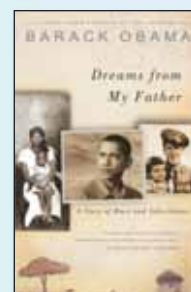
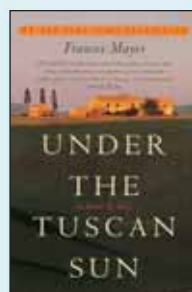
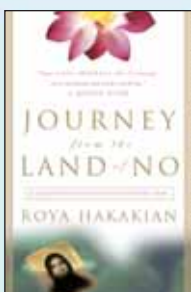
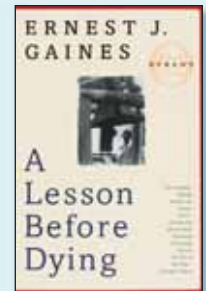
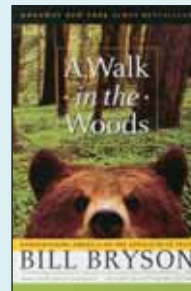
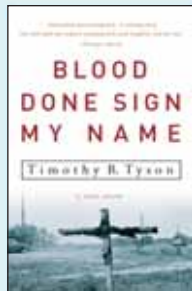
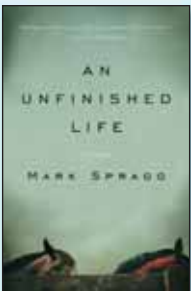


RANDOM HOUSE, INC.

YOUR RESOURCE FOR One Book, One Community Programs

With an Introduction and How-To Tips from  Nancy Pearl



Community Reading projects benefit a library in several ways, some quantifiable, others not. The most important non-quantifiable benefit is this: Community Reading projects position the library as a major player in the cultural life of a community. The library is no longer simply a place to come to use the computers, or to find information, or the most recent best-seller (all vital aspects of the library's mission in themselves, of course); rather, the library becomes a destination for people who are interested in discussing books, a venue for author visits and for other cultural and humanities programs. One Book, One Community projects are an excellent way to start building a community of readers that finds its home base in the library.

There are several basic questions that need to be answered before you even begin the hands-on work of designing a Community Reading project for your community. Remember that the beauty of these projects is that they are infinitely adaptable; they will benefit your community whatever you are able, or choose, to do.

It's through the process of answering these questions that you will discover that you have, in fact, planned your own community reading program.

What is the goal of your program?

Perhaps, as with many libraries, it's to address a particular issue, such as multiculturalism, racism, or economic injustices, for instance. Others have looked at the project as a way of highlighting a local author. Still others have seen this as an opportunity to acquaint readers with books they might not ordinarily discover on their own. Once you've articulated the goal of the program, you'll find that choosing a book that fits those goals suddenly becomes much easier. As you work through the answer to this question, you'll also be figuring out who the audience for the program is. Some libraries collaborate with the schools in their community and select a children's or young adult book. Others try to find a book that appeals to all ages, while other libraries select books that appeal primarily to adult readers. It's relatively easy to select a book for a particular age group, and, of course, much harder to find a book that will resonate with everyone from age 9 to 99, but not necessarily impossible.

What is your library's capacity for programming and how much money do you have to spend on the project?

The answers to this two part question is important to think about carefully, because it will determine just how much you can realistically do. It's irresistible to dream about bringing in the author of the book you select, but that takes a lot more money (and planning time) than concentrating on book discussions and public programs with local people. As you figure out your budget, remember that the success of the program will in some ways depend on the amount of publicity you do, so be sure to include printing costs (for posters and discussion guides, for example) in your budget. If the committee working on the project is small, and the budget is also small, you might not be able to afford to bring in, say, Ernest Gaines, Sandra Cisneros, Jon Krakauer, Chris Hedges, or Lois Lowry to do a public program. I've always felt that bringing the author in is like the icing on the cake, very nice, but not absolutely necessary for the deliciousness of the finished product.

How much collaboration with other community groups, schools, museums, etc. do you want to do?

As you answer this question, keep in mind that collaboration has its plusses and minuses—it will make everyone's workload lighter and probably guarantee larger turnouts at programs, but it will often complicate the various issues that will inevitably arise, including selecting the book. Large committees work best when the chairperson is not a micro-manager and is willing to delegate and divide the tasks that need to be done.

What kind of book should you pick, and how should you go about selecting it?

What I've found is that the best books for book discussions—whether it be for the neighborhood soccer moms who get together once a month or for community wide reading projects—have certain characteristics in common. First, the book needs to be eminently, or, even better, compulsively, discussable. It should be a book that offers readers different ways of understanding or interpreting the actions of the main character. What you're going to be discussing is everything that the author hasn't told you, so you want to select a book that encourages you to read between the lines. It always helps if the

ending of the novel is somewhat ambiguous (books like Kevin Brockmeier's *The Brief History of the Dead* or Donna Tartt's *The Little Friend*, for example) or books in which the main character is forced to make a decision that will provoke strong agreement or disagreement with the readers (try *The Dive from Clausen's Pier* by Ann Packer, *Amy and Isabelle* by Elizabeth Strout, Edwidge Danticat's *The Dew Breaker*, or any of Margaret Atwood's novels for a start) or books that challenge our complacency (*Night* by Elie Wiesel, Robert Cormier's *I Am the Cheese* or *The Chocolate War*, Lorene Cary's *The Price of a Child*, Mitch Albom's *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Walter Van Tilburg Clark's *The Ox-Bow Incident*, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou, or *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee) or are controversial or disturbing in subject matter (Ernest Gaines's *A Lesson Before Dying*, *Perepolis* by Marjane Satrapi, David Simon's *The Corner*, *War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning* by Chris Hedges, Abraham Verghese's *My Own Country: A Doctor's Story*, *Under the Banner of Heaven* by Jon Krakauer, or *There Are No Children Here* by Alex Kotlowitz. (As you can see, it's with these latter two categories where nonfiction works particularly well.)

Or consider books that have a particular meaning for your community. The committee planning the first "One Book, One Community" project for the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library asked for nominations from the community and they received almost 1,000 separate titles from enthusiastic readers, who took the time to write reviews about their choices. A committee made the final selection, an older title that was both uniquely right for Indiana residents and had resonated with current events: Jessamyn West's *The Friendly Persuasion*. Not only was the author from Indiana, but the book takes place during the Civil War years in the state, and offers much food for thought as it profiles a community in crisis.

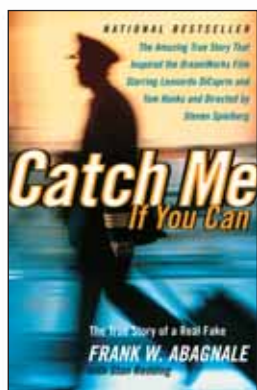
Or perhaps there's a local author whose work is particularly relevant and therefore makes a good book for the project, such as Kent Haruf's *Plainsong* for libraries in Colorado,

or a Florida library selecting Peter Matthiessen's *Killing Mr. Watson*, or an Australian library selecting *The True History of the Kelly Gang* by Peter Carey.

Sometimes committees narrow down their choice to a few books and let the public vote on the final selection. One Canadian community asked 5 local celebrities to champion one of the finalists, and following a public (and spirited) debate over the merits of each, the community voted on their selection. Whatever book you choose, and however you select it, make sure it has enough "meat" to sustain a discussion that rises above the level of "did you like the book or not?"

-Nancy Pearl





Frank Abagnale, Jr. and Stan Redding

Catch Me If You Can

Frank Abagnale, Jr. was one of the most daring con men, forgers, imposters, and escape artists in history. In his brief but notorious criminal career, Abagnale donned a pilot's uniform and piloted a Pan Am jet, masqueraded as the supervising resident of a hospital, practiced law without a license, passed himself off as a college sociology professor, and cashed over \$2.5 million in forged checks, all before he was twenty-one. Now recognized as the nation's leading authority on financial foul play, Abagnale is a charming rogue whose hilarious, stranger-than-fiction international escapades, and ingenious escapes—including one from an airplane—make this an irresistible tale of deceit. *Frank Abagnale, Jr. lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Stan Redding lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.*

0-7679-0538-5 | \$14.95/\$22.95C | Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

SELECTED BY: Indianapolis, Indiana

Mitch Albom

Tuesdays with Morrie:

An Old Man, a Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson

For Mitch Albom, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago, Morrie Schwartz, was the one person who understood him when he was young and searching. Mitch rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live. This book is a magical chronicle of their time together, through which Mitch shares Morrie's lasting gift with the world. *Mitch Albom lives in Michigan.*

0-7679-0592-X | \$12.95/\$19.95C | Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

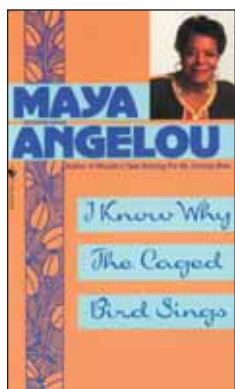
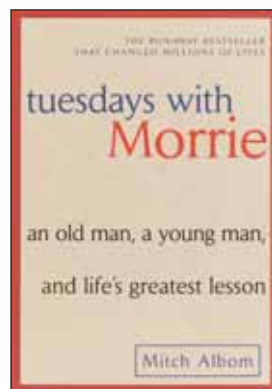
0-307-27563-9 | \$6.99/\$9.99C | Anchor | MM

0-385-48451-8 | \$22.95/\$34.95C | Doubleday | HC

0-7393-1112-3 | \$19.95/\$27.95C | RH Audio | CD (UAB)

0-7393-1111-5 | \$19.95/\$27.95C | RH Audio | CS (UAB)

SELECTED BY: Long Beach, California; Grand County, Colorado; Middletown, Connecticut; Broward County, Florida; Princeton, Illinois; Brownsburg, Indiana; Connersville, Indiana; Jay County, Indiana; Madison, Indiana; Shelby County, Indiana; Valparaiso, Indiana; Vincennes, Indiana; Quincy, Massachusetts; Duluth, Minnesota; Virginia, Minnesota; Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Roswell, New Mexico; Clayton, Ohio; Lancaster and York Counties, Pennsylvania



