

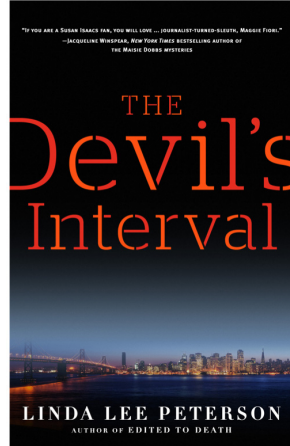


Sunriver Books & Music

November 2013

Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com
541-593-2525



Saturday November 2nd at 5:00 PM Linda Lee Peterson will be at Sunriver Books & Music for a presentation on ***The Devil's Interval***. Peterson is a Northwest author residing in Portland Oregon.

There are many things I like about this series. The San Francisco setting is used beautifully, the reader feels like you have taken a ride around the City by the Bay. Maggie Fiori is a strong female protagonist. Peterson has avoided the pitfalls of making her protagonist either too cozy or too hard-bitten and has crafted in Maggie a character who feels real. She is a devoted mother to two sons. She works as a magazine editor and her interactions with her coworkers are snappy yet ring true. One of my favorite aspects of her character is the way she drops references to works of literature thorough the story, I always enjoy novels that make references to other books. Lines from ***Dante's Inferno*** among other works of literature glide trippingly off her tongue. Maggie has a very appealing husband, Michael, who takes part in the story in meaningful ways. In a prior book, she made a mistake, putting their relationship in jeopardy, now they are in counseling and the counseling sessions give the story some amusing moments. This couple is committed to making their marriage work, it is nice to read about a couple who are not always perfect but both strive to be nurturing and reach reasonable compromises when in conflict. The jazz scene is plotted into the story-line in interesting ways.

In ***The Devil's Interval*** Isabella, an attorney working for a client on death row, seeks Maggie's aid. She believes Maggie's magazine might uncover something helpful to her client's appeal if they would do an article. Isabella has a challenging case; her client, Travis Gifford, was known as the Limousine Lothario. Travis is handsome man who thrived on female companionship; he was known to deliver more than a ride from place to place. The murder victim was found in his limousine, tied up and covered in his DNA. The police had a quick arrest, dead woman, found in the suspect's vehicle, all kinds of DNA, no need to search further. Grace Plummer was the wife of a very wealthy, high profile financier. She was often featured on the society pages. Travis admitted to a rather racy affair with Grace. Her death was shocking. It is just the sort of juicy feature the magazine's readers would find interesting. Maggie and her crew start looking into the life of the victim, finding far more than the shallow society dame they expected. Peterson's mystery is a fascinating story with complicated characters that do not always adhere to societal norms but challenge the readers to see past stereotypes. Witty repartee and devious plot twists keep the mystery entertaining. I enjoyed the story and would like to read more about the characters in future mysteries.

Light refreshments will be served and there will be a drawing for door prizes. Sign up to attend this free event by calling 541-593-2525, e-mailing sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music.

Upcoming Author Appearances

- Saturday February 15th 2014 at 5:00 PM ***Hall of Secrets*** by Cate Campbell
- Saturday March 29th 2013 at 5:00 PM ***Worthy Brown's Daughter*** by Phillip Margolin
- Saturday April 12th 2014 at 5:00 PM ***The Dismal Science*** by Peter Mountford
- Saturday May 10th 2014 at 5:00 PM ***Oregon For The Curious*** by William Sullivan
- Saturday May 17th 2014 at 5:00 PM ***The Three Emperors*** by William Dietrich

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

Would you enjoy the company of a sweet kitten?

Our neighbor found 5 little kittens (about 4 weeks old) in his woodpile, they ended up in our home. Dr. Wendy Meredith helped catch them; she is a great veterinarian! Two found a loving home with Theresa, from Sunriver Veterinary Clinic.. I dearly want to keep the rest, but it is not certain our cat will go along with kittens in his domain. Flashman (Sunriver Books' CEO) is fine with them. In case we are not successful with getting our resident cat to accept them, please let us know if you are interested in kittens. We would like them to stay together. The little girl pictured is a beauty and a sweetheart. She loves to cuddle, has the sweetest purr, and is playful. Another looks like an ocelot, behaves like one too. She needs a home with a lot of play and attention. She loves to play rough. Another is a small explorer. They have no fear of dogs and should not be around a dog that would harm a kitten. If you think you could give a great home to a kitten, please get in touch with Deon at Sunriver Books & Music 541-593-2525. If our cat doesn't relent, they may be available but I want to try until the end of the month.



