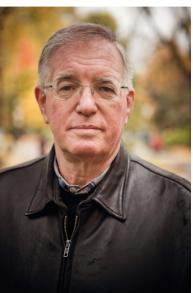


# Sunriver Books & Music June 2020 Newsletter Sunriverbooks.com 541-593-2525





PHILLIP MARGOLIN

A
REASONABLE

DOUBT

Saturday June 20 at 5 PM Phillip Margolin presents *A Reasonable Doubt*. Phil always puts on a good show! His New York Times Bestselling mysteries owe a lot to his years as a criminal defense attorney in Portland Oregon arguing death penalty cases. There is a feeling of reality and knowledge about the workings of the law that add depth to his novels. This will be a ticketed event requiring purchase of the book, only a maximum of 25 tickets will be issued. Space is limited, this will allow 3 feet of separation between chairs. The store will be closed during the event. Contact us to arrange purchase of a book with ticket by calling 541-593-2525, emailing <a href="mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com">sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com</a>, or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. We

hope you will support this author event with the purchase of a book!

Mystery, magic, and a complicated puzzle make *A Reasonable Doubt* fun to read! The pages fly by! If you enjoy a good mystery, do not pass this up!

Robert Chesterfield is a master magician with a posh British accent, but not a nice guy. He was charged with killing two people, he walked because he hired the best, attorney Regina Barrister. Known as the sorceress for her brilliance as a defense attorney, Regina effortlessly left the prosecutor in tatters, her client cleared of the crime.

Decades later, Robin Lockwood, Regina's protégé, is contacted by Chesterfield because he may find it convenient to have a criminal attorney on retainer in the near future. Robin isn't thrilled with the client, but she has a lifelong fascination with magic, so she accepts. Invited to his palatial home on the Oregon Coast for a special showing of his new illusion, the Chamber of Death, Robin is present when the magic goes awry

and the magician disappears. His timing is good, he goes missing leaving behind a string of debtors, including a mobster who takes running out on a debt as a sign of disrespect.

Years later, the Portland papers announce the debut of Robert Chesterfield's Chamber of Death at the Imperial Theater. The illusion again ends differently than anticipated. This time Robert Chesterfield is not going to escape, he is seriously dead, murdered in front of a full theater of people with no one the wiser as to who put an end to the magician. In the audience are a plethora of Chesterfield's enemies, and the two defense attorneys, Regina Barrister, now retired, and Robin Lockwood.

A magician killed in front of a crowd with no one aware of the crime or able to identify the killer! What a great mystery!

There will be refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Please check our website: https://www.sunriverbooks.com/ for any changes.



Flashman July 2, 2002- January 31, 2015

Please remember not to leave your pets in a parked car, temperatures can soar within minutes causing death. If you see a dog in a parked car in Sunriver, please call the Sunriver Police Department 541-593-1014 so they can rescue the animal. Animals can be in severe distress in minutes, parking in the shade on our hot days will not save them. It is too hot to leave an animal safely in the car, even in shade temperatures will be deadly.

While we are alerting dog owners to local dangers, Dr. Wendy Merideth of Sunriver Veterinary Clinic 541-593-8128 has alerted us to the danger of mushrooms. Every year dogs ingest poisonous mushrooms, sometimes fatally, always requiring prompt medical attention.

In the Deschutes National Forest be cautious of leg hold traps that can grievously injure a pet, or a person. In Sunriver, avoid gopher traps on the golf courses .

Dogs in Sunriver must either be on a leash or under firm voice control, this keeps them from unhappy interactions with resident's cats and other small animals (such as the local porcupines which can cause an emergency vet visit).

Caution is necessary with doors too! Dogs love the out of doors! They arrive in Sunriver all happy, happy with the forest and meadows. A veritable paradise to explore! So an open door is like an invitation to a party. If they escape without notice, they can be gone in an instant, by the time they are missed, it can be too late. Sunriver is surrounded by forest, many animals live here. Coyote, bobcat, deer, and other animals can lead to a deadly encounter for the beloved family dog. Be especially careful traveling with people unfamiliar with animals and small children. They may not realize the danger that open door poses to the canine family member. If you are traveling with a cat, escaping to the outside is even more dangerous making doorway vigilance tremendously important.

