



# Sunriver Books & Music

## March 2012 Newsletter

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



Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM Dana Haynes will give a presentation on his latest book, **Breaking Point**. If you like action, enjoy an adrenalin rush, Dana Haynes is your guy. It starts out fast, picking up the pace as the pages fly by. High octane could be a good description for Haynes' writing style. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) calls the teams it sends to investigate when a plane goes down "Crashers". These are people smart enough and strong enough to sort through the grisly wreckage to find the truth, to figure out what took that long silver body out of the sky. Pathologist Tommy Tomzak, sound expert Kiki Duvall, and pilot Isaiah Grey are Crashers. They will board flight 78 headed for Seattle Washington where they are scheduled to speak at a conference. They will never arrive. Somewhere outside Helena Montana the plane will be brought down in a remote forest. "Crashers" will be sent to find out why. Haynes puts you right in the cockpit as the pilots battle to keep the plane airborne, a struggle they will lose. He takes you inside the investigation as the crash team keeps finding things that don't add up. A shadowy mercenary is in the employ of powerful interests in the weapons game, they are more than ready to be brutal in achieving their aims.

A computer genius realizes his inventions will be used for nothing but evil and tries to stop the bad guys by spilling their secrets to the press. A beautiful woman must choose between her high-end lifestyle in the country she has adopted and the man she loves. She will choose poorly. And a clever FBI agent will have to put it all together with the help of a former Israeli spy. The story hurtles toward its climatic conclusion.

Haynes' earlier book, **Crashers**, introduces many of the characters in **Breaking Point**. Flight 111 took off from Portland International; the flight goes down just outside Corvallis along I-5. Tommy Tomzak was in Portland for a conference; he helicopters to the scene of the downed jetliner and takes charge. The story line grabs you from the first page, letting you experience what it is like inside the investigation. The minutes tick off as the investigators try to figure out the puzzle. It would not surprise me if Hollywood took note of this author, his pyrotechnic ending would be stunning on celluloid. If you want action, Dana Haynes delivers.

Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 PM we have authors sure to please our young crowd and adults alike. Phillip Margolin is well known for his thrilling adult mysteries; **Executive Privilege**, **Supreme Justice**, **Wild Justice**, **Lost Lake** and many others. He has teamed up with his daughter, Ami Margolin Rome to write **Vanishing Acts**. Move over Nancy Drew, there is a new sleuth in town. Madison lives in Portland Oregon with her lawyer father; she is determined to follow in his footsteps. As the first day of 7<sup>th</sup> grade arrives Madison is looking forward to being reunited with her friend Ann. Over the summer Ann traveled to Europe with her father so the two best friends have been out of touch for a while and will have a lot of catching up to do. Ann doesn't show up at school, she misses the tryouts for the soccer team. She doesn't answer e-mail, she doesn't answer the phone, and no one answers the door at her home. Madison is sure something awful has happened to Ann. She tries to share her concern with her father but he is buried in his cases, her school friends all think she is exaggerating, and no one seems interested in finding Ann. 7<sup>th</sup> grade is a big deal, new school, lots more kids, and Madison feels cut adrift without Ann. The only person to take her worries seriously is Jake. As the days go on and Ann still doesn't show up, Madison and Jake decide to investigate together and find out what happened. If that isn't enough of a challenge, Madison's third grade teacher disappears. There is a lot of blood and a convenient suspect; the woman had a heated fight with her husband right before she went missing. Madison's Dad takes the case of defending the man accused of murdering Madison's teacher. She liked her third grade teacher. Jake and Madison decide to investigate the teacher's disappearance too. The intrepid pair go all over Portland conducting their various inquiries. The use of the northwest setting is excellent. Madison and Jake make a great team; I hope we see them in many more books! If you like a good mystery, here is one I enjoyed.



Phillip Margolin will be with us on June 2<sup>nd</sup> for his latest adult mystery, **Capitol Murder**. He knows how to ratchet up the action too!

Author events are free and fun. Refreshments will be served and we will have drawings for prizes. Please call 541-593-2525 or email [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com) or stop by Sunriver Books & Music to sign up to attend.

### Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday April 21st at 5:00 PM **Curious Gorge** by Scott Cook  
Saturday May 5th at 5:00 PM **100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades** by William Sullivan  
Saturday May 19th 2012 **7:00 PM Where Lilacs Still Bloom** by Jane Kirkpatrick  
Saturday May 26th 5:00 PM **The Underside of Joy** by Sere Prince Halverson  
Saturday June 2nd 2012 at 5:00 PM **Capitol Murder** by Phillip Margolin  
**Saturday June 9th at 5:30 Kingdom of Strangers** by Zoe Ferraris (This date may change to June 10th)  
**Saturday June 23rd at 5:00 PM As The Crow Flies** by Craig Johnson

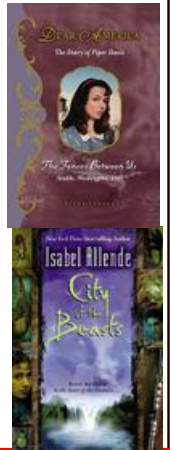
Saturday 5:00 PM **West of Here** by Jonathan Evison (date being determined, probably in the fall)

Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Call or e-mail Sunriver Books & Music to attend and be entered in the prize drawings. Space may be limited for some events. Check our web site, [Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com), for changes and additions.

If your book club would like to purchase book club books as a group, see Deon about the book club 10% discount and minimum order requirements.

This summer Sunriver Books and Music will be offering book clubs for pre-teens and teens. We are planning to hold one a month for each age group during June, July, and August. The June selection for pre-teens is **The Fences Between Us: The Diary of Piper Davis** (from the Dear America series) by Kirby Larson and the teen book is **City of the Beasts** by Isabel Allende. We do ask that you pre-register for these book clubs. You can do this by emailing us at [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com), calling us at 541-593-2525, or dropping by to sign up. We have not yet set the exact dates and times for the events, but we are thinking of afternoon (3:00 or 4:00) on Sundays. We would love your feedback on convenient times that fit your summer schedule.

My name is Carol Foisset and I will be leading these book club discussions. I started working at Sunriver Books and Music last summer and love being surrounded by great books and meeting all the wonderful customers who also enjoy great books. During the school year, I am an elementary school teacher. I hold a reading endorsement and I was a coach for our middle school team for the Oregon Battle of the Books competition for four years. I have a passion for all aspects of reading, literature, and books, and I take great pleasure in sharing and spreading this passion with others. I am looking forward to leading the new pre-teen and teen book clubs.



If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy 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. To reserve the space for your group contact Deon at Sunriver Books & Music.

March is time to renew your **Book of the Month Club** subscription (formerly known as **Carole's Surprise**). A subscription brings a surprise book from Sunriver Books & Music every month. In the past we have featured **Day After Night** by Anita Diamant, **Sweet Thursday** by John Steinbeck, and **Out Stealing Horses** by Per Petterson. Subscriptions are available in the following formats. The second quarter of 2012 (3 months) for \$ 45.99 picked up in the store or \$51.99 mailed in the US, the next nine months of 2012 (April-Dec.) for \$136.93 picked up in the store or \$154.93 mailed in the US or for the whole year of 2012 \$181.87 picked up in the store or \$205.87 mailed in the US. Every month brings a surprise book, let us select something intriguing for you.

### Staff Recommendations! Nancy recommends new releases.



**The Midwife of Venice** by Roberta Rich is a gem of a book. It is a love story of Hannah the midwife, the best in Venice, and her husband Isaac. It is also a story of intrigue and adventure. The issues brought out in the book regard the treatment of Jews and the extreme deprivations they must deal with in that time and place. In the story it is almost impossible to do what one might believe is right and compassionate and also avoid breaking the law. So choices are a central issue for both of the main characters. Religious ties dictate all aspects of life for both Jews and Christians. By edict of the Pope, a Jewish midwife could not aid in the delivery of a Christian baby. To do so would bring severe punishment to the midwife as well as to the Jewish community. As the story opens, Hannah is faced with the choice of letting a Gentile baby and his mother die in the hands of a less competent midwife, or attempt to help. The choice she makes will have dire consequences regardless of how she may choose.

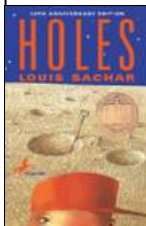
Thus the adventure begins. I was enthralled through every page to the very last sentence.