Staff Recommendations.
Nancy Nelson recommends.

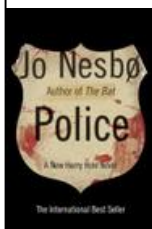


Bellman and Black by Diane Setterfield begins with four 10-year-old boys playing in a field. William Bellman, in his youthful exuberance, was showing off. He told the others that he could hit a far off rook with his catapult. When he did, all were astonished and a bit sad, including Will. This one cruel act was to affect him for most of his life. Later, Will marries, has children, experiences a wonderful success with the family business, and becomes quite wealthy. However, a black cloud hangs over his life, traceable in his mind, to that fateful day when he was 10. In an effort to save his daughter, he makes a deal with the elusive Mr. Black, and so establishes Bellman & Black. Like Ravel's Bolero the story starts quietly building layer upon layer until it reaches its crescendo reaffirming everything that matters.

Death of a Nightingale by Lene Kaaberbol. There are two parallel stories told in this exciting mystery. The main story is about a beautiful young Russian woman, Natasha, accused by the Ukrainian authorities of murdering her husband. She manages to escape with her young daughter to Denmark. Subsequently she is sent to a Danish prison for the murder of her fiancée. There are many clues that seem to demonstrate her innocence, but someone prefers that the truth be left unknown. The second story line takes place around 1934 when Stalin was in power. Oxana, also called the nightingale of the people, and her younger sister Olga are featured. The dreadful circumstances of their lives have tentacles that reach far into the future, and collide with the fate of Natasha and her daughter. The mystery builds and builds in intensity until it is almost impossible to put the book down.

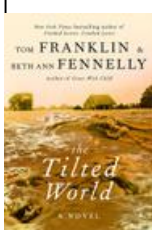
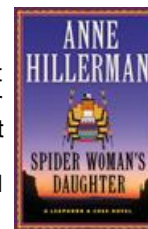


Deon recommends.



Police by Jo Nesbo. Spine tingling mysteries with intricate plotting are Jo Nesbo's trademark. Katrine walks down a dark hallway, will she survive to reach the exit? This is a Nesbo story, so maybe yes, maybe no. He keeps you on the edge of your seat. If you are looking for stories that draw you in, keep you turning pages, and invested in the characters any Nesbo mystery is a good choice. Nesbo's detective, Harry Hole, lives in the grey margins of life. He occupies the territory of James Lee Burke's novels where evil is a palpable presence in the hearts of men. Except Burke makes a valiant attempt for good to triumph where Nesbo is more of a let the chips fall where they may sort of guy, anything can happen. **Police** opens with a man being guarded round the clock in a hospital. The man is in a deep coma with the secrets of many slumbering within. Outside the hospital someone is killing cops, recreating the murders they failed to solve with the officer in the role of victim. The killer is maddeningly elusive. Oslo detectives have relied for years on the intuition and ruthless skill of Harry Hole, but this time Harry is not there for them. Finish a Jo Nesbo mystery and you will be eagerly waiting for the next book to release. It is an addiction.

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.



The Tilted World by Tom Franklin and Beth Ann Fennelly. There are not many back stories more dramatic than the 1927 Mississippi Flood, the most dangerous in US history with walls of water surging forth carrying the power of Niagara Falls, leaving a path of devastation in its wake. Add a couple missing revenueurs, a beautiful bootlegger, and a dishonest future politician for a page turner that will keep you guessing. Herbert Hoover is ambitious, he is going to use the Mississippi flooding to press the flesh and roll into the White House. He cannot afford bad publicity; he needs to find those two missing revenueurs fast. Ham and Ingersoll are his best team, incorruptible, their partnership sealed in the killing trenches of WWI. These guys are solid, now they just need to be fast. Find the revenueurs or their killers and bring them in. Things get complicated right from the start. Ham and Ingersoll have barely left Hoover's presence when they stumble on a robbery gone awry in a small country store with a baby lying on the floor, the only survivor. Ham is sent back to town to drop the infant off at an orphanage and report the killings. He can't do it. Ham has a soft spot for babies. By the intervention of fate he crosses paths with Dixie Clay, the aforementioned beautiful bootlegger, and entrusts the baby to her care thus forming a relationship with the very woman he should be investigating. That is just the opening! Powerful characters, not the least of them the mighty Mississippi River, give this story force and drive it forward.

