



# Sunriver Books & Music

## September 2016

### Newsletter

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



Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 PM Jane Kirkpatrick will give a presentation at Sunriver Books & Music on her latest historical novel, ***This Road We Traveled***. This is the story of Tabitha Moffat Brown and how she came to be named by the Oregon legislature "the Mother of Oregon". It is also the story of three generations of women who crossed from Missouri to Oregon on the Oregon Trail, along with a passel of other family: sons, husbands, brothers, daughters, and so forth. Tabby kept an unusual pet, I admit it had me intrigued and kept me turning pages to learn how it was faring. Tabby was in her sixties and lame in the 1840's when her eldest son, Orus Brown, persuaded the family to head west to the rich farmland of the Willamette Valley. Not to be left out, Tabby joined forces with her brother-in-law, John Brown, a sea captain eighteen years her senior, to outfit their own wagon and head west too. The crossing would be grueling, they were in the mountains at the same time as the Donner party, and hardship would test their mettle. A

full account of life on the trail is given. Arriving in Oregon Tabby faced many challenges, including what she would do next. Quite a lot as it turns out. The whole family is involved in the story, including a link to a famous painting made even more so by a recent Pulitzer Prize winning work of fiction. Kirkpatrick did her usual painstaking research bringing a wealth of historical detail to the story of this intrepid woman and her family.

Kirkpatrick has many books telling stories of strong women who contributed to history in meaningful ways, stories that would otherwise be lost. ***The Memory Weaver*** is a work of Pacific Northwest historic fiction based on solid research. November 29<sup>th</sup> 1847 Eliza Spalding, only ten years old at the time, survived the massacre that took the life of Marcus Whitman, his wife Narcissa, and twelve other men by Cayuse who were convinced the Whitman Mission at Waililatpu, Washington brought deadly disease to their tribe. Among the 45 survivors, Eliza was the only one fluent in a Native American tongue; she spoke the Nez Pearce language. Thus the child became both translator and hostage. Eliza lived a full life, she married a man determined to chart his own course. He was also a man able to understand the strength of his wife, perhaps even more than she understood herself. This novel spans a long life, giving a vivid account of the northwest as it changed from territory to statehood, frontier to farms and towns. ***A Light In The Wilderness*** is a fascinating story, blending fiction and fact, about a free black woman from Missouri who traveled the Oregon Trail to the Oregon Territory. Settling in Oregon, she would have to fight in court against a powerful white man who was determined to strip her of all her worldly possessions by nefarious means. For a black woman to go to court pre-Civil War is truly a courageous act. Emma Geisy overcame adversity and was an important part of Aurora Oregon's history, her struggles and triumphs inspired a trilogy; ***A Clearing in the Wild***, ***A Tendering in the Storm*** and ***A Mending at the Edge***. Helga Estby's walk across the US in a desperate bid to save the family farm was documented in ***Bold Spirit*** by Linda Hunt, but what about the daughter, Clara, who accompanied her on the trek? Kirkpatrick tells her story in ***The Daughter's Walk***. In 1896 the two lone women walked from Spokane to New York, taking only the possessions they could carry to sustain them on their journey. They traveled in dresses and jackets, with simple shoes. No Gore-Tex rain gear, ultra-light tents, or soft cushy sleeping bags for them. ***One Glorious Ambition; The Compassionate Crusade of Dorothea Dix*** is the story of a determined woman. Thank heavens for zealots, the true believers who look on a wrong and believe they can make a difference. Edmond Burke said "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." Let's amend that to include women. Dix taught a Sunday school class to a group of women incarcerated in a Massachusetts prison. She toured the part of the prison housing debtors and the insane; the conditions were horrific. She determined to do something. One woman; prior to the Civil War, when women could not vote and men owned the property, worked for change across the US and Europe; a glorious ambition. These are just a few of Kirkpatrick's historical fiction featuring brave, gutsy women.

Jane Kirkpatrick is a warm, welcoming speaker. Her events are always full of information that make the books even more interesting to read! Sign up to attend this free event by e-mailing [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) or calling 541-593-2525.







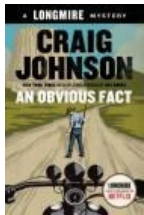
Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the SHARC Craig Johnson will give a presentation on the latest in his New York Times Bestselling Walt Longmire series, **An Obvious Fact**. Craig Johnson's books inspired the highly rated Longmire series starring Robert Taylor, Lou Diamond Phillips, and Katee Sackoff shown on Netflix. Please sign up to attend by calling 541-593-2525, emailing [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com) or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. Space may be limited.



The Walt Longmire series have been Indie Next List picks many times, New York Times Best Sellers, and multiple award winners. They are popular in Europe as well as the USA. Johnson's novels combine great writing, engrossing plots, and likeable characters. If you have been watching the TV series, read the books and get to know the characters in a more intimate manner.

Craig Johnson's loyalty in returning to Sunriver Books & Music is hugely appreciated. He is a good friend and strong supporter of Independent Bookstores. We are very grateful and honored that he continues to visit us and give great presentations.

