



# Sunriver Books & Music

## July 2016

### Newsletter

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



Saturday July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 PM Jim Lynch presents *Before the Wind* You do not have to be a sailor to enjoy this family saga set in Seattle, but oh boy, if you are, this is your book! I fall into the non-sailing category, but have friends who sail, and Lynch captures so clearly the sense of being out on the water, the power of wind and sea, that you will feel more like you have gone sailing



with a fascinating crew than sat reading a very good book. Joshua Johannssen comes from a sailing family. The Bobo's, Sr. and Jr. (his grandfather and father) are legendary in Puget Sound waters. Bobo Sr. built a line of fast sailing ships; they dominated Puget Sound racing until newer, lighter, materials came along. Bobo Jr. took Olympic Silver, and raced with a ferociousness and passion that consumed his life. The baton passed to Ruby, Joshua's younger sister, who could sense wind as if it was a part of her. At the height of her prowess, she turned her back on racing, dedicating her life to making a difference in far off places. Bernard, the older brother, was also attracted to causes. With the same ferocity and passion he so loathed in his father, Bernard was willing to stride across that boundary between legal and lethal. Joshua is 31, riding his bike to work repairing sail boats and living on board in a marina in south Puget Sound. He entertains his co-workers with stories of his unsuccessful attempts to find a mate through internet dating (a practice that brings much amusement to his fellow workers). The story opens with Bobo Jr. luring Joshua into helping with a hush, hush renovation of his grandfather's sailboat design. He plans on winning the Swiftsure Race and reinvigorating their boat building business. Einstein, a mediocre sailor and brilliant mathematician, also takes part in the story. Joshua's mother, Matcelle, teaches math at Ballard High and quotes Einstein, telling interesting stories about the genius. As the date for Swiftsure approaches, the whole clan becomes involved in one last grand race aboard his grandfather's historic vessel that will bring all their secrets and passions to bear. Lynch's turn of phrase, humor, and compassion make this a true gem of a book that I loved reading!



Jim Lynch has an impressive body of work showing a great range. His debut, *The Highest Tide*, is a heartwarming coming of age story about a 13 year old boy, Miles, most at home on the water in his kayak. On the bay, in Olympia Washington, collecting specimens to sell to scientists for a few extra dollars Miles does not have to think about the rifts in his parent's marriage, make sense of the social order at school, or dwell on his infatuation with the 18 year old neighbor girl. Alone with the bay and the gentle rocking of his kayak Miles is in his own special world. When he discovers something that really should not be in his bay, media attention drives everything out of control Miles is a great character! His relationship with an elderly neighbor is touching, and his passion for the creatures that live in the bay and the protection of their environment is impressive. Quite a bright kid.



Lynch's second book, *Border Songs*, about a rather unusual border patrol agent tackled timely issues about the changing nature of community and borders. Brandon Vanderkoot is a large man, rather naïve, and far more interested in watching birds than patrolling the border between Canada and Washington. This talent for bird watching ironically makes him excel as a border patrol agent because of his obsessive observation. Brandon would have preferred working on the family dairy where he is fonder of cows than catching people for the border patrol, people being a lot more confusing than cows. His father has watched the farms turn into McMansions around him and worries that the dairy will not be able to sustain Brandon in the future. He pushed his son into the border patrol thinking of the future. Tension between the various factions is inevitable. The border is an interesting place, where cultures are changing rapidly, and law enforcement is changing too.



Seattle is one of the world's most beautiful cities and **Truth Like The Sun** reads like a love song to the spectacular, jaw dropping beauty, the vitality, the over the top outrageous glory of the place. The 1962 World's Fair put the spotlight on Seattle. Roger is in love with this glorious city, the World's Fair is his creation. He hangs out with Elvis, greets Prince Phillip, and chats up LBJ. Roger is an idea man, a promoter, bursting with dreams for his city and the energy to make them real. Fast forward to 2001 and Roger is still in love with his city, but he knows it could be so much more! He is tired of being behind the scenes, being the power behind the throne; he steps out front and center in a run for mayor. Helen was hired by the Seattle PI, the Pulitzer fuels her daydreams. Taking down charismatic Roger just might be her ticket to the big time. You cannot stay active in city politics and back room deals for forty years and stay clean. Roger's closets have to house a few skeletons and Helen intends to find them, in whatever sorry form available. Lynch has written this entertaining and thought provoking book like a celebration of a city. Seattle truly is that beautiful with white capped mountains in every direction you look, lots of blue water sparkling like diamonds in the sun. Roger is a pretty cool guy, hang out with him at the fair for a while and revisit the past, it is closer than you think.

I enjoyed and highly recommend all of Jim Lynch's books. I hope you can join us to hear this very talented author. Sign up to attend this free event by calling 541-593-2525, e-mailing [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music.



**Sunday September 25th at 5:00**

**At SHARC**

**Craig Johnson returns for the latest in the  
Walt Longmire Series,  
*An Obvious Fact.***

Sign up early 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.

***An Obvious Fact*** releases September 13,  
we are happy to pre-order for you.

Picture of Craig and Judy Johnson by Brooke Snively.

Picture of Craig and Flashman by Dan Feer.



