is persuaded to journey with Bassie to New Mexico where they find the journals have secrets, all that Bassie relied on in life is threatened. The characters are strong, choosing their own path in life. New Mexico in the early 1900's is spellbinding. It is like taking a step back into history, the making of the railroad, the settling of New Mexico.



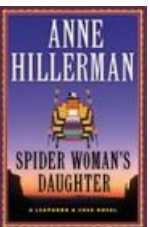
Recommendations for good mysteries in the Southwest USA cannot be given without including Tony Hillerman's excellent series set on the Navajo reservation. They embody the spirit of the southwest while telling a good story. The mysteries are complex and interesting while always being respectful of the culture. ***The Blessing Way*** is Tony Hillerman's first book in the series featuring Navajo Tribal Police Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn. A young man is fleeing arrest, heading into the far corners of the reservation. By the time Leaphorn finds his suspect, the man is a corpse with no clues to solve the mystery of his death. No evidence litters the ground, no tracks lead the way to the killer, and nothing points a direction for the investigation. A professor is on the reservation researching native culture and tribal beliefs in witchcraft. Could the Native beliefs have something to do with the killer? Hillerman has written many books featuring Leaphorn, books that transport you into another culture. It is a journey worth taking, set in a remote, wide open land full of blazing sunsets, high mesa's, and canyons. Tony Hillerman captures perfectly the lonely beauty of the landscape along with the rich cultural heritage of the Navajo people. Along the way he tells rousing good stories with likeable characters and interesting plots.



In ***People of Darkness*** Tony Hillerman brings Sergeant Jim Chee into his series set on the Navajo reservation. Advised by his uncle that it would be wise to understand the ways of the white people, Jim is dating a white school teacher. Native custom and beliefs are an important part of Jim Chee's character. He respects the old ways. This relationship with a white woman brings his caring for her in conflict with his determination to remain true to himself. He may learn more about the white culture, but the personal cost could be high. Chee becomes involved in a case involving the dawning of the atomic age and greed. A rich man's wife offers an outrageous amount of money for a box of rocks. As he gets closer to the truth, a hired killer is sent after him.



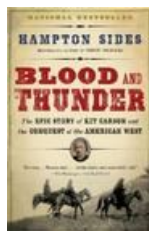
Skinwalkers by Tony Hillerman unites Chee and Leaphorn. Asleep in his trailer, shotgun blasts rip through the night, but Chee survives. He is a well thought of young cop, but the attempt on his life make Lieutenant Leaphorn wonder why a good cop would be targeted, it may cast suspicion on Chee. The two cops are working on solving three killings, the only thing linking the victims is a belief in shamanism. Is it possible they were killed by a skinwalker or witch? Chee is training to become a shaman, is he somehow involved in these killings?



Spider Woman's Daughter by Anne Hillerman continues her Father's series set on the Navajo Reservation featuring Leaphorn and Chee. Officer Bernie Manualito and retired Lieutenant Leaphorn leave a breakfast meeting of the Navajo Nation Police together. Bernie stops in the lobby to make a quick cell phone call while Leaphorn continues on to his truck. It is a short walk, but a shooter intervenes sending the retired detective to the ICU in Sante Fe and the Navajo Nation Police on the hunt for the shooter. Captain Largo puts Bernie's husband Sergeant Chee in charge of the case and tells her to take a few days off, but this does not slow the determined woman's involvement in finding the person responsible for putting her mentor on life support. There are some nice plot twists involving old cases solved by Chee and Leaphorn. Bernie's fondness for her mother and the importance of family in her life is highlighted in a subplot about her sister failing to faithfully execute the duties of caregiver. Bernie is a determined investigator and a devoted daughter; though I would not recommend her cat sitting capabilities. It will be interesting to see where another devoted daughter takes the stories of her father.

A Month of New Mexico.

Rich Stonehouse recommends.



Blood and Thunder: The Epic Story of Kit Carson and the Conquest of the American West by Hampton Sides is a sweeping, and epic portrait of the conquest of the American west led by the biblical theme of Manifest Destiny. Sides writes eloquently of the subjugation of the native American tribes and the heroic but doomed effort to keep and live on their ancestral lands. Sides describes many characters both white and Indian who personified each side of the struggle. Kit Carson is the centerpiece of Sides' story of the white man's relentless movement west and the destruction and devastation left in its wake. Written as a heroic and mythical figure in the pulp fiction novels known as "Blood and Thunders", Carson abhorred the falseness and cartoon caricatures that they represented. The truth of his and other western characters was fascinating enough without the hyperbole. President James Polk is shown as the relentless advocate of the westward movement and oblivious to anything that got in its way.

