



Sunriver Books & Music

November 2015

Newsletter

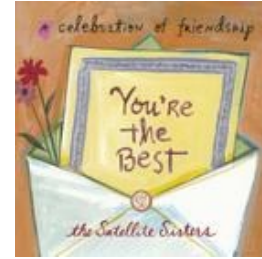
Sunriverbooks.com
541-593-2525



Liz Dolan



Fiona Dolan



Saturday November 28 at 5:00 PM Liz Dolan and Fiona Dolan will give a presentation on **You're the Best** by the Satellite Sisters, a celebration of friendship. This little gem of a book is

just in time for the Holiday Season and would make a great gift for friends you cherish.

The Satellite Sisters are five sisters who created the award winning radio show, Satellite Sisters. The radio show began on NPR in 2000, a year later it was syndicated on 70 stations with ABC Radio Networks. It is now a podcast available at

satellitesisters.com. The sisters are Liz Dolan (who will give the November 28th presentation), Lian Dolan, (a riotously funny woman who appeared at Sunriver Books & Music in 2013), Julie Dolan, Sheila Dolan, and Monica Dolan. Fiona Dolan is the next generation, she will appear with Liz. The women are single, married, a nurse, an executive, a teacher, a writer, a foreign correspondent, and more. Each brings a unique perspective to the conversations they share with their audience. Clearly they are close, involved, and creative. While their life experiences vary, they share a commitment to each other and to the friends who have enriched their lives.

You're the Best is a series of essays and stories, opening with the title essay giving thanks for friendship. In *Coffee or Tea* Sheila Dolan praises the pleasure of spending time over coffee with a friend. Ruth Marantz, a next generation Satellite Sister, opens her essay titled *When Something Hard Comes This Way* with this line. "My life has always been driven by friendship." She talks about her friendships, her adolescence and teen years, but the focus of this essay is the way friends are there for you when the chips are down. Ruth hit a patch in life where it seemed everyone close to her was dying; her father, her grandfather, her cat. Ruth expresses the value of friendship when she was in need. "There are times you need to be lifted off the floor. ... The truth is, our lives can suddenly fall apart, and it can take something overwhelming to happen for us to realize how much we need one another. I was lucky to have good people close to me when I was hit with hard times. Liz Dolan opens her essay, *Dogs Rule*, with this line. *Sorry humans. In the Best Friends' Department, sometimes only a dog will do.* I heartily agree.

You're the Best is brimming with essays celebrating the bonds of friendship. Fiona Dolan has a list of the things she learned from friends. There are stories on tolerance and forgiveness, funny lists, thoughts on growing older, thoughts on coming of age, thoughts on taking time to play, and all are entertaining. Read this book and enjoy reflecting on what your posse means to you. Give this book to good friends to say thank you for being there.

Liz Dolan is Chief Marketing Officer for Fox International Channels, a position she also held at Oprah Winfrey Network. Fiona Dolan is a Summit High School student in Bend Oregon.

Author events are a perfect way to spend an evening. We will have refreshments and drawings for prizes. Please call 541-593-2525, e-mail sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or stop by to sign up to attend. The events are free and lots of fun.

Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday December 12th 2015 at 5:00 PM **A Series of Small Maneuvers** by Eliot Treichel

Saturday April 30th 2016 at 5:00 PM **New Hikes On The Oregon Coast**, slide show presentation by Bill Sullivan.

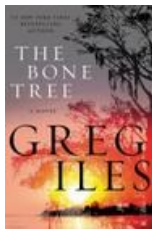
Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes.

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.

Staff Recommendations

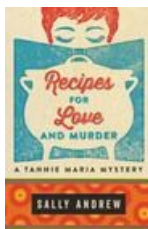
Nancy Nelson Recommends



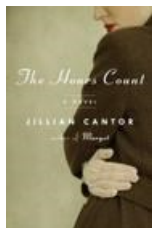
The Bone Tree by Greg Iles is the second novel of the Natchez Burning trilogy. In part I we see that the highly respected Dr. Tom Cage is accused of murdering his former nurse Viola. His son, Penn who is the mayor of Natchez is trying desperately to prove his father's innocence. Dr. Cage has since been silent and on the run, hiding from the law and from the very nasty group called Double Eagles as well. In part II, *The Bone Tree*, Dr. Cage is still hiding from everyone. Though he would like to turn himself in and have his case handled through the courts, he knows that he cannot do that and expect to live. The Double Eagles are similar to the mafia in that their people are everywhere. The FBI has reason to believe that this group is at least in part responsible for the death of President Kennedy as well as many civil rights workers of the 1960s. John Kaiser, who is leading the ongoing investigation also believes that Dr. Cage may have been a part of that conspiracy. The Double Eagles want him dead because he knows way too much. Tom Cage has lived his life caring for people. He has treated most of the population of Natchez, Mississippi. Thus there are quite a few people who highly regard him, and some who would risk their lives to protect him. As the story continues, we see the nature of the Double Eagles, and the hold they have on virtually everyone. This is a dangerous cat and mouse "game" in which some will die, some will miraculously and courageously live, and secrets will come pouring out like the pestilence from Pandora's box. *The Bone Tree* is a page turner of the first order, and I can barely wait to read part III.