#### **Upcoming Author Appearances**

**Lisa Lutz' July 9th event was unavoidably cancelled due to unexpected personal issues for the author.**

Saturday August 6th 2016 at 5:30 PM ***Disappearing Nine Patch*** by Arlene Sachitano

Saturday August 13th 2016 At 5:00 PM ***American Copper*** by Shann Ray

Saturday September 3rd 2016 at 5:00 PM ***The Road We Traveled*** by Jane Kirkpatrick

**Sunday September 25th at SHARC at 5:00 PM *An Obvious Fact* by Craig Johnson**

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

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.

#### **Mountain Meadows Quilters of Sunriver Gallery of Gorgeous Quilts**

By July 7th Sunriver's **Mountain Meadows Quilters** will exhibit their quilts in the upstairs loft at Sunriver Books & Music. Last year many people enjoyed visiting the loft to admire the craftsmanship in the colorful display of quilts. The display is created by a group of over 120 South Deschutes County women and men. The quilting interests and talents are as wide and varied as you would imagine with a group this large. Many of the quilters dye their own fabric and create original designs. Although, there is a reason that quilts have remained a part of our creative world for so many years. As you will notice from this group and throughout the rest of the Village many also use patterns that our grandmothers sewed many, many years ago. We hope you enjoy looking at them as we did creating them!

The quilts will be on display through the **Sunriver Quilt Show** and the **Sunriver Art Faire** the 14th of August. Viewing the amazing quality of the quilts created by members of the quilt guild will be inspire you to attend Sunriver's fabulous quilt show! The quilts will be located in the Community Room in the upstairs loft at Sunriver Books & Music. They will be on display between 10 and 8:30 daily.

Lisa Lutz was unable to be with us this July for personal reasons. However, we would like to celebrate her work. Lisa is a gifted author with lively prose, her books are a pleasure to read.

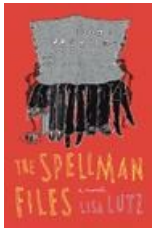


**The Passenger**, Lisa's latest novel, takes the reader by surprise at every turn, this is a devilishly grand story! Tanya's husband lies dead at the bottom of the stairs; clearly the widow is not bereaved. Fearing nasty questions from the police she splits town in a hurry, putting miles between herself and the dead man. Tanya assures the reader she didn't do it, but we have only her word that Frank wasn't helped falling down those stairs, and Tanya's relationship with the truth has lots of room for flexibility. Within 48 hours Tanya is gone, vanished. Her hair, clothes, car, name are all new. This woman sheds identities and places with speed as she attempts to outrun her past, keeping her secrets hidden. It isn't easy living with an identity unlikely to pass official scrutiny, becoming someone new, keeping watch for any sign of danger and fleeing to places unknown. What is she running from? What secrets does she possess that require such a fugitive life? Is she a killer or a victim? Hard to say. Trying on a new persona, she meets Blue, a blond beauty whose ice cold eyes lock onto her with soul deep knowledge, there is no hiding from their recognition. Will Blue be a friend and savior or a dangerous foe?

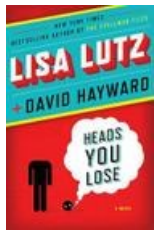


**How to Start A Fire** celebrates the bonds of friendship over twenty years, this is a compulsively readable story, one of those books you are sorry to see end. Kate, Anna, and George meet in college at UC Santa Cruz. The three young women come from vastly different backgrounds, have opposing views on many issues, and are not similar in personality yet they form a whole. No matter what happens, they have each other's back. Anna comes from a privileged East Coast background; she is impulsive, bright, and driven. An un-tamable wild child from the get go with a self-destructive streak that runs deep. Kate grew up in Santa Cruz, orphaned in adolescence she was reared by her beloved grandfather. Kate has her life all figured out, she will graduate and take over the family diner. Everything in her future is all nicely planned, until it isn't any longer. George is a beauty, the woman every man wants, with an unfortunate tendency to pick the worst guy available in any given situation. She loves the outdoors, is happiest in nature, hiking and camping. As the years go by, the women betray each other but never break the bonds of the

friendship formed in college when they were young and the world sat before them full of promise. I liked these women and enjoyed spending time with them.



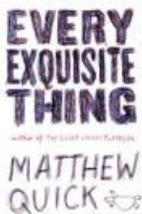
**The Spellman Files** is about a family running a private investigation business out of their Victorian style home in San Francisco, they are a well-meaning crew but apt to be a bit removed from normal. The parents figure the best way to keep up with their kids is to bug their rooms and tail their cars. It makes their middle child, Izzy (now in her 20's), crazy. She expends considerable energy acting up. David, the oldest, seems to have come through unscarred; he is a successful attorney not at all prone to breaking the law. Rae, the youngest, is a natural. She is a mite obsessive, tailing random people just to sharpen her skills. Rae's heart is in the right place, but her methods have more in common with Al Capone than Mother Theresa. Inspector Henry Stone; the long suffering cop lets Rae do homework in his office and tries to inspire her toward a more conventional life. Splendidly quirky, the Spellman clan recklessly charges through life with the vigor and finesse of a bull in a porcelain shop. Breakage is always a possibility. There are six novels in this hilarious series, wrote with an inventive flair; **The Spellman Files, Curse of the Spellmans, Revenge of the Spellmans, The Spellmans Strike Again, Trail of the Spellmans, and Spellman Six; The Next Generation**. I have read them all, they are great fun.