**Lone Wolf** by Jodi Picoult is both the story of a family trying to cope with the consequences of a terrible accident and Luke Warren's story about wolves and how they impacted his life. Each chapter is told from the perspective of a family member interspersed with Luke's narrative. Luke is a wolf naturalist; his daughter Cara describes him as "being a wolf". Luke left his family behind going off into the forests of Canada with the hopes of being accepted by a wolf pack. He was gone for roughly 2 years, living among wolves most of the time. Luke and his wife divorce, Cara goes to live with her father. A tragic accident leaves Cara badly hurt and Luke on life support with traumatic brain injury. Cara hopes for a miracle to save her father while her brother wants life support disconnected. The family grapples with both their personal relationships and the consequences of choices made rashly. Meanwhile Luke continues to tell his story about wolf packs, their hierarchy, their interdependence and self sacrifice for the sake of the pack. I was interested from beginning to end. Picoult had a great deal to say about both wolf and human behavior. I highly recommend this book.



## Staff Recommendations Kelsey Recommends.

**Half Magic by Edward Eager** for Middle Grade. This is one of those classic, slightly nostalgic kids' tales, complete with the charming drawings from the original 1950s edition. Set in the 30's, four siblings are having a remarkably boring summer when Jane finds a coin on the sidewalk. By accident they learn the coin grants wishes, but only in halves. You can imagine what kind of trouble this causes. What is half a desert island? Or half a talking cat? Let it be assumed summer is definitely no longer boring. If you fall in love with the characters as I did, there are more books following the adventures of the gang.



**Holes by Louis Sachar** for Middle Grade. *Holes* takes place at Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention facility and the summer camp you'd never want to go to. Stanley Yelnats, whose family is notoriously unlucky, is wrongly convicted and sent to camp where he is required to dig a 5ft deep and 5ft diameter hole each day out on the dry lakebed. It becomes clear that the digging is not simply a character building exercise but in fact the no-good warden is looking for something: the treasure of Kissing-Kate Barlow. There are also flashbacks to the Lake during the days of the Old West. You fall in love with this book's absurdity and irony along with the quirky underdog characters. Past its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this Newbery winner is still a compelling read.

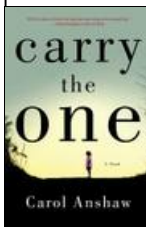
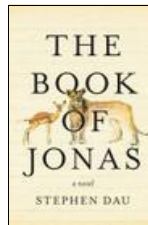
**The Truth About Forever by Sarah Dessen** for Young Adult. I would recommend any Sarah Dessen books without reservation. They are all well written contemporary romances that are much more compelling than simply girl meets boy, delving deep in to the protagonists' lives. *The Truth About Forever* follows Marcy, who has a sad summer ahead of her with nothing to distract her from mourning her father's death. Then she meets the Wish Catering crew, a motley group full of quirky characters. Working with her unlikely new friends, especially the intriguing Wes, in a completely new environment lets this summer become one of beginnings rather than endings.



**Graceling by Kristin Cashore** for Young Adults. If you are looking for a new fantasy novel with a strong female protagonist, look no further. Katsa has two different colored eyes that mark her as a graceling, a person born with an extreme, magical skill. Though you can be graced with all kinds of more mundane things, Katsa is graced with fighting. This makes her the perfect accessory for an unscrupulous, manipulative king. In the first chapter she meets Po, an intriguing Prince who is also graced. The book is filled with romance and political intrigue as Katsa learns more about her grace and herself. The relationship between Katsa and Po is wonderfully developed throughout the book without overwhelming the story, but it is left slightly unresolved. With relief I can say a companion book, called *Bitterblue*, is in the works.

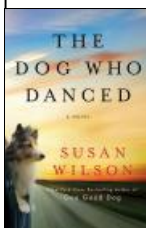
## Deon recommends new releases!

**The Book of Jonas** by Stephen Dau is a masterful debut. Jonas's world is blown apart when his village is targeted in a raid by US troops. His family dead, the world exploding around him, the teenager flees to a cave in the surrounding mountains. Rescued by US soldiers he is sent to America as a refugee and placed with a foster family. He is asked "What is it like to lose everything?" ... Younnis fixed him with his pale green eyes and said, "What is it like not to?" While Jonas struggles to fit into his new American life he is still reeling from the grief of the cataclysmic end to his childhood, the loss of his culture, home and family, Jonas's counselor urges him to talk about events the young man keeps buried; he wants Jonas to talk about the US serviceman who saved his life. But those secrets lie deep and come with hidden danger.



