



# Sunriver Books & Music

## September 2022

### Newsletter

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



***It is almost showtime!***

Craig Johnson returns September 18 for ***Hell and Back*** latest in the New York Times Bestselling, Award winning, Sherriff Walt Longmire Series, inspiration for the hit TV show.

**Purchase *Hell and Back* to receive a ticket to attend.**  
Contact us for details at [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com).



It is with great pleasure we invite you to join us September 18 at 5 PM for an event with Craig Johnson, author of the New York Times bestselling Sheriff Walt Longmire series, inspiration for the hit Netflix Drama Longmire. Craig Johnson has been a loyal and good friend, we are honored to know him. This will be a ticketed event for vaccinated audience members. Call 541-593-2525 or stop by Sunriver Books to pre-purchase a copy of ***Hell and Back***, the latest in the Longmire series, and receive your ticket.

Craig Johnson's Sheriff Walt Longmire series has a devoted following of readers eager to read each new book. The Longmire books have also won critical acclaim with a long list of awards including *Le Prix du Polar Nouvel Observateur/Bibliobs*, the Wyoming Historical Association's Book of the Year, *Le Prix 813*, the Western Writers of America's Spur Award, the Mountains & Plains Book of the Year, the *SNCF Prix de Polar*, *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year, The Watson Award, *Library Journal's* Best Mystery of the Year, the Rocky, and the Will Rogers Award for Fiction. *Spirit of Steamboat* was selected by the Wyoming State Library as the inaugural One Book Wyoming.



Photo by Adam Jahiel

The characters come to feel like old friends, reading each book is a chance to catch up on what has been happening with them. Walt, Henry Standing Bear, and Vic are always fighting the good fight, trying to protect the defenseless, sometimes against the unimaginable. Spending time with them through the pages of a book is a pleasure. Wyoming gives Craig a big canvas to paint his series on, it is not called "big sky" country for nothing. Wyoming has some of the most spectacular landscape on the planet, and miles of empty land that can make you think you have stepped back in time.

***Hell and Back*** will pit Walt against his greatest challenge, it is not just his life that is in danger, but his very soul.

Wyoming is beautiful country, but it can also be deadly cold. Walt wakes up in the middle of a road covered in snow, his hat nearby and his coat frozen to the ground. He doesn't remember anything, not who he is, not where he is from, not who his people are, nothing. The road is right by the remnants of the Fort Pratt Montana boarding school where 30 Native American boys perished in a fire in 1896. The name of the notorious school hangs over the gate still standing in front of the desolate site. Dusting himself off, he reasons the best course of action is to wander down the hill to the little town. And then things get even stranger. The people feel familiar, starting with the beautiful strawberry blond at the café. She gives him the first clue to his identity, reading his name in the band of his hat. There is something off about the people, something he should know if he could just remember.

In Native American lore there is an all powerful being, evil, a being that wants not only to kill, but to eat the very soul of it's victim. The town where small boys perished in a fire could be just the kind of place the Taker of Souls would relish, would seek victims to feed it's hunger. What if such a thing has set it's focus on Walt? What if he is running out of time, must remember who he is and what he does before it finds him?

While Walt is battling the forces of evil, Henry Standing Bear and Vic along with Dog are in Fort Pratt Montana looking for him. They don't know what has happened to him, where he might be, if he is in dire straits. They just know he may have come here seeking a missing Native American girl., Jeanne. Not a lot to go on, but then Henry is an accomplished tracker and Vic is determined. She is not the sort of woman people get away with annoying. Henry and Vic know something must have happened to Walt, they fear time may be short to find him.

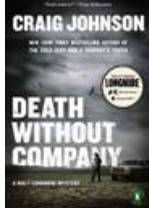
The two stories blend together, moving back and forth as Walt searches for answers while Henry and Vic search for Walt. There are so many edge of your seat moments! I read it one sitting, just could not put it down. I would be with Walt wandering about baffled while battling the forces of darkness, getting out of one tight spot after another, when the story would turn and I would be with Henry and Vic, trying desperately to find out what happened to Walt.

We hope you are able to join us September 18 for a great event!

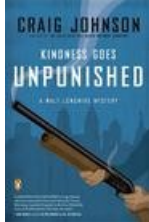
Sunriver Books will be closed September 18 to set up for the event with Craig Johnson at Three Rivers School. Please purchase ***Hell and Back*** to receive a ticket in advance, we will not be issuing tickets at the door.