Maya Angelou

I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings

A phenomenal #1 bestseller, this memoir traces Maya Angelou's childhood in a small, rural community in Arkansas during the 1930s. Filled with images and recollections that point to the dignity and courage of black men and women, Angelou paints a sometimes disquieting, but always affecting picture of the people—and the times—that touched her life. *Maya Angelou lives in New York, New York and Winston-Salem, North Carolina.*

0-553-38001-X | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Bantam | TR | Nonfiction

0-553-27937-8 | \$5.99/\$8.99C | Bantam | MM

0-375-50789-2 | \$20.00/\$30.00C | Random House | HC

0-679-45173-0 | \$22.95/\$32.95C | RH Audio | CD

0-394-55369-1 | \$18.00/\$22.00C | RH Audio | CS

SELECTED BY: Forsyth County, North Carolina

Marie Arana

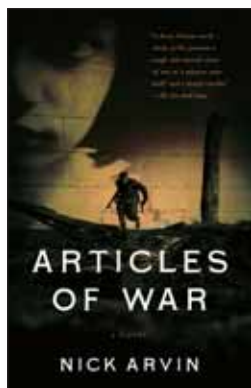
American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood

Nominated for the 2001 National Book Award and selected as one of *Library Journal*'s Best Books of 2001, this is a resonant portrait of a child coming to terms with her bicultural identity. In her father's Peruvian family, Marie was taught to be a proper lady, yet in her mother's American family she learned to shoot a gun, break a horse, and snap a chicken's neck for dinner. But only when she immigrated with her family to Wyoming, did she come to understand that she was a hybrid American whose cultural identity was split in half.

Marie Arana lives in Washington D.C.

0-385-31963-0 | \$10.00/\$13.00C | Dial Press | TR | Nonfiction

1-4000-0199-4 | \$16.95/\$25.95C | RH Español | TR



Nick Arvin

Articles of War

Arvin draws readers into the unimaginable fear and chaos of the war zone through the story of an eighteen-year-old Iowan farm boy, Heck, who enlists in the army during World War II and is sent to Normandy shortly after D-Day. Heck struggles to live up to the ideal of the American fighting man as the stark reality of combat—and the knowledge that he could cease to exist at any moment—presses in on him. Arvin's portrayal of the emotional and physical terrors Heck can neither understand nor escape is one of the most unforgettable accounts of the life of a soldier. Heck's story is especially relevant to numerous communities across the country as young men and women face the realities of the war in Iraq.

Nick Arvin lives in Denver, Colorado.

1-4000-7734-6 | \$12.95/\$17.95C | Anchor | TR | Fiction

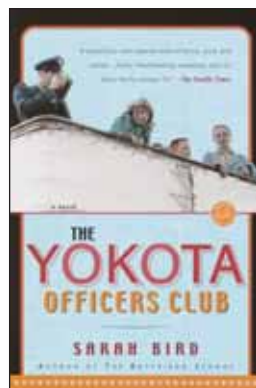
0-385-51277-5 | \$17.00/\$24.00C | Doubleday | HC

Sarah Bird

The Yokota Officers Club: A Novel

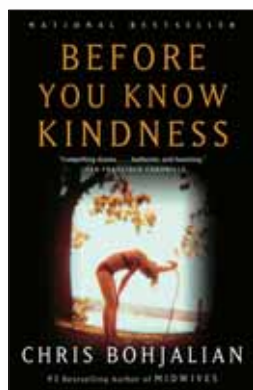
In this touching novel set during the Vietnam era, 18 year-old Bernie returns for the summer to the Okinawa American military base to rejoin her family after a year at college. She is forced to examine her beliefs about nationalism and how war and occupation change lives. Bernie's realizations conflict with childhood memories, when family secrets, covered up in classic military style—through elimination and denial—are now forcing their way to the surface. A coming-of-age story that explores life on an American military base in Japan. *Sarah Bird lives in Austin, Texas.*

0-345-45277-1 | \$14.95/\$22.95C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO consider having a public program with the author answering questions from the audience, rather than offering a reading from the book.



Chris Bohjalian

Before You Know Kindness

On a balmy July night in New Hampshire a shot rings out in a garden, and a man falls to the ground, terribly wounded. The wounded man is Spencer McCullough, and the shot was fired by his adolescent daughter Charlotte. A timely family saga that examines some of the most important issues of our era. *Chris Bohjalian lives in Vermont.*

1-4000-3165-6 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Vintage | TR | Fiction
 1-4000-4745-5 | \$25.00/\$35.00C | Shaye Areheart Books | HC
 0-375-43418-6 | \$27.00/\$38.00C | RH Large Print | HC
 0-7393-1415-7 | \$29.95/\$42.00C | RH Audio | CD
 0-7393-1414-9 | \$25.95/\$35.95C | RH Audio | CS

SELECTED BY: Augusta, Maine

And also by Chris Bohjalian:

The Buffalo Soldier:

A Novel

0-375-72546-6 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Vintage | TR | Fiction
 0-553-71500-3 | \$39.95/\$59.95C | RH Audio | CS (UAB)

SELECTED BY: Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts; Windsor, Connecticut; Evansville, Indiana

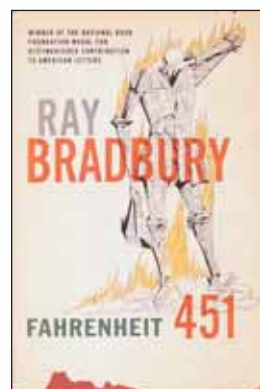
Ray Bradbury

Fahrenheit 451

The landmark novel of a future society where books are outlawed and only one man awakens to the evils of censorship. An important novel for readers of all ages that is pertinent to today's society where some books are still censored. This title is perfect for libraries interested in reaching out to students in the community. *Ray Bradbury lives in Los Angeles, California.*

0-345-41001-7 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction
 0-345-34296-8 | \$6.99/\$10.99C | Del Rey | MM

SELECTED BY: Bakersfield, California; Long Beach, California; Los Angeles, California; Nevada County, California; Silicon Valley, California; Eastern Connecticut; Jacksonville, Florida; Miami, Florida; Palm Beach, Florida; Boise, Idaho; Allen County, Indiana; Carmel, Indiana; Lafayette, Indiana; East Lansing, Michigan; Kalamazoo, Michigan; Omaha, Nebraska; New Jersey; Buffalo, New York; Utica, New York; Wake County, North Carolina; Cleveland, Ohio; Delaware County, Ohio; Enterprise, Oregon; Multnomah County, Oregon; Erie, Pennsylvania; Houston, Texas; Tacoma, Washington



James Bradley with Ron Powers

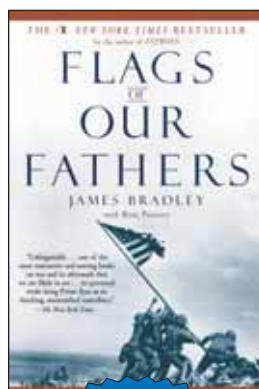
Flags of Our Fathers

In February 1945, American Marines plunged into the surf at Iwo Jima—and into history. Through a hail of machine-gun and mortar fire that left the beaches strewn with comrades, they battled to the island's highest peak and they raised a flag. Now the son of one of the flag-raisers has written a powerful account of six very different young men who came together in a moment that will live forever. An epic look at a generation at war, this is history told with keen insight, enormous honesty, and the passion of a son paying homage to his father. It is the story of the difference between truth and myth, the meaning of being a hero, and the essence of the human experience of war. The feature film will be coming from Dreamworks in Fall 2006. *James Bradley lives in New York.*

0-553-38029-X | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Bantam | TR | Nonfiction
 0-553-58908-3 | \$7.99/\$10.99C | Bantam | MM | May 2006
 0-553-11133-7 | \$26.00/\$37.00C | Bantam | HC
 0-553-71246-2 | \$29.95/\$45.95C | RH Audio | CD
 0-7393-1471-8 | \$17.99/\$25.99C | RH Audio | CS

Also adapted for Young Adults by Michael French:

0-385-73064-0 | \$8.95/\$13.95C | Delacorte Books for Young Readers | TR
 0-440-22920-0 | \$5.99/\$7.99C | Laurel Leaf | MM
 0-385-72932-4 | \$15.95/\$23.95C | Delacorte Books for Young Readers | HC
 0-385-90009-0 | \$17.99/\$26.99C | Delacorte Books for Young Readers | HC Library Binding



**MOVIE TIE-IN
EDITIONS COMING
Fall 2006**

Bill Bryson

A Walk in the Woods:

Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail

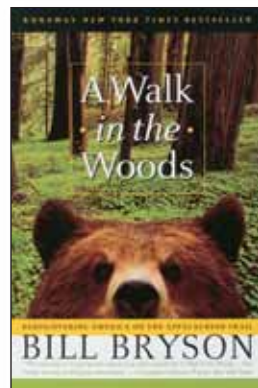
Back in America after twenty years in Britain, Bill Bryson decided to reacquaint himself with his native country by walking the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail, which stretches from Georgia to Maine. The trail offered an astonishing landscape of silent forests and sparkling lakes and it also provided endless opportunities to witness his fellow human beings. But *A Walk in the Woods* is more than just a laugh-out-loud hike. Bryson's acute eye is a wise witness to this beautiful but fragile trail, and as he tells its fascinating history, he makes a moving plea for the conservation of America's last great wilderness. *Bill Bryson lives in England.*

0-7679-0252-1 | \$14.95/NCR | Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

0-553-45592-3 | \$29.95/\$44.95C | RH Audio | CD

0-553-52506-9 | \$25.95/\$38.95C | RH Audio | CS

SELECTED BY: Augusta, Maine; South Portland, Maine; Cambria County, Pennsylvania; Erie, Pennsylvania; Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Willa Cather

My Antonia

In this powerful novel, Willa Cather creates one of the most winning yet thoroughly convincing heroines in American fiction. Antonia Shimerda returns to Black Hawk, Nebraska to make a fresh start after eloping with a railway conductor following the tragic death of her father. Despite betrayal and crushing opposition, Antonia steadfastly pursues her quest for happiness—a moving struggle that mirrors the quiet drama of the American landscape.