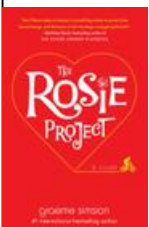
The Valley of Amazement by Amy Tan. Mothers and daughters are perilous territory, never more so than in Tan's epic story of three generations separated by betrayal, yearning for redemption. In 1905 Shanghai, Violet is the pampered daughter of Lulu, an American proprietress of a very high end house of exquisite courtesans. But the woman has a secret past, Shanghai erupts in Revolution and she must flee. Violet is forced to become a "virgin courtesan" sold to the highest bidder. Half Chinese, half American she moves between the two worlds. Violet will become a mother, history will do as history often does, repeating itself in cruel ways. The story spans fifty years, incorporating the history of China in a time of great change. Each generation tries to do its best, starts out with love and good intentions, but is foiled by circumstances and necessity. Three women navigate the uncertain byways of life crossed by fate. This is territory Tan knows well; mothers, daughters, and the cost of family secrets.



A Novel Cure by Ella Berthoud and Susan Elderkin. Passionate readers will have fun with this tome. Berthoud and Elderkin suggest a book for every issue. Have a falling out with your best friend? No problem. Pick up a copy of **So Long, See You Tomorrow** by William Maxwell. Hung-over? Reach for **The Little White Car** by Danuta de Rhodes. Nauseous? Read Evelyn Waugh's masterpiece **Brideshead Revisited**. This book is a treasure trove of great suggestions for almost everything that may ail you. It should be a part of every dedicated reader's library.

Deon Recommends.

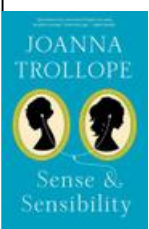
Someone Else's Love Story by Joshilyn Jackson is one of those rare books you will not want to end. I thoroughly enjoyed the characters and the story. Shandi, an unwed mother to a 3 year old genius, is working hard to finish college. She jumps at the chance to move closer to campus in her Dad's vacant condo. On moving day Shandi stops with her son at a convenience store, with spectacularly bad timing. She is involved in a hold up gone wrong, stepping right into someone else's love story. Natty, the son she loves more than anything, is far too close to the path bullets from the gunman may travel. A good looking mountain of a man puts himself between Natty and the gun, Shandi falls instantly in love. There are so many layers to this charmingly entertaining story! Shandi is feisty and spirited with a strong narrative voice, a humanly flawed likeable character. William is not only willing to put himself between bullets and young children; he is also a brilliantly complicated guy still recovering from a tragic loss. His best friend, Paula, is the queen of razor sharp retorts. Wolcott, Shandi's childhood friend, woo's his girlfriends in the math department with poetry. Shandi's devoutly Christian mother and Jewish father divorced long ago, Dad remarried a shrewish woman and Mom is nursing a formidable sense of betrayal and anger. Then there is the issue of Natty's rather unusual conception. Dysfunctional but with hearts the size of all out doors, these are characters you come to like involved in a story sure to make you think and laugh.



The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion. Don Tillman lacks an emotional map, the cues and clues that allow us to form relationships and engage in social banter. Don, a professor of genetics, is brilliant, give him a math problem and consider it solved. Want to know the probabilities, Don is your man. But the human puzzle he does not have the pieces to solve. He has managed to navigate a couple friendships, the head of his department, a rampant philanderer, and his long suffering wife. Don decided his life would be improved by having a partner but his attempts at finding a wife all meet with failure. He tried internet dating but could not manage the small talk. Wanting to avoid any future misadventures, like the ice cream misunderstanding, Don comes up with a lengthy questionnaire. The answers on that questionnaire would be wrong if put to Rosie. She is Don's antithesis; she drinks, she smokes, she tends bar and habitually runs late. But oh how that girl emotes! Rosie has a quest too. She wants to discover the identity of her father, a task right up Don's alley. Soon Don's energy is diverted from the Wife

Project to the Father Project and all sorts of strange things happen. Funny, engaging, one of those feel good books you will close with a smile.

The Mountain of Light by Indu Sundaresan. Mined in India, the Kohinoor was once the largest diamond in the world until cut by Queen Victoria's jewelers. The great Babur once possessed the diamond, his descendent, Akbar, knowing the diamond to be cursed, would not wear the jewel, keeping it locked in his treasury. Shah Jehan had the jewel placed in his throne; he was overthrown by his murderous son Aurangzeb. Perhaps he should have left the jewel safely in the treasury. Sundaresan's book takes up with the Kohinoor in the possession of Shah Shuja, the deposed ruler of Afghanistan. Maharajah Ranjit Singh takes the jewel from him. Maharajah Ranjit Singh is known as the Lion of the Punjab, he keeps the Brits at bay and pacified until his death. His son, Prince Dalip Singh, is just a child when the Brits wrest his country and his jewel from him. Sundaresan colors in the stories and personalities of the men and women touched by the jewel known as **The Mountain of Light**. The characters are fascinating and a lot of history is covered; it was very interesting and entertaining.