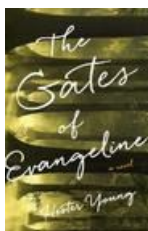
The Silent Boy by Andrew Taylor. It is 1792, and Paris is painted red in blood as the blades of the guillotine flash. Charles is mute, taking shelter in silence from the violence surrounding him, his mother Augusta missing and presumed dead. A French nobleman who believes he is Charles's father, has escaped Paris, hiding out in an obscure town in England with the intent of raising Charles as his own son. Mr. Savill, Augusta's estranged husband, and the boy's legal father is also intent on bringing the ten year old home. He is concerned for Charles's safety, should he eventually speak, and reveal what he saw. What exactly is Charles afraid of? What horrible thing did he see? Is he the only witness to his mother's murder in the midst of a violent hoard of angry people run amok? As the story takes a winding road to answer those questions it shows the reader the chaos that engulfed France during the aftermath of the revolution. The author will keep you guessing until an ending that may surprise.



Recipes for Love and Murder by Sally Andrew. Tannie Maria lives in a rural town in South Africa. She works for the Gazette Newspaper, in a "Dear Abbey" mode, answering letters of heartsickness and woe, giving advice and recipes. Tannie (which means Auntie in Afrikaans) is a talented cook, who, in her new job has also discovered her passion for helping others. So, when a letter arrives from a woman who is distressed by her husband's abuse, claiming she is afraid of him, Tannie is also distressed. Sadly, the letter writer is found dead, most likely murdered. Of course the husband is suspect, but, things are not always as they seem. The police chief investigating the probable murder (and who is quite cute), wants Tannie to stay away from the investigation, knowing that she may also be in grave danger. But she just cannot help but to look into it, feeling sad for the woman, but also partly responsible. Several other people surface as potential murderers. Tannie cooks for everyone, believing that the two most important things in life are good food and love. The entire story is laced with food and recipes that enhance and delight. The mystery provides clues and quirks that keep the story interesting, with an ending that I found surprising. Very Good Book!



The Hours Count by Julian Cantor. June 19, 1953, Ethel and Julian Rosenberg were executed for conspiracy to commit espionage. Their story is told through the eyes of their innocent and naive neighbor, Millie Stein. Millie finds in the Rosenbergs the gentle and caring kindness that she craves of the people closest to her. Ethel and Millie are both immersed in the raising of their young children. It is inconceivable to Millie that such a person would have the time or the malice to actively act as a traitor. However, that was the era of Senator McCarthy and of fear and ignorance. It becomes apparent that anyone who is even mildly suspected of consorting with a suspected communist is in danger of prosecution. When, in 1950, Ethel is arrested, as is her husband, Millie cares for their children, thinking Ethel will soon return for them. But the parents never do return. She cannot understand just what "conspiracy to commit espionage" means exactly. In the mob like mentality that ensues, with help from the media and courtesy of the federal government, the Rosenberg children become orphans. There is evidence that Ethel is innocent, but no one who could change things cares. My response to their story is one of incredulity and sadness. The Rosenbergs' story, as told in this book, leads me to thinking more deeply about the events of our time, and the forces that pull public opinion in one direction or the other.



The Gates of Evangeline by Hester Young. In her devastated frame of mind, after the death of her young son, Charlie Gates begins to have nightmares, starting with a dream of a two year old boy pleading for help. Then Charlie's former colleague, who now works for a book publisher, asks her to investigate the 30 year old unsolved kidnapping of two year old Gabriel Deveau. She is invited to Evangeline, the Louisiana estate of the wealthy and prestigious Deveau family. Some family members are not eager to have the truth uncovered, but have ulterior motives for allowing Charlie to probe into their past. What she discovers in her research as she tries to make sense of her dreams is that she is looking into something much more serious than a cold case of 30 years ago. Will she solve the mystery, and find out what happened to Gabriel? What will be the consequences of opening old wounds that can devastate an entire family?

Staff Recommendations New Release

Deon Recommends



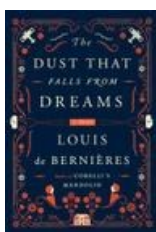
The Mare by Mary Gaitskill. Velvet is only 11 when the Fresh Air Fund grants her a two-week vacation. She lives in Brooklyn with her mother, who speaks only Spanish, and her younger brother Dante. It is a hand to mouth existence, never enough money, in a rough neighborhood where the street toughs die young. The program grants inner city kids two weeks in the countryside, where life is easier. Velvet takes walks with Paul and Ginger, her host family, rides bikes, goes to a pizza parlor, and is given a riding lesson. It is the riding lesson that will be life changing, Velvet has a special sensitivity to the horses, she seems to innately understand them, and falls in love with an abused mare, a dangerous horse with a past just as rough as Velvet's own. Ginger and Paul have no children together of their own; Paul has a daughter from a prior union. They wonder what it would be like to have a child together and contemplate adoption, but want to test the waters first; the Fresh Air kid seems like a good way to get a feel for sharing their life with a child. Complications ensue when Grace falls hard for Velvet. Ways are found for more visits and a continuing relationship. Ginger is a recovered alcoholic; the tension of loving a child in Velvet's situation might not be a judicious move for her continued sobriety. If you like horses, you will love this book! The mare is a dynamic character and Velvet's growth as an equestrian is excellent reading. The differences between Ginger's life in the countryside and the challenges Velvet faces in a poor inner city neighborhood are clear and present. The stress from loving a child who already has a parent, seeing that parent behave in less than laudatory ways toward the child are explored too.