**Heads You Lose** by Lisa Lutz and David Hayward is comedy. Two talented authors writing a rip snorting mystery in alternating chapters. Paul and Lacey are siblings, nominally adult, living in the family home and growing a cash crop in the basement. They are startled to find a headless corpse in the yard one night. Calling the men in blue is not an option; pesky questions could crop up about all the plants under grow lights. So they move the body. It is a wild ride from the start. The authors can do what they will in their alternating chapters; they soon start to kill off each other's favorite characters and create general mayhem. I couldn't wait to get from one chapter to the next to see what the response would be and I was never disappointed. They always had something new up their sleeve.

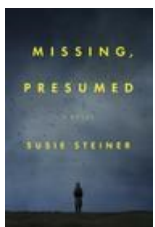
Genre is too confining a definition for Lisa Lutz. **How to Start a Fire** is one of the two best novels I have read about women and friendship (the other is Pam Houston's **Contents May Have Shifted**). **The Spellman Files** series is fast paced fun set in San Francisco with a highly original take on life, hilarious. **Heads You Lose** is collaboration and a comedy. And now this brilliant stone cold thriller, **The Passenger**, that will keep you on the edge of your seat as you try to figure out if the protagonist is on the side of the angels or devils, or maybe somewhere in-between.

#### Staff Recommendations for New Releases. Nancy Nelson Recommends.



**Every Exquisite Thing** by Matthew Quick. This book is rife with philosophy, coming of age stories, rebellion, unresolved issues and love, both young and old. Nannette O'Hare is in her junior year of high school when her teacher, Mr. Graves gives her a favorite book of his, "The Bubblegum Reaper". Although it has been out of print for decades, it still has a cult-like following of readers. Wrigley, the main character grapples with his young issues, like bullying, fairness, love, and rebellion. Nannette becomes friends with the author, Booker, and through him finds love in the person of a young poet who is grappling with the same issues. As they encourage each other in their Don Quixote like quest to obtain fairness for the helpless and the bullied, they also seek ways to become more their authentic selves. For Nannette the consequences of her rebellion are unexpected. Booker tells Nannette this: "You can be whomever you want to be. But you will pay a price..." The price paid for freedom is indeed high. This book was wonderful. I enjoyed it immensely.

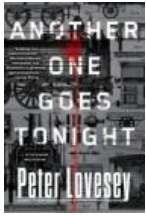
#### Deon Recommends



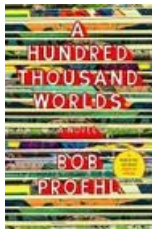
**Missing Presumed** by Susie Steiner introduces a new sleuth for the mystery genre. Detective Sergeant Manon Bradshaw may not be so great at the dating game, but she is brilliant at her job. A high profile young Cambridge student, the daughter of Sir Ian and Lady Miriam Hind, has gone missing; blood at the scene indicates possible foul play. Edith Hind's father, Sir Ian, a famous surgeon, is physician to the Royal Family and pals with the Home Secretary. This is the kind of case that can make or break a career. Diving into the questioning of friends and family, Bradshaw discovers Edith was behaving oddly. Her friend Helena, who delivered Edith home right before she disappeared, clearly has something to hide. A convicted sex offender, who served his time and knows the ropes of police interviews, becomes a person of interest. Then the body of a young man is found in the river. Manon methodically goes after all the leads tying them together in a surprising conclusion. The story is told from various perspectives, which works very well. An interesting mystery with twists and turns along with both likable and complex characters.

## Staff Recommendations for New Releases.

### Deon Recommends



**Another One Goes Tonight** by Peter Lovesey combines humor, suspense and a clever mystery. Head of CID, Detective Superintendent Peter Diamond's job description does not include solving traffic accidents. His expertise is running the Homicide division, not traffic. He is not a happy camper when his boss, Georgina Dallymore, charges him with investigating a traffic accident involving two police officers. Police Sergeant Lew Morgan and PC Aaron Green were just about finished with their shift when called out one last time. It had been an odd shift, starting with the old bloke riding a motorized tricycle contraption along a darkened road in the dead of night. It was finishing with a call about a naked man in a residential neighborhood in the wee hours of the morning. This time something would go horribly wrong, resulting in the death of the young family man, PC Aaron Green, and the serious injury of Sergeant Lew Morgan. Georgina Dallymore is keen for the investigation to show no wrongdoing on the part of her officers. Diamond's investigation gets off to a bang up start, ratcheting up Dallymore's anxiety level, when he discovers a civilian accident victim overlooked on the sidelines of the crash. Diamond suspects there is more going on than a traffic crash, things that may involve a less than innocent civilian crash victim. His inquiries lead him to more suspicious deaths. Railways will play a strong part in this fascinating story. A truly engaging mystery!



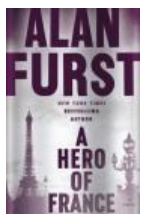
**A Hundred Thousand Worlds** by Bob Proehl. Valerie was married to her co-star Andrew from the hit Sci-Fi show Anomaly. She lived the Hollywood Dream with a son she adored and a promising career. Then something tragic happened and Valerie fled with three year old Alex. For six years they lived a good life in New York. Alex has grown into a bright young boy with an inquisitive, caring nature. They try to live responsibly, even taking care to purchase bacon only from animals that have been treated humanely. Kind people, this mother and son, and oh, so close to each other. Then Andrew tracked her down, now Valerie is taking her son west to reunite him with the father she did not trust to be in her son's life. As they travel west, Valerie appears at comic and Sci-Fi conventions, where she is still a draw for the promoters. She meets cartoonists and forges new friendships. There is lots of detail on the comic book world. But the heart of the story belongs to a nine year old boy, wise beyond his years, and the mother who adores him.