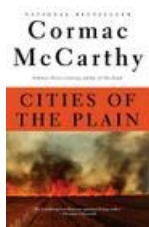
The Navajos, led by Narbona and later Manuelito were forced to live on reservations after their ultimate defeat in various wars over the years that ended in failure and near starvation. Kit Carson later championed a plan to relocate the Navajo to ancestral lands set aside for them to live peacefully. This is a well researched and breathtaking narrative of the history of our great American Southwest.

Deon recommends.

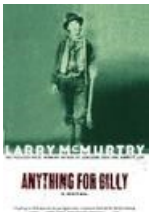


Red Sky by Richard Bradford is a classic novel about a young boy coming of age during WWII. Josh's mother, Ann Arnold, is a southern belle with a long list of ancestors, his dad, Frank Arnold, was of Danish background, a prominent ship builder in Mobile, Alabama. As a small child, the humid summers covered Josh with sores and rashes, significantly. The kid was miserable and Frank had enough. He decided the family would spend the summer away from the humid south, somewhere warm and dry. They headed to the southwest, checking out a long list of places that failed to suit. Ann didn't want to leave the south at all, thought Josh would grow out of it, that the discomfort of summer was just part of childhood. Finally they came upon Corazon Sagrado, New Mexico, high in the hills, on the flank of the mountain, with green meadows dotted with sheep. This is where they would build their summer home. Ann never resigned herself to leaving the south for summers, she liked living in Mobile, around the people she knew and she was uncomfortable with the Spanish speaking population of New Mexico. Frank and Josh fit right

in, having a grand time. By WWII Josh was a teenager, interested in girls and wild for sailing. Frank enlisted, was commissioned a Commander, and took his family to New Mexico to wait out the war while he was away. In the local school, Josh makes a friend of the doctor's son and a brash teenage girl. They pal around together having adventures, although his two new friends are not the social class Josh's mom finds suitable. It is here Josh will be challenged to face adult decisions as his mother fails to bond with her environment, clashes with the staff who cared for them from their first New Mexican summer, and things become more complicated with a visitor from the south. This lively book is suffused with humor and great characters to enjoy. The title comes from the ancient mariner's rhyme, *red sky at morning, sailors take warning*.



Cormac McCarthy concludes his Border Trilogy with **Cities of the Plain**. Billy Purham and John Crady Cole are working on a cattle ranch, near the proving grounds of Alamogordo New Mexico. The border lands have El Paso Texas, and Mexico nearby. The government will soon be taking over a chunk of the ranch land for the military and the men are wondering what their future might hold. It seems clear the west is changing rapidly. Billy and another ranch hand, Troy, go off for a couple days. Billy likes working for Mac, he is a fair boss, but Troy has a brother looking for hands on his ranch, a place not imperiled by government seizure, and the men think they should check out the situation. While they are away John Grady joins some of the other hands going across the border to a bordello. John doesn't join them with the women, but notices a new girl, young and slim. He can't get her out of his mind; his feelings grow into a passion that he cannot deny. Enlisting the help of his friend Billy, John Crady will try to rescue the young woman setting in motion a series of tragic events. Cormac McCarthy is known for writing dark, melodic novels with deeply haunting stories.



Anything for Billy by Larry McMurtry is an entertaining blend of story and history. Billy the Kid is famous as a stone cold killer. Mr. Sippy meets him on a cold mountaintop, alone but for his mule. Billy is entertained by the easterner who fell in love with the romance of the west through reading and eventually writing dime western novels. It is cold, Mr. Sippy is alone, and there are hostile Indians about, after his first fright in meeting Billy, his next thought is to tag along and not be left alone. Things have not gone as planned for Mr. Sippy since he left behind his prosperous life in Pennsylvania with his wife and nine daughters. The west has proved to be challenging to his skills. Billy's friend Joe Lovelady soon showed up with their mounts, as Billy predicted he would, and the three men head down the mountain toward Greasy Corner and destiny. Billy is just a kid when he meets Mr. Sippy, his reputation far exceeding any real exploits. But he is on his way to fame and Mr. Sippy is along for the ride, there to set the record straight as Billy's violence escalates in an attempt to keep up with his reputation. McMurtry liberally spices the story with humor.