Avenue of Mysteries by John Irving. Known for his originality and sharp observation of the human condition, Irving's **Avenue of Mysteries** is perhaps one of his most inventive novels (and considering his body of work, that is saying something). Abandoning his usual New England setting, this story is set in Mexico and the Philippines. It begins with Juan Diego, now in his fifties and a highly regarded author, traveling to the Philippines to keep a promise he made in his youth to visit the grave of an American soldier. Juan Diego's father was unknown, his mother worked as a prostitute and a cleaning woman at the Jesuit mission. Along with his sister, Lupe, Juan Diego was a dump kid, eking out an existence on the debris of others. Both Juan Diego and his sister were unusual in their little community. Juan Diego because he taught himself to read on scavenged books, mastering not only Spanish but English too. Lupe was truly unusual; no one could understand her speech except her beloved brother Juan Diego. She could read the minds of those around her (sometimes an uncomfortable experience for the men) and could tell not only the past, but the future, albeit she was not always accurate about the future. This ability to see what may occur was a burden for 13 year old Lupe, what she saw did not give her comfort. As Juan Diego hurtles on toward the Philippines, he sleeps and dreams during the flight. The dreams take him back to his youth, a time more real to him than the present. Juan Diego's trip has been aided in the planning by one of his writing students, Clark, now a successful author in his own right. Clark is a devout Catholic while Juan Diego has many grudges against the Catholic religion. Their debates often center on belief and the actions resultant from a feeling of divine entitlement. John Irving has points to make and what he would like for you to do is read the book, follow Juan Diego on his rather bizarre journey to judge for yourself.



The Lake House by Kate Morton. Set on a lushly gardened estate in Cornwall England, surrounded by woods, bordered by the lake, near the sea, how much more perfect a setting for such a beautiful house could you find? We see **The Lake House** in two time frames, its glory days around WWI and in 2003 when it is abandoned and neglected. Owned by the Edevane family, **The Lake House** is home to Eleanor and Anthony, a handsome and devoted couple, and their three daughters, Deborah, Alice, and Clementine. In 1933 Alice was a bright sixteen year old, spending her time writing stories in her journal. Every year a Midsummer Night Party was held on the estate, a huge occasion with bonfires, fireworks, gondola rides on the lake, music, and feasting. This year the party was expected to be especially joyous. The Edevanes had a young son, Theo, a jolly, beautiful baby adored by the whole family. Instead Theo would vanish without a trace and the fairy tale idyll of the loving family at **The Lake House** would end. In 2003 Sadie Sparrow is a cop with a few secrets of her own. She has broken a cardinal rule, becoming way too emotionally involved in the case of an abandoned little girl. Sent on a forced leave, she takes refuge with her Grandfather in Cornwall. Being with her Grandfather is a comfort but Sadie loves being a cop, she is a good detective and is terribly upset about her current situation. While out on a run with her Grandfather's two boisterous Labrador retrievers, she discovers **The Lake House** and becomes obsessed with uncovering its secrets. Alice Edevane is in her 80's and about to publish her 50th mystery novel. Alice is not at all certain she wants those secrets uncovered. Kate Morton writes stories to be enjoyed. They are populated by likeable characters, they include moving glimpses of historic events, and the settings are lush. If there is to be murder or mayhem, it will mostly happen off screen. She allows her readers to sink comfortably into the story and enjoy their hours with her characters. There is such humanity and compassion in her stories. For instance when Sadie is sitting in her Grandfather's cottage, she has a moment with one of his dogs: "*Ramsay had honored her by coming to sit upon her feet and she reached down to scratch beneath his chin*". Now that is just how I feel about spending time with my animals!



The Dust That Falls From Dreams by Louis de Bernières. Ashbridge, a young gentleman of 13 from Baltimore, gives to his upper-class British neighbor Rosie the best engagement ring he can afford, a brass curtain ring. When Rosie protests that she is only twelve, Ashbridge assures her "*Well, one day you surely won't be.*" The four McCosh sisters reside in a grand house between the Pendennises, a family with 3 sons (including the amorous Ashbridge) and the Pitts a family with two daredevil sons. As they grow from childhood to adults, forces are gathering with destructive power. The Great War, WWI, takes the Pendennises sons into the trenches and one of the Pitt boys is a fighting ace in the sky. As war exacts its toll, the McCosh sisters take part in the war effort too. It seems the war will go on forever, ruining lives and then one day it is over. Everyone has to figure out how to live with the loss suffered, what life will be like in the aftermath. The story is told through a variety of characters. Although the subject is serious, de Bernières has a humorous touch. Hamilton McCosh is an endearing and amusing character, as are many others.

Staff Recommendations, Now Available in Paperback.

Sue Halverson recommends.



ROOMS by Loren Oliver starts with ghosts and humans vying for possession of the same house. An estranged father has just died. The family consists of ex-wife, Caroline, who is a drunk, Daughter, Minna, a single mother in her late twenties, son, Trenton, who is still at prep school, and a six year old granddaughter, Amy, and they take turns telling their stories. The ghosts, Sarah and Alice, also have their own chapters. At first it seems to be all about the house and family problems, but then you get interested in the people and want to see how they turn out. It also has a run away, a younger mistress of the deceased, and a young ghost who enters the book to help the mix of unhappy people and ghosts figure out their pasts and achieve their futures. It all comes to a juicy climax.

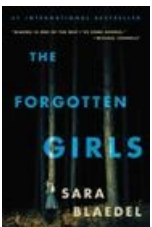
Nancy Nelson recommends.