**I Am No One** by Patrick Flanery examines the way we live now. Columbia did not grant Jeremy O'Keefe tenure, so he accepted a position at Oxford. Although he stayed a decade, eventually acquiring dual citizenship, he never assimilated enough to feel British. Jeremy was divorced with one daughter, his mother was elderly, when New York University offered him a position as a Professor of German History, he thought it was time to come home. New York had changed a lot in the ten years after 9/11; although he is still drawn to the city, it does not really feel like home. Jeremy finds he misses the camaraderie of his British colleagues. Soon after his return, strange things start to happen. He sees the same man showing up repeatedly. Someone seems to be watching the window of his office at the university. Boxes with pages of documents detailing his phone calls, online activity and financial records are dropped off at his apartment building. He suspects he is under surveillance, either that or going crazy. He realizes how helpless we are in this new world order where various agency's powers over the civilian population conflict with an individual's privacy. What might look sinister in the life of an ordinary man to those in positions of authority expecting to find wrong doing. This is both a chilling look at society in an era where personal acts can be interpreted in more sinister ways by agencies charged with surveilling and the story of one man's reflection on the life he lead while facing an uncertain future.



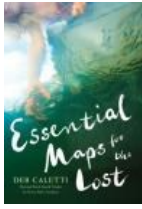
**The Devils of Cardona** by Matthew Carr. The Inquisition commands great power in 1584, this fascinating story gives the reader an idea of what it would have been like to live under such a threat. For it was a threat, heretic or not, an accusation would have dire consequences. Amid this era, a priest is murdered in Belamar de la Sierra, a small town in Aragon, on the border with France. The priest was not a good man and was hated in the small town, populated by Moriscos (Muslims who converted to Catholicism, often without any choice). The authorities are eager to resolve the murder; King Phillip II will be making a royal visit for the marriage of his daughter. There cannot be any lingering unpleasantness or uncertainties during the King's visit. Magistrate Bernardo Mendoza is sent to investigate, along with the less public task of determining if the Moors in Aragon are likely to revolt. Mendoza is a good man who has been involved in bloody conflicts as a servant of his king and his church; in the battle of Lepanto and later in putting down a Moorish uprising in Grenada. He has seen the conditions that caused the uprising and the cruelty of its suppression; he would prefer to avoid that destruction in Aragon. Nonetheless he will do his duty. This is a vast story, filled with history and a large cast of characters. If you are looking for a quick read, this is not the book. If you would like a story with a vivid sense of history, interesting characters, and a very tricky mystery, this is just the ticket! I enjoyed it very much and hope the colorful characters will continue in future novels. Mendoza is a very sympathetic and intelligent investigator, his cousin is flamboyant and great fun, I would enjoy reading more of their exploits.



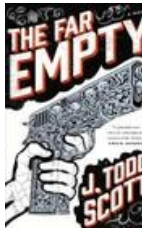
**A Hero of France** by Alan Furst. In 1941 Matthieu does his bit toward stopping the Nazis by rescuing downed pilots and shepherding them to safety. He has a small, tightly efficient group who try not to take unnecessary chances or engage in bloodshed that could result in retribution for other civilians. At night Matthieu's sleep is guarded by Mariana, his beautiful Belgian Ter-vuren, a breed known for its intelligence and courage. Each of his team members addresses their part in the rescues carefully and with dedication. Money is tight; Matthieu spent much of his own funding their missions. Max de Lyon runs a nightclub much favored by the German officers he despises. He gets a little satisfaction by helping finance Matthieu's operations. As the war intensifies, Matthieu's group is imperiled by the increasing efforts at suppression by the Germans and the demands of the Brits for more dangerous missions. At risk of betrayal or discovery they walk a tightrope trying to stay alive.

## Staff Recommendations for New Releases.

### Deon Recommends



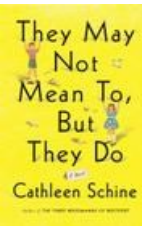
**Essential Maps for the Lost** by Deb Caletti is shelved in young adult, but is easily a crossover to general fiction. I read it and enjoyed the story. Madison is in Seattle, staying with her aunt and uncle, while she studies for the Washington real estate exam preparatory to joining her mother's successful business in Eastern Washington. And Madison is miserable. This is not the future she wants. She realizes her mother's offer to partner in business with her is financially generous, potentially setting her up for a secure future. While it may be financially generous, it is emotional blackmail. Madison's mother is needy and clingy, bad character traits in a parent, she is insisting on dictating Madison's future, keeping her daughter close, rather than letting her child become an adult, with the right to choose her future path. This is not the path Madison would choose. So Madison studies for the future her mother has planned and escapes in the mornings for just a little time for herself. She swims in Lake Union near the Fremont houseboats. This morning will be different. The Aurora Bridge crosses overhead and this morning a woman chose to end her life jumping from the bridge. Madison's discovery of the body, and towing it to shore, affects her deeply. She becomes obsessed with the dead woman, what was her life, and why did she end it this way. Staking out the dead woman's house, she sees the son, Billy Youngwolf Floyd. He is one of those special people, sweet and committed to doing good. At the moment that means rescuing dogs. Both these young people are scarred by their mothers. Billy lives with the grief of losing his in such a way. Madison is ensnared by the tentacles of her clingy mother. Someday they will need to break free. A great story about loss and becoming your own person.