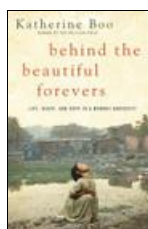
**Carry the One** by Carol Anshaw is a poignant story filled with regret and promise. Carmen and Matt's wedding was festive, full of dancing, drinking and celebrating the joining of two lives. But then most weddings are, this one ended differently. For Carmen and Matt their wedding night would not be a remembered solely with joy. Instead it would be remembered as the night a car full of their relatives and close friends headed out into the dark and killed a young girl on a lonely stretch of road. Forever the occupants of the car and the wedding couple would be shackled by the guilt of that night. **Carry the One** examines the subtle shades of change this tragic accident causes in their lives over the next twenty five years. It is a compelling story of friendship, loss, betrayal, and the way each life touches another.

**The Technologists** by Mathew Pearl is the latest release from one of the master's of historical fiction. MIT's first class had to deal with pressure from the more prestigious school up the road, Harvard. It also overcame difficulties in attracting students and funding. Mathew Pearl gives the new school a few more challenges. What if the city of Boston had been under attack by a nefarious but brilliant criminal who staged a variety of bizarre occurrences that brought the city to its knees? What if the powers that be loathed involving the new school and left finding the culprit to a stodgy professor from Harvard? Well then, to save the city a group of classmates from MIT would have to surreptitiously start investigating. Pearl's books are a treat to read.



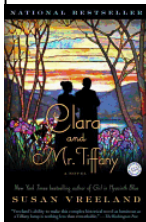
**The Dog Who Danced** by Susan Wilson should delight dog lovers. Mack/Buddy is such an endearing canine and this is a feel good story sure to please. Justine's life has been one long run of bad moves. Her stepmom made life miserable. Her teenage marriage didn't last; she set off with a young son trying to make a better life, always looking at the next city down the line. The one constant in Justine's life, the bright spot, is her dog Mack. He is her best friend, her sidekick. Justine's stepmother calls her back home, from Seattle to the East Coast, to be with her dying father. Heading cross country Mack is lost and the magic goes right out of Justine. Ed and Alice know the remarkable dog as Buddy, a lost dog that moved in and took possession of their hearts. They have been sad a long time, mourning the death of their child. Buddy reminds them how to smile. .

**Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity** by Katherine Boo reads like fiction but it is all too true. Annawadi is a slum nestled against the opulence of luxury hotels lining the Mumbai airport, dire poverty living side by side with travelers with wealth and ease. The truly amazing aspect of this book is the common ground built by Boo, a Pulitzer winning journalist, and the people of Annawadi. They allow her to know their deepest thoughts and fears. Families strive to get ahead, neighbor fights neighbor, murder and mayhem happen, and Boo is there to bear witness. It is paced like a thriller, very readable. Boo's intimate portrayal makes you care about the characters. Well worth reading!



**Deon recommends a few titles releasing in Paperback.**

**West of Here** by Jonathan Evison won the PNBA Award and was the best selling hardback at Sunriver Books & Music in 2011. It was Deon's pick for the best work of fiction in 2011. Epic is far too tame a description for this ambitious novel set in a fictional Northwest town on the Olympic Peninsula. Evison gleefully chews up the landscape from 1890 to 2006. Dreamers and drifters, entrepreneurs, scoundrels, and hardworking everyday people all had a hand in settling the Northwest. Big trees, lots of rain, and an unparalleled lushness defined the land. In the 1890's the settlers had lots of beautiful blank canvas to sculpt their desires. Jagged peaked, majestic Olympic Mountains, windswept sea, deep lakes, and the roar of the rushing river, all stood splendidly untouched before them. By 2006 the consequences of their choices were home to roost. Evison treats his characters well, using humor and respect to drive his story forward. He captures the landscape as only someone who loves it can understand this gorgeous wild piece of the northwest. Evison doesn't pretty up his characters, he lets them have plenty grit. These are men and women who struggle to find their way, make poor choices, recover as best they can and move on with their lives. He skillfully blends the story of the 1890's settlers and adventurers who saw no limit to the resources and dove in with unrestrained ambition to harness the wilderness for profit and posterity with their descendants in 2006 and the consequences of all that wild enthusiasm. When Evison describes a river or a mountain valley it feels like stepping straight into the Olympics, he puts you right there.