Survivors by Robert Palmer. Cal Henderson is a successful psychologist; practicing in Washington D.C. Exactly twenty-five years ago he witnessed his mother commit suicide. She had also murdered her husband and her other two sons. Scottie Glass, Cal's childhood friend who was at the house that day, was badly injured, narrowly escaping death. Scottie has just, after all those years, reappeared in Cal's life asking for help. Cal has done what he could to bury the memory of that day, while Scottie, on the other hand has been researching facts and circumstances that related to what had happened. So, Cal then consents to help, and the memories begin to surface revealing that perhaps things were not necessarily as they seemed on that horrible day. What happens to children who survive this kind of trauma when they grow up? Does that kind of pain wreak havoc forever, or is there a chance for the pursuit of happiness? Then, just why would a mother of three do such a thing? Greed, power, and ruthless indifference add to the suspense, helping to create a story that is entertaining as well as thoughtful.



The Heart Has Its Reasons by Maria Duenas. Blanca Perea is a college professor in Madrid, Spain. Her life seems perfect. She is successful, happy, with a husband and two grown sons. Then, her husband, Alberto tells her he is in love with another woman and is leaving her. Blanca's perfect world is shattered. Desperate, she flees Madrid, responding to an ad, she is hired to work at University of Santa Cecilia, near San Francisco, California. It is her job to probe into the history of a long deceased writer and former professor of the University, Andres Fontana. As Blanca immerses herself into his life, she becomes captivated by the things that drove him, his ambitions, his relationships, and his ill fated lost love. The relationships between Fontana and some of the people with whom she works come to light in an unexpected way. As she untangles the hidden agendas and lies, she finds within herself a strength that enables her to pursue a new life, with new possibilities.



The Forgotten Girls by Sara Blaedel, In a remote forest in Denmark, a body is discovered. The identification should be easy because of the distinctive scar on the dead woman's face. However there have been no missing persons reported that remotely resemble her. At first, it seems that there is nothing to denote the woman's existence. However, Louise Rick, the chief investigator, releases the victim's photo to the media. A woman calls soon after to tell the police that she once cared for the woman in the photo when she was a little girl. Her name is Lismette, and she has a twin. This leads the investigators to an institution for the mentally handicapped. The institution has long since been closed, and the two girls reported as deceased. More crimes are committed, which at first seem unrelated. But as the story builds the threads that bind the murders together become apparent. Louise, as she is pulled closer to her childhood home, begins to find links to her own past. The secrets that she did not have the courage to explore when so long ago, now cannot be avoided.

Deon recommends.



The Last Good Paradise by Tatjana Soli. Ann is locked in a pitched battle with her body as she tries to conceive through hormone therapy. She is a skilled attorney, a vicious adversary who finds she really does not enjoy her work. Her husband, Richard, is a talented chef who lacks star power and is handicapped by an uncommon abhorrence to meat. They have hitched their dreams to opening a restaurant with Richard's friend and fellow chef Javier, who exudes star power and has no problem cooking meat but is unfortunately tremendously unreliable and reckless with both money and the truth. When their dreams become a nightmare, Ann and Richard make a bold move. They run away to a resort on a South Pacific Island where their lives intersect with a variety of interesting characters. Loren, the owner of the resort, tries unsuccessfully to be a recluse. Dex, an often married rock musician, and his beautiful girlfriend are facing their own challenges. Titi, descended from royalty, will inherit the lodge and face the choices her future presents; balancing obligation, loyalty, and longing. This is an interesting look at how a

couple who seem to have everything, find that what is really important in life is not how many goodies you accumulate but the feeling of contentment possible only when living a life that really fits who you are. How they get there, the challenges they overcome, and the people they meet along the way make for interesting reading.

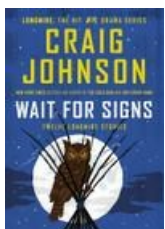


Welcome to Braggsville by T. Geronimo Johnson. D'aron is a fish out of water in Berkeley, a small town southern boy feasting on freedoms and ideas alien to his culture while failing to really find a niche until he makes three profound friendships. When his three pals discover D'aron's hometown holds a Civil War reenactment, they decide to hold an intervention. D'aron's friends are clueless about the societal cultures of the south, and his hometown is flummoxed by the kids from Berkeley. Consequences are both comic and tragic as the differing cultures collide. Johnson has a brash, entertaining voice; he knows how to tell a story.

Deon recommends.



A Sudden Light by Garth Stein is set on a decaying estate north of Seattle. The story combines historical detail with a riveting tale of a young boy coming of age during a period of great turmoil for his family. Trevor is 14 when his world implodes. His parents are broke and estranged; their home in Connecticut gone. Mom left for her native Cornwall and Trevor's Dad is taking his son to their ancestral home in Puget Sound. Trevor is gob-smacked by the sheer, immense beauty of the land of his forebearers. Jagged snow covered mountains, enormous trees, the changing colors of the white capped waters of Puget Sound, overwhelming. This is Trevor's first visit to the immense, neglected mansion of his Grandfather. The plan is to place his Grandfather, in the early stages of dementia, into a reputable facility then sell the two hundred acre forested estate with the decaying old mansion thus curing his father's financial ills, setting free his enigmatic aunt Serena, and making possible a brighter future for himself (Trevor hopes also healing the breach between his parents). Complications ensue. Trevor finds his beautiful aunt complicated and dangerous. Grandpa Samuel isn't so straightforward either. In the Northwest his family name meant power and wealth, in the early years the Riddells were timber barons, logging vast swaths of the pristine forests, all that remains by the 1990's is the estate Trevor's father and aunt plan to sell. What is our responsibility to family, to our ancestors, to promises made, to the land that embraces us? Where does honor lay? Heady questions for a sad teenage boy. Questions the other occupant of Riddell House waits for Trevor to face. The Ghost of his great-uncle Ben resides in the old mansion too, bound there until an obligation is fulfilled. Trevor confronts these issues alone, Mom is far away, and Dad is battling his own demons as secrets from the past engulf on him. As Ben's approaches to Trevor become more direct the teen realizes his faith must come from within. We are all connected, the past, the present, those we love now, those who walked before us, all living with the consequences of the decisions made, all responsible to walk gently on the earth. **A Sudden Light** is filled with history of the Pacific Northwest, a wonderful work of historic fiction skillfully blending real events with imagined to give a compelling look at a majestic land. The family journey is epic, generations touching generations, the sins of the fathers visited on their progeny. When the obligations of the past meet the desires of the future in the hands of a confused teenage boy this novel shines.