We are also grateful to be able to present this important author, the star of our lineup, to the community at SHARC. The facility is spacious and comfortable. As you may know there have been some changes at SHARC. SHARC will be providing a bar at their normal charge. Sunriver Books & Music will still provide free treats and bottled water as well as drawings for prizes. Thank you to the Sunriver Stars, Sunriver's band of intrepid thespians, for giving up one day of their rehearsal to make it possible to have this event at SHARC on September 25<sup>th</sup>. It was very gracious of them and we hope you will all attend their play this October! Thank you Sunriver Stars!



**An Obvious Fact** uses the author's love of motorcycles. Those who have followed the series since its beginning will remember Craig Johnson's **Outlaw Tours**. He would ride his motorcycle (see the picture above) around the west from bookstore to bookstore for events. At one of our earlier events, when they were held in the old Chamber of Commerce building (long torn down) across from Sunriver Books & Music, Craig rode the motorcycle into the event room and gave the presentation from the top of the bike. Flashman attended and sat on the bike to add a bit of flash. It was quite a show. So our author knows bikes. Hulett Wyoming is just a ways across the border from Sturgis North Dakota, home of the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, the largest motorcycle rally in the world. In **An Obvious Fact** Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear travel to Hulett where Henry intends to compete in a dirt bike competition he won in his youth and has tried to win again every year thereafter while Walt looks into a hit and run accident as a favor to a young policeman, Deputy Corbin Dougherty (also known as Deputy Dog), stationed there. The accident took place near the Devil's Tower National Monument and left the driver in critical condition, unable to speak or aid in the investigation. The two men traveled in Henry's 68 Thunderbird, Lola, named for a mysterious woman from Henry's past. Lola the original, a stunningly dangerous beauty, shows up looking for Henry. There is plenty of tension and action involving various law enforcement agencies (including the feds) and a diverse group of wrong doers of various velocities. Of course there will be more involved than a hit and run accident, hidden secrets will be discovered and lives will be put in jeopardy. First we will have a demonstration of Vic's speed demon driving and Henry's motorcycle racing, both edges of your seat endeavors. This story also has many humorous moments; do not miss Vic using the PA system on the new military-grade, enormous MRAP donated to the Hulett Police force. Henry Standing Bear is reading Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories; he quotes them often, possibly more than Walt would appreciate (I enjoyed Henry quoting Sherlock immensely). One of the quotes is particularly apt, "*There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact.*"



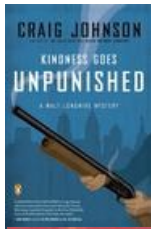
**Cold Dish** begins the series, introducing the characters and letting the reader get to know them. Walt is a big guy who prefers talking his way out of a tough situation to fighting, but if violence is the only reply Walt is well able to answer. Henry Standing Bear is tall, soft spoken, thoughtful, whip smart, a favorite of the ladies, and often quite funny. Vic, a transplant from a family of tough Philadelphia cops, is possessed of a razor sharp tongue, and is gleefully ready for action. The girl is downright dangerous. The story revolves around four white boys who got off without so much as slapped hands for raping a Native American girl in high school. Now, years later, someone is shooting them dead.



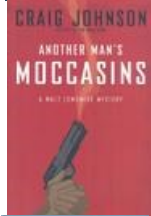
**Death Without Company**, second in the series, opens with a death in an assisted living facility. Former Sheriff Lucien Connally is positive the death was not natural; Walt's loyalty to Lucien runs deep. He goes against the wealthy family to investigate. The story has ties to the past, a woman hard done by, and the Basque community. The picture of Craig Johnson and Flashman was taken by Dan Feer. The picture of Craig and Judy Johnson in Sunriver Books & Music was taken by Brooke Snavelly of the Sunriver Scene.



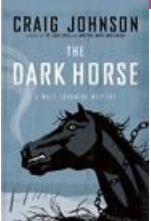




**Kindness Goes Unpunished** moves the action to Philadelphia where Cady, Walt's daughter, is an up and coming lawyer. Walt wants to meet her new beau. Henry Standing Bear is involved in a photo exhibition so the two men travel together, where they will meet trouble as they always do, side by side.



**Another Man's Moccasins** finds a dead Vietnamese girl along a roadside in Wyoming with a picture of Walt from many years ago in Vietnam. The story moves back in time to Walt as a young Marine in the jungles of Southeast Asia.



**Dark Horse** has Walt holding a prisoner he fears is innocent. She was discovered with a gun in her hand, a shot dead husband in her burned out house, and a ready confession. It doesn't add up for Walt, he goes undercover to find the truth. The horse in the story is pretty cool too!



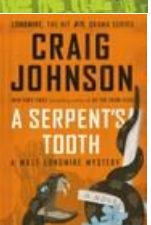
**Junkyard Dogs** is one of my favorite, and that is saying something because I enjoy them all. The opening scene is priceless. An expensive new McMansion subdivision looks out to snowcapped mountains and down on a dump. Ozzie wants the dump closed down so he can move some real estate. Add a Romeo and Juliet story for the older set and you have a heady brew of greed, passion, and intrigue.



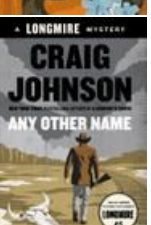
**Hell is Empty** lets all the devils loose on a mountain in a snow storm where Walt is following a band of stone cold killers after a hand off of prisoners to the Feds goes tragically awry. Walt climbs alone up the mountainside entering into the circles of hell after armed and deadly men.