**Clara and Mr. Tiffany** by Susan Vreeland is lively, well written, and full of fascinating history about Tiffany's scrumptious glass. Clara is such a likable character, intent on making her way, passionate about creating beauty, and able to err with grace. She becomes one of Tiffany's treasures, a woman inspired by beauty, willing to passionately enter into the creation of his gorgeous works of art. Clara lives in a boarding house filled with equally interesting characters. They all take part in the story. The story is inspired by real events, it makes you want to go see the remaining Tiffany glass designs. Most excellent.

**The School of Night** by Louis Bayard is dark, mysterious, everything you could want in a great mystery. Henry Cavendish mourns the suicide of his friend Alonzo, and tries to understand Clarissa. Why did Alonzo jump into that cold dark water? Why does Clarissa have a strange connection to a woman who lived 300 hundred years ago? Time frames shift from the present day to the era of Sir Walter Raleigh when Thomas Harriot tried to bend the elements to his bidding to save the woman he would love through time.



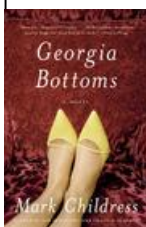
**Dreams of Joy** by Lisa See continues the story from **Shanghai Girls**. Joy fled LA after the family skeletons escaped the closet. She feels guilty over the death of her father and is thrown for a loop by the discovery of a biological father living in Mainland China. College in Chicago exposed Joy to the ideals of communism and she bought into the idea of Chairman Mao doing something big and grand for the world. Without pausing to reflect Joy heads out of LA and on to China, intent on finding her biological father and contributing in a meaningful way to Mao's new world order. But she is in for a shock, enlightenment may come too late, Joy's youthful idealism has placed her in the center of a nightmare. Pearl follows her daughter to China, knowing the risk she is taking, knowing how bad things might be, but desperate to save her child. Drama, love, betrayal, loyalty, and family all play out against the backdrop of Mao's China.

**Cleaning Nabokov's House** by Leslie Daniels. Barb didn't plan out leaving her husband too well; actually not planning was one of the issues in their marriage. The ex-person ends up with the kids and the house. Barb is devastated by the loss of her children. But the social worker (who happens to be dating the ex-person) and the judge (who went to school with the ex-person) feel that living out of a car with no job is not the proper environment for two young children. Barb needs to get her act together, provide a proper home and have an income before she has a shot at getting her kids again. Probably moving into Nabakov's house, discovering a hidden manuscript, and opening a brothel were not what the authorities had meant. No matter, it is great fun, and a little sexy.



**A Lesson in Secrets** by Jacqueline Winspear. The cloak and dagger boys have recognized the merits of having a cool, intuitive woman on their team. Maisie is sent to Cambridge where pacifist Greville Liddicote founded a college with an antiwar philosophy. Liddicote is famous for writing a children's book that inspired troops to lay down arms during WWI. The powers that be are worried his college might be involved in activity not in the best interest of the realm, or at least that part of the realm that wants to use firearms. Maisie is more concerned about the chill wind blowing from Germany in 1932. Our customers don't want to just read Maisie, they want to be Maisie. She is quite a gal, and an excellent sleuth.

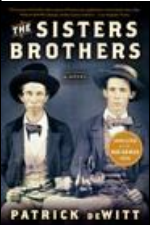
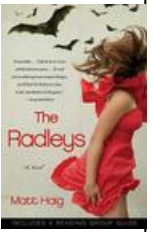
**Doc** by Mary Doria Russell. Doc Holliday is an icon of the old west, remembered for a nasty gunfight at the OK Corral. But the man was so much more than the legend. Russell brings back the southern gentlemen, banished from his Georgia family by the wasting disease that would one day take his life. She shows us a frightened, young man crossing the country alone, trying to elude death, moving from the lush southern countryside into dusty western cattle towns. She introduces us to a dentist who was a gifted scholar who cared about reducing suffering where he could do so. She shows us a Doc Holliday who was a gifted raconteur, enjoyed entertaining friends, and was fiercely loyal. Yes he was a gambler, a gunfighter, and the paramour of a fallen woman. But he was funny, witty, yearning for home, and a man buffeted by the hand fate dealt him.