Wait For Signs by Craig Johnson brings together 12 short stories featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. All are entertaining; they show different aspects of Walt's character and background. Those of us already acquainted with the Walt Longmire series will delight in seeing our favorite sheriff in different situations, learning a bit more about favored characters. Those new to the series will find this a perfect introduction, a way to taste Craig Johnson's excellent writing in a lighter tone. Several take place around the holidays; this collection would be a perfect gift for the season but will be a joy to read anytime! **Old Indian Trick** takes place in autumn; Walt is driving Lonnie Little Bird to a doctor's appointment. Along the way they stop at a roadside diner for a bite to eat, arriving just after a robbery. Never discount the intuition of an Old Indian. **Ministerial Aid** is set on New Year's Day 2000. Walt is delivering a paycheck to his deputy out at the Powder Junction. Reeling from the death of his wife, Walt drowned too many of his sorrows in the bottle. This day will offer him the opportunity to play a unique role in helping a woman and give him a shot of introspection as well. Funny, sad, and heartwarming, it will entertain anytime but is especially suited to the holiday season. **Slick Tongued Devil** is set two days before Christmas when Walt foils a man with predatory inclinations toward the bereaved. **Fire Bird** has Walt spending a holiday evening with Lucian. This is both a very clever mystery and a hoot! The past meets the present in mysterious ways. Walt's gift for noticing, really paying attention and noticing, come in handy. **Unbalanced** brings Cady home for the holidays. On the way to pick her up at the airport, Walt comes across a young woman in need. A very heartwarming story. **Several Stations** is a perfect holiday story! Walt helps out when a truck transporting toys slides off the icy, slick highway. **High Holidays** is set during tourist season and showcases Walt's uncanny knack for noticing. It is also very funny, great ending. **Toys for Tots** has Walt Christmas shopping with his daughter Cady. Walt is not fond of shopping. **Divorce Horse** puts Henry Standing Bear, Walt, and Vic on the trail of an ill-tempered horse much prized by a divorcing couple. **Thankstaking** is Thanksgiving Henry Standing Bear style. **Messenger** involves Walt, Henry Standing Bear, Vic along with a family of bear, an owl, a forest ranger, a tourist. It should not be missed! Henry and Vic together are always entertaining, throw in bears and an owl and things quickly get out of hand. The last story is **Petunia, Bandit Queen of the Bighorns**; I will let the title speak for itself. Keep this collection handy to read whenever you feel the need, the stories will bring cheer.

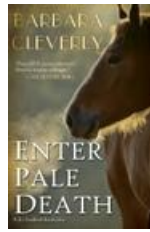


Sometimes the Wolf by Urban Waite Deputy Bobby Drake has been living down his father's legacy for a long time, twelve years. His father, Patrick, was Sheriff in their small town in the foothills of Washington's North Cascade Mountains until he was sent to prison for running drugs. Now he is out on parole and Bobby is not sure how he feels about the man. Bobby's whole life changed course when his father was arrested, resentments simmer under the surface. He is responsible for his father yet worried that he cannot trust the man; there are so many things that feel odd for him. When his father went to prison Bobbie took over the two bedroom family home. Having his father in the smaller of the bedrooms, Bobby's childhood room, while he shares the bigger room with his wife Sheri feels strange. Sheri kept in touch with Patrick over the years of his incarceration; she feels sympathy for the man, considers he has paid his debt to society and deserves a new chance. There is tension in the marriage. On his father's first day of freedom a wolf is spotted. Bobby has been helping Fish and Wildlife Officer Ellie Cobb hunt poachers. Ellie, excited about the return of these magnificent predators, wants Bobby to help her track and collar the animal. But the past is not through with the Drakes. There are bad men who have unfinished business with Patrick and an easy acquaintance with violence. The past still has secrets to reveal. Urban Waite writes gritty, sharply drawn novels. Their sense of place adds to the reading pleasure as the dark quiet of the mountains sets the tone of this suspenseful story.

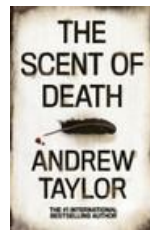
Deon recommends.



Henna House by Naomi Eve. Little Adela Demari feared two things, her mother's temper and the very real possibility she would become an orphan and be "confiscated" into a Muslim family. Her father's health was precarious. Yemen in the 1920's was a Muslim land with a Jewish population. In an attempt to integrate some of the Jewish population into the Muslim culture, orphans were confiscated and adopted by Muslims. Trying to avoid being confiscated from their culture and faith, Jewish children were betrothed very young. Adela's fiancées did not prosper; each of her prospective grooms dies of some misfortune. When a cousin unaware of Adela's reputation arrives, the family quickly arranges a betrothal before his father can be enlightened. Complications will ensue; Adela and her relatives will flee in the night, trekking over the mountains to Aden during a drought. She will be betrayed and will find comfort; her life will be rich in experiences. A fascinating thread through the story is the custom of the women to paint themselves with henna in elaborate patterns. Adela's aunt and cousin are masters of henna painting; they initiate her into their art. There is so much fascinating history in this story! If you enjoy historic fiction with a focus on the lives and cultures of women, this is a winner.