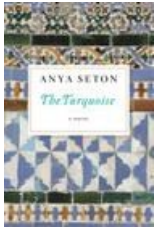


Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko is her classic novel set in New Mexico's Laguna Pueblo Reservation. Tayo returns from WWII with tormenting memories. He has seen and felt much pain, the violent death of fellow soldiers, the Baatan Death March, the horrific end of the war with Japan, things no one should endure. White medicine only deadens his senses. Back on the reservation he seeks that numbness in alcohol along with other Native American Soldiers. His home has changed while he was away, too, and now he must reckon with this new situation. Eventually Tayo will seek the help of a Shaman to perform a ceremony and help restore balance to their world. Native American legends are part of the story. Tayo has many adventures, including a hair raising cattle drive. If you are interested in Native America literature, this is a beautifully written novel of great power.



Out There by Sarah Stark is the story of a soldier's reentry to civilian life after serving in the Iraq war. Jefferson Long Soldier returns home to New Mexico and his beloved Grandmother Esco and Cousin Nigel. Jefferson is a sweet natured man, never inclined toward violence, the war left deep wounds in his psyche. He survived by reading Gabriel Garcia Marquez's **100 Years of Solitude**. This beautifully written novel gave him solace in the chaos of war, comfort when he witnessed the violence, and a belief in his own survival; it kept him going. He would record the names of his lost comrades along with the civilians casualties on a paper kept in the pages of the book. At home he is still tormented by the war, he wants to know why. Finally, recognizing that Jefferson is floundering, Nigel encourages Jefferson's decision to travel to Mexico in search of the great author, Gabriel Garcia Marquez. It is Jefferson's hope to tell him of the solace his book inspired and to ask him why, hoping he would know the answer. This is the story of that journey.

A Month of New Mexico.



The Turquoise by Anya Seton is set in the late 1800's. Sante Fe Cameron's name was a compromise, on the day of her mother's death and her birth, between the Priest who gave her mother last rites and her Scottish father, a physician who had not embraced the Catholic religion and was distraught over the death his young wife. They settled on the name of the city where the Scott and his Spanish bride found a brief period of happiness. For the first seven years of her life, Fey, as her father called her, was taught both English and Spanish, learned to read, and was a happy young child. She had a special gift, occasionally she could see things that were of import in the lives of others. Her father recognized in this ability, the ways of her Scottish grandmother. He counseled that she use this gift wisely, years later a Navajo Shaman would repeat this advice. Orphaned at 7, Fey fell through the cracks, no one thought to check on what became of the doctor's child, she was taken in by the serving woman who cleaned house for her father. This worked out well for the serving woman's family, as she also relieved Fey's home of all her father's worldly possessions. An impulsive act sends teenaged Fey across the west to New York City with a man of flexible morality. It will take her years to realize she walked the wrong path and to face the dramatic consequences of her actions. Eventually she will return to New Mexico, to Mt. Atlatla, This is a fascinating period piece with a strong woman at its center.



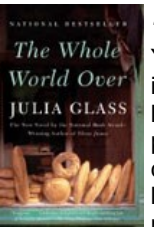
Blue Rodeo by Jo-Ann Mapson is set in the small community of Blue Dog, New Mexico in the shadow of Shiprock Mountain. Owen Garrett lives in a bunk house owned by an elderly couple and runs a small herd of sheep. He finds comfort in the company of his horse Red, and his three legged cattle dog. It wasn't always like this; Owen once had a family, a wife and daughter. But he was susceptible to the taste of strong drink and lives lived in the haze of alcohol do often come asunder. A night of tragic violence, fueled on inebriation, changed everything. Now he tries to put it all behind him, staying sober and living life simply. As the book opens, Owen is noticing the charms of his new neighbor; she has legs that go on forever and lush, unruly red hair. He is getting a little more of a view of these charms than he might normally as his neighbor runs back and forth, clad in bright red panties and an old shirt, throwing water on Owen's dog. The dog has also noticed the attraction of the new neighbor's female dog, an animal in heat and willing to succumb to his wishes. Hence the water, which is not doing much toward cooling the canine's ardor. Margaret Yearwood rented the elderly couples home and retreated to this small community when her marriage fell apart. Her teenaged son is enrolled in a boarding school for the deaf, refusing to have much to do with his mother, still trying to adjust to the recent loss of his hearing. Margaret used to have serious artistic aspirations; she set them aside for marriage and motherhood. Life in California on the waterfront, married to an attractive and successful man, was good until it all fell apart. Now she is trying to put her life back together and find out if she still has talent. These two damaged, wary people just might find a measure of comfort in each other's company.