**The Far Empty** by J. Todd Scott is set in a Texas ranching community. Caleb Ross's mother went missing, his Dad said the woman ran off, leaving her teenaged son and husband behind, and his Dad's word is law. Sheriff Stanford "Judge" Ross is a man who does not flinch from the hard side of life. Bringing his son along to witness how he takes care of business, Sheriff Judge efficiently shoots a man in a tense domestic crisis. Hesitating is not his way, if it needs doing, get on with it. Trouble is, young Caleb is pretty sure his mother didn't run off and leave him. He believes his Dad killed the woman. Deputy Chris Cherry was a hometown football hero who went out into the world, leaving the town of Murfee behind. Now he is back home with a ruined knee, to see what he can make of a career in law enforcement. Rancher Matty Bulger calls him out to check on a skeleton Matty found in a remote pasture. The supposition is it is just another Mexican who failed to survive the trek across the border to a better life. Happens all the time. Deputy Cherry thinks the circumstances were different this time. His investigation brings him together with his boss's son. Increasingly their discoveries point them to the conclusion their chief suspect in both crimes is the top law enforcement officer, Sheriff Stanford "Judge" Ross, a man prone to solving his dilemmas quickly with deadly violence. This is a story that draws you in from the first page and keeps the tension high!



**A Certain Age** by Beatriz Williams. The Trial of the Century packs the courtroom as the fabulously wealthy are on display in a murder trial. The Patent King is accused of murdering his wife! Theresa Marshall married well, bore her husband sons, and reached a certain age with her beauty intact. All the accoutrements of great wealth are there; the residence on Fifth Avenue, the home on Long Island, the cars, the jewels and the clothes. What has never been there is fidelity in her marriage, the price of that life of ease was not making waves over her husband's mistress. At a gathering she meets Captain Octavian Rofrano, a WWI flying ace. While she is still a fine looking woman in her forties, the intense young Captain is two decades her junior. Their affair deepens into a dangerous affection. Things change in major ways when Therese's brother sets his cap on wedding Sophie, the youngest daughter of the Patent King. Theresa prevails on Octavian to check out the family, putting him in contact with the beautiful young woman. As Octavian delves into their background the secrets uncovered put the Patent King on trial for his life. A little mystery, a little romance, and a glimpse of the lifestyle enjoyed by the fabulously wealthy. There is also a great scene with Man O' War racing, flying down the track on those powerful long legs. I couldn't resist a story that included a glimpse Man O' War racing! A nice summer read.



**They May Not Mean To, But They Do** by Cathleen Schine. Joy Bergman is facing challenges while trying to stay relevant in a world that worships youth. Her husband, Aaron, has Alzheimer's as well as a variety of other ailments. She has been trying to take care of him by herself in their New York apartment. It has been difficult, but there are no easy alternatives. She cannot bear putting him in a facility and does not have the funds for in house care. Joy still works at a museum where the recent staff change resulted in a new boss who has little (or perhaps none) respect for either Joy's PHD or her years of experience. Her son David visits every week, but he is a busy environmental lawyer with a family of his own. Her daughter Molly is a professor in California, where her partner is facing issues with an elderly father. There is no upside to these kinds of problems; inevitably the children will become more involved. By the time Aaron dies, Joy's health has been compromised resulting in time off work and more worries. Joy is a resilient woman, determined to carve a place for herself in this new world she faces. When an old suitor resurfaces to bring her some comfort, her kids are not pleased. Surprisingly, Joy does not cave in to their disapproval but is strong willed in opposition. This is a story about family, about aging and what it means to be an older woman trying to stay relevant, about parents and children and generations. Schine always writes with humor. This time she is tackling rather weighty issues, and doing it with style.



**Modern Lovers** by Emma Straub is a good choice for summer reading. Elizabeth, Andrew, and Zoe went through college together, played in a band together, and have been friends forever. Now around the half century mark they have children of their own. Elizabeth sells real estate and is in a book club with Zoe. Their kids are of the age to be exploring their sexuality, testing their wings, and seeing what this thing called life is all about while Elizabeth and Zoe are now the older generation. Told with humor, the story is about the ways we change and stay the same, how relationships grow or falter, and the change from youthful hottie to responsible parent. It is about how the generations challenge each other, how friendships need to be nourished, and how to strive toward a fulfilling life. It may have become the next generation's turn but sometimes you can recapture a part of your youth.