0-679-74187-9 | \$9.00/\$12.50C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

0-553-21418-7 | \$4.95/\$6.95C | Bantam Classics | MM

0-679-44727-X | \$20.00/\$27.00C | Everyman's Library | HC

SELECTED BY: The State of Nebraska; Chicago, Illinois

And also by Willa Cather:

O Pioneers!

0-679-74362-6 | \$9.00/\$11.50C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

0-553-21358-X | \$4.95/\$5.95C | Bantam Classics | MM

SELECTED BY: Brownsburg, Indiana; Howard County, Indiana

Walter Van Tilburg Clark

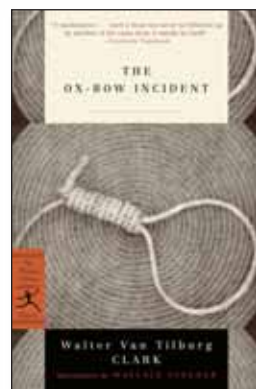
The Ox-Bow Incident

Set in 1885, *The Ox-Bow Incident* is a realistic portrait of frontier life and mob violence in the American West. First published in 1940, it focuses on the lynching of three innocent men and the tragedy that ensues when law and order are abandoned. The result is an emotionally powerful, vivid, and unforgettable re-creation of the Western novel, which Clark transmuted into a universal story about good and evil, individual and community, justice and human nature.

0-375-75702-3 | \$10.95/\$16.95C | Modern Library | TR | Fiction

0-8129-7258-9 | \$5.95/\$8.95C | Modern Library | MM

SELECTED BY: Chicago, Illinois



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO choose a character driven book.



Sandra Cisneros

Caramelo

Every year, Ceyala “Lala” Reyes’ family drives from Chicago to the Little Grandfather and Awful Grandmother’s house in Mexico City for the summer. Struggling to find a voice above the boom of her brothers and to understand her place in life, Lala is a shrewd observer of family life. *Caramelo* was awarded *Booklist*’s Editor’s Choice for Young Adults and selected as an ALA Best Book for Young Adults for this multigenerational family narrative. *Sandra Cisneros lives in San Antonio, Texas.*

0-679-74258-1 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

1-4000-3099-4 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Vintage | TR | Spanish Language Edition

1-4000-4150-3 | \$24.00/\$36.00C | Knopf | HC

SELECTED BY: Denver, Colorado; Boise, Idaho; Fort Worth, Texas

Sandra Cisneros

The House on Mango Street

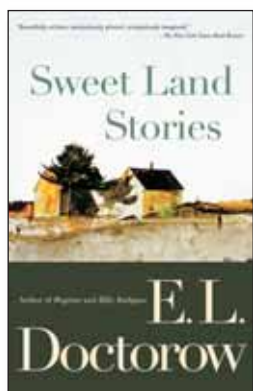
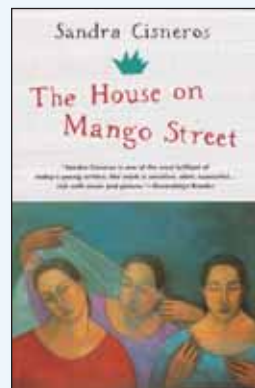
Through a series of vignettes, Cisneros tells the story of Esperanza Cordero, a young girl growing up in the Latino section of Chicago, whose neighborhood is one of harsh realities and harsh beauty. Esperanza doesn’t want to belong—not to her rundown neighborhood, and not to the low expectations the world has for her. Acclaimed by critics and taught everywhere from inner-city grade schools to universities across the country, this novel has entered the canon of coming-of-age classics. *Sandra Cisneros lives in San Antonio, Texas.*

0-679-73477-5 | \$9.95/\$13.95C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

0-679-43335-X | \$24.00/\$37.00C | Knopf | HC

0-7393-2279-6 | \$14.99/\$21.00C | RH Audio | CD (JAB)

SELECTED BY: The State of Arkansas; Commerce, California; Los Angeles, California; Pico Rivera, California; Sonoma County, California; Jacksonville, Florida; Miami, Florida; Multnomah County, Oregon; Brazo Valley, Texas; College Station-Bryan, Texas; El Paso, Texas; Milwaukee, Wisconsin



E. L. Doctorow

Sweet Land Stories

The bestselling author of *Ragtime* and *The March* turns his narrative powers to the short story in five dazzling explorations of who we are as a people and how we live. Ranging over the American continent from Alaska to Washington, D.C., these superb short works are crafted with all the weight and resonance of the novels for which Doctorow is famous. These five stories illuminate the variety of beliefs, voices and experiences that coexist—and sometimes clash—in America today. *E.L. Doctorow lives in New York.*

0-8129-7177-9 | \$12.95/\$17.95C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

1-4000-6204-7 | \$22.95/\$32.95C | Random House | HC



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO know your capacity for programming before you begin planning.

W.E.B. Du Bois

The Quest of the Silver Fleece:

A Novel

Originally published in 1911, this is the controversial first novel from the world-famous sociologist and civil-rights leader, W.E.B. Du Bois. The novel chronicles the complex interactions between Northern financing and Southern politics as it follows the story of free-spirited Zora, child of a Southern swamp, and her romance with Yankee-educated Bles, who will eventually face the opportunity to claim political power through corrupt means. In the middle of it all is the silver fleece, a crop of cotton, rich with meaning and symbolism.

0-7679-1845-2 | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Harlem Moon | TR | Fiction



Firoozeh Dumas

Funny in Farsi:

A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America

In 1972, when she was seven, Firoozeh Dumas and her family moved from Iran to Southern California, arriving with no firsthand knowledge of America. This unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love chronicles the American journey of Firoozeh's wonderfully engaging family and Firoozeh herself, who as a girl changed her name to Julie, and who encountered a second wave of culture shock when she met and married a Frenchman. *Firoozeh Dumas lives in Northern California.*

0-8129-6837-9 | \$12.95/\$19.95C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction
1-4000-6040-0 | \$21.95/\$32.95C | Villard | HC

SELECTED BY: Orange County and Whittier, California

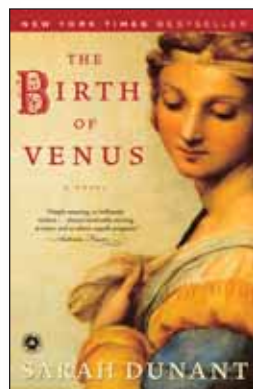
Sarah Dunant

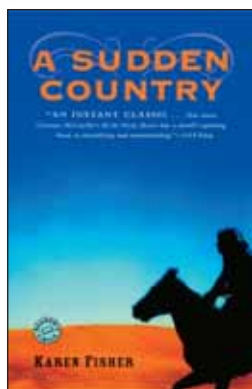
The Birth of Venus:

A Novel

Alessandra Cecchi is not quite fifteen when her father brings a young painter back from northern Europe to decorate the chapel walls in the family's Florentine palazzo. A child of the Renaissance, Alessandra is intoxicated by the painter's abilities. But their burgeoning relationship is interrupted when Alessandra's parents arrange her marriage to an older, wealthy gentleman. Set against the backdrop of religious and artistic controversy, Alessandra's loss of adolescent freedom echoes the political turmoil that swells around her. *The Birth of Venus* is an engaging commentary on personal and political independence, religious fundamentalism and artistic expression. *Sarah Dunant lives in London and Florence.*

0-8129-6897-2 | \$13.95/NCR | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction
1-4000-6073-7 | \$21.95/NCR | Random House | HC
0-7393-1053-4 | \$14.99/NCR | RH Audio | CD
0-7393-1052-6 | \$25.95/NCR | RH Audio | CS





Karen Fisher

A Sudden Country: A Novel

Based on actual events of the 1847 Oregon migration, *A Sudden Country* follows two characters of remarkable complexity and strength on a journey of survival and redemption. James MacLaren, once an ambitious Hudson's Bay Company trader, is torn apart when his wife leaves him, and his children die of smallpox. An act of secret vengeance changes his course, introducing him to a different wife and mother: Lucy Mitchell, journeying westward with her family. As their hidden stories unfold, both Lucy and James must confront the people they have truly been, are, and may become. *Karen Fisher lives in Lopez Island, Washington.*

0-8129-7343-7 | \$13.95/\$18.95C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction | June 2006

1-4000-6322-1 | \$24.95/\$34.95C | Random House | HC | Fiction

Connie May Fowler

Before Women Had Wings

Star struck by a dime-store picture of Jesus, Bird fancies herself "His girlfriend" and embarks upon a spiritual quest for salvation, even as the chaos of her home life plunges her into a stony silence. In stark and honest language, she tells the story of her father's tragic life, tracks her older sister's perilous journey into womanhood, and witnesses her mother make a courageous and ultimately devastating decision. *Connie May Fowler lives in Lloyd, Florida.*

0-449-91144-6 | \$12.00/\$16.95C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction

0-8041-1890-6 | \$6.99/\$8.99C | Ivy | MM

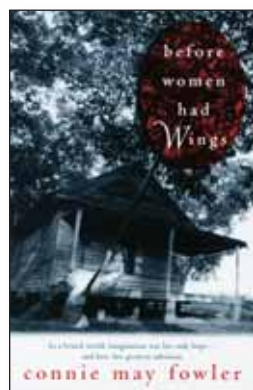
SELECTED BY: Orange County, Florida

And also by Connie May Fowler

The Problem with Murmur Lee

0-7679-2145-3 | \$9.95/\$13.95C | Broadway | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Jacksonville, Florida



Ernest J. Gaines

A Lesson Before Dying: A Novel

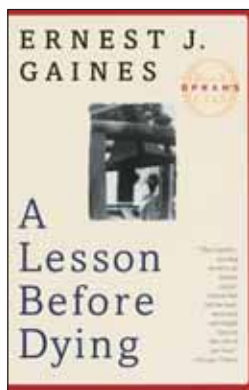
This is the story of two African-American men struggling to attain manhood in a small prejudiced Cajun community in the late 1940s. Grant Wiggins, a sophisticated and educated man comes to the aid of Jefferson, a mentally slow, barely literate young man, who is convicted of murder and sentenced to die, although he was only an innocent bystander to the crime. As Grant struggles to impart a sense of pride to Jefferson before he must face his death, he learns an important lesson as well: heroism is not always expressed through action—sometimes the simple act of resisting the inevitable is enough. *Ernest Gaines lives in Oscar, Louisiana.*

0-375-70270-9 | \$12.95/\$19.95C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

0-679-45561-2 | \$26.00/\$40.00C | Knopf | HC

0-7393-2367-9 | \$29.95/\$42.00C | RH Audio | CD (UAB)

0-375-40258-6 | \$32.95/\$38.95C | RH Audio | CS (UAB)



SELECTED BY: Miami, Florida; Peoria, Illinois; Bloomington, Indiana; Northwest Indiana; Lafayette, Louisiana; New Orleans, Louisiana; Newton, Massachusetts; Jackson, Mississippi; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Washoe County (Reno), Nevada; Buffalo, New York; Rochester, New York; Syracuse, New York; Greensboro, North Carolina; Watauga County, North Carolina; Cincinnati, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio; Multnomah County/Portland, Oregon; College Station-Bryan, Texas; Houston, Texas; Waco, Texas; Richmond, Virginia; Seattle, Washington



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO plan related programs to build up interest in the main event.