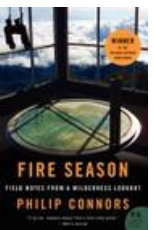
Owen's Daughter by Jo-Ann Mapson takes place a decade after **Blue Rodeo**. Skye Elliott had big dreams as a teen, she was a gifted equestrian with plans to go to college and become a veterinarian. The implosion of her parent's marriage, absence of her father, and being left on her own far too soon led to some inevitably bad choices. Falling for a Rodeo Bull Rider, letting him introduce her to the party scene where she acquired a taste for drugs, and having a child when she was really just a child herself, all led to abandoning dreams of that bright future. Driving under the influence and being involved in an accident was followed by a stint in jail and her ex-husband gaining custody of their daughter Gracie. On release, Skye's only goal is to find her daughter and regain custody; she is determined to do a better job raising her child than her parents, despite her rocky start. Owen hasn't seen his daughter in ten years, his life has been in turmoil too, he is trying to make amends for the wrong he has done to others, among them his daughter Skye, and a beautiful long legged redhead, Margaret. Father and daughter will set out on horseback to find forgiveness and redemption. Along the way they will have to deal with Margaret's son Peter, regain Gracie, and mend the errors of their past.



Nevada Barr is a National Park Ranger who writes an engaging mystery series about Ranger Anna Pigeon set in the National Parks. Each book focuses on a different National Park and is suffused with a love of wilderness. **Blind Descent** is set in Carlsbad Caverns. Anna's friend, Frieda, is in Lechuguilla Cave on a surveying expedition when she is severely injured. Frieda wants Anna to be part of the rescue party, she believes her injury was not an accident and someone is trying to harm her. Anna she trusts. Frieda is 800 feet down in the darkness of the cave, Anna is deeply claustrophobic, but for her friend she will go. The rescue crew takes nine hours to reach Frieda and her team, and then head toward the surface. Before things get underway another accident occurs. Soon there are suspicious connections to murders above ground. The caving scenes give a real feeling for what it might be like to enter those subterranean places. The story set in the caves is quite tense as you enter an alien environment where darkness rules and you feel Anna's terror of the closed spaces underground.

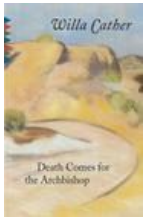


The Whole World Over by Julia Glass explores choices. Greenie Duquette is happy in her work as a pastry chef in New York where her good friend Walter sells her creations at his restaurant. She adores her 4 year old son, George. But her marriage is not moving along so smoothly, joy is lacking. Alan, her psychotherapist husband is down in the dumps, his clientele declining, he is jealous of her success and he is keeping a secret. In 2000 the Republican Governor Ray McRae of New Mexico is given a piece of one of her cakes, so delighted is he, that he offers her a job. Greenie moves to New Mexico with her son, Alan is free to come along if he chooses, but he stays. Now it is up to Greenie to see what this new life might bring and where her path might lead. Living on a ranch in New Mexico is a huge change from New York City. Greenie's life is rich in the love of good friends and pets, not to mention scrumptious pastries. The story brings back some of the characters (including bookseller Fenno McLeod) from Julia Glass' **Three Junes**, winner of the 2002 National Book Award.

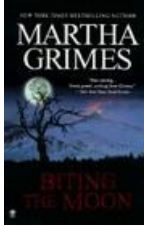


Fire Season: Notes from a Wilderness Lookout by Philip Connors tells of the decade of summers this Wall Street Journal reporter spent in New Mexico's Gila Wilderness spotting fires. In 2002 he left his job behind, headed west, and spent five months in a tiny Depression Era fire lookout ten thousand feet up keeping watch over a gigantic area prone to combustion. Thereafter he returned every summer to take up his post. In the book, he concentrates on one season, 2009. What makes this book memorable is Connor's writing, it is superb. He jokes, contemplates the power of wind, stresses over the carelessness of campers and smokers in a dry environment. Most of all, it is like stepping into a solitary wilderness, where the chaotic sound of modern life will abate, and the glorious peace of wilderness will surround you.

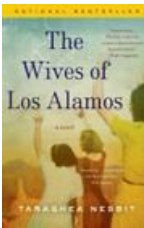
June, A Month of New Mexico, 2017 Book Clubs.



June 12 the Classics Book Club discusses ***Death Comes for the Archbishop*** by Willa Cather, a quiet, lovely book. In 1851 New Mexico was now part of the United States, a vast territory with miles between settlements. The Catholic Church sent Father Jean Marie Latour as Apostolic Vicar, eventually Archbishop, as their representative in this untamed land. American in name only, many of the inhabitants were Mexican and Indian, with a variety of melded belief systems. Father Latour investigates this land, approaching the people with kindness and respect, while dealing with bad priests, occasionally dangerous men, and Native Americans suspicious of whites who do not always treat them with the respect they are due. He is comforted and aided by his good friend Father Joesph Vaillant, the two men are French and have known each other for many years. They travel on beautiful cream colored mules, Contento and Angelica, who have a great affection for each other. This is a splendid book to read slowly, savor the thought of such good men, kind to animals, trying amid difficult circumstances to serve the interest of the people in their care.



