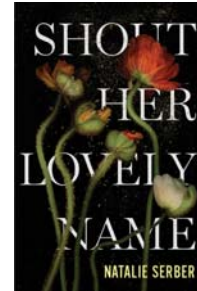
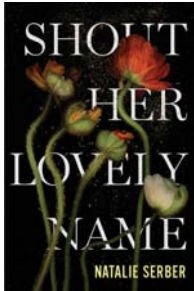




Sunriver Books & Music

September 2012 Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com
541-593-2525



September 1st at 5:00 PM Natalie Serber will give a presentation on *Shout Her Lovely Name*. Serber's debut short story collection has a theme of mothers and daughters, family and the challenges faced in the age old struggle between generations.

The title comes from the first story in the collection about a mother, her anorexic daughter and the searing conflict between them as the parent tries to heal her child. Ruby Jewel, second in the series, has a disappointed mother, Sally, waiting home for her daughter, Ruby. Dad picked Ruby up from the station and headed straight for the bar (not an unknown occurrence for the man), but now he has his daughter on the bar stool next to him and a secret on his lips. Free to a Good Home finds Ruby determined to keep her unplanned baby while the father walks away saying "Someone Else Can Do Right By Her". In the story titled Manx a feral cat named Phil Donoghue after the talk show host is adopted into the family and leads to a date with the local vet. But Ruby is not readily able to fulfill the role of responsible mother much less pet owner. A daughter's burgeoning sexuality is the subject of another story, an issue fraught with emotional baggage for mother - daughter relationships. Enduring the angst of the teen years is featured too. Ruby and Nora are in most of the stories, linked in a way that allows the reader to join the characters in various stages of their lives.

Although *Shout Her Lovely Name* is a collection of short stories, with many of the entries sharing the same characters at different times this continuity gives it the feeling of a novel. Serber mines the pathos of family life to show the mistakes, caring, and betrayal that populate the mine-field of our relationships. The stories are written with emotional resonance and beauty. Serber can be funny or heartbreaking, she keeps the reader wondering how the characters will surmount their challenges. Focus shifts between mother and daughter, allowing the stories to be told from varying perspectives and keeping the narrative lively.

Serber started writing *Shout Her Lovely Name* when her children were in elementary school, she concluded when her youngest entered college.

Author events are free and fun. Light refreshments will be served and there will be a drawing for prizes. Call 541-593-2525, e-mail sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com or stop by Sunriver Books & Music to sign up to attend.

Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday October 20th 2012 at 5:00 PM *The Case of DB Cooper's Parachute* by William Sullivan

May 4th 2013 at 5:00 PM Jane Kirkpatrick

May 5th 2013 at 11:30 Jane Kirkpatrick's Newberry Habitat for Humanity Walk

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.

A Month of Eastern Canada

Every year we spend one month focusing on another country or region. Jet age travel lets us physically visit a wide variety of places, but reading a book will allow you to live another life, another culture, another landscape. Books are a great way to begin understanding the viewpoint of cultures different from ours, of understanding the need of geography alien to our own. This year we are concentrating on the US's neighbor to the north, Eastern Canada. In June we focused on the New England region of the USA, a close neighbor to Eastern Canada, but there are cultural differences. We hope the books we are recommending will entertain and perhaps provide insight into the ways of Eastern Canada.

Staff Recommendations.

Lori recommends.

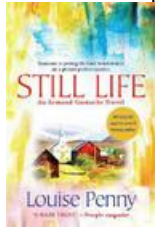


The Way the Crow Flies By Ann-Marie MacDonald. Jack McCarthy, an officer in the Canadian air force, is getting his family settled into their new home at his new station in Centralia, Ontario. He will be the Officer in Command at the Central Officers' School, a high-ranking position that comes with expectations of Mimi, his French consummate military wife: entertaining; joining the Officer Wives Club; cooking, cleaning, caring for her family (keeping an eye out for troubles in the other officers' families), who is always dressed to perfection without a hair out of place when Jack comes home in the evenings. Centralia is where Jack first began training to become a pilot, but an air accident has kept him out of the air, his dream of flying left lying on the ground. Unknown to Mimi, Jack has been assigned a secret mission involving a Soviet scientist defecting to America. The first stop for the scientist is Ontario, and Jack feels grateful to be helping the Americans get to the moon first with this scientist's help. The year is 1963 and the Cold War is raging; the Cuban missile crisis is scaring everyone, and children are learning to "duck and cover". Jack begins to lie to Mimi to cover his actions regarding the secret mission. Small lies lead to bigger lies. Unfortunately for daughter Madeleine, a budding comedian, her teacher has thoughts on his mind involving little girls after school, and she also begins to lie, which ends up eating at her grown-up life 20 years later. In the meantime, a shocking murder occurs, and it involves Jack and Madeleine's lies.