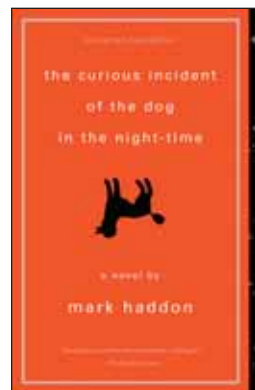
Mark Haddon

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

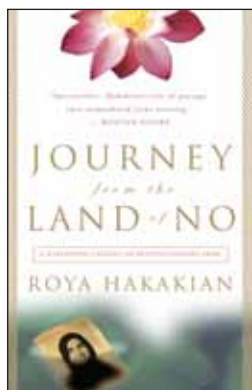
Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. Christopher is fifteen, gifted, and autistic. His carefully constructed world falls apart when the neighbor's dog is killed. As he sets out to solve the mystery of the dog's murder, Christopher must fall back on his own deductive logic to navigate the emotional complexities of a social world that remains a puzzle to him. This improbable story of Christopher's quest makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years. Mark Haddon won the ALA Alex Award and the YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, among other awards for this novel. *Mark Haddon lives in Oxford, England.*

1-4000-3271-7 | \$12.95/NCR | Vintage | TR | Fiction

0-385-50945-6 | \$22.95/NCR | Doubleday | HC



SELECTED BY: Santa Barbara, California; Gunnison, Colorado; Westport, Connecticut; North Attleborough, Massachusetts; North Reading, Massachusetts; West Boylston, Massachusetts; Wake County, North Carolina; Cincinnati, Ohio; Central Valley, New York; New Paltz, New York; Galveston, Texas; Salt Lake City, Utah



Roya Hakakian

Journey from the Land of No: A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran

Roya Hakakian recalls her adolescence in pre-Revolutionary Iran in this coming-of-age story. She was twelve years old in 1979 when the revolution swept through Tehran. The daughter of an esteemed poet, she grew up in a household that hummed with intellectual life. But the Hakakians were also part of the very small Jewish population in Iran who witnessed the iron fist of the Islamic fundamentalists increasingly tightening its grip. Hakakian depicts what life was like for women in this environment, but we see it all through the eyes of a strong, youthful optimist. *Roya Hakakian lives in New Haven, Connecticut.*

0-609-81030-8 | \$13.00/\$18.00C | Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

1-4000-4611-4 | \$23.00/\$33.00C | Crown | HC

Kent Haruf

Plainsong

Set on the rural plains of Holt, Colorado, this stirring meditation on the true nature and necessity of family comprises several story lines that flow into one. The seven characters featured in this tight narrative teach us how families can be made between people who are not necessarily blood relatives. *Kent Haruf lives in Salida, Colorado.*

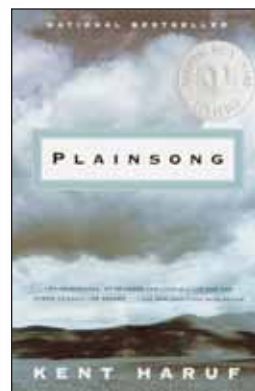
"Ambitious, but never seeming so, Kent Haruf reveals a whole community as he interweaves the stories of a pregnant high school girl, a lonely teacher, a pair of boys abandoned by their mother, and a couple of crusty bachelor farmers."

—from the citation for the National Book Award

0-375-70585-6 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

0-375-40618-2 | \$27.50/\$39.95C | Knopf | HC

SELECTED BY: The State of Arizona; Gunnison, Colorado; Loveland, Colorado; Springfield, Illinois; Vigo County, Indiana; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Manhattan, Kansas; Grand Rapids, Michigan; Boone & Callaway Counties, Missouri; Kansas City, Missouri; Wahpeton and Breckenridge, North Dakota; Lincoln, Nebraska; Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas; Salt Lake City, Utah; Spokane, Washington





Jean Hegland

Into the Forest

Set in the near-future, this novel focuses on the relationship between two teenage sisters living alone in their Northern California forest home. Over 30 miles from the nearest town, and several miles away from their nearest neighbor, Nell and Eva struggle to survive as society begins to decay and collapse around them. No single event precedes society's fall. There is talk of a war overseas and upheaval in Congress, but it still comes as a shock when the electricity runs out and gas is nowhere to be found. The sisters consume the resources left in the house, waiting for the power to return. Their arrival into adulthood, however, forces them to reexamine their place in the world and their relationship to the land and each other. Hegland's exploration of the sisters' relationship reveals what it means to be human and alive in this new world. *Jean Hegland lives in Northern California.*

0-553-37961-5 | \$15.00/\$23.00C | Dial Press | TR | Fiction

Homer H. Hickam, Jr.

Rocket Boys

The #1 *New York Times* bestselling memoir that inspired the film *October Sky* is a uniquely American memoir—a powerful story of coming of age, of a mother's love and a father's fears, of a group of young men who dreamed of launching rockets into outer space and who made those dreams come true. It was 1957, the year Sputnik raced across the Appalachian sky, and the small town of Coalwood, West Virginia, was slowly dying. Faced with an uncertain future, Homer Hickam fell in with a group of misfits who learned not only how to turn scraps of metal into sophisticated rockets, but how to sustain their hope in a town that swallowed its men alive. *Homer Hickam, Jr. lives in Alabama and the Virgin Islands.*

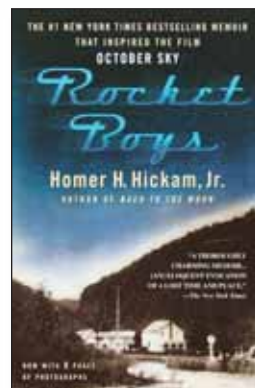
0-385-33321-8 | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Delta | TR | Nonfiction

0-385-33320-X | \$26.00/\$37.00C | Delacorte | HC

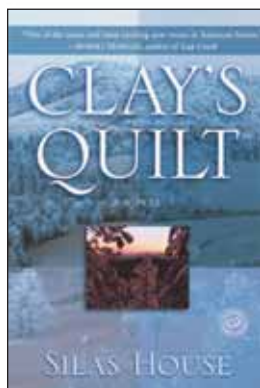
Movie Tie-in Edition:

October Sky (originally published as *Rocket Boys*)

0-440-23550-2 | \$7.99/\$11.99C | Dell | MM



SELECTED BY: Guntersville, Alabama; Jackson County, Alabama; Scottsboro, Alabama; Central Florida; Greenwood, Indiana; Northwest, Indiana; Topeka, Kansas; Athol, Massachusetts; Easthampton, Massachusetts; Southwest Michigan; Bowling Green, Ohio; Cleveland, Ohio; Findlay, Ohio; Tiffin, Ohio; Central Pennsylvania; Warren County, Pennsylvania; Beauford County, South Carolina; Memphis Shelby County, Tennessee; Portland, Tennessee; Alexandria, Virginia; Winchester, Frederick and Clark Counties, Virginia



Silas House

Clay's Quilt

A story of family, friendship, and healing, this novel is an ode to the American love for home. After his mother is killed, four-year-old Clay Sizemore finds himself alone in a small Appalachian mining town. At first, unsure of Free Creek, he slowly learns to lean on its residents as family. There's Aunt Easter, who is always filled with a sense of foreboding, bound to her faith above all; quiltmaking Uncle Paul; untamable Evangeline; and Alma, the fiddler whose song wends its way into Clay's heart. Together, they help Clay fashion a quilt of a life from what treasured pieces surround him. *Silas House lives in Eastern Kentucky.*

0-345-45069-8 | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Lexington, Kentucky

Tracy Kidder

Mountains Beyond Mountains:

The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World

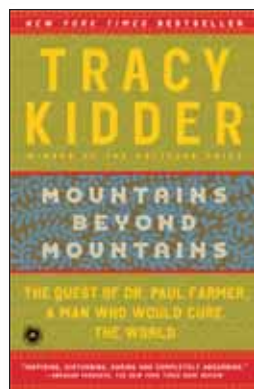
Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy Kidder tells the true story of eccentric medical genius Paul Farmer, an “American male Mother Teresa.” Farmer shows how one person can effect global progress against seemingly impossible problems—TB, AIDS, poverty—with creativity, knowledge and determination. *Tracy Kidder lives in Massachusetts and Maine.*

0-8129-7301-1 | \$14.95/\$21.00C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

0-375-50616-0 | \$26.95/\$37.95C | Random House | HC

0-7393-0765-7 | \$27.50/\$41.95C | RH Audio | CD

SELECTED BY: Concord, Dover, Falmouth, and Winchester, Massachusetts



Jon Krakauer

Into Thin Air:

A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster

A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer Jon Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mt. Everest, saw nothing that “suggested that a murderous storm was bearing down.” He was wrong. The storm, which claimed five lives and left countless more—including Krakauer’s—in guilt-ridden disarray, would also provide the impetus for Krakauer’s epic account of the May 1996 disaster. He takes great pains to provide a balanced picture of the people and events he witnessed, while providing insight into what went wrong. *Jon Krakauer lives in Seattle, Washington.*