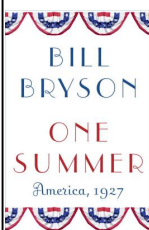
Sense & Sensibility by Joanna Trollope. Jane Austen fans prepare to be delighted! Sink into a cozy chair and enjoy this homage to Austen. Joanna Trollope sets one of Austen's best stories to contemporary life. If have read Austen, you know the tale; widowed mother turned out in the cold by heartless relatives inheriting her home, three lovely daughters, and unsuitable suitors. It is all there, told with wit and verve. What would Jane Austen make of today's world? She just might make Joanna Trollope's entertaining novel. The story opens with Belle and her three gorgeous daughters wondering what they are going to do now. Harry, the love of Belle's life and father of the aforementioned beauties, died suddenly of an asthma attack. Before succumbing he was promised by John Dashwood, his heir and son from a prior union, that Belle and his daughters would be cared for and treated gently. It takes no time at all for Fanny, John's wife, to persuade him to chuck the lot of them out of their home; John's newly inherited Norland Park estate. Elinor, the sensible sister, tries to come to terms with their reduced circumstances,

Marianne, the ethereal beauty, wanders around her beloved Norland Park in denial, and Margaret, the youngest, acts out her frustrations. Austen fans will find this a rare treat.

The Sudden Disappearance of the Worker Bees by Serge Quadrupani. This elegant mystery brings together entertaining characters and an intricate plot. Police Inspector Simona Tavianello is vacationing in the mountains with her handsome husband retired Police Chief Marco Tavianello. They are scheduled to leave shortly to conclude their holiday at the seashore but first they want to pick up some of the excellent honey from the local beekeeper. They get more than they bargained for at the small shop, no honey but a dead body. The local cop, Maresciallo Calabonda seems a bit overwhelmed by the two illustrious law enforcement officers and eager to have them continue on their way so he can sort out the murder without interference. Alas, it is not to be. Simona is big on interference, thrives on staying on top of things. With the help of a reluctant journalist she is soon heavily involved in the investigation, despite the wishes of her husband and the local officer of the law. The repartee between the Tavianellos, the intricate plotting, and the setting all point to this being a winner.



Rich Recommends.



One Summer by Bill Bryson captures the wonderful events of the summer of 1927 in America with small vignettes of unusual and bizarre happenings between the outsized events of Lindbergh's transatlantic flight and Babe Ruth's improbable run of hitting 60 homers for the Yankees. Bryson trots out a cavalcade of characters and events in a wide-ranging manner that usually connects in some way with the major events of 1927. Bryson also explores more serious subjects, such as anti-Semitism, the KKK, eugenics and the anarchist movement. In addition to Lindbergh and Ruth, Bryson focuses on other major characters with names such as Al Capone, Herbert Hoover, Sacco and Vanzetti, Henry Ford, Charles Ponzi, and Jack Dempsey. Along with smaller, less known ones of murderers, mad mountain sculptors, film makers, and flag pole sitters. Altogether, he weaves a story of exciting times and events as America came of age, and in five wonderful months, the world was changed forever.

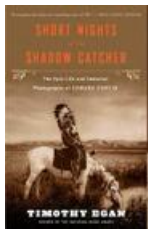
November 2013 Book Clubs.

November has to be just about a perfect month for book clubs! It is dark early, chilly out at night, and the Holidays will begin at the end of the month. November is a good time, to take a deep breath, settle in with an interesting book, and relax a bit before the frenzy of social engagements in December. Book clubs meet Monday at 6:30.



November 4th the Fiction Book Club discusses ***Running the Rift*** by Naomi Benaron. Jean Patrick Nkuba wants to trust his father's words, that Hutu and Tutsi can live in peace. His father is a teacher, a man who believes in a bright future for his children. Death comes for Jean Patrick's father unexpectedly, leaving the family bereft in a climate of escalating tribal tensions with the dream of peace fading fast. Jean Patrick wants to run; he has legs that fly and hopes for Olympic Gold. But he is a Tutsi, the wrong tribe, and Rawanda is entering a time of violence and evil. Benaron has managed the formidable accomplishment of writing a beautiful, haunting story of family, of a young boy's coming of age, of the power of striving to be the best, and of redemption. It is a hopeful story despite the rampaging grim reaper that defiled Rwanda. ***Running the Rift*** was on my top ten list of the year.