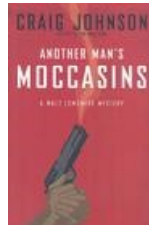
**Cold Dish** introduces the characters. Walt is a big guy who prefers talking his way out of trouble to fighting. Henry Standing Bear is tall, soft spoken, thoughtful, whip smart, a favorite of the ladies, and often quite funny. Vic, from a family of tough Philadelphia cops, has a razor sharp tongue, and is gleefully ready for action. Four white boys escaped serious consequences for raping a Native American high school girl. Years later, someone is shooting them.



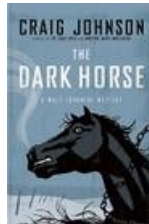
**Death Without Company** opens with a death in an assisted living facility. Former Sheriff Lucien Connolly is positive the death was murder; The story goes to the past, a woman hard done by, and the Basque community.



**Kindness Goes Unpunished** is set in Philadelphia where Cady, Walt's daughter, is a 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 road in Wyoming with a picture of Walt from 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 found with a gun in her hand, a shot dead husband in her burned house, and a confession. It doesn't add up for Walt, he goes undercover to find the truth. The horse is pretty cool too!



**Junkyard Dogs**. A new McMansion subdivision looks out to snowcapped mountains and down on a dump. The developer wants the dump closed. 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 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. He climbs up the mountainside entering 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. 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 find 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, a man who died over a century ago.

**Any Other Name**. One of Former Sheriff Lucien Connolly's cronies, Detective Gerald Holman, either committed suicide or was helped from this world. Holman was working cold cases, should have been safe. Lucien asks Walt to figure out what went wrong.

**Dry Bones**. The last place 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.



**An Obvious Fact**. Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear go to Hulett, Wyoming near Devil's Tower National Monument and across the border from the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. They travel in Henry's 68 Thunderbird, Lola, named for a mysterious woman from Henry's past. Lola the original, a stunningly dangerous beauty, shows up. Henry Standing Bear is reading Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories; a quote is apt, "*There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact.*"

**The Western Star** moves between two time frames. Current day Sheriff Walt Longmire, Deputy Vic Moretti, former Sheriff Lucien Connolly and Henry Standing Bear are in Cheyenne trying to stop the release of a prisoner. Back in 1972 Walt was in his first days as a deputy, boarding the legendary train, **Western Star**, with Sheriff Lucien Connolly. The Sheriffs were riding across the state to relax, party a bit with other officers, and have a good time. On this ride, not all of the Sheriffs who board will survive.

**Depth of Winter**. There are some things worthy of risking your life. At the top of Longmire's list is his daughter Cady. Alone Longmire travels to Mexico where she is held captive by a sadistic drug lord. In a land where he has no jurisdiction, a country he was forbidden entry, he goes against an army of vicious drug runners.

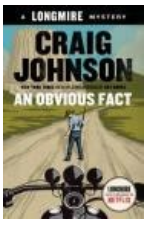
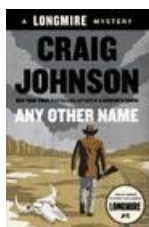
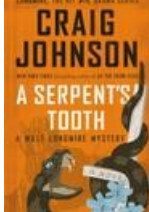


Photo of Craig Johnson and Flashman by Dan Feer



Photo by Judy Johnson





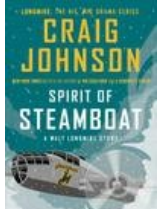
**Land of Wolves** has Sheriff Walt Longmire and Deputy Vic Moretti heading into the high country to assess the death of a sheep. A lone wolf is the probable culprit in the sheep's demise. Vic is against shooting the wolf. Then they find the shepherd dead in suspicious circumstances. Walt's focus is on catching a two-legged predator.



**Next To Last Stand.** Charley Lee Stillwater's death by heart attack at the Wyoming Home for Soldiers and Sailors presents Sheriff Walt Longmire with a conundrum. Why does Charley have a shoebox with a million dollars and a painting? Custer's Last Fight by Cassilly Adams depicting the Battle of the Little Big Horn was destroyed in a fire at Fort Bliss Texas in 1946, or was it? And away we go!



