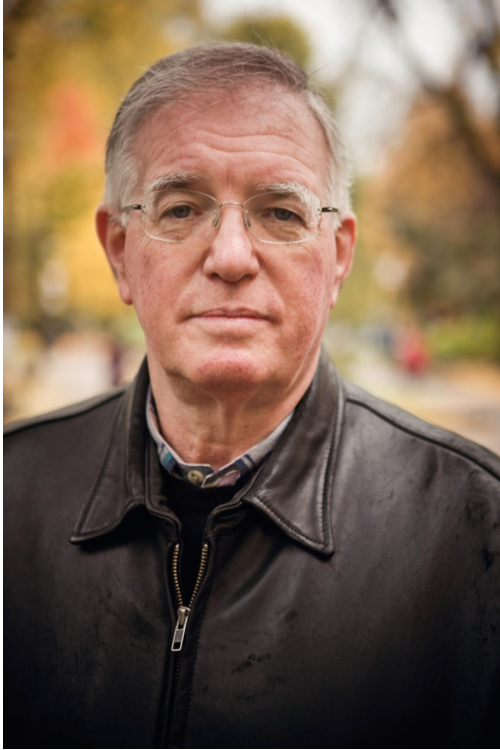




# Sunriver Books & Music

## May 2022 Newsletter

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



May 21 at 5 PM we plan an in-person author event with New York Times Best-selling author Phil Margolin for the latest in his Robin Lockwood series, *The Darkest Place*. Phil is a great raconteur; he always puts on a good show. This is our first in-person event in 2022 and we are so glad it is with Phil Margolin. We are grateful to Phil Margolin for his generosity, excellent mysteries, and fun presentations. Sunriver Books & Music will be closed during the presentation. Purchase of *The Darkest Place* is required to receive a free ticket for admittance to the event. Space will be limited to 21 vaccinated audience members. There will be drawings for prizes. Contact [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com) or stop by Sunriver Books & Music about purchasing *The Darkest Place* and tickets to attend the presentation. We thank you for understanding as we resume in-person events cautiously.

A childhood fascination with Perry Mason led Phil Margolin to a career as a criminal defense attorney who handled death penalty cases and argued before the US Supreme Court. He brings this background, with a rich knowledge of criminal law, to his Robin Lockwood series, legal thrillers at their best!

*The Darkest Place* has Robin Lockwood facing her greatest challenge. Robin is tough, made her way through Yale as an MMA fighter and keeps in practice. Smart too, she is known for coming up with innovative defense strategies that win in court. Courageous, sometimes more than she should be, as she is willing to put herself in physical danger to face down the bad guys. But sometimes, no matter how tough, smart, and courageous, fate throws a punch that is a knock out. Robin's world implodes as she faces a situation she cannot control, now she has to pick up the pieces.

Judge Harold Wright cajoles Robin into defending Lloyd Arness, a rapist no lawyer wants to defend, someone so reprehensible that being in the same room makes a person feel slimed and in need of a shower. This isn't something Robin wants to tackle, but she believes strongly in everyone's right to competent counsel and succumbs to Judge Wright's persuasion. It is a choice she will regret the rest of her life. In the aftermath, Robin goes back to Elk Grove, the small Mid-western town where she grew up. Here, while surrounded by her mother and brothers, she will have to decide how to face the future.

Meanwhile, detectives Carrie Anders and Roger Dillon are investigating the death of Joel Loman, a slippery rich guy long on enemies and short on friends. Numbered among those who are happier with him dead than alive is his widow, Marjorie. They were going through a nasty, contentious divorce.

As the days go on, Robin's interest in the world outside her mother's home starts to regenerate. She is well known in her small town as a top notch, big city attorney, a hometown girl who made good. When a local lawyer gets a case way out of his comfort zone, he asks if she would help. Marjorie Loman was a surrogate for a local couple, Caleb and Emily Lindstrom. She had signed a binding contract, but after the birth she changed her mind, culminating in assaulting Emily Lindstrom and kidnapping the baby. Marjorie was living in Elk Gove under an assumed name. As the trial progresses, Robin learns that Marjorie is wanted in Portland, Oregon, Robin's home city, for a far more serious crime.