0-385-49478-5 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Anchor | TR | Nonfiction

0-679-45752-6 | \$25.95/\$38.95C | Villard | HC

0-553-45589-3 | \$29.95/\$44.95C | RH Audio | CD

0-553-47867-2 | \$26.95/\$39.95C | RH Audio | CS

0-553-50219-0 | \$31.95/\$47.95C | RH Audio | CS (AUB)



Robert Kurson

Shadow Divers:

The True Adventure of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II

In the fall of 1991, divers found a World War II German U-boat, buried under decades of accumulated sediment 230 feet below the surface, in the frigid Atlantic waters sixty miles off the coast of New Jersey. Over the next six years, an elite team of divers embarked on a quest to solve the mystery. Some of them would not live to see its end. Kurson’s account is written with a vivid sense of what divers actually experience when they meet the dangers of the ocean’s underworld. Winner of the ALA Alex Award, this is a true tale of riveting adventure in which two weekend scuba divers risk everything to solve a great historical mystery. *Robert Kurson lives in Chicago, Illinois.*

0-375-76098-9 | \$14.95/\$21.00C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

0-345-48247-6 | \$7.50/\$10.99C | Ballantine | MM

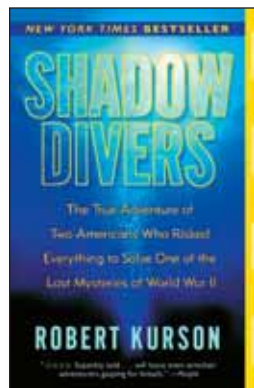
0-375-50858-9 | \$26.95/\$37.95C | Random House | HC

0-375-43387-2 | \$28.95/\$43.95C | RH Large Print | HC

0-7393-2083-1 | \$14.99/\$21.00C | RH Audio | CD

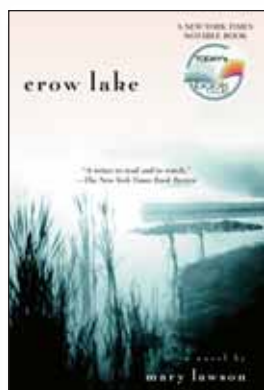
0-7393-1198-0 | \$25.95/\$37.95C | RH Audio | CS

SELECTED BY: The State of Rhode Island



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO understand what your goals of the community reading program are.



Mary Lawson

Crow Lake

Set against the wild terrain of northern Ontario, where heartbreak and hardship are mirrored in the landscape, this universal drama of love and misunderstanding recounts a family's tragic and moving past. Orphaned young, Kate Morrison and her siblings were bound together by loss. None of them could have expected the tumultuous times ahead, and years later, the sacrifices they made and the promises they broke would continue to reverberate through their lives and the quiet rural community of Crow Lake. *Mary Lawson lives in England.*

0-385-33763-9 | \$10.00/NCR | Dial Press | TR | Fiction

Louis L'Amour

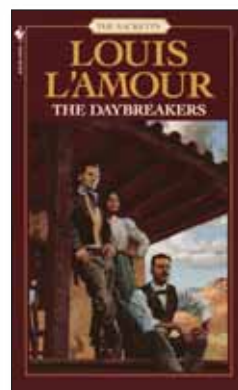
The Daybreakers: The Sacketts

For the past 50 years, Louis L'Amour's adventure novels have served as a gateway to the world of books. L'Amour is one of the most frequently-read novelists of our time, his stories passed from generation to generation. And he is the perfect selection for a community seeking to collaborate with the schools, while selecting a book that will appeal to readers of all ages. Introduce your community to Louis L'Amour through this novel in the popular Sackett series. Tyrel Sackett was born to trouble, but vowed to justice. After having to kill a man in Tennessee, he hit the trail west with his brother Orrin. Those were the years when decent men and women lived in fear of Indians, rustlers, and killers, but the Sackett brothers worked to make the West a place where people could raise their children in peace.

0-553-27674-3 | \$4.99/\$6.99C | Bantam | MM | Fiction

0-7393-1904-3 | \$25.95/\$35.95C | RH Audio | CD (UAB)

0-553-50262-X | \$25.95/\$38.95C | RH Audio | CS (UAB)



Roma Ligocka with Iris Von Finckenstein

The Girl in the Red Coat

As a child in German-occupied Poland, Roma Ligocka was known for the bright strawberry-red coat she wore against a tide of gathering darkness. Fifty years later, Roma, an artist living in Germany, attended a screening of Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*, and instantly knew that "the girl in the red coat"—the only splash of color in the film—was her. Thus began a harrowing journey into the past, as Roma Ligocka sought to reclaim her life and put together the pieces of a shattered childhood. *Roma Ligocka lives in Munich, Germany.*

"This is not only a Holocaust memoir but also a story of one woman's quest for contentment."

—Booklist

0-385-33740-X | \$13.00/\$18.00C | Delta | TR | Nonfiction



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL: DO check out the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress's website to see what other communities have selected at www.loc.gov/loc/cfbbook/onebookbyauthor

Frances Mayes

Under the Tuscan Sun

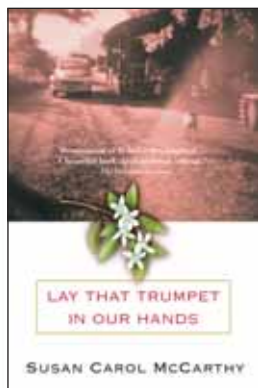
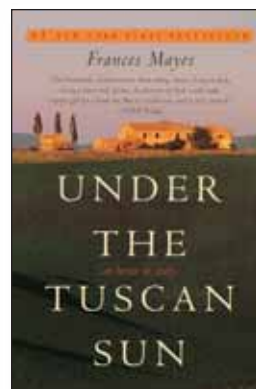
Frances Mayes entered a new world when she began restoring an abandoned villa in the spectacular Tuscan countryside. There were unexpected treasures at every turn: faded frescos beneath the whitewash in her dining room, a vineyard under wildly overgrown brambles in the garden, and, in the nearby hill towns, vibrant markets and delightful people. *Under the Tuscan Sun* offers numerous opportunities to involve different businesses in your community—perhaps the local travel agency would like to sponsor a trip to Tuscany! *Frances Mayes lives in San Francisco and Cortona, Italy.*

0-7679-0038-3 | \$15.00/\$22.95C | Broadway | I | TR | Nonfiction

0-7393-2297-4 | \$14.99/\$21.00C | RH Audio | CD

0-553-52520-4 | \$25.95/\$38.95C | RH Audio | CS

SELECTED BY: Norton, Massachusetts



Susan Carol McCarthy

Lay That Trumpet In Our Hands

Inspired by true events, this explosive novel brings to light a racially charged murder in the spring of 1951—a crime that sparks an extraordinary act of courage and sweeps an entire nation toward change. *Susan Carol McCarthy lives in Carlsbad, California.*

“Reminiscent of *To Kill A Mockingbird*... McCarthy realistically portrays race in a small southern town, showing how good people are tainted by generations of hate... a tale of growth and triumph.”

—*Library Journal*

0-553-38103-2 | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Bantam | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Tampa-Hillsborough County, Florida

Ian McEwan

Saturday

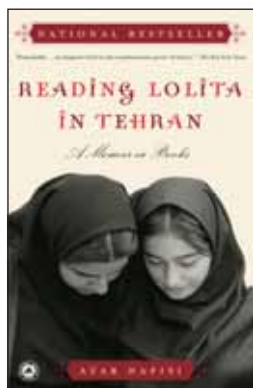
From the pen of a master, comes a novel that captures the fine balance of happiness and the unforeseen threats that can destroy it during the course of a single day. Henry Perowne is a contented man—a successful neurosurgeon, happily married, and enjoying good relations with his children. Henry wakes to the comfort of his large home in central London one Saturday morning, his day off. On this particular morning, Perowne's day moves through the ordinary to the extraordinary. A minor accident in his car brings him into a confrontation with a small-time thug. To Perowne's professional eye, something appears to be profoundly wrong with this young man, who in turn believes the surgeon has humiliated him. Savage consequences result that will lead Henry Perowne to deploy all his skills to keep his family alive. An ALA Notable Book for 2006. *Ian McEwan lives in England.*

1-4000-7619-6 | \$14.95/NCR | Anchor | TR | Fiction | April 2006

0-385-51180-9 | \$26.00/NCR | Nan A. Talese | HC

0-375-43532-8 | \$28.00/\$40.00C | RH Large Print | HC





Azar Nafisi

Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books

Every Thursday morning for two years in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a bold and inspired teacher named Azar Nafisi secretly gathered seven of her most committed female students to read forbidden Western classics. As Islamic morality squads staged arbitrary raids in Tehran, the girls in Azar Nafisi's living room immersed themselves in the worlds of Jane Austen, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Henry James, and Vladimir Nabokov. In this extraordinary memoir, their stories become intertwined with the ones they are reading. *Reading Lolita in Tehran* is a remarkable exploration of the liberating power of literature—highly recommended for all communities interested in expanding their knowledge of other cultures while at the same time remembering why reading is essential to their own. *Azar Nafisi lives in Washington, D.C.*

0-8129-7106-X | \$14.95/\$21.00C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction
0-375-50490-7 | \$23.95/\$35.95C | Random House | HC

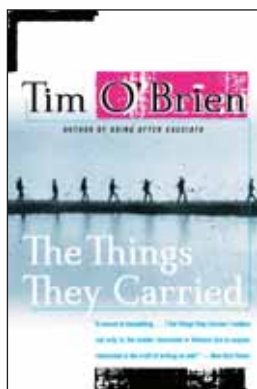
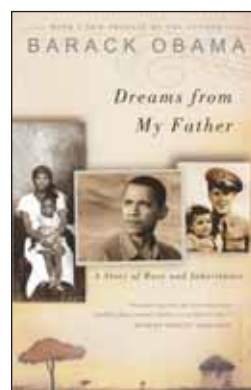
SELECTED BY: Bloomington, Indiana