Sunriver is a great place for dogs, they love it here! We welcome them with treats at Sunriver Books & Music. Some of the restaurants such as the Sunriver Brewing Company, Café Sintra and the Village Bar and Grill welcome dogs on their decks. There is 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 makes us sad to post flyers about missing pets. Sunriver really is a great place for dogs. Flashman loved all the places to go, he is pictured here along the Deschutes River having a grand run. He lived happily in Sunriver for years. Your pet can enjoy their vacation too!

#### May We Ask A Favor?

Over 100,000 have died in the USA. A higher toll than in all wars since Vietnam. And the toll keeps rising. We understand there are differences of opinion, some believe we should depend on eventual herd immunity or accept the risk as the new normal. We have seen the protests disavowing masks and demanding a return to business as usual. Others think business as usual has fled the scene, we are in a situation our nation has not faced in a century. Having no experience in pandemics or virology, I respect your right to your opinion. We ask your help in respecting the measures Sunriver Books & Music has taken to mitigate risk. We are requiring shoppers maintain a reasonable distance from each other, wear a mask and use hand sanitizer. There are members of the community who are vulnerable. We have a family member in her 90's. We appreciate every one of our customers. We enjoy talking with you about books, and we want to be good members of the community. If the measures we take offend, we apologize. Please know they are taken out of a desire to keep people safe. If the risk is exaggerated and the masks are unnecessary, you will have endured a minor inconvenience (we don't enjoy the masks either!). If the scientists and medical personnel are correct (and this has been borne out in other countries) abandoning masks and other measures may lead to serious illness or death for members of the community. It is an easy choice, a little bit of discomfort to avoid injuring others. Although not everyone may agree with these measures, we ask your help in adhering to them, it will be appreciated. We have alternatives to accommodate customers; we do curbside purchases, deliver in Sunriver, ship from our bookstore, or ship from our website sunriverbooks.com.

#### **Indie Lists!**

The American Bookseller's Association, ABA, is no longer printing the Indie Lists in paper form. They are still available on our website, sunriverbooks.com. In addition there will be several special reader's guides. To receive the special reader's guides, email me and I will submit your email address to ABA. In July there will be reviews of YA, coming of age, and family books. In August non-fiction and historical fiction are fearured. In September brings Small Bites and Indie Presses.

## A Month of Nevada

Every year we focus in June on a region, state, or city in the USA. As a lead up to the 4th of July it is a good time to celebrate the diversity, varied landscape, and regional cultural differences that make the USA a special place. The USA is a vast country with a rich history. From north to south, east to west, our landscape and customs change dramatically. Each part of our country is unique, made so by the diversity of the people and the grandeur of the land. This year we focus on Nevada.

**Motel Life,** Set in Reno, tells the story of two brothers, Frank and Jerry Lee, who live in cheap motels until a tragic, drunk driving, accident puts them on the run. Their belongings are meager, their claim on life tenuous. The story has bee

made into a well-regarded movie starring Kris Kristofferson, Emile Hirsch, and Dakota Fanning.

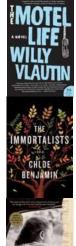
The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin. What would you do if you knew the day your life would end? In New York in 1969 four children seek out a psychic they have heard has the power to tell this date. The information she gives them individually, in secret, will have a profound effect on how they live their lives. Told through each of their viewpoints, they react in different ways. Simon, the youngest, heads to San Francisco where he is intoxicated by the freedom granted in this beautiful city. Klara becomes a magician ultimately ending up in Las Vegas. Daniel becomes a doctor in the military, determining the fitness of young men to go off to war. Varya dedicates her life to science, researching longevity. Over each of them hangs the knowledge of their date. This is included because, even though it is a short part of the novel, you must have a magician's story set in Nevada!