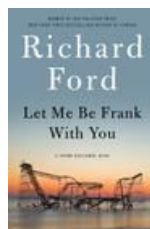
Enter Pale Death by Barbara Cleverly. What a splendid mystery! Joe Sandilands, now risen to the rank of Assistant Commissioner, is at his handsome best. Sir James Truelove, on track to be the next Home Secretary thus Joe's boss, wants a favor, just nip over to the auction house and surreptitiously bid on a couple paintings that went missing ages back from the Truelove manse. The man makes Joe uneasy; a feeling aggravated by Truelove's attention to the woman Joe fancies. His uneasiness grows when he is lured to Suffolk to poke around into the deaths of inconvenient women on Truelove's estate. The latest victim, Truelove's wife, a woman not mourned by any. On the surface it looks like death by misadventure. Lady Lavinia was an aggressive horsewoman, able to ride anything on four legs with hooves. The estate recently acquired an impressive stallion, nicknamed Lucifer for his deadly disposition. Headstrong Lavinia insisted on going in with the agitated horse, earning herself a death sentence. Things may not be as they seem, they seldom are in a good mystery and this story does not disappoint. I loved the bits with Joe and the horses; the man has a talent for soothing and attracting the equine heart. Strong women characters abound, from the lady veterinarian, to Lily (Joe's favorite undercover operative), the dowager, and Dorcas (the object of Joe's affection). Cleverly combines a nice juicy mystery, plenty of secrets uncovered, with a drawing room scene Dame Agatha's fans will relish. I eagerly await the next installment in Cleverly's entertaining Joe Sandilands series.



Set in 1778, during the Revolutionary War, **Scent of Death** by Andrew Taylor delivers a lot of history along with an intriguing mystery. New York is like a character in the story. The town partly burned during the conflict, is often short of provisions, and full of refugee Loyalists fleeing the rebels. Many stories set during the War of Independence take their perspective from the winning side, but what of the Loyalists? How would life have been for those loyal to the British crown? At first they would have been confident, after all Britain was a major world power subduing an upstart bunch of rebels in the colonies. Then the French entered the conflict and the tide began to turn. Edward Savill is sent from London to New York, a clerk in the American Department, to assess the claims of refugee Loyalists fleeing to New York after losing their homes in the conflict. He lodges with the Wintour family. Soon after his arrival a man is murdered in the burnt part of town, known as Canvas Town, where the poor and the rougher elements have fashioned themselves shelter in blackened structures with canvas. Officials round up a suspect and, although Edward has misgivings, the matter is concluded. Or so it is believed. What I liked about this story is that Edward is an ordinary fellow trying his best. He wants to do well, works effectively at his job, is pleasant to those around him, and is not enthusiastically investigating matters outside his expertise. In short, he is not an amateur sleuth; instead he is drawn in by circumstance and order until compelling evidence and reason leads him into an investigation that will threaten his very life. If you enjoy historic fiction, there is much interesting detail and a likeable main character to boot.



The Magician's Lie by Greer Macallister. The Amazing Arden is known for her beauty and her trademark illusion, cutting a man in half. Law officer Virgil Holt is in the Waterloo, Iowa audience the night in 1905 when she switches from using a saw to a fire ax. Later Arden's husband is found murdered with that very ax beneath the stage. The culprit is all too obvious. Heading home in the night, by bizarre coincidence Virgil runs into the fugitive Arden. The forlorn woman persuades Virgil to listen to her story; he will have one night to decide her fate. Fans of the Night Circus will enjoy this tale of magic and murder.



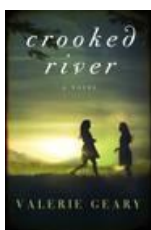
Let Me Be Frank With You by Richard Ford. Frank Bascombe was introduced in Ford's **The Sportswriter** as a young man making his way in the world. Two more novels followed charting Bascombe's progress. Frank is 68 now, retired, living a quiet life in New Jersey with his wife Sally. In four distinct segments, Frank shows himself to have mellowed some but still have strong, sometimes inappropriate, opinions. He is all for cutting a few offending words from the English language. Awesome, sibs, and hydrate are all on the discard pile in Frank's reduced dictionary. The story is set after Hurricane Sandy left the Eastern seaboard in a state of destruction. In the first segment Frank drives to the shore, witnessing the devastation along the way, to commiserate with the man who bought their ocean view house when they moved inland. That house is now a hulk lying off its foundation as if picked up and tossed by a giant like a toy. Sally is occupied with the aftermath of the storm too; she spends much of her time as a grief counselor meeting with victims of the hurricane. The second segment has a black woman visiting Frank, bringing disturbing news of the past. Frank yearns for some kind of real interaction, of a reach across different perspectives. When it comes, it leaves him unsettled. The third segment takes Frank on a visit to his ex-wife. I can't say I liked the woman, but Frank seems to have come to some kind of understanding. The final segment Frank visits a dying friend. Throughout the novel, Frank is funny, irascible, and possessed of a sensitivity for what we owe each other and ourselves.

Deon recommends.