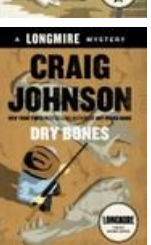
**As the Crow Flies** introduces Tribal Police Chief Lolo Long. She proved her bravery in Iraq, but her hair trigger temper and inexperience are not ideal in a Police Chief. Walt will have to give quick sheriff lessons if they are to catch a killer. Oddly enough, the prickly Lolo is immune to Henry Standing Bear's considerable charms.



**A Serpent's Tooth** begins with discovering Cord, a "lost boy" ejected from a rogue polygamous Mormon splinter group. Henry Standing Bear and Walt cross state lines to try and find some answers at a heavily armed Mormon compound while Cord discovers movie DVDs and is inspired to try his hand at horse rustling. Cord is soon joined by his self-proclaimed protector, Orrin Porter Rockwell, Man of God, Sun of Thunder blessed by Joseph Smith himself. Walt is having a little trouble with Orrin's identity, Joseph Smith having gone to his greater reward well over a century ago



**Any Other Name** is a real page turner. Former Sheriff Lucian Connally and Sheriff Walt Longmire have ties that go way back, deep and strong. One of Lucian's cronies, Detective Gerald Holman, either committed suicide (the official version) or was helped from this world. Holman was steady as a rock, a by the book kind of guy. He was working cold cases, not doing anything that should have turned deadly. Lucian asks his former protégée Sheriff Walt Longmire to dig into the last days of Holman's life and figure out what went wrong. One of the last cold cases Holman looked at was a missing woman. Lucian shows that he still has the moves and then some!



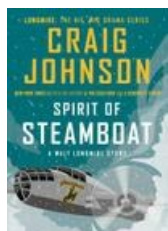
**Dry Bones** has Walt in the middle of a conflict over bones while his daughter Cady causes Walt serious worry about family matters, The last place a cop, any cop, wants to be is in the middle of a territorial dispute between the FBI, the Justice Department, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, a local ranching family, and a museum of sorts. That's exactly where Sheriff Walt Longmire finds himself when the largest most complete T-Rex skeleton is discovered on a ranch owned by the Lone Elk family. If there is a lot of money in the equation, the sum total is bound to be trouble. Soon the body of the family patriarch, Danny Lone Elk, is discovered face down in a pond, foul play a definite possibility. Making things worse, the Acting Deputy Attorney is one of those all hat and no cattle politicians that manage to stumble through life avoiding opportunities to learn and thriving on publicity. Millions, many of them, are up for grabs but the issues of ownership in the case are murky. Lots of players and no easy answer.

The picture of Craig and Judy Johnson above was taken by Dr. Sue Dougherty.

The picture of Carolyn Barr with Craig and Judy Johnson was taken by Janet Gordon.



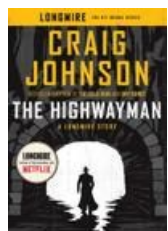




**Spirit of Steamboat** takes place during Walt's first year as Sheriff, opening with a mysterious woman seeking former Sheriff Lucian Connolly. Her visit transports Walt and Lucian back to 1988 when a horrific accident left a little girl hanging onto life by a thread. Wyoming was under siege by one of those maelstroms of snow and howling wind that come along about once a century just to reassure you how feisty Mother Nature can be. The medevac flight cannot make it to Denver. None of the light planes at the small airport have a chance against the ferocity of the wind. There is only one plane, a dinosaur from WWII, with the speed, power, and heft to fight out in the storm. But no pilot is able to fly the old bomber, except former Sheriff Lucian Connolly, the Doolittle Raider is intimately acquainted with the craft though it has been a while since he bailed out over the China Sea back in the big war. Walt, Lucian and Doc prepare to fly a relic into the storm of the century in an attempt to save the life of the young victim. Long odds on success and a pretty good chance of being scattered all over the Wyoming landscape. Walt, Lucian, and Doc are men made to eat up such odds. Walt's reply "...it's a question of what you have to do, what you have to live with if you don't." Lucian faced those odds before when he and 79 other men led by Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle climbed into B25B Medium Bombers on the flight deck of the USS Hornet. Walt's courage was tested in the jungles of Vietnam. Doc experienced Hitler's Germany. Neither man was found wanting. When the question on the table is who will risk their life to save another, the men's response is I will. Another inspiration Craig Johnson used is a big, black horse named Steamboat described by Jack Bowers as the closest thing to perpetual motion that ever wore hair.



**Wait For Signs** brings together 12 short stories featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. All are entertaining; they show different aspects of Walt's character and background. Those 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. 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. 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, and an owl. 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.