**November Road** by Lou Berney puts Frank, a stone cold mobster, and Charlotte, the mother of two girls, on a collision course that will change their lives. Charlotte is in a dead end marriage to a man whose drinking is a problem, she wants a better life for her daughters, wants them to see a better role model in their mother than the woman her marriage compels her to become. She takes her daughters and her dog, hops in the car and flees Oklahoma heading west. Carlos Marcello pretty much runs New Orleans, Frank lives a cushy life as a consequence of his position with the mobster. Within hours of the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, members of the Marcello gang are being murdered one by one. Frank did a little errand for his boss, nothing big, just an errand to Dallas. Putting two and two together, Frank is good at math, he comes to the conclusion he is on a list and better leave town fast. When he comes across Charlotte with her car broken down, he offers to help her get a car in Las Vegas where he has connections. Convinced he is an insurance salesman doing her a favor, she goes along.

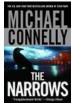
Frank needs to reach Las Vegas where he knows a man with a grudge against Marcello who might help save his life, traveling with Charlotte it will be easier to blend in and escape the notice of the killers on his trail. As they travel west, Charlotte sees a strength of character in Frank and he sees a savvy woman in her. A Kennedy assassination conspiracy involving the mob, a thriller about a man running for his life, the story of a woman determined to achieve a better future, and two people who find admirable qualities in each other.

**Void Moon** by Michael Connelly is a stand alone, outside his acclaimed Bosch or Haller series. And the main character is a dangerous dame. Cassie spent 6 years in prison for manslaughter. Now she sells Porsche's in LA, and is doing quite well, but not for long. Her old life comes calling with the chance of a major heist in Las Vegas. She was aces at robbing big winners at the Las Vegas casinos. Cassie needs the money, this promises to be a big payoff. Despite the planning, it goes dramatically awry, the wrong people are angry and unforgiving. Cassie is on the run from a detective who supplements his income by killing for the casino bosses, she knows he won't give up. But Cassie is one tough woman!

The Narrows by Michael Connelly is a sequel to The Poet, it takes place years later. Bosch is off the LAPD working as a PI. He is contacted by the widow of a cop, Terry McCaleb, he worked with in the past, he agrees to look into the death. It appeared be natural, the man was fond on his boat. But as Bosch digs in, his focus shifts to Terry's work on catching the Poet. Bosch links up with FBI agent Rachel Walling, who took down the Poet and hoped the nightmare was over. A phone call lets her know he might be back, and deadly. The FBI is digging up bodies in LA. Could it be the work of the Poet? Will he go after Rachel Walling? Her superiors do not want her hooking up with Bosch and going rogue, but there is a killer to be caught. Rules will be broken, lives in danger, but Bosch and Walling are on it! A formidable duo intent on finding the right answers. Bosch's personal life also needs attention, his ex-wife is hiding something and he is feeling his way through the role of father to his daughter. The story takes place in LA and Nevada.







#### A Month of Nevada

**Round Midnight** by Laura McBride. Las Vegas from the early days after WWII to current day is a present character in this novel about the lives of four women. June is a wild child; she celebrates the victory in Europe by diving off a New Jersey bridge. Brash and beautiful, she craves excitement and life. Marrying Walter Kohn wasn't the way to achieve those goals. Las Vegas offered a quick divorce, and then it offered home. She married Del and they built up the El Capitan hotel and casino together. Spotting Eddie Knox and signing the sexy singer from Alabama to headline in their Midnight Room helped put the El Capitan on the map. Del, June, and Eddie hung out together, enjoyed each other's company. But Eddie was black; June didn't fully understand the dangers in a friendship between blacks and whites in that tension filled era.

Honorata's uncle more or less sold her as a mail order bride to Jimbo Wohlmann from Chicago. Honorata had gotten into trouble at the behest of her childhood sweetheart back in the Philippines. She was lonely and intimidated by the large American who had promised her uncle to marry her. The first thing he did was change her name, telling her she would be Rita from now on. Jimbo liked to gamble, was well known, to the staff at the El Capitan. When Honorata wins a jackpot, a whole world of options opens up for her.

Coral was born with a talent to sing and caramel colored skin. She left Las Vegas for a while, making her way as a singer, but came home to teach school and be near family. In Las Vegas she could afford to buy a home, something she could not aspire to in California, and she was near her family; mother, sisters, brothers, nieces, nephews. Family meant a lot to Coral. It is that desire for roots that will run through Coral's story.

Engracia made her way to the US without benefit of papers, she works cleaning house where she will meet Honorata and run head on into trouble. Not that Engracia is unfamiliar with adversity; her heart is broken in profound ways. Their stories blend together in a satisfying tale of community, the strength of women, and hope.