Goodhouse by Peyton Marshall is set in the future when the gene associated with violent crime has been identified; the children who carry it housed in reformatories. The idea starts as a way to take these at risk children, train them to control their impulses, then release at maturity those best able to reintegrate with society. The rest, those unable to control their impulses, would be more closely monitored. It doesn't sound horrific, after all who isn't in favor of curbing vicious crime? But separating a population, marking them as "other" never turns out well and this is no exception. Marshall sets her story in the infamous Preston Youth Correctional Facility in Lone California, a place of horrible cruelty that marked many young lives, and in La Pine, Oregon. The fictional **Goodhouse** lives up to the legacy. Violence among students is rife. Cameras monitor every aspect of the children's lives. They are demeaned, controlled, and in fear of the demerits that will judge their suitability to reenter civilian life someday. A

band of religious zealots called Zeroes has another solution; the children carrying this gene must be purified by fire. Only when the earth is cleansed of them will the environmental degradation that has been wreaking havoc on the planet be cured. James, the story's engaging protagonist, arrives at the lone **Goodhouse** after Zeroes destroy his former facility in La Pine Oregon killing everyone he knew. Traumatized and lonely, he finds the lone **Goodhouse** harsh. James is a likeable character; you will want him to do well. Bethany, a free-spirited technological whiz kid, takes a shine to James complicating his life immeasurably. Her father is the medical director at the facility and may possess secrets dangerous to James. The scenes with Bethany zing with a wild energy, she may be James salvation or his doom. Peyton Marshall tells a chilling story of a future world where fear, bigotry and surveillance are allowed full expression and free thinking curbed. Her characters have such strong humanity; they will make you root for them. This is a story that stays with you. I find myself thinking about the characters often.



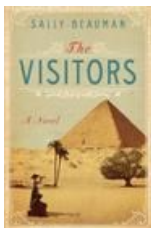
Crooked River by Valerie Geary is set in Central Oregon. Sam McAlister was 15, her sister Ollie 10 the year their mother died suddenly shattering their sheltered lives in Eugene, Oregon. The sisters' father, Bear, has never been a stable presence. He lives without electricity in a Teepee erected in a meadow along the Crooked River near Terrebonne Oregon. Honey gathered from beehives brings him a modest income, enough to pay a paltry rent to the farmer whose meadow he calls home. Sam spent several summers with her father in the meadow, for Ollie living with Bear is all new and alien. Bear is an outsider in the community, his bushy hair and beard, solitary existence, and lack of social graces keep him apart. The sisters have barely arrived at their father's Teepee when they find the body of a woman floating in the Crooked River. Numb from the death of their mother, the girls do not tell of their disturbing discovery. Of course, the police, aided by an abundance of incriminating evidence, focus in on Bear

as prime suspect. Both girls know Bear is innocent, Sam from all the summers spent in his gentle care, Ollie because the shimmerings, spirits of the departed, have told her so. A killer is loose, their father on a fast track to jail, and two young girls are alone in their quest to make things right. Geary uses the spectacular landscape of Central Oregon beautifully. The story grabs you from the first page and keeps you involved as secrets are revealed and it moves to the dramatic conclusion.



Woman With A Gun by Phil Margolin was inspired by an arresting photograph of a woman in a white wedding dress on a moonlit night at the edge of the sea holding a gun. It is a compelling picture; the reader will see it on the dust jacket of the book. As Margolin says, it does make you wonder what a woman would be doing at the water's edge in a wedding gown with a weapon. He has a bit of fun with making one of his characters an aspiring young writer, Stacey Kim, who sees this picture in a museum and is inspired to write a mystery. Her sleuthing takes her back a decade to the Oregon Coast where the photographer, Kathy Moran, was getting her life back together after beating a drug habit that cost her a career as a Portland Oregon attorney. It turns out the wedding night picture was taken shortly after the wealthy groom was murdered. Of course with juicy details like this, Stacey is off and running. She quickly sheds her day job as a receptionist at a New York law firm and heads west to Portland

Oregon, then on to the Oregon Coast. The murder of the wealthy groom has never been solved; suspicion still falls on his gorgeous bride found in the aforementioned gown toting a gun. As Stacey starts probing, asking questions around the small coastal town, interviewing the lawyers involved, it raises the hackles of a killer that might best be left undisturbed. More bodies follow and soon Stacey is in the killer's sites too. There are many likeable characters from the small town denizens, to the attorneys involved, and an interesting array of potential killers. The story is set in three time frames, current day when Stacey is writing her novel, the time of the wedding night murder, and a few years earlier in 2000 when attorney Jack Booth meets Kathy Moran. The action is fast moving, the northwestern setting beautiful, and the mystery devious, it will keep you turning pages. Margolin brings to bear years of experience as a Portland Oregon attorney who has argued before the US Supreme Court and as a defense attorney in death penalty cases. His assurance with the subject adds zest to his novels.



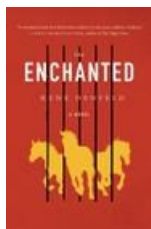
The Visitors by Sally Beauman. Lucy is eleven years old, sent to Egypt with her nanny to recover from typhoid. She meets Fanny Winlock, the two young girls develop a fast friendship. This is a time of heady discovery, the excavation of the tomb of Tutankhamun in Egypt's Valley of the Kings. Through her friendship with Fanny, Lucy is exposed to the men involved, Herbert Winlock, Howard Carter, and Lord Carnarvon. Beauman skillfully blends these historic figures into her work of fiction, giving an interesting portrayal of a fascinating historic event, and a feel for life under British rule in Egypt. If you enjoy historic fiction, this is an epic story!