Barack Obama

Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance

In this lyrical, unsentimental, and compelling memoir, the son of a black African father and a white American mother searches for a workable meaning to his life as a black American. It begins in New York, where Barack Obama learns that his father—a figure he knows more as a myth than as a man—has been killed in a car accident. This sudden death inspires an emotional odyssey—first to a small town in Kansas, from which he retraces the migration of his mother's family to Hawaii, and then to Kenya, where he meets the African side of his family, confronts the bitter truth of his father's life, and at last reconciles his divided inheritance. Barack Obama represents the state of Illinois in the United States Senate. *He lives in Chicago, IL and Washington, D.C.*

1-4000-8277-3 | \$14.95/\$21.00C | Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction
0-7393-2576-0 | \$27.00/\$38.00C | RH Large Print | HC
0-7393-2100-5 | \$25.95/\$35.95C | RH Audio | CD



Tim O'Brien

The Things They Carried

A collection of interrelated short pieces, each one written with such care and emotional content that it could stand on its own, that depicts the men of Alpha Company. They battle the enemy (or maybe more the idea of the enemy), and occasionally each other. In their relationships we see their isolation and loneliness, their rage and fear. They miss their families, their girlfriends and buddies; they miss the lives they left back home. Yet they find sympathy and kindness for strangers, and love for each other, because in Vietnam they are the only family they have. *The Things They Carried* is a testament to the men who risked their lives in America's most controversial war and its myriad protagonists call to order the courage, determination, and luck we all need to survive. *Tim O'Brien lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.*

0-7679-0289-0 | \$14.95/\$22.95C | Broadway | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Valparaiso, Indiana; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Hampshire County, Massachusetts; Kalamazoo, Michigan; Cleveland County, Ohio; Wautauga County, North Carolina

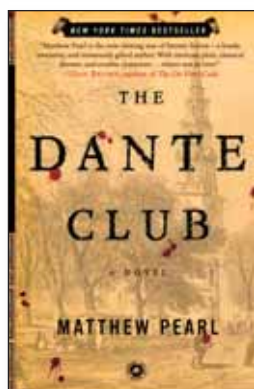
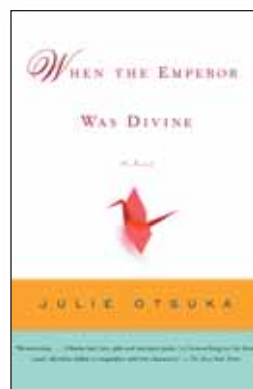
Julie Otsuka

When the Emperor Was Divine

Julie Otsuka paints a portrait of the World War II Japanese internment camps unlike any we have ever seen. With intensity and precision, Otsuka uses a single family to evoke the deracination—both physical and emotional—of a generation of Japanese Americans. In five chapters, each flawlessly executed from a different point of view—the mother receiving the order to evacuate; the daughter on the long train ride to the camp; the son in the desert encampment; the family's return to their home; and the bitter release of the father after more than four years in captivity—she has created a small tour de force. This novel is an unmistakably resonant lesson for our times. *Julie Otsuka lives in New York City.*

0-385-72181-1 | \$10.95/\$15.95C | Anchor | TR | Fiction
0-375-43278-7 | \$20.00/\$29.00C | RH Large Print | HC
0-7393-0791-6 | \$23.95/\$39.95C | RH Audio | CD (JAB)

SELECTED BY: Santa Barbara, California; Silicon Valley, California; Westport, Connecticut; Winnetka-Northfield, Illinois; Carmel, Indiana; Iowa City, Iowa; Shawnee County, Kansas; St. Peter, Minnesota; Seattle, Washington



Matthew Pearl

The Dante Club:

A Novel

In 1865, an elite group of America's first Dante scholars—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes, James Russell Lowell, and J. T. Fields—join forces to solve a series of murders inspired by scenes in Dante's *Inferno*. With the police baffled, more lives endangered, and Dante's literary future at stake, the Dante Club must shed its sheltered literary existence and find the killer. *The Dante Club* is magnificent blend of fact and fiction, a brilliantly realized paean to Dante's continued grip on our imagination, and a captivating thriller that will surprise readers from beginning to end. *Matthew Pearl lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts*

0-8129-7104-3 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction
0-345-49038-X | \$7.99/\$10.99C | Ballantine | MM | June 2006

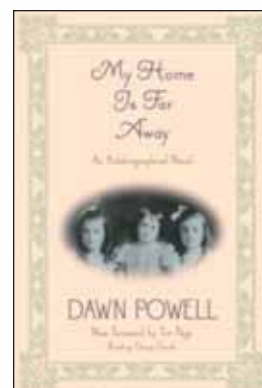
SELECTED BY: Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Dawn Powell

My Home Is Far Away: An Autobiographical Novel

In this family chronicle set in early twentieth century Ohio, young Marcia Willard's family struggles to keep up with the rapidly changing times, and Marcia endures disillusionment, cruelty, and betrayal to forge a survivor's sense of independence. Marcia must come to terms with personal and social crisis in the course of forging her own unique identity. Featured on the *New York Times Book Review* cover when it was reissued in 1995, Terry Teachout called this novel "one of the permanent masterpieces of childhood, comparable with *David Copperfield*."

1-883642-43-4 | \$14.95/\$21.00C | Zoland Books/Steerforth Press | TR | Fiction



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO involve the larger community in your planning and implementation of the program.



Nancy Rawles

My Jim:

A Novel

To help her granddaughter accept the risks of loving, Sadie Watson recounts the tale of the unquenchable love of her life, Jim. Sadie's Jim was an ambitious young slave who, escaped down the Mississippi with a white boy named Huck Finn, leaving Sadie alone, worried about her children, reviled as a witch, punished for Jim's escape, and convinced her husband was dead. But Sadie's will and her love for Jim animate her life and see her through. Mirroring the true stories of countless slave women, *My Jim* is an inspiring story about freedom, longing, and the remarkable endurance of love that recreates one of the most controversial characters in American literature. An ALA Alex Award Winner.

Nancy Rawles lives in Seattle, Washington.

1-4000-5401-X | \$12.95/\$17.95C | Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

1-4000-5400-1 | \$19.95/\$27.95C | Crown | HC

Brent Runyon

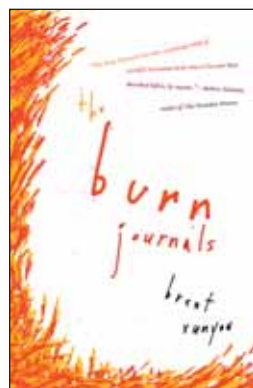
The Burn Journals

In 1991, fourteen-year-old Brent Runyon came home from school, doused his bathrobe in gasoline, put it on, and lit a match. He suffered third-degree burns over 85% of his body and spent the next year recovering in hospitals and rehab facilities. During that year of physical recovery, Runyon began to question what he'd done, undertaking the complicated journey from near-death back to high school, and from suicide back to the emotional mainstream of life. In the tradition of *Running with Scissors* and *Girl, Interrupted*, this memoir is a truly remarkable book about teenage despair and recovery. *Brent Runyon lives in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.*

1-4000-9642-1 | \$12.95/\$17.95C | Vintage | TR | Nonfiction

0-375-82621-1 | \$17.95/\$25.95C | Knopf Books for Young Readers | HC

0-375-92621-6 | \$19.99/\$27.99C | Knopf Books for Young Readers | HC Library Binding



Mary Doria Russell

A Thread of Grace

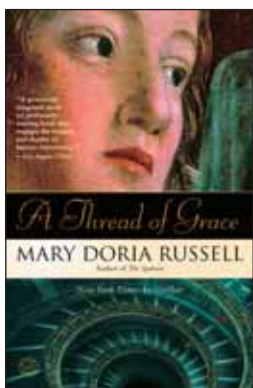
In Italy during the dramatic finale of World War II in 1943, fourteen-year-old Claudette Blum is learning Italian with a suitcase in her hand. She and her father are among the thousands of Jewish refugees scrambling over the Alps toward Italy, where they hope to be safe at last. The Blums will soon discover that Italy is anything but peaceful, as it becomes overnight an open battleground among the Nazis, the Allies, resistance fighters, Jews in hiding, and ordinary Italian civilians trying to survive. Through the Blums' family, Mary Doria Russell tells the little-known but true story of the network of Italian citizens who saved the lives of forty-three thousand Jews during the war's final phase. *Mary Doria Russell lives in Cleveland, Ohio.*

0-449-00413-9 | \$14.95/\$21.00C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction

0-375-50184-3 | \$25.95/\$35.95C | Random House | HC

0-7393-1856-X | \$29.95/\$42.00C | RH Audio | CD

0-7393-1855-1 | \$25.95/\$35.95C | RH Audio | CS



SELECTED BY: Erie County, Pennsylvania; Westminster, Colorado

And also by Mary Doria Russell:

The Sparrow:

A Novel

0-449-91255-8 | \$14.95/\$21.00C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO find out before you decide to bring in the author if he or she is both easy to work with and comfortable meeting the public.

Marjane Satrapi

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

Marjane Satrapi's bestselling memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution is told through powerful black-and-white comic strip images. Satrapi tells the story of her life in Tehran from ages six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq. *Persepolis* paints an unforgettable portrait of daily life in Iran and of the bewildering contradictions between home life and public life. Intensely personal, profoundly political, and wholly original, *Persepolis* is at once a story of growing up and a reminder of the human cost of war and political repression. An ALA Alex Award Winner. *Marjane Satrapi lives in Paris.*

0-375-71457-X | \$11.95/\$16.95C | Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction

0-375-42230-7 | \$17.95/\$26.95C | Pantheon | HC

SELECTED BY: Chelsea, Michigan; Seattle, Washington

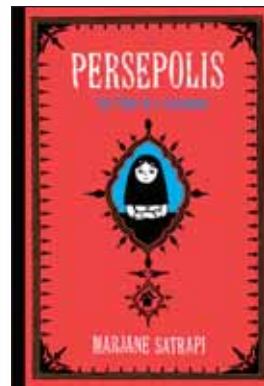
Also available from Marjane Satrapi:

Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return

0-375-71466-9 | \$11.95/\$16.95C | Pantheon | TR | Nonfiction

0-375-42288-9 | \$17.95/\$25.95C | Pantheon | HC

SELECTED BY: Miami, Florida



Dai Sijie

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress: A Novel

The story of two hapless city boys exiled to a remote mountain village for re-education during China's infamous Cultural Revolution. There the two friends meet the daughter of the local tailor and discover a hidden stash of Western classics in Chinese translation. As they flirt with the seamstress and secretly devour these banned works, the two friends find transit from their grim surroundings to worlds they never imagined. *Dai Sijie lives in France.*

"Dai Sijie, who was himself reeducated in early 1970s China before fleeing to France, wonderfully communicates the awesome power of literature of which his novel is proof."