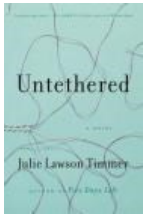
Deon Recommends



**Homegoing** by Yaa Gyasi. For 300 years the story follows the fates of the descendants of two sisters. From the slave trade in Ghana to the plantations of the American South, from African Colonial Rule to the Civil War and its aftermath, as each generation moves forward the story describes their lives. Effia's father has big plans for his beautiful daughter. He hopes to wed her to the young chief thus securing a prominent position for his family in their tribe. Scheming for a higher bride price and to be rid of this unwanted daughter, his wife arranges a "marriage" to one of the Brits at the Castle. James Collins is kind to Effia, she lives in the Castle overlooking the sea on the coast of Ghana. Esi's fate is not so good, while Effia resides in comfort; Esi is crowded into the dark, fetid dungeon below the Castle, subjected to cruelty and deprivation. Soon she is loaded onto a ship, transported in horrible conditions to the American South, and sold into slavery where she will live out her brief unhappy life. Each generation will face challenges; the effect of selling fellow Africans into slavery on the tribes of Ghana, life as a slave in the American South, the years when a free black could be grabbed off the streets of the north to be sold into slavery in the south, the decades when to be black limited choices on jobs, housing, where you could dine, while passing for white opened those opportunities, the racial tensions of the 60's and so much more. This book moves with a blistering pace through history, illuminating lives and captivating readers. Yaa Gyasi has a powerful voice and a brilliant use of story.



**The Girls in the Garden** by Lisa Jewell. Pip's circumstances have altered dramatically. She writes letters to her father, a man no longer part of the family dynamic. Pip, her sister Grace, and her mother Clare recently moved into an apartment backing onto a private park, ringed by the homes and apartments accorded its use. Moving day the other denizens of the private enclave watch as the sisters and mother take possession of their new home, curious about the new family. As the story opens, Clare, imbibes too much at a neighborhood party and is helped home by twelve year old Pip. Time passes, the night grows late, and still thirteen year old Grace does not come home. Pip is torn between leaving her mother and going in search of her sister. When she does set out, her search will end in the park's rose garden where a bloody Grace lies unconscious. In this private, quiet, park where children play and the neighbors know each other, who would harm a child? Soon it is apparent this peaceful enclave holds shocking secrets that go back decades.



**Untethered** by Julie Lawson Timmer. Char Hawthorne was a well-regarded professor of journalism at American University in Washington DC, a single career woman with a fulfilling job, friends she cherished, and a life that worked. Then she met Bradley, a divorced engineer from Michigan with a 9 year old daughter, Allie, and everything changed. Char had not been pining for marriage or children, but Bradley sparked something in Char and she never looked back. The move annihilated her career; she found part time employment as an adjunct instructor of journalism at Central Michigan University with some freelance editing jobs on the side. But she was happy. Years went by; Allie blossomed into a beautiful teenager enjoying a close relationship with Char who paid her far more attention than her biological mother. Then Bradley was in a fatal accident and Char's world crumbled. What rights does a step-parent have against those of the biological parent? Lindy, Bradley's ex, ran a wedding planning service out in California, dressed habitually in pink, and was far more interested in her social life and career than her teenage daughter. Nonetheless, Lindy was the biological mother, Char only a step-parent. Lindy was in the driver's seat leaving Char little control, though she hoped she would get to keep Allie. The story focuses on that question. There is also a plot line about a troubled little girl, Morgan, adopted by a deeply religious couple who have difficulty coping with her needs.



**As Good as Gone** by Larry Watson is a raw, emotionally charged story. In the 1960's Calvin Sidley lives alone in a trailer lacking most modern conveniences in a harsh, remote Montana setting. He isn't on close terms with anyone and is surprised when his son drives the winding road to ask a favor. Bill wants Calvin to watch his grandchildren, seventeen year old Anna and eleven year old Will, for a week. Bill lives in the small town where in bygone days Calvin was a force to be reckoned with, not that the man has mellowed any. The world was different in Calvin's prime; men were prone to solve things forcefully, sometimes violently. No longer, now problems should be talked over, authorities sought, and issues resolved peacefully. When Calvin discovers his pretty granddaughter is being pursued aggressively and his grandson has fallen into association with little boys not of the best intentions or actions, Calvin decides to take matters into his own hands and deliver a little frontier justice. Suddenly it is not the Sidley kids who are scared but their tormenters. Relief may be short lived, as there are reasons we no longer solve problems the old west way.



**Vinegar Girl** by Anne Tyler. This delightful retelling of a modern day **Taming of the Shrew** would probably make Shakespeare chuckle, he was possessed of a good sense of humor. While it is not going to equal the brilliance of the bard's play, it is an apt homage to the master. It is great fun to read! Kate Battista works as a teacher's assistant in a pre-school (although she does not have a natural affinity for children), keeps house for her scientist father, and looks after her ethereally beautiful teenaged sister. Her joy is spending time in the garden. Prickly, and quick witted, Kate is the more difficult child, not like her sweetly docile sister. Dr. Battista's research is nearing a crucial stage, his lab assistant's visa is about to expire and the chances for renewal are not likely. Pyotr is a great assistant! If he is deported it could ruin Dr. Battista's chance at making a breakthrough thus helping untold numbers of people. He must keep Pyotr! The scheme the good scientist comes up with is to marry Pyotr to Kate thus solving the visa issue. And therein begins a modern retelling of **The Taming of the Shrew**. I am quite fond of this book; it is amusing and a grand homage to William Shakespeare.