**The Highwayman** by Craig Johnson released May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Rosy Wayman was a stand up Wyoming Highway Patrolman, who earned the respect of Sheriff Walt Longmire. A few months back she was transferred to the Wind River area, a place of spectacular landscape with granite canyon walls and white water. Also a land of legends. One of those legends was Officer Bobby Womack an Arapaho Highway Patrolman known as the Highwayman who died over 30 years ago in a fiery inferno. Now Officer Wayman is getting midnight calls asking for assistance, from the dead man. Her commanding officer wants to send her for psychological counselling. Rosy is sure she is hearing those calls. She turns to Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear for help. Can Walt and Henry figure out what is going on before things get deadly? Lots of suspense, Craig's usual gorgeous descriptions of Wyoming, and humor for a great mystery! The ending is absolutely perfect!

Wyoming, the setting for the Walt Longmire series, has a wild, starkly beautiful landscape. Even today you can drive for miles along the highway and see nothing but distant mountains and wide open spaces. It is not hard to imagine in this country a time without highways, when appaloosa horses galloped across the plains. Lightening storms and sunsets paint the sky like a canvas in the hands of a master. The sheer gob-smacking power of the view is incredible. Craig Johnson lives surrounded by this land, he does it justice. The characters Johnson created come to feel like old friends, you will want to visit again. A touch of humor spices each story, for how else would they face the day?

Please sign up to attend this free event! Space may be limited. Sign up by e-mailing [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) or calling 541-593-2525 or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. Craig Johnson's presentations are always popular, he is the star of our lineup.

#### Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday October 15th at 5:00 PM **Buffalo Jump Blues** by Keith McCafferty

Saturday October 22nd at 5:00 PM **My Last Continent** by Midge Raymond

Saturday January 14th at 5:00 PM **First Degree Mudder** by Kate Dyer Seeley (slide show)

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 sign up to attend by calling 541-593-2525, e-mailing [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. . Space may be limited for some events.

Check [sunriverbooks.com](http://sunriverbooks.com) for changes or additions to the schedule.

## September 25 to October 1, Banned Book Week.

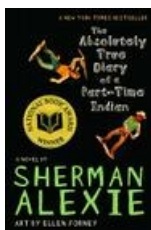
Join us in reading Banned Books. Many of the great works of literature have been banned, often because they espoused ideas that were not shared by those with the power to ban, such as John Steinbeck's ***Grapes of Wrath***. Reading books is a way to be exposed to other cultures, other landscapes, other ideas, to understand a little bit more about those we might otherwise never meet. Controlling what you read smacks of repression. We should all be free to read what we chose, to be enlightened by new ideas, and to decide what we believe for ourselves. Many of my favorite books have been banned. Here are just a few, I hope you join me in reading Banned Books.



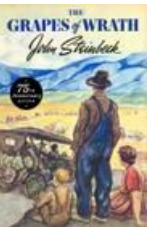
***Les Misérables*** by Victor Hugo is one of my favorite novels. The characters of Jean Valjean and Javert are inspired by Eugene Francois Vidocq, a convict turned cop and the creator of the Surete de France. He was also the main character in ***The Black Tower*** by Louis Bayard. Valjean's life has been brutal; convicted of stealing a loaf of bread to feed his family he was sent to prison coming out many years later a hardened, bitter, dangerous man. Valjean is redeemed by the kindness of a good person. Javert is a police inspector of considerable cunning, his determination making him a feared hunter of men. Their paths will cross. Set during a turbulent period in French history, the story begins in 1815, the year Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo and goes on to the Paris Uprising of 1832. Blending historical fact with a masterful work of fiction, it is a story brimming with good and evil, destiny and despair, cruelty and mercy. There is passion, suspense, and grandeur in this timeless story.



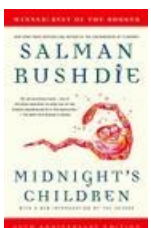
***The Monkey Wrench Gang*** by Ed Abbey is a rollicking tale. Led by the intrepid Hayduke, a motley gang wages war on the big yellow machines that have come to destroy the landscape they love. Hilarious, outrageous, passionate, and totally full of himself, Edward Abbey was an original. He was vehemently opposed to the construction of the Glen Canyon dam, a dam that obliterated Native petro glyphs and is now viewed by quite a few as a mistake. Too late for all that pretty landscape, it has been drowned for a long time now. Abbey pours all the rage and furor of his opposition to despoiling wild places into his fiction. Edward Abbey defies definition, he is not about to fit into any neat little box. An impassioned environmentalist, he was also known to shoot television sets. His fictional characters are likely to toss beer cans out the window. Ed Abbey was one of those guys who eat up life in great big gulps. In his fiction he lets us have a little taste of what it is like to live large and fall in love with a spectacular landscape.