—Library Journal



0-385-72220-6 | \$11.95/\$16.95C | Anchor | Fiction

0-375-41309-X | \$18.00/\$27.00C | Knopf | HC

0-7393-0101-2 | \$27.50/\$41.95C | RH Audio | CD (UAB)

SELECTED BY: Santa Monica, California; Snohomish/ Island Counties, Washington; Westwood, Massachusetts

Alexander McCall Smith

The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency

This first novel in Alexander McCall Smith's widely acclaimed *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series tells the story of Precious Ramotswe, who is drawn to her profession to "help people with problems in their lives." Immediately upon setting up shop in a small storefront in Gaborone, she is hired to track down a missing husband, uncover a con man, and follow a wayward daughter. But the case that tugs at her heart, and lands her in danger, is a missing eleven-year-old boy, who may have been snatched by witchdoctors. Mma Ramotswe's keen knowledge of the human mind and heart, and steadfast sense of right and wrong, makes her a heroine whose personality inspires trust, warmth, and generosity in all who meet her. An uplifting story to share with your friends and neighbors! *Alexander McCall Smith lives in Scotland.*

1-4000-3477-9 | \$12.95/\$18.95C | Anchor | TR | Fiction

1-4000-9688-X | \$6.99/\$10.99C | Anchor | MM

0-375-42387-7 | \$21.95/\$29.95 | Pantheon | HC

SELECTED BY: Grand Rapids, Michigan; Monterey, California





Mary Shelley

Frankenstein

Written in 1816 when she was only nineteen, Mary Shelley's novel of "The Modern Prometheus" chillingly dramatized the dangerous potential of life begotten upon a laboratory table. It is a subversive and morbid story warning against the dehumanization of art and the corrupting influence of science. Packed with allusions and literary references, it is also one of the best thrillers ever written.

0-375-75341-9 | \$7.95/\$10.95C | Modern Library | TR | Fiction

0-553-21247-8 | \$4.95/\$7.50C | Bantam Classics | MM

0-679-40999-8 | \$15.00/\$23.00C | Everyman's Library | HC

SELECTED BY: Colorado Springs, Colorado; Allen County, Indiana; Valparaiso, Indiana; Duluth, Minnesota; Ithaca, New York; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Tacoma, Washington

Lisa See

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan:

A Novel

A brilliantly realistic journey back to an era of Chinese history that is as deeply moving as it is sorrowful. In nineteenth-century China, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a *laotong*, "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The *laotong*, Snow Flower, introduces herself by sending Lily a silk fan on which she's painted a poem in *nu shu*, a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. Together, they endure the agony of foot-binding, and reflect upon their arranged marriages, shared loneliness, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood. With the period detail and deep resonance of *Memoirs of a Geisha*, this lyrical and emotional novel is perfect for communities interested in learning about other cultures through a novel that suggests the spectrum of human emotions—including love and forgiveness—are universal, despite cultural differences. *Lisa See lives in Los Angeles.*

0-8129-6806-9 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

1-4000-6028-1 | \$21.95/\$29.95C | Random House | HC

0-7393-1981-7 | \$27.50/\$39.95C | RH Audio | CD

SELECTED BY: Brookline, Massachusetts



Mark Spragg

An Unfinished Life

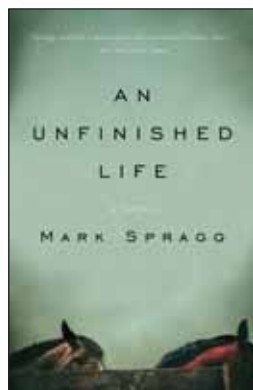
After escaping the last in a long string of abusive boyfriends, Jean Gillyson and her ten-year-old daughter Griff have nowhere left to go. Nowhere except Ishawooa, Wyoming, where Jean's estranged father-in-law, Einar, still blames her for the death of his son. Though Einar isn't glad to see either of them, Griff falls in love with his sprawling ranch and quiet way of life, as she slowly gets to know his crippled old friend Mitch, the cats that lurk in the barn at milking time, and finally the grandfather she had lost for so many years. An emotionally charged story of hard-won friendship and reconciliation, that is perfect for communities seeking a book in which the characters are forced to make decisions that will provoke strong agreement or disagreement! *Mark Spragg lives in Montana.*

1-4000-7614-5 | \$13.95/\$21.00C | Vintage | TR | Fiction

1-4000-4201-1 | \$23.00/\$33.00C | Knopf | HC

0-375-43433-X | \$25.00/\$35.00C | RH Large Print | HC

SELECTED BY: The State of Arizona; Lansing, Michigan; Salt Lake City, Utah; Casper, Wyoming



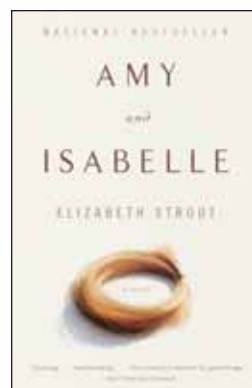
Elizabeth Strout

Amy and Isabelle:

A Novel

In this stunning coming-of-age novel, Elizabeth Strout evokes a teenager's alienation from her distant mother—and a parent's rage at the discovery of her daughter's sexual secrets. In most ways, Isabelle and Amy are like any mother and her 16-year-old daughter, a fierce mix of love and loathing exchanged in their every glance. But when Amy is discovered behind the steamed-up windows of a car with her math teacher, the vast and icy distance between mother and daughter becomes unbridgeable. *Elizabeth Strout lives in New York City.*

0-375-70519-8 | \$13.00/\$19.95C | Vintage | TR | Fiction



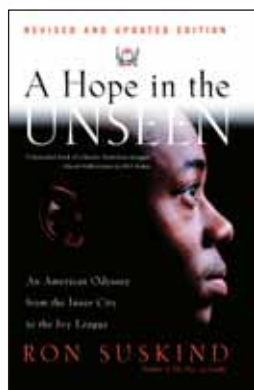
Ron Suskind

A Hope in the Unseen:

An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League

It is 1993, and Cedric Jennings is a bright and determined honor student at a high school in one of Washington D.C.'s most dangerous neighborhoods, where the dropout rate is well into double digits and just 80 students out of more than 1,350 boast an average of B or better. Cedric has almost no friends. He eats lunch in a classroom most days, plowing through the extra work he has asked for, knowing that he's really competing with kids from other, harder schools. Cedric Jennings's driving ambition—which is fully supported by his forceful mother—is to attend a top-flight college. In September 1995, he realizes that ambition when he begins as a freshman at Brown University. An inspiring true story for adults of all ages as well as the young adults in your community. *Ron Suskind lives in Washington, D.C.*

0-7679-0126-6 | \$15.95/\$22.95C | Broadway | TR | Nonfiction



SELECTED BY: Watauga County, North Carolina; Buffalo, New York

Neely Tucker

Love in the Driest Season:

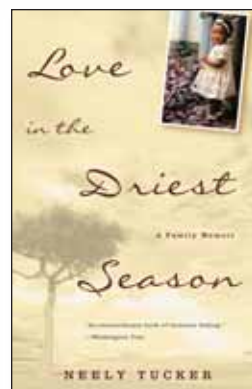
A Family Memoir

In 1997 foreign correspondent Neely Tucker and his wife, Vita, arrived in Zimbabwe. After witnessing the devastating consequences of AIDS and economic disaster on the country's children, the couple started volunteering at an orphanage where a critically ill infant, abandoned in a field on the day she was born, was trusted to their care. Within weeks, Chipo, the baby girl whose name means "gift," would come to mean everything to them. Their decision to adopt her, however, would challenge an unspoken social norm: that foreigners should never adopt Zimbabwean children. Against a background of war, terrorism, disease, and unbearable uncertainty about the future, Chipo's true story emerges as an inspiring testament to the miracles that love—and dogged determination—can sometimes achieve. *Neely Tucker lives in Washington, D.C.*

1-4000-8160-2 | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

0-7393-1071-2 | \$29.95/\$44.95C | RH Audio | CD

0-7393-1070-4 | \$25.95/\$39.95C | RH Audio | CS

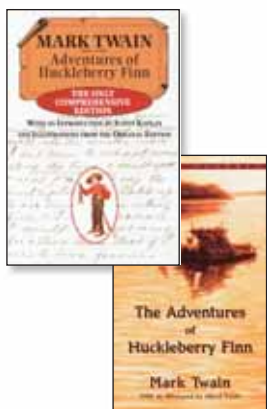


SELECTED BY: Cheshire, Connecticut



TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO consider selecting a nonfiction title.



Mark Twain

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Epic in scope and alive with the vigor of the American people, Mark Twain's story about a young boy and his journey down the Mississippi was the first great novel to speak in a truly American voice. Huck, in flight from his murderous father, and Jim, in flight from slavery, pilot their raft thrillingly through treacherous waters, surviving a crash with a steamboat, betrayal by rogues, and the final threat from the bourgeoisie. The tale of Huck's journey is a timeless look at prejudice, the bonds of friendship and the attainment of maturity.