**Georgia Bottoms** by Mark Childress is set in the small town of Six Points Alabama. Georgia leads a circumspect life in her hometown but my, oh, my does that girl have skeleton's in her closet. All of them come home to roost pretty much at once throwing her well ordered life right out the window. First there is the fiasco with the preacher. Georgia has a nice little routine of entertaining a rotation of gentlemen callers, including the aforementioned preacher, and accepting a handsome honorarium for her efforts. The preacher goes soft on her and wants to confess his sin, a situation that does not sit well with the preacher's wife. And that is just the tip of the ice berg, Georgia is in trouble up to her pretty neck with all her secrets abandoning the closet to cause her grief. Quilts, relatives, all sorts of complications keep her running to stay a step ahead of her troubles.

**Staff Recommendations.**  
**Deon Recommends.**

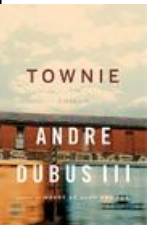
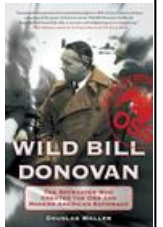
**The Radleys** by Matt Haig is the story of a family, but a with a slight difference. Meet **the Radleys**, just your average suburban family, Dad is a doctor and Mom is very involved in raising their two teenagers, except for one little difference. **The Radleys** are vampires, and the teenagers have been protected from this disquieting little fact. Like all secrets, the parents have been waiting for just the right time to gently spring it on the kids, wanting them to have a normal childhood and be ready to deal with their somewhat unusual natures in a mature manner. Clara is an ardent vegetarian, and very pale. Rowan suffers from violent nightmares. Dad thinks it is time to share the family secret, Mom is not sure, but the decision is about to be made for them. Clara is going to have a confrontation that will awaken her true nature, and Rowan is ready too. If you enjoy the vampire genre, this story is well written with a bit of a difference and some humor to boot.



**The Sisters Brothers** by Patrick DeWitt is the darkly funny story of two gunslingers. Lightning quick on the draw, the brothers travel from Oregon to California at the behest of the Commodore to kill a prospector. If you like your westerns to be heavy on the comedy, the **Sisters Brothers** will entertain. Eli is courtly and exceedingly naïve, especially when it comes to romance. Charlie is more sophisticated, keeps his wits about him, and is flummoxed by his brother's ability to mistake a woman of easy virtue looking to make a few dollars for a romantic interest. As the brothers travel south from Oregon City they have all kinds of adventures, their horses don't fare much better. Eli's horse, Tub, encounters a cranky grizzly bear with unfortunate results. **The Sisters Brothers** was short listed for the Man Booker Prize and won the PNBA Award.

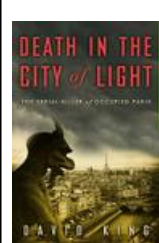
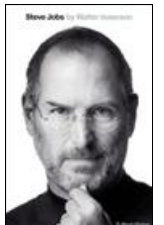
**Rich Recommends.**

**Wild Bill Donovan** by Douglas Waller. William J. Donovan was a WWI hero, Medal of Honor recipient and a wealthy, well connected corporate attorney before President Franklin Roosevelt chose him to gauge the abilities of the British to prevail against Nazi Germany at the start of WWII. Donovan was nearly the complete opposite of Roosevelt in economic, political, and cultural ways, but they created an alliance that was formed by the growing military crisis in Europe. Through these and other secret missions Donovan was tasked with creating a new civilian intelligence agency, the Office of Strategic Services, which carried out secret missions abroad, and analyzing information gathered from members of the OSS. Donovan's major rival in Washington was J. Edgar Hoover, and there was no end to the bitter rivalries and feuding between the two super egos. Throughout the war, Donovan was busy riding roughshod over the military and Washington Administration alike. At the end of the war he had bruised too many powerful men and was soon dismissed from service. He was disappointed in not being selected to run the successor to OSS, Donovan's dream the CIA. Waller's history of this period is more concerned with the politics and personalities rather than the intelligence operations. This is a fascinating history of the outsized personalities that dominated the intelligence agencies during the wartime crisis and the ensuing Cold War thereafter.



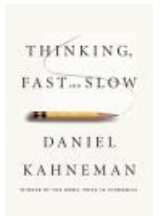
**Townie** by Andre Dubus III. After their father, the author Andre Dubus, left his family for a younger woman, Andre Dubus III, his siblings, and mother were left to fend for themselves and were forced into a harsh, poor life, struggling to make ends meet. While their father lived it up on a college campus, Andre Dubus III grew up in the rough poor neighborhoods where drugs and fighting were the staples of his life. Andre became proficient at the seedier side of life, but ultimately gave up violence after meeting the love of his life and developing a closer relationship with his father. Seeing the damage done to both his physical as well as spiritual sides, he embraced writing as a way to channel his feelings toward a more peaceful and creative life.