**Daughter of the Morning Star** takes Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear to Lame Deer, Montana at the behest of Tribal Police Chief Lolo Long. Chief Long is short on patience, quick to rile and immune to the considerable charms of Henry Standing Bear (read **As The Crow Flies**). She proved her courage as a combat veteran in Iraq. It would take something important for her to ask Walt and Henry's help. Her niece, Jaya, has been receiving death threats. A year ago, Jaya's older sister Jeanie disappeared. Chief Long is worried about Jaya. Once Walt and Henry start investigating, the body count rises and the bad guys come out of the woodwork. **Daughter of the Morning Star** is also our Mystery Book Club selection for September 5, see the back page of this newsletter. .

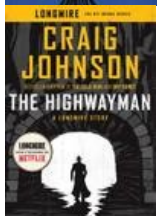


There are also 3 novellas; **Spirit of Steamboat**, **Wait for Signs**, and **The Highwayman**.

**Spirit of Steamboat** opens with a dark haired woman seeking Lucien, the former sheriff, she has something to deliver to him. Her visit transports Walt and Lucian back to 1988 when a horrific accident left a little girl hanging onto life by a thread. Wyoming is under siege by one of those maelstroms of snow and wind that come along about once a century just to reassure you how feisty Mother Nature can be. The medevac helicopter 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 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 but it has been a while since he bailed out over the China Sea back in the big war. So as the story opens Walt, Lucian and Doc are preparing to fly a relic into the storm of the century in an attempt to save the life of a young burn victim. Long odds on success and a pretty good chance of being scattered all over the Wyoming landscape. Walt's reply "...it's a question of what you have to do, what you have to live with if you don't."



**Wait For Signs** brings together 12 short stories featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. 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. Divorce Horse puts Henry Standing Bear, Walt, and Vic on the trail of an ill-tempered horse much prized by a divorcing couple. 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; the title speaks for itself.



**The Highwayman.** 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.



Photo of Craig and Judy Johnson in Sunriver Books by Brooke Snavelly



**August 29-September 4.**

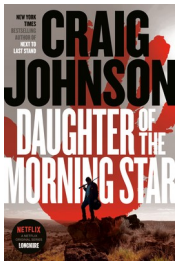
**Inspire a child to enjoy reading! Donate a book to Three Rivers School!**

It is hard for school districts to find the funds to keep their libraries and classrooms thriving with good literature. Help fuel the school children's passion for reading. Buy any book in the children's section at 35% off, we keep the book and deliver it to Three Rivers School with your name & address. The first child to read the book will write you a thank you note, thereafter the book is available for the Three Rivers students. In donating books this way the children are exposed to a wider variety of literature as everyone picks books they feel will ignite a desire to read!

A \$19.99 book would cost you \$12.99, a \$16.99 book will be \$11.05, a \$12.99 book becomes \$8.44, \$9.99 reduces to \$6.49, and \$6.99 is just \$4.54.

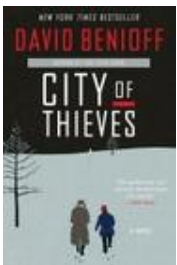
Banned Book week is September 18 to 24. Banning books is just plain wrong. Reading opens the mind to other points of view, other possibilities. Reading allows you to visit another culture on the pages, experience through the writing what other lives might be like, discover the geography of other lands. Every year one of our Book Clubs reads a Banned Book.

Book Clubs are meeting Mondays at 6 PM via Zoom. Our Zoom Book Club is a great group of people. We will keep Zooming even after we are able to resume in person Book Club discussions. Hopefully that will be soon, I miss the in-person discussions too! Once the Omicron specific vaccine is available, we should be able to meet in person and via Zoom. For September it will still be Zooming only. If you would like to attend one of the Book Clubs, email me at [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) and I will send you the Zoom link the weekend before the discussion.



September 5 Mystery Book Club discusses **Daughter of the Morning Star** by Craig Johnson. Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear travel from Wyoming to Lame Deer Montana. Tribal Police Chief Lolo Long is a tough woman, a combat veteran of the Middle East, with a hair trigger temper. She is also the first woman to be immune to Henry Standing Bear's considerable charms (read **As The Crow Flies**). But she has a weakness, her niece Jaya Long.