June 19 the Mystery Book Club discusses ***Biting the Moon*** by Martha Grimes. This is a darker and more serious mystery than Grimes main series, she is best known for writing clever, very amusing mysteries featuring Scotland Yard Detective Richard Jury and his aristocratic pal Melrose Plant. ***Biting the Moon*** opens with a teenage girl snowshoeing in the Sandia Mountains; checking traps and freeing coyotes. She travels with medical supplies to heal them and ease their suffering; they leave her grateful for a return to their wild lives. The girl has white blond hair and vivid green eyes that miss nothing. She doesn't know her name, so she chose Andi. A few months back, she awoke in a Santa Fe room alone. She had been taken there by a man, she doesn't know what he looks like, and she has no memory of anything prior to that awakening. Fearing he will soon return, she skedaddles, taking refuge in the mountains. But the unknown worries her, what if the man comes back and finds her again? On a trip into town for supplies, Andi meets Mary Dark Hope, an orphan living with Rosella. The teens quickly become close. They devise a plan to find the man who abducted Andi. Rosella will be away for a short time, while she is gone the teens will flee, first to Colorado, then the Salmon River in Idaho where they will track a man who is totally lacking in conscience but gifted with abundant charm and money. On a wild white water rafting trip, they will experience his lethal cunning. Their journey will change the teens; they will see the dark side of human nature in a canned hunt and dog fight. I believe those who cherish animals will find this a satisfying story, the scenes of abuse take up very little of the story. Andi becomes an avenging angel for the animals; she rocks! We need people like Andi who will not look away and who have the courage and bravery to take action. The majority of the story focuses on a teenager trying to discover what happened to her, what she can no longer remember. The settings are beautiful. According to the Born Free organization there are over a thousand canned hunts in the United States. Only Arizona bans them. Dog fighting is a felony in 48 of our states, yet the ASPCA says that tens of thousands of people are involved in dog fighting. For anyone who feels they must prove their courage by fighting dogs or engaging in canned hunts (not really "hunts" at all), some advice. Save your money, you haven't got any courage, honor either.



June 26 the Fiction Book Club concludes our month of New Mexico with ***The Wives of Los Alamos*** by TaraShea Nesbit. The Manhattan Project in the high country of New Mexico was a strange undertaking. Leading scientists were brought together to live in isolation for as long as it would take to create a weapon of mass destruction of unimaginable power. The men could be there for quite a while, so a city was built, in fits and starts, to house their families. As the community morphed from a purely military facility into a neighborhood, there were schools for the children, activities for the families, and a group of women whose common ground was husbands working on the Manhattan project. This is their story.

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

Please note, hours for Book Club have changed, book club begins at 6:00 PM.

Please note there have been changes in the summer schedule.

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

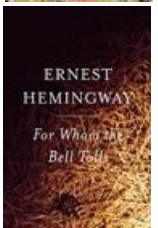
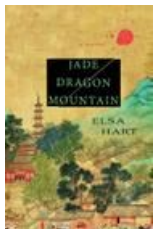
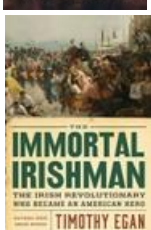
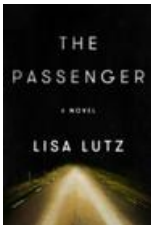
July 10, 2017 ***Passenger*** by Lisa Lutz [Mystery Book Club](#)
 July 17, 2017 ***Little Wolves*** by Thomas Maltman [Fiction Book Club](#)
 July 31, 2107 ***Immortal Irishman*** by Tim Egan [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

August 7, 2017 ***Jade Dragon Mountain*** by Elsa Hart [Mystery Book Club](#)
 August 14, 2017 ***For Whom the Bell Tolls*** by Ernest Hemingway [Classics and Fiction Book Clubs](#)

September 11, 2017 ***I'm Traveling Alone*** by Samuel Bjork [Mystery Book Club](#)
 September 18, 2017 ***All the King's Men*** by Robert Penn Warren [Classics and Fiction Book Clubs](#) **Banned Book Selection**

October ***Secret Place*** by Tana French [Mystery Book Club Themed Month Ireland](#)
 October ***Troubles*** by J.G. Farrell [Classics Book Club Themed Month Ireland](#)
 October Nora Webster by Colm Toibin [Fiction Book Club Themed Month Ireland](#)

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



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