**Steve Jobs** by Walter Isaacson. In this authorized biography Isaacson gives a clear, concise, and beautifully crafted picture of **Steve Jobs**. The hallmark of Jobs creative genius was making his company, Apple, into a transformative entity that drove the allure of technology into a large part of our culture. Written while **Steve Jobs** was dying of cancer, Isaacson writes sympathetically of a life ended too soon. There are the well known stories of his early life as an adopted son whose later personality was probably formed by this abandonment. With a clear vision of what his ideas were meant to be and how to achieve them he insisted on the clean, beautiful, and simplistic designs that were the trademark of Apple products. Isaacson writes a bitter-sweet ending to Jobs life that both celebrates and mourns the genius and accomplishments of a great entrepreneurial spirit. The book is very readable and interesting. Isaacson gives a complex portrait of a brilliant man who did not suffer fools gladly and persevered in creating from the ground up a company that had an impact far beyond merely selling computers.

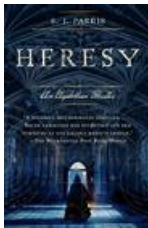


**Death in the City of Light** by David King. If the Nazi occupation of Paris during WWII wasn't bad enough, body parts turning up in the Seine and mysterious disappearances around the smart parts of town were unnerving Parisians beyond most people's endurance. Solving these horrible crimes fell to Commissar Massu, head of the Brigade Ciminelle, who delved into the murky world of Gestapo, resistant fighters, pimps, prostitutes and other unsavory denizens of the worst Paris had to offer. The main suspect, is Dr. Marcel Petiot, a well known and highly charismatic doctor who was ultimately charged with 27 murders but suspected of many more. Despite the mountain of evidence against him, the French legal system responded with Inspector Cleauseau competence and was in danger of allowing Dr. Petiot to go free. King gives a brilliant portrait of what Nazi occupied Paris was like amid the horror of these crimes. The hunt for the serial killer and the investigative effort into proving his guilt makes this a fascinating story. .

**Thinking Fast and Slow** by Daniel Kahneman. Along with his longtime collaborator, Amos Tversky, they focused on how people make decisions and judgments related to economic issues. Kahneman has long been thought of as an expert in the psychology of thought judgment and decision making. Winning the Nobel Prize, he demonstrates that many of the assumptions made by economists were false. He believes we have basically two thought systems: fast (subconscious) and slow (conscious). The fast system is based on experience and often leads to rash judgments without thinking. The slow system requires contemplation and reliance on judgment of various factors. Kahneman relates that the slow cognitive process has difficulty in overcoming the fast one and leads to idiosyncrasies in many people. This is a very readable and understandable treatise on a complex subject, providing valuable insights on thinking and the decision making process.



## March 2012 Book Clubs



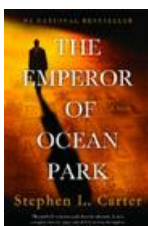
March 5<sup>th</sup> the Mystery Book Club discusses ***Heresy*** by S.J. Parris a story full of real characters. Giordano Bruno ran afoul of the Inquisition. Bruno held such outlandish beliefs as the earth revolving around the sun, imagine. Truth being stranger than fiction, he escaped Italy and after a time landed in England where he became useful to Queen Elizabeth's spymaster Sir Francis Walsingham. Eventually the Inquisition will catch up with Bruno, burning him at the stake in 1600. This heretic monk is too interesting for Parris to resist, he was perfect for crafting a mystery series. In ***Heresy***, the first in the series, Bruno travels to Oxford in 1583 to debate John Underhill while spying at the behest of Walsingham who fears Catholic plots to overthrow the queen. Soon after Bruno arrives a grisly murder raises the stakes. The next book in the series featuring Giordano Bruno, ***Prophecy***, is scheduled to release in paperback on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The third in the series, ***Sacrilege***, releases in hardback April 10<sup>th</sup>.