## Staff Recommendations for New Releases.

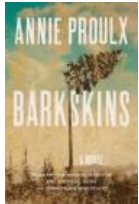
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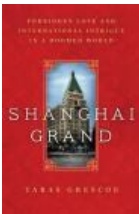
**Engineering Eden** by Jordan Fisher Smith. Harry Walker was the son of a farmer; he was a hardworking young man who just needed a break. In 1972 Henry and another young man, Phillip Bradberry, went camping in Yellowstone. Unbeknownst to the two friends, Yellowstone had undergone a drastic change in the treatment of Grizzly bears. They had closed the buffet; shut the dumps the bears frequented without offering an alternative source of food. The bear were hungry, and hungry bear are dangerous. Henry died in Yellowstone; he did not survive his encounter with a hungry Grizzly. Jordan Fisher Smith uses the ensuing lawsuit as the skeleton to examine the ways we interact with wildlife in our National Parks. It is fascinating! For instance, Yellowstone National Park had been the site of research by John and Frank Craighead who were investigating the role of Grizzlies in the park, the range they needed, and the ways to keep both the bears and people safe from bad interactions. The Craighead brothers and Park Superintendent Jack Anderson had a definite personality clash. Anderson decided to close the dump where the bear were used to feeding immediately, the Craighead brothers advised there would be adverse consequences, probable injury to visitors, it would be more judicious to close it over a period of time, say ten years, slowly weaning the bears and redirecting them with feeding stations away from places visitors tended to congregate. From this skeleton, the story expands to take in the introduction of wolves, the way bear interact in other parks (there is a great segment on Yosemite and a young graduate student), elk population, and fire management. If you are interested in the out of doors, this is a compelling look at our National Parks, truly a national treasure.



**June** by Miranda Beverly-Whitmore. Cassie's grandmother, June, stepped in when her parents died in an accident, moved from her home in St. Jude, Ohio, left behind her friends, and raised Cassie. She put her life on hold to take care of Cassie. Now Cassie has inherited that home in St. Jude, Ohio, taken shelter there, and is pretty much in a dysfunctional funk. The house has deferred maintenance issues, never mind the overgrown yard, the roof needs fixing, the furnace needs help, the house needs attention! But Cassie is not attending; she is ignoring the issues and regretting that she did not show more appreciation to her grandmother. News that she has been named the sole heir of a movie star's millions jolts her out of her lethargy. Jack Montgomery believed Cassie to be his granddaughter, when his will was read she inherited. His two daughters arrive; wanting to reclaim what they believe should rightfully belong to them. Cassie is bewildered, how would this California movie star have known her prim and proper Grandmother from Ohio. Embarking on a quest to discover the truth, Cassie finds out there was a lot more to her grandmother's life than she ever suspected. Beginning with a summer long ago when a movie company came to town, events would lead to betrayal and tragedy altering the course of a woman's life.



**Barkskins** by Annie Proulx is a grand epic beginning in 1693 when Rene Sol and Charles Duquet travel from France to Canada, known then as New France, to work as wood cutters for Monsieur Trepagny for three years in return for land of their own when their period of service concludes. Trepagny is a brutish man; Charles soon escapes while Rene stays to fulfill his obligation. From this beginning the story follows the fortunes of their descendants and their affects upon the land. Rene marries a native woman; his children will know the harsh realities wrought by the multitude of settlers arriving in the new world. Duquet becomes a fur trader then founds a timber company. The story is told through the lives of their descendants, who will travel the world, Western expansion, the harsh lives forced upon tribes as settlers take over their traditional lands, the cutting of forests, are all encompassed in this engrossing story. Proulx's characters are so vivid! A fascinating novel that encompasses three centuries of change while telling an intimate story of two families entwined in unknown ways.



**Shanghai Grand** by Taras Grescoe. Set mainly in the 1930's and 1940's, this gripping history of Shanghai brings together three fascinating characters. Sir Victor Sassoon, the scion of an economic empire, lived in the penthouse suite of his opulent Cathay Hotel. He walked with a cane, the result of a plane crash when he was a WWI pilot. Emily "Mickey" Hahn wrote for the New Yorker, she traveled to Shanghai with her sister on a whim after the dissolution of an ill-fated affair intending to stay only a few days before pressing on to Africa. Shanghai will be her home for the next eight tumultuous years. The wealthy, urbane Victor and the feisty young writer become lifelong friends. Zau Sinmay, a poet from a rich, aristocratic family, will become Mickey's lover and introduce her to the real Shanghai. Their lives are entwined with the life of Shanghai as it is invaded by the Japanese, suffers the depredation of WWII, and is taken over by the communists. A lot will happen and many people are part of story, Ernest Hemingway and Martha Gellhorn, Chiang Kai-shek, Mao, and many others. Shanghai in its glory days is something to behold; jazz clubs, world class dining, and sumptuous accommodations at Sir Victor's Cathay Hotel. It is a playground for the rich and famous, until war tears it apart. Grescoe's history is fast paced and interesting, giving the reader a taste of Shanghai when it dazzled and what followed when the Japanese invaded. A great read!