*The Darkest Place* is full of twists and turns, lots of interesting characters, and a clever ending!



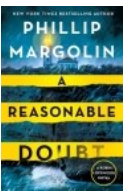
The first in the Robin Lockwood series is *The Third Victim*. Whisper Lake is a small community in rural Oregon where the population swells in summer with the owners of vacation cabins. Winter it is deserted and quiet. Caleb White is shocked when a woman stumbles out of the woods in front of his vehicle, disheveled, blood caked, mud covered, and incoherent. He takes the woman to his cousin, a local cop. Meredith Fenner was held in a remote cabin and repeatedly tortured. She bonds with Detective Harry White, relying on assurance she is safe now. Meredith was abducted in Portland; a powerful attorney, the owner of the cabin, is the prime suspect. The case against Alex Mason is convincing; Meredith identified his cabin, there is physical evidence inside, and the man's wife attests he is sexually sadistic. He can afford the best; he knows Regina Barrister is as good as it gets.

Robin Lockwood will be helping with the defense. Robin was clerking for Oregon Supreme Court Judge Stanley Cloud when she was offered the job, it was an easy choice. Regina is her hero, a role model for the younger woman. At times watching Regina, Robin feels fortunate to be learning from the best, but then there will be odd things, erratic behavior that makes her nervous.

Devious twists will keep you guessing to the very last page, a masterful puzzle. However the heart of this story is the bravery of a woman at the top of her game realizing something is not right in her thought process. Margolin shows these two incredibly strong women, Regina and Robin, one at the pinnacle of a career she loves, the other just getting started and filled with bright promise facing difficult issues with grace,



**Perfect Alibi** is second in the series. A well-regarded attorney is brutally murdered, when suspicion falls on his equally popular partner, Robin Lockwood is called to defend. Robin is also hired in a civil suit to represent a young woman from a background lacking in financial wealth who is raped by a popular athlete from one of Portland's wealthiest neighborhoods. Margolin's years as a successful lawyer is evident as he takes the reader inside the busy office of a highly capable attorney. Robin delves relentlessly for the best path to meet the needs of her clients while adhering to a strict moral code. Fast paced action, multiple murders, and an intricate plot. This thriller also touches on such serious topics as reliance on forensic evidence, the difference in the way societal classes are treated and bullying. And, oh boy, does he ever have the twists and surprises!



**A Reasonable Doubt** has mystery, magic, and a complicated puzzle, it is this month's Mystery Book Club selection described on the last page of this newsletter. Robin Lockwood has a lifelong interest in magic, so she agrees to be on retainer for one of Regina Barrister's old clients. The thing about magicians is that their whole gig is about doing the unexpected. Robert Chesterfield, a master magician with a posh British accent and no moral compass, has gotten out of trouble before, but not this time. In front of a packed audience at the Imperial Theater in Portland Oregon, Chesterfield is about to get retribution while doing his most famous trick, the Chamber of Death. No one in the audience, not the police, not the two powerhouse attorneys, can tell what went wrong.



**A Matter of Life and Death.** Robin Lockwood is tough as nails, and she needs to be, in her latest case defending a boxer who has all the evidence stacked against him! The DA has a wheelbarrow full of evidence, all pointing to her client's guilt. But Robin believes Joe Lattimore when he says he didn't kill Judge Anthony Carasco's wife. Joe Lattimore was homeless and living rough with his wife and child when he was recruited for a job that would put a roof over their heads. Taking that job is the first step down a slippery slope into a living nightmare that might just conclude with the death penalty. Robin teams up with Amanda Jaffe, a dream team of defense lawyers. Can they find a way to prove Joe's innocence despite the mountain of evidence against him? This legal thriller will keep you turning pages. Margolin uses the Portland settings beautifully.

Join us for an entertaining evening! In addition to being an accomplished attorney and New York Times Bestselling author, Phil Margolin is also a really nice guy. In 1970 he served in the Peace Corps in Liberia, Africa. While attending law school, Phil taught junior high school in the South Bronx. Today he travels widely and stays in touch with the world. Phil Margolin is also a champion of Independent Bookstores!