MCBRIDE

We Are Called to Rise by Laura McBride. Avis grew up in a hardscrabble existence, her Mom moving from boyfriend to boyfriend. For twenty nine years her life has been finely ordered and stable. Until her son returns from the Middle East with far too may demons and her husband leaves her for a younger woman.

Bashkim, the child of Albanian refugees, takes comfort in school where the current project is writing letters to the soldiers in Iraq. Home is a battlefield, his father's years as a political prisoner left him angry and mistrustful. His wife and children often targets of his wrath. Luis and his partner Sam are legends, 91 live runs through IED infested Iraq, no one has even come close to their record. Now Sam is very dead and Luis is in a hospital stateside. Roberta, an attorney, is an advocate for children who are orphaned or worse, often on the street.

The stories of these four remarkable characters will converge in a tragic moment. The question is where do they go from here? McBride explores the answer with ingenuity and compassion.

RITA MAE BROWN A NOSE FOR JUSTICE

A Nose For Justice by Rita Mae Brown is set in Nevada on a large ranch. Jeeps is 85 years old, a self made woman, independent minded, and not about to order her life by the dictates of someone else's rules. She flew planes in WWII, came home and worked hard making smart moves every step of the way in a man's world until she was one very rich rancher. Now Enrique, her adopted son takes care of the day to day running of the ranch and Carlotta, his wife, runs the house. Jeeps still keeps her hand in the game, makes the major decisions, but it is nice to have help.

Mags, her niece, is in her thirties and starting over. She was one of the hot babes of Wall Street, when the house of cards crashed, she tried to make good with her clients and lost everything. Jeeps has opened her home and her heart to Mags. Not so with Mags' sister Catherine who tried to cut Enrique out of Jeep's will so there would be more for the "blood relatives". Instead Jeeps dis-

owned Catherine and will leave all her wealth to Mags and Enrique. That takes care of someday, but right now Mags needs to figure out how to make a living. It isn't just Mags who is starting over, her Dachshund Baxter is a city dog, country life is all new to him. Jeep's big Shepard mix is a little wary of a dog with such short legs, but they are soon great pals.

As the story opens, someone blows up Silver State Resource Management's pump 19, it is just the beginning. Water rights and the access to water are hot topics in the high desert. Jeeps and Silver State are on opposite sides of the issue. Jeeps is dubious of continued growth in such a sparse environment, she is convinced more houses means less water for ranchers and wildlife. Silver State wants to buy up all the water rights possible and fuel more development. Pete and Lonnie, the investigating officers are worried. This is an issue sure to escalate, no surprise when violence follows. The other mystery is the skeleton of a Russian Cossack found in Jeep's barn. How on earth did the Russian end up buried for a hundred years under Jeep's horse stalls? Rita Mae Brown always writes with humor, the dogs are adorable.

All the Beautiful Girls by Elizabeth Church. Lily Decker's parents and sister died in a tragic car accident when she was 8, somehow Lily survived the collision. Left an orphan she is turned over to the care of her strict, judgmental aunt and predatory uncle. The little girl's only refuge is the dance classes paid by a mysterious benefactor. Lily has an aptitude for dance and is the star of her small town Kansas dance school. She dreams of being a serious dancer, plans on making it her career. As high school graduation nears, her teacher encourages Lily to try Las Vegas, says she is certain the chances for getting into a good show are better there than on the New York stage.

Changing her name to Ruby for a fresh start, Lily takes the advice, but soon finds it is not founded in reality. While Lily may have been the star of her small local productions, she is seriously outclassed by dancers more athletic and better trained. A few of the friends she made in Las Vegas suggest trying out as a showgirl, she has the zaftig figure just made to delight the audience, and the pay is astronomically better than anything the serious dancers could bring home. For a while Lily does okay, she has fun meeting big name stars, enjoys dancing in the shows, and banks her salary preparing for the future. But the past has a way of affecting the future, the abuse she suffered at the hands of her uncle influences the ways she responds to men, and may doom Lily to repeat the patterns learned in childhood.