One of the most banned books in the US is the winner of the National Book Award, ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian*** by Sherman Alexie. It was banned in the Redmond Oregon school district and has been banned in many other districts across the US. The story is inspiring and great fun to read. Arnold Spirit, known as Junior, decides not to live down to the expectations of those around him but reach for all he can be. Growing up on the Spokane Reservation he is surrounded by alcoholism and low expectations. Junior is a bright kid; he wants to do more, wants wider horizons. He decides to go to the white school, off the reservation. This is not an easy choice or logistically practical. He will be leaving all that he has known, his friends, his surroundings, and his tribe, to travel daily to an institution of learning where the only other Indian is the mascot for the school team. Junior is not a robust kid; he was born with water on the brain and has been a target for bullies all his life. Just getting to school off the reservation is a challenge, there are no buses serving the rez kids. He has fears for the way he will be treated. Expecting to be at best isolated and at worst tormented, Junior instead finds friends from the geeky nerds to the basketball team and the in crowd. As he takes part in sports, he finds himself competing against his tribe from the reservation. Junior faces the death of loved ones, the despair of alcoholism on the reservation, and grinding poverty. The story takes on themes such as being true to yourself, trying to live up to your potential, accepting others, tribalism, and a host of other relevant issues. Sherman Alexie is a successful, award winning author of national reputation, one of the strongest and most talented voices in Native American fiction today. He grew up on the Spokane Reservation, suffered the same physical condition as his fictional character, and went off the reservation to the same school, Reardon High School. In a 2011 Wall Street Journal essay he commented on the banning of ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian***: saying he didn't write to protect the readers. *"It's far too late for that," Alexie explained. "I write to give them weapons -- in the form of words and ideas -- that will help them fight their monsters."* What parent or adult would not want to find in a book inspiration to accept others as they are and to strive to be your best self?



***Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck won both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize, a rare honor. Forced by the Great Depression and the Dustbowl to leave their home, the Joad family travels to California in hopes of a new start. Instead of finding welcome, the refugees are harassed by authorities, reduced to working for pennies, and struggle to survive. This is one of the most powerful works of American fiction ever written. Steinbeck reported on the diaspora of those displaced by the twin events, he brings a power and realism to his work of fiction that grips the reader. When the book came out in 1939 it was banned in Kern County, California officials actually participated in burning the book. Hmmm, seems to me there was also a furor over burning books in a certain European Country about to become notorious. Controlling peoples' minds and ideas is wrong.

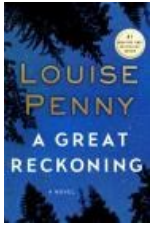


***Midnight's Children*** by Salman Rushdie. In 2008 the prize for the Best of the Bookers was awarded ***Midnight's Children*** as the best winner of a Man Booker Prize in the prior forty years. Rushdie is most known for writing ***Satanic Verses***, the subsequent fatwa calling for his murder and putting a bounty on his head. Bookstores (Cody's on Telegraph Avenue and several in the UK) were actually bombed just for carrying the book! The publicity around ***Satanic Verses*** overshadows the awarding winning ***Midnight's Children***, both are marvelous examples of the well written word. ***Midnight's Children*** is the story of partition, full of historic resonance. Saleem Sinai is born at the stroke of midnight August 15, 1947, his twin the new nation of independent India. But Saleem has another twin of sorts; he was switched at birth with Shiva, enjoying the fruits of a wealthy family while Shiva, the rightful heir, is given to a street musician. 1001 children are born within an hour of the birth of India. They are bound together in fantastical ways. Saleem has great powers of telepathy, but it does not bring joy. He also has a prodigiously large snout, resulting in several less than flattering names. While the story takes the reader to dark places, the violence, corruption, and despair attendant on partition, it is also written with wit and verve, Rushdie can be playful, melodic and devastating, he brings all his creative power to ***Midnight's Children***.



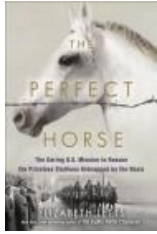
## Staff Recommendations of New Releases.

### Nancy Nelson Recommends.

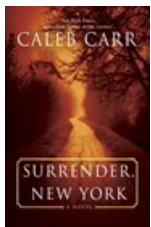


**A Great Reckoning** by Louise Penny. In this latest of Louise Penny's Inspector Gamache books, the good Inspector has cleaned out unsavory elements of the local police force. To complete the job, he has become Commander Gamache, head of the Sûreté Academy of cadets. Then, he fires many of the staff, but keeps the most suspect of the bad apples. Was this a wise thing to do? The reader will likely wonder. A group of four cadets have come under the influence of Serge Leduc (called The Duke) whom Gamache suspects of multiple crimes. When a professor of the Academy turns up dead, the cadets become prime suspects. The most likely of suspects, however, is Gamache himself. The case against him mounts, but then so does the case for his character. Gamache is nothing if not wise, intelligent, and most of all kind. Yet there is so much more to say about this novel. The writing is lovely, the story intriguing and charming, the ongoing philosophical discussion of good versus evil, inspiring, and the plot and historical content a delight. I cannot say enough to describe how much I really enjoyed reading it.