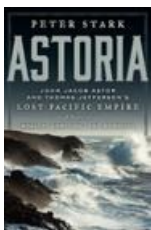
By the Book by Pamela Paul. One of the joys of Sunday morning is the New York Times' Book Review. And my favorite part of the review is the weekly interview with an array of subjects on their reading habits. It is great fun to learn what your favorite authors enjoy reading. Hilary Mantel, Michael Chabon, Khaled Hosseini, John Irving, and so many others of my favorite authors are profiled. Other notables make it onto the pages too. Arnold Schwarzenegger is a fan of Doris Kearns Goodwin's **Team of Rivals**. Colin Powell likes James Michener's **Tales of the South Pacific**, Emma Thompson enjoyed **Wolf Hall** by Hilary Mantel (so did I). If you enjoy reading, **By the Book** is great fun!

November 2015 Book Clubs.

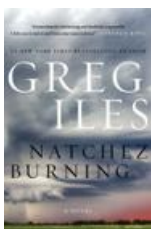
Please note the dates have changed on the Non-Fiction Book Club and the Mystery this month. **Astoria** by Peter Stark will be discussed on November 16th and **Natchez Burning** by Greg Iles will be discussed on November 30th. December will also have a change in the schedule due to publishing issues. **Ascendant** by Drew Chapman will move to December 2016, and one of 2016's Mystery Book Club choices, **Still Midnight** by Denise Mina, will be discussed this December. We hope this does not cause any inconvenience.



November 2nd the Fiction Book Club discusses **The Enchanted** by Rene Denfeld, an experienced journalist and death penalty investigator. She has written three works of non-fiction on important topics. **The Enchanted** is her first work of fiction. Hemingway had something to say about writing fiction "All good books are alike in that they are truer than if they had really happened and after you are finished reading one you will feel that all that happened to you and afterwards it all belongs to you.... If you can get so that you can give that to people, then you are a writer." - **The Enchanted** is Denfeld's foray into this truer truth found in works of fiction. Golden horses run under the stone foundation of the old prison, their eyes wild, manes flowing, molten heat emanating from their bodies as they run. An inmate on death row leads the reader into the world of fantasy only he sees and the stark, violent reality of prison life. He watches as an unnamed lady researches the lives of killers sentenced to die, finding clues in their backgrounds that might grant them the leniency of life in prison over death. The secrets she holds close permit her an uncanny understanding of the nature of her clients. A fallen priest comforts the inmates and watches the lady, wondering if she might possess redemption for him. Haunting and beautifully written, this is a powerhouse story. It was on my top ten list for the year.



November 16th the Non-Fiction Book Club discusses **Astoria** by Peter Stark, reviewed by Rich Stonehouse. The early 1800's saw America settled from the Atlantic coast to the Appalachian Mountains. Lewis & Clark's expedition gave Thomas Jefferson the idea that America could control the commerce and strategic value of the Pacific Northwest if outposts could be established as a counterbalance to British and Russian claims. Seeing the area as a rich source of furs and natural resources, John Jacob Astor took up Jefferson on establishing an outpost that would supply him with the furs that had made him a wealthy man in New York City. Astor sent a two pronged expedition to the Northwest, one by sea and the other over land. The legacy left behind by the outpost was the Oregon Trail blazed by Astor's overland expedition, and the establishment of the seaport Astoria.



November 30th the Mystery Book Club discusses **Natchez Burning** by Greg Iles, reviewed by Nancy Nelson. "**Natchez Burning**" is a book that weaves the present with the past. Dr. Thomas Cage has treated most of the residents and is highly regarded by both the black and white populations of Natchez, Mississippi. Now, however, he is accused of murdering the black nurse who once worked for him. The current events of his life are riddled with secrets. In the years between 1964 and 1968 people were openly fighting for the rights of blacks all over the south. A group within the Ku Klux Klan formed their own secret society with the aim of curtailing this quest for equality, and worse. As Thomas tries to protect his own secrets himself and his family, the secret atrocities of the past are bubbling to the surface. Potential witnesses begin to disappear as the real author of the worst corruption in Natchez comes closer to exposure. This was a thrilling mystery that I could not put down clear to the finish.



Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

December 14th 2015 **Still Midnight** by Denise Mina [Mystery Book Club](#)
December 21st 2015 **The Steady Running of the Hour** by Justin Go [Fiction Book Club](#)

2016!!!

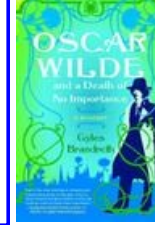
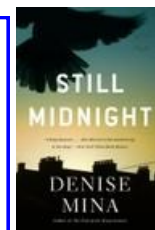
January **Oscar Wilde and A Death of No Importance** by Gyles Brandreth [Mystery Book Club](#)
January **Short Stories** by Oscar Wilde [Classics & Fiction Book Club](#)

February **Ice Princess** by Camilla Lackberg [Mystery Book Club](#)
February **Countdown** by Alan Weisman [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)
February **Year of Wonder** by Gerladine Brooks [Fiction Book Club](#)

March **Now You See Me** by S. J. Bolton [Mystery Book Club](#)
March **Signature of All Things** by Elizabeth Gilbert [Fiction Book Club](#)

April **The Keeper of Lost Causes** by Jussi Adler-Olsen [Mystery Book Club](#)
April **True American** by Anand Giridharadas [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

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



If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy using space in Sunriver Village, please remember the Village owners have kindly provided space in the loft area above Sunriver Books & Music. The space is available for uses compatible with the bookstore during Sunriver Books & Music's hours of operation. Using the space is free. To reserve the space for your group contact Deon at Sunriver Books & Music.

Sunriver Village is an ideal place to meet. After concluding the day's agenda enjoy a meal at one of the Village restaurants and browse in the many shops.

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