0-449-91272-8 | \$14.95/\$22.95C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction

0-553-21079-3 | \$4.95/\$7.50C | Bantam Classics | MM

0-679-42470-9 | \$16.95/\$25.95C | Modern Library | HC

SELECTED BY: West Boylston, Massachusetts; Virginia, Minnesota; Winona, Minnesota; Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Timothy B. Tyson

Blood Done Sign My Name:

A True Story

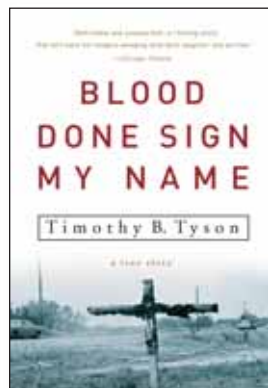
On May 11, 1970, Henry Marrow, a twenty-three-year-old black veteran, walked into a crossroads store owned by Robert Teel and came out running. Teel and two of his sons chased and beat Marrow, then killed him in public as he pleaded for his life. Like many small Southern towns, Oxford had barely been touched by the civil rights movement. But in the wake of the killing, young African Americans took to the streets. While lawyers battled in the courthouse, the Klan raged in the shadows and black Vietnam veterans torched the town's tobacco warehouses. Like *To Kill a Mockingbird*, this book is a classic portrait of an unforgettable time and place. *Timothy B. Tyson lives in Madison, Wisconsin.*

1-4000-8311-7 | \$14.00/\$21.00C | Three Rivers Press | TR | Nonfiction

0-7393-1177-8 | \$27.50/\$39.95C | RH Audio | CD

0-7393-1176-X | \$27.50/\$39.95C | RH Audio | CS

SELECTED BY: New Hanover County, North Carolina; Wake County, North Carolina



Monica Wood

Ernie's Ark

The paper mill looms up from the riverbank in Abbott Falls, Maine, a town once drenched with ordinary hopes and dreams, now praying for a small drop of good fortune. Ernie Whitten, a pipe fitter, was three weeks away from a pension-secured retirement when the union went on strike eight months ago. Now his wife Marie is ill. Struck with sudden inspiration, Ernie builds a giant ark in his backyard. It is a work of art for his wife; a vessel to carry them both away; or a plea for God to spare Marie, come hell or high water. As the ark takes shape, the rest of the town carries on and the people of Abbott Falls try their best to hold a community together, against the fiercest of odds. *Monica Wood lives in Portland, Maine.*

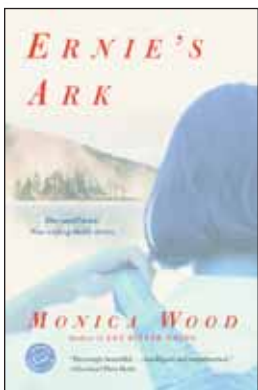
0-345-47716-2 | \$12.95/\$17.95C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction

SELECTED BY: Oxford Hills, Maine; Scarborough, Maine

And also by Monica Wood:

Any Bitter Thing: A Novel

0-345-47768-5 | \$13.95/\$18.95C | Ballantine | TR | Fiction | May 2006

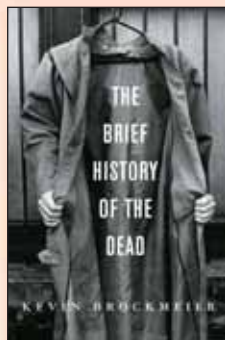


TIP FROM NANCY PEARL:

DO realize that you will never please everyone with your choice of book!

LOOKING AHEAD

Recommended Hardcover Titles



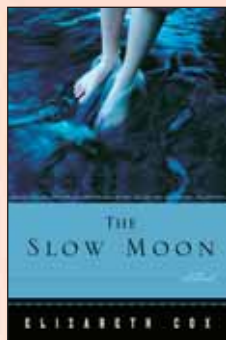
Kevin Brockmeier

The Brief History of the Dead:

A Novel

A mesmerizing and inventive novel that vividly imagines the world of the afterlife, its relationship with the world of the living, and what happens in the final days of both.

0-375-42369-9 | \$22.95/\$32.95C
Pantheon | HC | Fiction



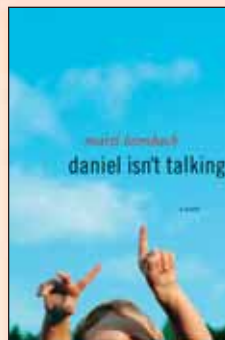
Elizabeth Cox

The Slow Moon:

A Novel

In 1991, a violent attack against a lovely, precocious high school girl reverberates through a small Tennessee town. A mysterious and multi-generational love story, this novel explores friendship, betrayal, and community.

0-679-46328-3 | \$23.95/\$31.95C
Random House | HC | Fiction | August 2006



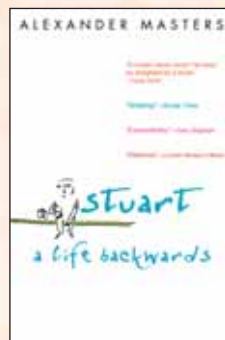
Marti Leimbach

Daniel Isn't Talking:

A Novel

When Melanie Marsh learns that her son, Daniel, is autistic, she becomes determined to fight to teach him to speak, play, and become as "normal" as possible. Melanie soon finds her roles as a wife and mother at odds.

0-385-51751-3 | \$22.95/NCR
Nan A. Talese | HC | Fiction | April 2006

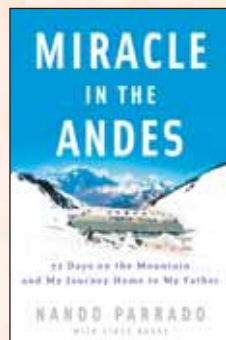


Alexander Masters

Stuart: A Life Backwards

The highly original, heartbreakingly tragic, and ultimately uplifting biography of Stuart Shorter—a knife-wielding alcoholic with a heroin problem who spent half his life in prison and the other half on the streets.

0-385-34000-1 | \$20.00/NCR
Delacorte | HC | Nonfiction | May 2006

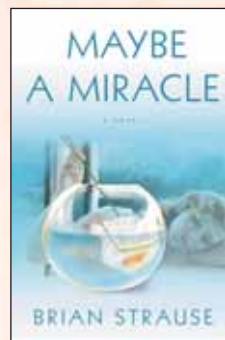


Nando Parrado

Miracle in the Andes: **72 Days on the Mountain** **and My Long Trek Home**

The harrowing personal story of the hero of the international bestseller *Alive* that gives a day-by-day account of what happened during the 1972 Andes plane crash and its aftermath, showing everything he was thinking and experiencing and where he found the strength to climb out alive.

1-4000-9767-3 | \$25.00/\$33.00C
Crown | HC | Nonfiction | May 2006



Brian Strause

Maybe a Miracle:

A Novel

From a comfortable suburb of Columbus, Ohio, emerges a vastly entertaining story of rebellion, faith and hope, bridging the cultural gap between those who believe in miracles and those who wish they could.

1-4000-6464-3 | \$21.95/\$29.95C
Ballantine | HC | Fiction
0-7393-2559-0 | \$23.95/\$33.95C | RH Large Print | HC
0-7393-2351-2 | \$29.95/\$42.00C | RH Audio | CD

RECOMMENDED

Selections by Region

NORTHEAST & MID-ATLANTIC

Lauren Belfer

City of Light

0-385-33764-7 | \$10.00/\$13.00C
Dial Press | TR | Fiction

Lorene Cary

The Price of a Child: A Novel

0-679-74467-3 | \$14.00/\$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Elizabeth Gaffney

Metropolis: A Novel

0-8129-7085-3 | \$13.95/\$21.00C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Fiction

Alice McDermott

Charming Billy

0-385-33334-X | \$14.00/\$21.00C
Dial Press | TR | Fiction

Richard Russo

Empire Falls

0-307-27513-2 | \$14.95/\$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

SOUTH

Rick Bragg

All Over But the Shoutin'

0-679-77402-5 | \$14.00/\$19.50C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Sonny Brewer

The Poet of Tolstoy Park: A Novel

0-345-47632-8 | \$13.95/\$21.00C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction

Peter Matthiessen

Killing Mister Watson

0-679-73405-8 | \$14.95/\$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Anne Moody

Coming of Age in Mississippi

0-385-33781-7 | \$14.00/\$21.00C
Delta | TR | Nonfiction

Lee Smith

The Last Girls

0-345-46495-8 | \$14.95/\$22.95C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction

MIDWEST

Tom Brokaw

A Long Way from Home: Growing Up in the American Heartland in the Forties and Fifties

0-375-75935-2 | \$12.95/\$19.95C
RH Trade Paperbacks | TR | Nonfiction

Dayna Dunbar

The Saints and Sinners of Okay County: A Novel

0-345-46040-5 | \$13.95/\$21.00C
Ballantine | TR | Fiction

Haven Kimmel

A Girl Named Zippy: Growing Up Small in Mooreland, Indiana

0-7679-1505-4 | \$12.95/\$19.95C
Broadway | TR | Nonfiction

Ann Packer

The Dive from Clausen's Pier: A Novel

0-375-72713-2 | \$14.95/\$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Upton Sinclair

The Jungle

0-375-75950-6 | \$9.95/\$14.95C
Modern Library | TR | Fiction

0-553-21245-1 | \$5.95/\$8.95C | Bantam Classics | MM

WEST & SOUTHWEST

María Amparo Escandón

Gonzalez and Daughter Trucking Co.:

A Road Novel with Literary License

1-4000-9735-5 | \$12.95/\$17.95
Three Rivers Press | TR | Fiction

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni

The Mistress of Spices: A Novel

0-385-48238-8 | \$13.95/\$21.00C
Anchor | TR | Fiction

David Guterson

Snow Falling on Cedars: A Novel

0-679-76402-X | \$14.95/\$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Fiction

Louis L'Amour

Conagher

0-553-28101-1 | \$4.99/\$6.99C
Bantam | MM | Fiction

Terry Tempest Williams

Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place

0-679-74024-4 | \$13.95/\$21.00C
Vintage | TR | Nonfiction

For help planning your One Book, One Community program contact us at library@randomhouse.com. We can answer questions about author availability and provide additional information about our titles.

Visit the Random House Library Marketing Website at www.randomhouse.com/library for more information.

ALL TITLES ARE AVAILABLE FROM YOUR PREFERRED LIBRARY WHOLESALER.



RANDOM HOUSE, INC.