### Deon Recommends.



**The Perfect Horse** by Elizabeth Letts. WWII imperiled some of the most magnificent horses. Too often I have heard the criticism "why are you concentrating on animals when the toll of human suffering is so high". Animals have neither choice, nor any options in human conflicts. That we have not evolved beyond killing is tragic, that this failure results in the death, starvation, and injury of species who have no voice in the conflict, who are unable to flee is appalling. For centuries The Spanish Riding School and the Lipizzaner stallions located in Vienna, Austria entertained emperors and royalty. I had the pleasure of watching these glorious horses and their peerless equestrians on one of their exhibition tours of the US many years ago, it was magic. In addition to the Spanish Riding School in Austria, Poland housed the Janow Podlaski stables where gorgeous Arabian horses were bred. While the USA was moving toward a mechanized army, the Third Reich continued to use horses. The German Army demanded 6000 (yes that is thousand) horses per month to replace those who perished from violence or disease. During WWII the German Army used 2,750,000 horses, 60% of whom did not survive the war. Gustav Rau was in charge of breeding the perfect war horse for the Third Reich. This did not bode well for the animals. As the war progressed, their danger increased; from bombs, starvation, the cruelty of man, and all the awful things that happen in war. This is the story of a few brave men who risked their lives to save something very special and blameless. Alois Podhajsky, an Olympic equestrian, was the master of the Spanish Riding School, passionate about the horses in his care. Colonel Charles Hancock Reed was a US Cavalry officer, a man who respected horses. Hubert Rudofsky was a German Officer in charge of the Hoptau stud farm. General George Patton was a fighting general, but also an Olympic athlete and a skilled equestrian. Their stories will come together in the conflagration of war, involved in the kidnap and rescue, of some of the world's most precious horses. **The Perfect Horse** reads like the thriller it is, and leaves you with an admiration for the magnificent horses and the men willing to risk everything to save them. If you love horses, this is a story you must read!



**Surrender, New York** by Caleb Carr. Dr. Trajan Jones, a criminal psychologist, and Dr. Mike Li, an expert in DNA evidence, ran afoul of the powers that be in the New York City police department when they espoused the belief that forensic evidence was being used incorrectly, focusing on finding evidence against a particular suspect rather than focusing on finding all possible evidence and scenarios. Kicked off the force, they have retreated to the farm of Trajan's great-aunt in **Surrender, New York** where they teach classes over the internet for SUNY-Albany's School of Criminal Justice. Occasionally they are called on by local law enforcement to help with a crime scene, a job they dearly miss so they are happy to help. As the story opens they are thus called by the local sheriff and his deputy to a dilapidated trailer house and the murder of a 15 year old girl. Quickly they find themselves in opposition to the local forensic team, and as the case becomes much more involved and the bodies mount, they find themselves in jeopardy. Trajan has a rather unusual pet who takes part in the story, a great character. They also enlist the help of a bright teenage boy who becomes an integral part of their team. Entertaining side trips into the history of the area and the backgrounds of the characters add to the reading pleasure. This is a great sprawling novel with engaging characters and a richly complex and timely plot.



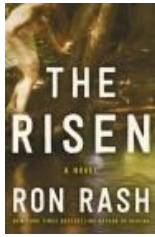
**The Gentleman** by Forest Leo. Lionel Savage, an upper class Brit and popular young poet went through the family fortune he inherited finding himself embarrassingly short of funds. The perfect solution he devised, a solution not unknown to dissolute young men of the aristocracy, was to find a rich heiress and marry. Much to his surprise, Lionel succeeds in wooing Vivien, the stunningly beautiful daughter of Lord Lancaster and sister to a famed adventurer. No sooner has Lionel solved his monetary difficulties by his marriage than a new problem arises, he is no longer able to write. Struggle as he might, his talent seems to have evaporated with acquiring a wife. When the devil drops by for a chat the two men get along swimmingly, after the first bit of surprise at actually speaking with the Dark Prince. The devil seems like a nice chap, employs Dante as a gardener and enjoys reading. Lionel liberally unburdens himself to his attentive listener about the disappointments of married life, his inability to write since his marriage, and his wish that he did not have a wife. When Vivien disappears that same evening, Lionel concludes he accidentally sold her to the devil. Not the proper thing with wives, especially wives from powerful families with swashbuckling older brothers. Worse yet, Lionel comes to the shocking realization that he does not want to lose his wife, he truly does love her. Aided by his butler, Simmons, his younger sister Lizzie, Tompkins the bookseller, an inventor, and the aforementioned swashbuckling older brother of his missing wife, Lionel resolves on a rescue mission to Hell to retrieve her. This is sheer fun to read, reminiscent of the humor of P.G. Wodehouse combined with a bit of Jules Verne, if the esteemed Wodehouse had decided to throw a touch of fantasy into his stories. Simmons has a bit of Jeeves polish and Lionel seems to employ reasoning that would have been familiar to Bertie.

## Staff Recommendations of New Releases.

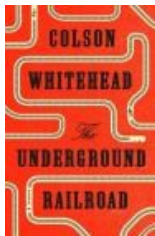
### Deon Recommends.



**A Gentleman of Moscow** by Amor Towles, every word is sublime. In 1922 Count Alexander Rostov is sentenced to house arrest at the Metropol Hotel. The hotel was choice digs of the hoi polloi until the monarchy was overthrown and communism turned the country a dull grey. Count Rostov was fortunate, he could have been shot for his aristocratic heritage; instead he would spend decades inside a hotel well known to him from happier times. He experienced the changes in Russia from the glittering days when the Metropol was an international destination to the years of deprivation and slogan spewing bureaucracy. Count Rostov is one of those grand characters familiar to readers of Tolstoy or Dickens, simply splendid, time spent with him is a gift. He grows and adapts as his circumstances change from enjoying the privileges of being a wealthy aristocrat to living in the attic of a hotel, forbidden to step outside. Yet his world is rich in emotional experiences and he never loses his charisma, a larger than life character. Towles is a playful author with an elegant turn of phrase. Read this book for the pure pleasure of reading, along the way you will discover its depth and grace. The pages are filled with humor, warmth, and history. This is a book I plan to re-read frequently.