**Support our local Police and Fire departments. Taylor Ross supplied information on the upcoming vote.**

**1 Building, 1 Team: Sunriver Public Safety Building 10-year levy to be on May 17 ballot**

The Deschutes County Commissioners voted unanimously to support the proposed Sunriver Service District's Public Safety Building. The estimated cost of the project is \$18 million dollars. The commissioners voted to allocate \$8 million dollars over three years, almost half of the estimated cost, utilizing Transient Room Tax (TRT) funds. The District will contribute \$3 million from existing reserves. This leaves a \$7 million dollar funding gap.

The District is submitting a ballot measure for the May 17, 2022 Primary Election asking Sunriver registered voters to approve a 10-year capital improvement levy for the \$7 million balance. The 10-year capital levy will be used to service the debt on a low interest, tax-exempt, loan. The financial impact to Sunriver property owners will be \$0.47 per \$1,000 of tax assessed value. For example, a home in Sunriver with a current tax assessed valuation (not market value) of \$400,000 would see an estimated increase of \$188.

The Fire Department facility is over 25 years old, and lacks many of the current industry standards. This video explains and shows first-hand the many current fire facility deficiencies: [https://youtu.be/iQ4Cojj\\_xks](https://youtu.be/iQ4Cojj_xks)

The Police Department is housed in an office space that was never designed to be a police station. This video provides more insight into the various current police facility deficiencies: <https://youtu.be/Rx0ftautAjl>

John Salzer, a 22-year Sunriver homeowner, explains why the combined Public Safety Building is needed: <https://youtu.be/3HBuE2sk6sQ>

The Sunriver Service District is offering tours and forums to show the community the various deficiencies, present the latest information, and answer any questions. The District encourages everyone to ask all questions to get informed.

**Upcoming Events:**

Fire and Police Facility Tours: The Sunriver Fire and Police chiefs will personally lead tours of their current facilities and answer questions about why an integrated Public Safety Building is needed. May 3, 13 from 1 - 2 p.m. Sign up here: [www.sunriversd.org/public-safety-bldg](http://www.sunriversd.org/public-safety-bldg)

Sunriver Community Forums at the SHARC: An in-person presentation of videos, preliminary plans, financial update and Q&A. May 10, 4:30 - 6 p.m. In person Dillon Hall (SHARC)

The District encourages community input to ensure this project is a successful collaboration of all Sunriver stakeholders. Information and progress about the Public Safety Building can be found at [www.sunriversd.org](http://www.sunriversd.org). For more information email [ssdadmin@sunriversd.org](mailto:ssdadmin@sunriversd.org) or call 541-593-8622.



Dr. Sue Dougherty, award winning wildlife and landscape photographer is doing a few photo sessions with dogs. Sue is one of my personal heroes, she is amazing! Schedule a photo shoot for the dog you love! Our Kipling is scheduled.

Her work was recognized in winning the prestigious Audubon Photography Award (<https://www.audubon.org/magazine/summer-2020/the-2020-audubon-photography-awards-winners->). You can see her photographs at the Red Chair Gallery in Bend or at Sunriver Books & Music. Or view her website: [www.offleashphotography.net](http://www.offleashphotography.net)

A 45 minute to one hour session with one dog is \$325. Or \$375 for two dogs. The dog's human or trusted guardian must be present.

Included will be a 20 to 25 professionally edited jpg photos on a flash drive.

Contact Sue Dougherty to schedule a session:

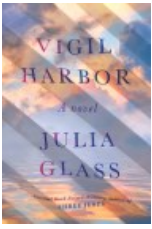
[doughertysueoffleash@gmail.com](mailto:doughertysueoffleash@gmail.com) • Phone: 541-788-0312



*Sue Dougherty*  
OFFLEASH PHOTOGRAPHY

## Staff Recommendations, New Releases.

### Holly Hendricks recommends.



**Vigil Harbor** by Julia Glass. This is an unsettling story set in the very near future in New England. Vigil Harbor is a small place, somewhat distant from troubles in the big cities, but not immune. We follow several people all loosely tied to each other because of personal relationships or geography.

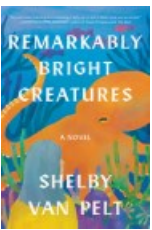
This is a story of marriages, divorces, friendships, parents, past loves, politics, immigration, political arrogance, geographic bubbles, old frenemies, a very strange (maybe magical) lost lover and the impacts and consequences of climate change. There is much in this book worthy of our attention.