While the story has serious subjects, it is also entertaining. Lily bonds with other women; they help each other out, and are loyal in times of adversity. She meets many of her heroes, including Sammy Davis Jr. And there are great characters to keep the reader invested in what happens next.

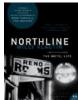
#### June 2020 Book Clubs

Book Clubs are even more important during this time! They allow us to connect, to step into another world in the pages of a book, and to enjoy an interesting discussion. Due to the uncertainties of the current situation, times and venues of the book club can change. They may be zoom meetings, they may be in person, check with us to verify how we are meeting. These dates are tentative.

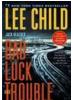


June 8 (originally scheduled in May) Fiction Book Club discusses *Overstory* by Richard Powers, winner of the Pulitzer Prize. *Overstory* is an epic blending the story of trees and people, twining our need for them with our destruction of them. And it has an extensive cast of characters, spanning many years and environments. It opens with Norwegian Jorgen Hoel and Vi Powys pelting stones at Chestnut trees in Brooklyn's Prospect Park to dislodge and enjoy the nuts. They will marry and settle in the Midwest, carrying with them the treasured seeds of a Chestnut Tree to plant their own grove. From there the story moves through time and place, giving a moving portrait of the lives of trees and man. Great reading.

Each year we focus the month of June on a region, state, or city in the United States. We wander the country through the pages of books, reflecting on our rich diversity and cultural heritage. 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's focus is Nevada. Join us to read and discuss interesting books! Book clubs meet Monday check with us for times and details, everyone is welcome.



June 15 the Fiction Book Club discusses **Northline** by Willy Vlautin. Allison Johnson is a waitress with a weakness for alcohol and tendency to melancholy. She takes comfort in imaginary conversations with the actor Paul Newman. Her boyfriend Jimmy, a racist and a bully, is the poster child for bad taste in men (although he does have the good sense to appreciate Johnny Cash). After one too many unpleasant life moments, she flees Las Vegas, and Jimmy, for Reno where she will meet a few people who treat her with kindness. This is a beautifully rendered tale of a woman trying to find her way. Vlautin writes moving stories about people living on the knife edge of life.



June 29 the Mystery Book Club discusses **Bad Luck and Trouble** by Lee Child. Jack Reacher can be counted on to hold honor dear, refuse to compromise his traveling lifestyle, be there for his friends, and make sure the bad guys get their comeuppance in the end. Boy howdy do they ever in this story! Back in his days in the military, Jack ran an elite group. They had a motto. "You do not mess with the special investigators." Now, years after their time in the service, someone is messing with them big time. Someone has thrown one of them out of helicopter at 3000 feet above the California desert. Jack cannot let this go unanswered. It is surely trouble to rile the big guy, killing one of his former crew definitely calls for retribution. The story is set in Las Vegas and LA.



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

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are usually served.

Times and dates are tentative due to current situation.



July 6, 2020 *Tortilla Flats* by John Steinbeck <u>Classics Book Club</u> *Conviction* by Denise Mina <u>Mystery Book Club</u> *Ask Again, Yes* by Mary Beth Keane <u>Fiction Book Club</u>

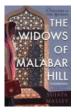
#### August

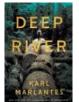
Widows of Malabar Hills by Sujita Massey Mystery Book Club
Deep River by Karl Marlantes Fiction Book Club

#### September

Paragon Hotel by Lindsey Faye Mystery Book Club
Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov Classics Book Club and Fiction Book Club Banned Book Selection
Tightrope by Nicholas Kristoff and Sheryl WuDunn Non-Fiction Book Club

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







# Digital Audio Books.

Sunriver Books & Music is now able to offer digital audio books through Libro. Sign up at libro.fm/sunriverbooks Sunriver Books & Music's logo should appear on the top right corner of the site. Here is a brief description of Libro and their terms.

- Libro.fm works with all major publishers and has a catalog of over 100,000 audiobooks, including New York Times bestsellers.
- Audiobooks can be purchased individually or through a monthly membership program
- Over 100,000 titles First month/audiobook for FREE
- \$14.99 monthly fee (one audiobook/month) 30% off additional audiobooks and audiobook gifts For our customers who enjoy audio books as well as reading, we hope you find Libro a good source.

### **Community Room.**

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.