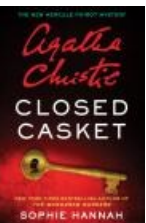
**The Risen** by Ron Rash. Forty some years ago Eugene used to spend Sundays with his brother Bill at their favorite fishing hole, a secluded spot where the boys could swim, fish, and do things youths do on hot summer days around cold water. In the summer of 1969 Eugene was sixteen and painfully innocent. Big brother Bill planned to follow in his Grandfather's footsteps to become a doctor, though he aimed to be a surgeon not a small town family physician, while Eugene was more drawn to literary endeavors. Weekdays and Saturdays the boys worked at their Grandfather's office. But Sundays they spent at their favorite fishing hole. Everything changed when a teenaged girl showed up at the remote spot, a girl far more worldly than Eugene or even the older Bill. Ligeria was a fiery redhead, sexy and full of the freedom loving spirit of the era. Eugene fell deeply under her spell as she inaugurated him into new experiences. All these years he thought his big brother put her on a bus and she drove away out of his life. Now over four decades later, Eugene is the town drunk, Bill is a gifted surgeon, and Ligeria is a pile of bones finally discovered. What really happened the summer of 1969?



**The Underground Railroad** by Colson Whitehead is an Oprah pick. Life as a slave on the Randall's Georgia plantation was rough, even more so for young Cora. Her mother was the only slave to ever run from the Randall's and not be brought back to receive brutal punishment. Cora grew up alone, forced to fight for herself every step of the way. Caesar was sold to the Randalls from Virginia when his former master died without granting him the freedom she promised. He tells Cora about the Underground Railroad, persuading her to run with him as treatment on the plantation worsens. Danger lurks around every corner, not just for the slaves but also the few whites who help them along the way. Terence Randall, a cruel, tyrannical man, is incensed by the runaways. He sends Ridgeway, a famous slavecatcher, after the pair. Colson Whitehead makes his Underground Railway a physical thing, with tunnels, tracks and trains, rather than the stops along the way of the historical Underground Railroad. Cora is a fighter; she strives to survive, to make her way to freedom, and to believe in the possibility of the kindness of man. After all she has endured, that willingness to hope is a real testament to her spirit.



**Razor Girl** by Carl Hiaasen. Lane Coolman's day goes awry when his rental car is rear-ended on the way to Key West by a stunningly gorgeous redhead shaving her nether parts with a razor while driving. The sight of the aforementioned babe's usually covered bits robs Lance of the use of any common sense ultimately resulting in his kidnapping. This is bad news for Buck Nance, star of the reality TV Show Bayou Brethren. Buck has a gig in Key West; Lane is his agent and normally attends to see that Buck does not plant his foot too firmly in his own mouth. When Lane doesn't show up, things get way out of control, the Key West crowd is not partying down to the homophobic, racially bigoted, Muslim hating, claptrap Buck spews to his usual audience. Things do not go well for Buck. Events spiral out of control, with missing agents, con men, missing TV stars, and the ensuing chaos. Yancy, the cop busted down to roach patrol in **Bad Monkeys**, thinks solving this mess, might put him back in the good opinion of the police chief. Murder and mayhem Carl Hiaasen style provides plenty humor and a fun story.



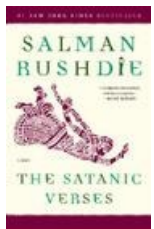
**Closed Casket** by Shophie Hannah. Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot and Scotland Yard's Edward Claypool reunite for a mystery at the vast country estate of Lady Playford, a famous author of children's detective stories. Neither man knows why Lady Playford invited them for a week in the Irish country; however it soon becomes apparent mischief is afoot. At dinner the first night Lady Playford makes a surprise announcement. She has changed her will, leaving out her two children, and bequeathing everything to her secretary, a man dying of kidney disease. The dinner party ends in chaos, everyone shocked. Of course there will soon be a murder and Hercule Poirot will use his considerable intellect to discover a devious killer who dared to commit a crime under the nose of the famous detective.



**Lady Cop Makes Trouble** by Amy Stewart. Combining real events and people from history with an intriguing mystery, the story begins with a devious prison escape. Constance Kopp was one of the first Deputy Sheriffs in the USA, quite an accomplishment in the early 1900's. As the story opens, Constance has been pulled off of her deputy duties and assigned the job of prison matron for the female prisoners while the Sheriff navigates the political consequences of hiring a woman deputy. Constance speaks several languages, one of their prisoners, von Matthesius, speaks German. He has been taken to the hospital complaining of a variety of issues, the Sheriff needs Constance to act as interpreter. The hospital is in chaos when they arrive, that chaos provides an opportunity for the prisoner to escape while Constance was on duty. At the time, if a prisoner escaped and is not immediately recaptured, the Sheriff could be jailed to serve the prisoner's term. Constance is horrified by the potential threat to the Sheriff and her role in events. She determines to catch the escapee. With Constance on the hunt, von Matthesius better look out! Stewart does a great job of providing detail on an independent woman's life in that era, creating a complicated mystery based on real events that show Constance's ingenuity and determination, and it is great fun to read.