March 13<sup>th</sup> the Non Fiction Book Club discusses ***Cleopatra: A Life*** by Stacy Schiff. One of the most fascinating characters in history, Cleopatra lived big. Married off to her 10 year old brother and co-ruler Ptolemy, she attempted to oust him and was exiled. An allegiance with Rome could solve her problems and put her back on the throne. Cleopatra had herself stuffed into a sack, smuggled back into her own palace, and presented to Julius Caesar. Cleopatra was an astute ruler, a politician who knew the value of spectacle, and an incredibly intelligent woman. After Caesar's death she captivated Marc Anthony and continued her allegiance with Rome. Schiff is a masterful writer, she presents us with a fascinating biography of one of history's strongest women.



March 19<sup>th</sup> the Fiction Book Club discusses ***Reservation Blues*** by Sherman Alexie. Robert Johnson sold his soul to the devil for a screaming guitar. Now Johnson is looking for redemption, he heard of a spiritual woman on the Spokane Reservation who might be able to help him. Thomas Builds The Fire delivers Johnson to the woman and inherits the guitar. Oh baby does this guitar want to play! Possessed of this wickedly good instrument Thomas forms a rock and blues band, Coyote Springs, and soon they are traveling to Seattle and New York. But there is a price with guitars gifted from the devil. Funny and poignant this is a blistering portrayal of life as a Native American. Sherman Alexie is one of our most talented authors, the guy can write!

March 26<sup>th</sup> the Travel Essay Book Club discusses ***Modoc*** by Ralph Helfer. Bram and Modoc were born on the same day, the boy and the elephant would form a bond so strong it would last the rest of their lives. The early years in Germany are good, but trouble comes when Bram's father dies and the circus is sold to an unscrupulous man. Modoc and Bram have many adventures, a shipwreck, hiding out in the teak forests of India, attack by rebels, fire, and more. They travel far and wide, but overall this is a book about the remarkable bond between a man and an elephant who endure cruelty and hardship but stay true to one another.



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

April 2nd 2012 ***The Tourist*** by Olen Steinhauer [Mystery Book Club](#)

April 9th 2012 ***Enchanted April*** by Elizabeth Von Arnim [Classics Book Club](#)

April 16th 2012 ***Room*** by Emma Donoghue [Fiction Book Club](#)

April 23rd 2012 ***Warmth of Other Suns*** by Isabel Wilkerson [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

April 30th 2012 ***Rules of Civility*** by Amor Towles, [The Deschutes County Library Novel Idea Selection](#)

May 7th 2012 ***Time Was Soft There*** by Jeremy Mercer [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

May 14th 2012 ***Arcadia Falls*** by Carol Goodman [Mystery Book Club](#)

May 21st 2012 ***The Wedding Officer*** by Anthony Cappella [Fiction Book Club](#)

May 28th ***Infidel*** by Ayaan Hirsi Ali [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

June 4th 2012 ***The Emperor of Ocean Park*** by Stephen Carter [Mystery Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

June 11th 2012 ***Empire Falls*** by Richard Russo [Fiction Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

June 16th 2012 ***The Human Stain*** by Phillip Roth [Classics Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

June 25th 2012 ***Mayflower*** by Nathaniel Philbrick [Travel Essay Book Club](#) [A Month of New England](#)

July 2nd 2012 ***Junkyard Dog*** by Craig Johnson [Mystery Book Club](#)

July 9th 2012 ***Menagerie Manor*** by Gerald Durrell [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

July 16th 2012 ***The Poisonwood Bible*** by Barbara Kingsolver [Fiction Book Club](#)

July 23rd 2012 ***Last Go Round*** by Ken Kesey [Classics Book Club](#)

July 30th 2012 ***To End All Wars*** by Adam Hochschild [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

August 6th 2012 ***The Informationist*** by Taylor Stevens [Mystery Book Club](#)

August 13th 2012 ***The Tiger's Wife*** by Tea Obreht [Fiction Book Club](#)

August 20th 2012 ***War & Peace*** by Leo Tolstoy [Classics Book Club](#)

August 27th 2012 ***Country Driving*** by Peter Hessler [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

Sept. 3rd 2012 ***Forty Words For Sorrow*** by Giles Blunt [Mystery Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

September 10th 2012 ***The Bird Artist*** by Howard Norman [Fiction Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

Sept. 17th 2012 ***Rowing to Latitude*** by Jill Fredston [Travel Essay Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

September 24th 2012 ***The Shipping News*** by Annie Proulx [Classics Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

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