For the over 40 age-group, you will enjoy the nuances of the 60's – snippets of popular music of the time, TV& radio commercial slogans and jingles, world news, and family mannerisms – stay-at-home moms and everyone at the dinner table at night. Good times. A long book at 713 pages, but well worth it!

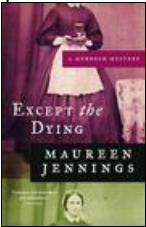
Carol recommends.

In ***Still Life*** by Louise Penny the small town of Three Pines is a seemingly pastoral setting south of Montreal so when Jane Neal, a local resident, is found dead in the woods everyone accepts that it is due to a hunting accident. However, when Armand Gamache, the Chief Inspector of Homicide of the Surete du Quebec arrives on the scene and begins meeting with the townspeople he begins to suspect Three Pines is not as idyllic as it appears at first glance. I found that the beauty of the book was not so much the mystery as the development of each character and the relationships between the characters. Penny delves into the dynamics of a variety of affiliations and how they are affected by the daily occurrences in life as well as the more significant events such as illness, bigotry, and family estrangement. Inspector Gamache is a strong, interesting, and likable character. This is the first installment of the Inspector Gamache books and I am looking forward to reading the next seven books in the series and finding out more about the Inspector while enjoying Penny's perceptive writing.



Nancy Recommends.

Except the Dying by Maureen Jennings. It is a very cold winter of 1895 in Toronto, Canada. The naked body of a young housemaid has just been discovered by the police and Detective Murdoch is assigned the case. As the facts unravel and prominent members of society are implicated, the story takes several twists which add to the suspense. Murdoch is also still grieving the loss of his young wife to typhoid, so he is particularly interested in solving the murder of this girl who has also died so young, though in this case by someone's design. As the story proceeds, we the readers are presented with Victorian era attitudes and living conditions in Canada. I found this to be an interesting and engaging mystery.



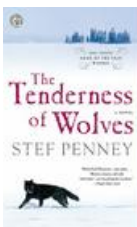
Kelsey recommends.

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen. Before starting his trip by bush plane to visit his dad in the Canadian oilfields, Brian's mom gives him a hatchet and, in that embarrassing way moms have, she insists on seeing how it looks on his belt. That small act saves Brian's life when his bush plane's pilot suffers a fatal heart attack. Out of radio contact in the wilds of Canada, Brian crash-lands the plane in a lake. With his hatchet as his only tool Brian must dig deep to find the determination to fight for survival no matter what nature throws his way, including clouds of mosquitoes, porcupines, wolves, bears, injuries, and starvation. This Newberry award-winner is the quintessential middle grade survival story.



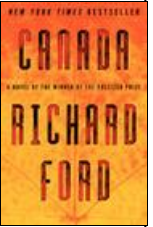
Deon Recommends.

The Tenderness of Wolves by Stef Penney. Mrs. Ross is troubled when her son Francis does not return home, she goes to the fur trapper Jammet's cabin hoping to find her child. Francis has been known to visit Jammet. Her discovery is not reassuring; inside the cabin she finds the body of the murdered trapper. The Hudson's Bay Company is sending representatives to investigate the crime, they want a quick resolution. Mrs. Ross fears that her missing son will be an easy scapegoat. She heads out into the wilderness accompanied by a man she barely knows to find her child before he falls into the hands of the Hudson Bay Company men and is railroaded for murder. This is a wonderfully moody book, with tall trees, dark forests, remote settlements and snowy frozen vistas. Canada in the 1860's was a place of vast distances, small communities, and loneliness. Mrs. Ross is a complicated, intriguing character.



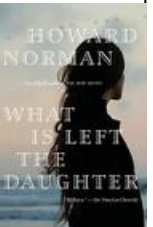
Deon recommends.

Canada by Richard Ford. Lives are built of a million quiet moments, but altered irrevocably by the one moment a line is crossed. Neeva and Bev's flirtation should never have progressed to marriage and children. Tall good looking Bev's southern manners, love of a good time, and gregarious storytelling nature didn't match with diminutive Neeva's quiet, intense, reserved, and intellectually arrogant personality. But marry they did, bearing a set of twins as different as their parents. Berner is wild, angry, and independent while Dell is studious, and eager to please. Bev's Air Force career takes the family from base to base until they hit Great Falls Montana and a misstep lands Bev back in a civilian life he is ill prepared to navigate. Involved in a nefarious deal that goes awry, Bev decides the best option to protect his family is robbing a bank. In a moment's foolish decision the lives of their parents are ruined and the teenagers are set adrift. Berner runs away while Dell is spirited across the Canadian border by a family friend to hopefully find peace living under the protection of charismatic Arthur Remlinger in remote Saskatchewan. It is a hope that will be denied, Remlinger has darkness to his soul. Ford's writing is sublime, his story bleak and haunting.