## September 2016 Book Clubs.

September our Book Clubs acknowledge Banned Books Week by discussing a Banned Book. We stand against the banning of books. Exposure to a variety of ideas is a good way to understand others and be informed about the world. Regardless if the views espoused are ideologies compatible to your own, it is still dangerous to censor them. It is by understanding that dialogues open. Books allow us to experience different cultures, landscapes, and beliefs. No one should tell you what you are or are not allowed to read! Join us in reading Banned Books. Book Clubs meet Mondays at 6:30.



In 1989 Salman Rushdie wrote a novel that captured worldwide attention and sent the author into hiding. ***The Satanic Verses*** is our Fiction and Classics Book Club's Banned Book Selection to be discussed September 12. Rushdie's life was changed by the publication of ***The Satanic Verses***, no longer would he, or his family be safe. Ayatollah Khomeini issued a fatwa calling the faithful to the task of murdering Rushdie. It was not an idle threat. Book stores in London and New York were bombed for carrying the book. Rushdie's Japanese translator Hitoshi Igarashi was murdered, and his Italian translator, Ettore Capriolo was attacked. People died for this book, including a man bent on carrying out the Ayatollah's fatwa who instead of murdering Rushdie inadvertently blew himself to kingdom come. Rushdie's books are brilliantly written, often showing the author's mischievous, wit, and are meant to challenge their reader, to both entertain and make us think. ***The Satanic Verses*** opens with the destruction of a jet, the passengers falling from the London sky in a rain of debris. Two men, both actors, will defy the normal order of things and survive. One will develop hooves and horns, the other a halo. The story is set in London and Bombay where the men wrestle with their faith and many strange things occur. Ironically, one of the story's main themes is the rigidity of thought control in religion and the benefits of freeing people to think, to question, to decide.



September 26 the Mystery Book Club discusses ***The Gift of Darkness*** by V.M. Giambanco, combining fascinating characters with an intricate plot that will keep you guessing. Seattle and the rain shrouded Hoh River Valley in the Olympics, are the perfect setting. Detective Alice Madison, a rookie on the murder squad, and Detective Sergeant Brown are called out to the scene of a horrific murder of a family, two young boys and their parents, in a quiet upscale neighborhood, a place more likely to be the scene of a family barbeque than a brutal crime. Detective Madison lives just a few short blocks away, in the home she inherited from her grandparents. Soon a link will be discovered to the kidnapping of three young boys twenty five years ago in the Hoh River Valley, two survived and one vanished. Suspicion quickly centers on a man known to police. Yet something seems wrong to Detective Madison. The killer left a message at the crime scene, thirteen days, the detectives are on a tight time frame. They want to solve the crime before they face whatever he has in store on the thirteenth day. All of the characters in this story are fascinating, often marked by adversity but rising in unique and interesting ways.

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

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

October 10th ***Independent People*** by Halldor Laxness [for A Month of Iceland Classics Book Club](#)

October 17th ***Jar City*** by Arnaldur Indridason [for A Month of Iceland Mystery Book Club](#)

October 24th ***Burial Rights*** by Hannah Kent [for A Month of Iceland Fiction Book Club](#)

November 7 ***The Bone Tree*** by Greg Iles [Mystery Book Club](#)

November 14 ***Our Souls At Night*** by Kent Haruf [Fiction Book Club](#)

November 28 ***Dead Wake*** by Erik Larson [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

December 5 ***All The Light We Cannot See*** by Anthony Doerr [Fiction Book Club](#)

December 19 ***Sidney Chambers and the Shadow of Death*** by James Runcie [Mystery Book Club](#)

2017!

Happy New Year!

January 2 ***Angel's Burning*** by Tawni O'Dell [Mystery Book Club](#)

January 9 ***A Man Called Ove*** by Fredrik Backman [Fiction Book Club](#)

January 16 ***Between the World and Me*** by Ta-Nehisi Coates, discussion led by Richard Jenkins. [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

February ***Death and Mr. Pickwick*** by Stephen Jarvis [Themed to Dickens Mystery Book Club](#)

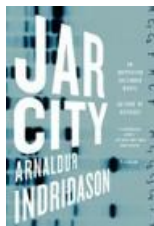
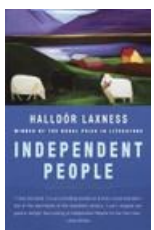
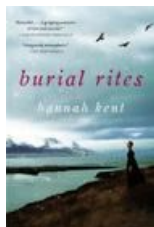
February ***The Pickwick Papers*** by Charles Dickens [Themed to Dickens Classics & Fiction Book Club](#)

March ***The Hound of the Baskervilles*** by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle [Themed to Doyle & James Mystery Book Club](#)

March ***The Ambassadors*** by Henry James [Themed to Doyle & James Classics Book Club](#)

March ***The Fifth Heart*** by Dan Simmons [Themed to Doyle & James Fiction Book Club](#)

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

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](http://sunriverbooks.com), you will find information on buying e-books. We hope that you consider an Independent Bookstore when purchasing e-books. If you are contemplating purchasing 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 choose.