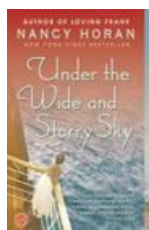
**Magruder's Curiosity Cabinet** by H.P. Wood released in paperback. Quirky and entertaining this is a perfect summer read! Brit Kitty Hayward sits on a bench on Coney Island, not sure what to do. It has been a couple days since she ate a meal, a couple days since her Mother went missing and Kitty was evicted from their hotel without a dime to her name or a change of clothes. They have only been in the country those couple days, just off the boat that brought them to New York, now it is as if they never existed. The staff at the hotel disavows any knowledge of them. Desperate to find her mother, Kitty is taken under the wing of an aging, but proficient, con man, Archie. He feeds her a meal and delivers her to the tender mercies at Magruder's. There she encounters the unusual residents of turn of the century Coney Island, people who give Kitty shelter and hope. Dwarfs, giants, and a variety of colorful characters try to aid the young woman. Funny and irreverent the story also has a more serious side as Coney Island comes under siege from forces both natural and political. You will enjoy visiting the plucky characters of **Magruder's Curiosity Cabinet**.

## July 2016 Book Clubs.

Book Clubs are fun to attend and a great way to meet other readers in the community. This month we focus on books related to Robert Louis Stevenson. Book Clubs meet Monday evenings at 6:30, everyone is welcome.



July 11th the Mystery Book Club discusses ***The Last Bookaneer*** by Matthew Pearl. In the 1890s a new law was going to go into effect that would put an end to the wide open, wild ways of the publishing trade. Up until then, international copyright laws did not protect the authors of books. Publishers paid skilled "bookaneers" to pilfer the pages of unpublished novels; thereby gaining possession of books they could publish without having to compensate the author. As the date fast approached for the new international treaty to go into effect and shut down the bookaneers, two of the most notorious and skilled would chase a final prize. Robert Louis Stevenson was ill, near the end of his time, living on Samoa and writing his final masterpiece. Pen Davenport and Belial both want to snatch the prize. Davenport is dashing and well regarded, Belial secretive and sinister. Each man very capable. Davenport's assistant is Fergins, the narrator of the story, a bookseller who used to have a little book stall in London. The story moves from America to London to Samoa. Stevenson is embroiled in the politics of the Island as Germany and America each vie to have their influence felt on the native population. It is a fascinating look at a literary genius, a time of turmoil in the South Pacific, and the end of a wild era in the book trade. Any Mathew Pearl book is a treat!

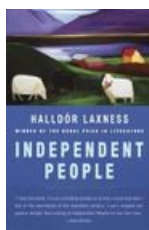
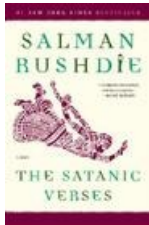


Nancy Nelson reviewed ***Under The Wide and Starry Sky*** by Nancy Horan, the Fiction Book Club's selection for July 18<sup>th</sup>. The year is 1875. Fannie de Grift Osbourne has become weary of her husband Sam's philandering ways. She has secured from him money and a promise of monthly support. Soon after she and her children arrive in Antwerp. Fannie has high hopes of attending the Royal Academy of Fine Art there. Much to her dismay, the school does not accept female students. Disappointment and tragedy bring Fannie and her brood to Paris. There she meets Robert Louis Stevenson, known as "Louis" to his friends. Though he is young, many years younger than Fannie, he finds himself quite smitten with her. Fannie's husband, in the meantime, convinces her to return with him to Monterey, California. The story goes back and forth between Fannie's life and Louis's. We are told that Louis has spent most of his childhood as a near invalid with severe lung problems. Thus he spent his younger years creatively, making up adventure stories, playing with his mind where his body could not participate. His health is an issue with which he must struggle all of his life. Nevertheless, he follows Fannie, fully believing that he can win her over, knowing that she and her husband do not love one another. As their story continues, so does their tumultuous relationship. This is a book that left me a bit breathless, happy to have been able to take that life journey with these two incredibly creative interesting people.



July 25<sup>th</sup> the Classics Book Club discusses ***Treasure Island*** by Robert Louis Stevenson, a rip snorting good tale! Robert Louis Stevenson had just returned to Scotland from his first trip to the USA with his bride and step-children. Eager to make them like him, Stevenson, whose creative talent was prodigious, drew an imaginary map with his stepson, Lloyd Osbourne, hoping to entertain the boy. From this map of a fantasy island, he began a story that would become ***Treasure Island***. Jim, the son of an innkeeper comes into possession from a seafaring man of a map of an island where the buried treasure of a pirate awaits discovery. He will meet Long John Silver and set sail for adventure.

Join us for an interesting discussion, light refreshments will be served.



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

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

August 1st ***Strangler Vine*** by M. J. Carter [Mystery Book Club](#)  
 August 15th ***Cloudsplitter*** by Russell Banks [Fiction Book Club](#)  
 August 29th ***The Wright Brothers*** by David McCullough [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

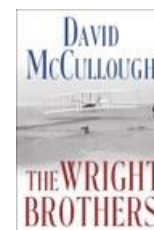
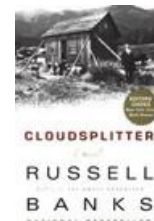
September 12th ***The Gift of Darkness*** by Valentina Giambanco [Mystery Book Club](#)  
 September 26th ***The Satanic Verses*** by Salman Rushdie [Fiction and Classics Book Club](#)

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 ***Sidney Chambers and the Shadow of Death*** by James Runcie [Mystery Book Club](#)  
 December 19 ***All The Light We Cannot See*** by Anthony Doerr [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.

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