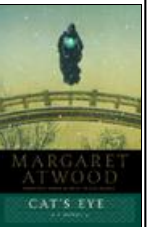
Devotion by Howard Norman is an unconventional romance. David Kozol has an ordered life in London when he sees Maggie across a room and is smitten. He pursues her, turning his life upside down to be with her. After they return from their honeymoon, David gets into a horrible fight with Maggie's father resulting in grievous injury. What could cause newly married, mild mannered David to get into an altercation with his father-in-law? Why is Maggie so willing to believe the worst of David. We each carry forward into life the filter of our past, our opinions shaped by events from long ago. Sometimes the cost of being right can be too dear.

What is Left the Daughter by Howard Norman is an interesting study on how life can go awry. On the same day, from two separate bridges, Wyatt's parents jumped into the cold, turbulent water leaving him orphaned. Only 17, Wyatt needs the comfort of family; his uncle offers him an apprenticeship in his toboggan shop. Tilda, his bodacious cousin, claims his heart. The course of young love rarely runs smooth; Wyatt's cousin gives her heart to a German university student. Fear and rumor make being a German difficult during WWII in the small burg of Middle Economy. It does not matter that Tilda's German fled his homeland and carries no blame for the atrocious acts of the Fatherland. Norman masterfully blends fact and fiction masterfully.



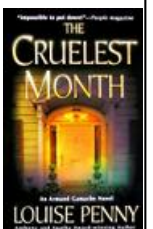
The Tricking of Freya by Christina Sunley is set in the remote beach community of Gimili outside of Winnipeg and in Iceland. Freya's widowed mother first brings her daughter from the US to Canada to meet her grandmother and aunt Birdie when she is seven. Freya's mother is an orderly sort, normal and respected. Her aunt Birdie is all the colors of the rainbow; a bright, wild creature of unpredictable habits and a mercurial disposition. After Birdie's death, Freya discovers she had a child, a cousin Freya is frantic to find. The story is filled with Norse myths, family dramas, and secrets that can destroy. The settings are used very well, Freya's search takes her from Canada to Iceland. Along the way she discovers many truths about what is important in life.

Cat's Eye by Margaret Atwood is a story that will stay with you long after you finish the last page. Elaine Risley has not returned to her hometown, Toronto, in many years. An art galley wishes to honor her with a retrospective of her work. But ghosts walk the streets of Toronto bedeviling Elaine, the ghosts of her childhood. Little girls can be vicious little creatures. Elaine's three childhood friends, Carol, Grace, and most of all, Cornelia, are on her mind as she walks the streets of Toronto. Her mind goes back to her childhood, to remembering often disturbing memories of the three little girls and the mean games they played together. Now it is time to free herself of her insecurities, and fears, she must release herself from her memories. She must forgive and release the past. Elaine is a prickly, richly complex, likeable character, and the story is told with humor, intelligence, and compassion. Margaret Atwood is one of Canada's most talented authors and this is one of her best.



No Great Mischief by Alistair MacLeod is a spare, beautifully written, haunting novel set in Toronto and Cape Breton. Alexander MacDonald is trying to help his alcohol ridden older brother, Calum. As the story progresses, the saga of the MacDonald family is told. Descended from Scottish stock, they are a hardy resilient clan inhabiting a rocky, windswept unforgiving land. As the story moves back in time, the reader learns of the tragedies central to Calum's condition and his relationship with Alexander. Their parents died while trying to cross the frozen sea to the lighthouse, leaving Alexander and his twin sister orphaned at three. They were raised in very different circumstances than Calum by their grief stricken grandparents. But it is Calum who is the heart of the story. The prose is spare but poignant, each word carefully chosen to convey exactly the right note.

The Cruellest Month by Louise Penny takes its title from T.S. Eliot's poem. *"April is the cruellest month, breeding Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing Memory and desire, stirring Dull roots with spring rain."* It is the third in the series. Chief Inspector Armand Gamache must unravel the strange death of Madeleine in the sleepy Quebec village of Three Pines. It is populated with delightful characters you would enjoy meeting; they don't in the least seem like murder suspects. Madeleine was beloved by all, a lovely, thoughtful woman without an enemy to her name. Yet Madeleine is most definitely dead. And in the most bizarre fashion. A few friends got together to hold a séance in the local haunted house, a place with a history of violence. Madeleine is literally scared to death. Gamache has a puzzle with lethal consequences. He also needs to discover who is trying to discredit him at the Surete du Quebec and attempting to ruin his career. Lies are being planted with the press, lies that hurt his family. Gamache is an intelligent, empathetic, detective. You will like him.