About a year ago, Jaya's older sister disappeared driving home from Billings Montana. Jaya is a star player on the Lame Deer High School Basketball team. Since her sister disappeared, she has been getting into trouble and receiving death threats. Lolo is worried that the death threats may be connected to her sister's disappearance. She asks Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear for help. Once Longmire starts investigating, the action heats up! Dead bodies accrue, As Longmire delves into the goings on around Jaya, he runs afoul of some seriously dangerous bad guys, landing himself in mortal danger.

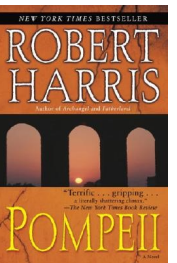


September 19 Fiction Book Club discusses our Banned Book selection, **City of Thieves** by David Benioff. **City of Thieves** was banned in Fort Meyers Florida and in Texas after parents complained about language. The story is set during the siege of Leningrad, the city was under siege from September 8, 1941 until January 27, 1944. It was brutal. People were starving and cold.

Lev is Jewish. He is hungry and cold when he and a group of friends search for a downed German pilot. The pilot is dead but he has weapons, a nice watch, and a flask of cognac. Excited by their discovery, they are too slow to realize the GAZ is approaching, a serious mistake. The punishment for being out after curfew is death. Lev is taken, and thrown into a cell with a Cossack, Kolya, accused of desertion. The future looks pretty dim for them both, but there is soon to be a chance, a slim chance, but a chance just the same.

An hour after dawn soldiers come for them. The Colonel's daughter is getting married, they need a dozen eggs (scarce commodity!) for the cake. Lev and Kolya are sent out to find the precious eggs or be executed. There is little choice, execution is certainly final. The eggs? Well not likely, but worth a try considering the alternative. The story is both humorous and heartbreaking. Well worth reading.

We chose this novel for our Banned Book selection before Russia brutally invaded the sovereign nation of Ukraine. It is a worthwhile novel about an earlier time and two brave young men. It causes me some uneasiness to feature a Russian novel while Russia is so blatantly and cruelly ignoring international laws and attacking another country. That said, I also would be uneasy about dropping a novel that both entertains and speaks of the human condition, banning books is wrong. Our sympathy is with Ukraine, we are sorry Russia has chosen this path.



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

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

Times and dates are tentative due to current situation.

#### October

October 3 **Pompeii** by Robert Harris **Mystery Book Club, A Month of Italy.**

October 17 **A Thread of Grace** by Mary Doria Russell **Fiction Book Club A Month of Italy.**

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



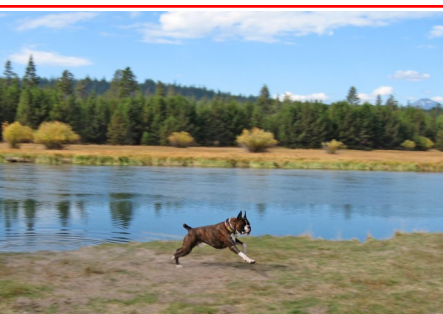
#### Digital Audio Books.

Sunriver Books & Music offers digital audio books through Libro.

Sign up at [libro.fm/sunriverbooks](http://libro.fm/sunriverbooks) Sunriver Books & Music's logo should appear on the top right corner of the site. Here is a brief description of Libro and their terms.

- Libro.fm works with all major publishers and has a catalog of over 100,000 audiobooks, including New York Times bestsellers.
- Audiobooks can be purchased individually or through a monthly membership program.
- Over 100,000 titles • First month/audiobook for FREE
- • \$14.99 monthly fee (one audiobook/month) • 30% off additional audiobooks and audiobook gifts

For our customers who enjoy audio books as well as reading, we hope you find Libro a good source.



**Flashman July 2, 2002- January 31, 2015**

Please remember not to leave your pets in a parked car, temperatures can soar within minutes causing death. If you see a dog in a parked car in Sunriver, please call the Sunriver Police Department 541-593-1014 or 911 so they can rescue the animal. Animals can be in severe distress in minutes, parking in the shade on our hot days will not save them. It is too hot to leave an animal safely in the car, even in shade temperatures will be deadly.

Dr. Wendy Merideth of Sunriver Veterinary Clinic 541-593-8128 alerted us to the danger of mushrooms. Every year dogs ingest poisonous mushrooms, sometimes fatally, always requiring prompt medical attention. In the Deschutes National Forest be cautious of leg hold traps that can grievously injure a pet, or a person. Also, be wary of cheat grass, it can lodge in ears, nose, etc.