November 11th the Mystery Book Club discusses ***Gone Girl*** by Gillian Flynn. Diabolically devious plotting and engaging writing will keep you guessing. Amy disappears on her 5th wedding anniversary, leaving her handsome husband with his slow southern charm to face the suspicions of police and media. Amy was a beautiful woman, bright and charming. She hated the move from New York to Missouri but times are tough and Nick insisted on returning to his small hometown to help his sister with their ailing parents. Now lovely Amy is gone and the story Nick tells just does not ring true. Can this handsome southern gentleman be a wife killer? Gillian Flynn is a master at taking the reader down unexpected lanes! This is a love it or hate it book and should provide a great discussion. Readers either delight in the inventive story with twists and turns that keep you guessing or are shocked by some of the character's less savory (possibly downright evil) actions. I am in the delighted by camp, I found the story highly original and fun to read. It is a New York Times Bestseller, has been featured on NPR, and is a book club favorite.



November 18th the Non-Fiction Book Club discusses ***The Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher; the Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis***. Art can be a powerful medium for raising social conscience. Edward Curtis aimed his lens and showed the world another truth, a clear vision of Native Americans. He aimed and shot showing us an old woman, the daughter of a Chief, living in squalor taunted by rock throwing white boys south of Seattle. His photography was art, his pictures just as powerful as any painting. Curtis changed public perception of Native Americans, not so many years after official practices that could be called genocide. He showed us a culture and a people deserving respect. Curtis lived rough, traveling far and wide, across a land he loved, to capture ceremonies and customs before they were lost. In the process he lost a marriage and the opportunity of a stable career. Egan pays homage to the man and his quest.

Everyone is welcome at book club, light refreshments will be served.

[Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM](#)

December 2nd, 2013 ***The Orphanmaster*** by Jean Zimmerman [Mystery Book Club](#)

December 9th 2013 ***Straight Man*** by Richard Russo [Fiction Book Club](#)

December 16th 2013 ***Watership Down*** by Richard Adams [Classics Book Club](#)

January 6th 2014 ***The Syringa Tree*** by Pamela Gien [Fiction Book Club](#)

January 13th 2014 ***Cuckoo's Calling*** by J.K. Rowling [Mystery Book Club](#)

February 3rd 2014 ***The Case of the Missing Servant*** by Tarquin Hall [Mystery Book Club](#)

February 10th 2014 ***Molokai'i*** by Alan Brennert [Fiction Book Club](#)

February 17th 2014 ***Educating Alice*** by Alice Steinbeck [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

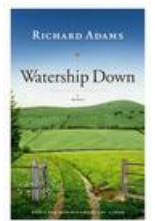
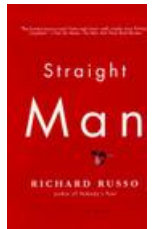
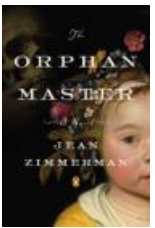
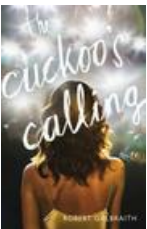
March 3rd 2014 ***Edmond Drood*** by Dan Simmons [Fiction Book Club](#)

March 17th 2014 ***Bleak House*** by Charles Dickens [Classics Book Club](#)

March 24th 2014 ***Solitary House*** by Lynn Shepard [Mystery Book Club](#)

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

Pick up a ballot and vote for your favorites of 2013. Voting closes 12/16/13.



E-readers are changing the landscape for books, not always in gentle ways. Many Independent Bookstores offer e-books for sale, including Sunriver Books & Music. On the right hand side of our website, sunriverbooks.com, you will find information on buying e-books as well as a search feature for e-books and print books. In support of Independent Booksellers publishers sometimes offer specials that we pass onto you. Watch our website to see when they are available. We greatly appreciate your support and hope that you consider your Independent Bookstore when purchasing e-books. If you are contemplating the purchase of an e-reader, please know that Amazon's kindle dictates your e-books be purchased from Amazon while the I-pad, the Sony e-reader, and others allow you the freedom to chose.