Every year we focus for a month on other cultures and landscapes. This year we will select our neighbor to the north for a Month of Eastern Canada. Literature allows the reader to experience other lives through the pages of books. Although Canada is similar in ways to the US, it has many differences too. For the month of September the book club selections and our newsletter will feature books set in Eastern Canada. We hope you can join us on Monday evenings at 6:30 to discuss some of the interesting choices.



September 3rd the Mystery Book Club discusses **Forty Words For Sorrow** by Giles Blunt. Set in the unrelenting cold of Algonquin Bay this is an edge of your seat mystery. Detective John Cardinal has a partner he doesn't really want and a killer targeting children to catch. Lisa Delorme might be more than a partner, she might be investigating Cardinal's link to a drug dealer. There is no time for distractions; Cardinal has to focus on a killer who will strike again. The setting is used brilliantly; you will feel the bitter cold of Ontario. Fine writing, a tense plot, and a complex protagonist combine to make this a page turner.

September 10th the Fiction Book Club discusses **The Bird Artist** by Howard Norman. This gifted author takes the reader to Newfoundland. On the first page Fabian Vas, the bird artist, confesses to murdering the lighthouse keeper. Fabian is an engaging narrator, he keeps the reader engrossed as he fills in the background of growing up in the windswept isolated fishing village in the early 1900's. His talent for drawing birds is apparent early in life. He falls in love with the wrong woman, or wrong by the standards of his parents and community. Margaret is headstrong and wild, a grand character for the reader to enjoy. Norman uses his historical setting and characters well; he spices up the tale with humor as he fills in the background that brought the lighthouse keeper to destruction. Howard Norman is a true wordsmith well able to craft an intricate, beautiful and moving story.



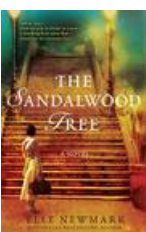
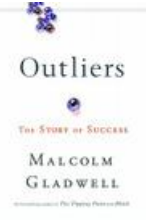
September 17th the Travel Essay Book Club will discuss **Rowing to Latitude** by Jill Fredston. Cold, arctic coastlines attract Jill and her husband, Doug. The two avalanche experts spend their off time in rowing the frigid waters from Canada to Norway to Greenland. Killer waves, polar bears and ferocious storms face the couple in their travels. They also encounter indigenous people and pristine nature. We will be focusing on the portion of their travels in Canada.



September 24th the Classics Book Club will discuss **The Shipping News** by Annie Proulx. Winning both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize is a rare honor, and this is a rare book. Beautifully written, haunting, melancholy, and funny. Quoyle has not enjoyed much success in life. He is a mediocre newspaper man, with a disastrous family life. His adulterous wife runs off with her lover, tries to sell his daughters, and is killed in a car crash. When his children are returned to him, he must make a home and a life for them, but he is overwhelmed by the task ahead of him. Quoyle's aunt persuades him to leave the city and return to their ancestral home in Newfoundland, a place he had never visited. Quoyle finds work with the local paper and sets about reclaiming his life. In this isolated, stark landscape he just might put his torments to rest and find joy.



The selections will give us a small view of a very large country.



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

October 1st 2012 **Trespasser** by Paul Doiron **Mystery Book Club**

October 22nd 2012 **1000 White Women** by Jim Fergus **Fiction Book Club**

October 29th 2012 **Dracula** by Bram Stoker **Classics Book Club**

November 5th 2012 **The Redbreast** by Jo Nesbo **Mystery Book Club**

November 12th 2012 **Outliers** by Malcolm Gladwell **Non-Fiction Book Club**

November 19th 2012 **The Sandalwood Tree** by Elle Newmark **Fiction Book Club**

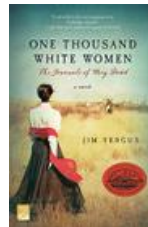
November 26th 2012 **Breakfast at Tiffany's** by Truman Capote **Classics Book Club**

December 3rd 2012 **Broken** by Karin Fossum **Mystery Book Club**

December 10th 2012 **Joy for Beginners** by Erica Bauermeister **Fiction Book Club**

December 17th 2012 **Paris Was Ours** by Penelope Rowlands **Travel Essay Book Club**

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