The writing is fantastic. Julia Glass is a gifted writer whose descriptions of the characters are easy to follow and understand. Chapters are organized with first person narrators and interspersed with an omniscient narrator who helps fill in the backstory.

The story revolves around Vigil Harbor following terrorist attacks in New York and Boston. These recent events cause genuine concern because one of our college-aged characters had already suffered through a previous attack and was home trying to recover and regroup. Tension is a character in this story because there is a hunt for the eco-terrorists that impacts public safety for everyone. Unfortunately, one character whose immigration status has encouraged him to keep his head low, must decide whether or not he will jeopardize that status for the common good.

Vigil Harbor invites us to imagine what our world could look like if we don't make significant efforts to combat our human impacts on climate change. But it does not preach – it requests that we ponder what the consequences could be if we keep sticking our collective heads in the sand and pretending everything will be alright.

### Deon recommends.



**Remarkably Bright Creatures** by Shelby Van Pelt is an absolutely charming story! Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus, is on day 1,299 of his incarceration in the Sowell Bay Aquarium. While the daily crowds of humans watch him, he is watching them. Octopi are highly intelligent creatures, Marcellus particularly so. To pass the time, he observes closely those charged with running the aquarium and knows far more about them than they do about him.

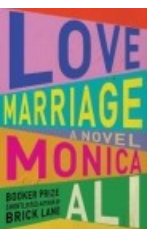
Tova Sullivan is a 70ish widow keeping busy with a job cleaning the aquarium at night after the crowds have left. She greets each creature in it's exhibit as she sets about her task of cleaning the fingerprints off their glass. Marcellus takes note that Tova regards the creatures as individuals, rather than just exhibits. This comes in handy when one-night circumstances will force their contact to be closer than either anticipated.

Tova, a widow, is alone now in the house her father built. She has her group of women friends who meet weekly and her job at the aquarium. Staying busy helps keep her from obsessing about the tragedy of her son Erik's disappearance thirty years ago. He was a bright kid, working the summer on Puget Sound ferries, waiting to start college in the fall. One day he went off to work and never returned.

While Tova is bereft without knowing what happened to her only child, Marcellus is an excellent detective and has solved the puzzle. However, the challenge is how to convey that information to a human??? It becomes even more important as time passes.

Cameron Cassmore was raised by his Aunt Jeanne. An illness forced the sale of her home and Cameron gave up on college to help. Now she lives in a mobile home, has become something of a hoarder, and spends her energy creating a Shangri La garden, the envy of the mobile home park. Cameron helps when needed, but he has failed to flourish. Jobs come and go; this latest bout of unemployment is primed to leave him homeless. Bad credit, a job history of quick firings, and no savings portend few prospects. His childhood friends, Elizabeth and Brad, realize he needs a fresh start somewhere outside California.

Gotta love Marcellus! I was delighted that Shelby Van Pelt gave a shout out to Sy Montgomery's excellent book, **The Soul of an Octopus**.



**Love Marriage** by Monica Ali. Yasmin Ghorami is living the dream, a twenty-six-year-old studying to be a doctor, following in the footsteps of her father, Shaokat, an Indian immigrant who has done well as a London physician. She is engaged to Joe Sangster, from an upper-class family, who is also a young doctor doing his residency. Everything is going swimmingly. There are just a couple hurdles before her happiness is complete.

The hurdle causing Yasmin the most anxiety is the dinner where the two families will meet. Helen, Joe's mother, is a controversial author, an ardent feminist, and a progressive with extremely bold views. Joe and his mother live in a gorgeous house in a tony neighborhood. Helen has invited the Ghorami family, their past includes disastrously bad outcomes from dinner invitations making Yasmin fear what may go wrong when the two families meet.

Anisah, Yasmin's mother, has never really assimilated into London society, has never learned to drive, she spends her days taking care of her family and helping out elderly neighbors. For the past several days Anisah has closeted herself in the kitchen, a whirlwind of cooking, creating all of her best Indian dishes to share with the Sangsters. Yasmin is worried her family will fall short, be considered provincial against the progressive, wealthy Sangsters. She has forbidden her brother Arif, who is prone to teasing her, from attending. Her parents are Moslem, her mother, despite marrying a "love match", is quite conservative. How will they blend with the free-wheeling Helen?

This is a delightful comedy with teeth as Yasmin discovers her foundational beliefs are built on secrets and lies. Lots of fun to read! It will have you laughing one moment and floor you the next with revelations on the many ways the past influences the present. Monica Ali writes brilliantly interesting novels that have a lot to say about important topics of the day while telling a good story.

### Covid 19 protocol update.

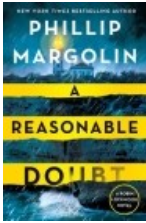
Covid-19 continues to be an issue, variants and sub variants spreading. The virus is not political, it just wants to spread, becoming more successful in spreading as it evolves. We want to keep our families, community, and staff safe. Some people die of it, some have lingering effects, we would prefer avoiding it. We watch the data at [https://covidactnow.org/us/oregon-or/county/deschutes\\_county/?s=32412055](https://covidactnow.org/us/oregon-or/county/deschutes_county/?s=32412055) daily. If numbers rise, we will require masks. With safer numbers, we are requesting masks, not requiring. Thank you for your patience.

[https://covidactnow.org/us/oregon-or/county/deschutes\\_county/?s=32412055](https://covidactnow.org/us/oregon-or/county/deschutes_county/?s=32412055)



## May 2022 Book Clubs

May brings great hiking and biking weather, enjoy being outside in the sun then curl up with an interesting book in the evening. Book Clubs are a fun way to meet other readers and take part in discussions. Sunriver Books & Music has a great group of Book Club members. Join us for lively discussions. At the moment Book Clubs are meeting via Zoom. I had hoped we would add in-person discussions in May, but with the new Omicron variant it is unlikely. Hopefully we will soon be back to meeting in-person and via Zoom. We will be happily continuing with Zoom discussions even after in-person meetings are once again safe for all. Book Club meetings are at 6 PM on Mondays. Email [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com) if you would like to take part in a discussion.



May 2 at 6 PM Mystery Book Club discusses ***A Reasonable Doubt*** by Phil Margolin. We also plan a ticketed author event with Phil Margolin on May 21 for his latest book, ***The Darkest Place***. 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!



May 23 the Fiction Book Club discusses ***The Lacuna*** by Barbara Kingsolver, it is generously filled with important historic moments. Harrison William Shepherd's life takes a drastic change when he is 12 and his gorgeous mother, Salome, moves them to her lover's Mexican hacienda on Isla Pixol where the air is rent by the shriek of Howler monkeys. A far cry from the Washington DC life the young lad had enjoyed with his American father. Other than the fright of the Howler monkeys, it is a beautiful place. Swimming in the sea, Harrison finds a lacuna, a secret underwater cave. He loves stories and words, keeps track of his days in a journal.

The next move will take the pair to Mexico City where Salome continues her quest for the right man, and Harrison finds employment with the artists Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo. Thus, he comes in contact with their house guest, the Russian Leon Trotsky. This is an association doomed to end in sadness. When Trotsky is assassinated, Harrison flees the howling mob of reporters and at 24 returns to the USA where he writes Mexican historic adventure novels.

He is just in time to come under the scrutiny of McCarthyism. Again attracting the attention of a howling mob of press. The Harrison they create in their reporting is a far cry from the real man. He wants close friends, privacy, and quiet, not notoriety. This is a lovely novel about a kind man that brings the events of history into intimate focus and tells a rousing story.

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

Everyone is welcome, Meetings are held via Zoom Mondays at 6 PM.

**Times and dates are tentative due to current situation.**

#### June

June 6 ***The Last Days of Night*** by Graham Moore **Mystery Book Club Month of New York**

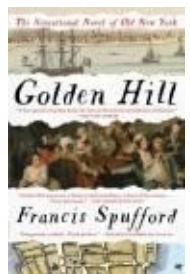
June 20 ***Golden Hill*** by Francis Spufford **Fiction Book Club Month of New York**

#### July

July 11 ***The Survivors*** by Jane Harper **Mystery Book Club.**

July 25 ***Once There Were Wolves*** by Charlotte McConaghy **Fiction Book Club.**

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



### Digital Audio Books.

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