The monthly e-newsletter of the Smyth Public Library

November 2021 Volume 15, No.8

As long as autumn lasts, I shall not have hands, canvas, and colors enough to paint the beautiful things I see. –Vincent van Gogh

Winter Hours

Monday: 2-8pm

Tuesday: 10am-8pm Wednesday: 2-8pm Thursday: 10am-8pm

Friday: 5-7pm

Saturday: 10am-2pm

We are requesting mask use and limiting library visits to 10-15 minutes. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

We will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 25&26. Enjoy the Holiday!

If you are limiting your exposure due to Covid-19 concerns and would prefer to pick up items outside of the Library building, you can take advantage of our curbside service. Just reserve online or email librarian@smythpl.org and let us know what materials you would like, and we will package them up for you to pick up at our side door.

Closures for Inclement Weather or Staffing

The Library may close when weather conditions exist making it hazardous for travel or when staff is inaccessible. The primary criteria for any decision will be the safety of the staff and the library patrons. If staffing issues or hazardous road conditions occur, the following means of notification will be used, whenever possible: a posting on the website, Facebook

and WMUR or a sign on the door. The Library and the Moore School will follow the same plan for any closures, so if school is canceled, the Library will also be closed that day.

And remember, we have the hotspot, free parking lot internet, and a host of books in the event a storm leaves you without power. Call us to be sure we are open and then come on in and grab some cozy supplies!

The Friends of the Smyth Public Library is an organization that provides financial and volunteer support to the Library through membership and contributions.

In the past few years, the Friends have given funds for our telescope, hotspot, summer music series as well as for programming to the library and passes to area museums. Members have the satisfaction of knowing that your membership and contributions have helped support vital library programs. If you would like to show your support for the Library by joining the Friends, please use the Contact Us form on our website at www.smythpl.org.



New Launchpads Available for Checkout:

Pre-loaded with content for kids, teens, and adults, designed with a simple, easy-to-use interface, and 100% secure, Launchpad tablets are made to be passed from one set of hands to the next. No download time. No need for Wi-Fi. Access to powerful content is simple as turning on each device — anytime, anywhere.

These materials made available and possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the New Hampshire State Library.





December 16 @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM New England Ski Museum

New Englanders know the reputation of 6,288-foot Mount Washington as a place of formidable climate extremes. The high winds for which the mountain is known funnel great accumulations of snow from the bare upper tundra of the Presidential Range into the glacial cirque of Tuckerman Ravine.

Attracting notice when skiing was a young sport for the great depths of snow found there, the ravine became a springtime Mecca to skiers looking to extend the ski season. As ski equipment and techniques evolved, they were rapidly adopted by ravine skiers, with the important exception of ski lifts. Tuckerman Ravine remains a backcountry ski destination that is unique in the eastern U.S. for its alpine terrain, where present day skiers and riders can find an experience that the ski pioneers of an earlier day would find familiar.

Based on one of the most popular exhibits of the New England Ski Museum and its subsequent exhibit catalog, Over The Headwall presents images and stories drawn from the extensive collections of the museum.



Tuesday, November 30 at 6:30 pm
Virtual Event with Ken Gloss on the Value of Old and
Rare Books

Kenneth Gloss, proprietor of the internationally known Brattle Book Shop in Boston's Downtown Crossing section, will give a free and virtual program on Zoom. Ken will discuss the value of old and rare books.

Ken, who is also a frequent guest appraiser on PBS' *Antiques Roadshow*, will talk in part about the history of his historic bookshop (www.brattlebookshop.com), which goes back to circa 1825. He is a second-generation owner.

Ken will talk about and show some of his favorite finds and describe some of the joys of the "hunt," as well as explain what makes a book go up in value. He has many fascinating anecdotes to share as well as guidelines for what to look for when starting a collection. There is also a Q&A session before the conclusion of his talk.

Following the talk and question-and-answer session, he will give free verbal appraisals of all books that attendees have brought with them or will do so at his shop in Boston.

Yankee Magazine Editor's Choice Award for Best of New England, the Brattle Book Shop is one of America's oldest and largest antiquarian

bookstores.

New Service Now Available:

Brainfuse HelpNow
Smyth Library Now offers On-Demand,
Anywhere Online Tutoring for All
Learners

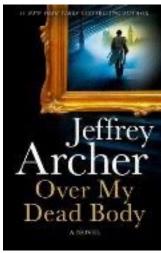
Includes online tutoring for all levels of learners from children through adults

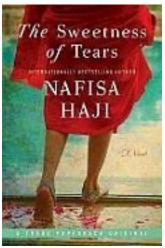
To access HelpNow™, please visit the library's website and sign in to your account: [https://smyth.biblionix.com/catalog/?search=].

Here are some of the features:

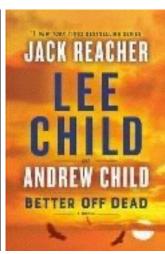
Live Tutoring: Asynchronous Services: Study Tools: Collaboration tools: Adult Learning Center: Adult Learning Center is the adult learners' version of HelpNowTM where patrons can access High School Equivalency prep, US Citizenship test prep, resume assistance, Microsoft Office support, and Career Resources. The Writing Lab, Send Question, and Skills Building are also included in the Adult Learning Center suite.

New on our shelves...









New Fiction ...

The distant marvels
We know you remember: a novel
Over my dead body
Dragonfire
Better off dead
State of terror
The Nameless Ones
The stolen hours
The hidden child: a novel
The unheard: a novel
The judge's list: a novel

(Charlottesville, Virginia),

Acevedo, Chantel,
Alsterdal, Tove,
Archer, Jeffrey
Bell, Ted
Child, Lee
Clinton, Hillary Rodham
Connolly, John
Eskens, Allen
Fein, Louise
French, Nicci
Belfry Holdings, Inc.

The sweetness of tears City of ink

You are not alone A line to kill: a novel Troublemaker

Say goodbye for now: a novel Hyde, Catherine Ryan,

Biscuits and gravy: a chuckwagon trail western Johnstone, William

W

The vanished days Forgiving Paris: a novel

The beginning Marked man

Damascus Station: a novel 2 sisters detective agency

The Duke and I

Beautiful world, where are you

Best in snow Her perfect life

The last checkmate: a novel

Wolf point The butler

Oh William!: a novel The Lincoln highway Last girl ghosted

Foul play

Hart, Elsa Hendricks, Green **Horowitz, Anthony**

Howard, Linda

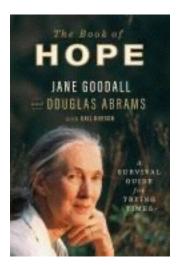
Haji, Nafisa.

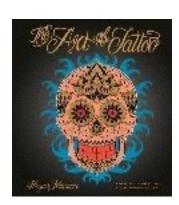
Kearsley, Susanna Kingsbury, Karen Lewis, Beverly Mayor, Archer McCloskey, David, Patterson, James

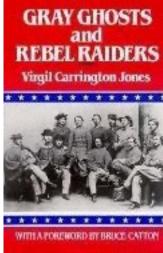
Quinn, Julia Rooney, Sally Rosenfelt, David Ryan, Hank Phillippi Saab, Gabriella, Smith, Ian Michael.

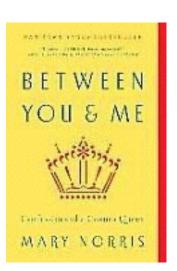
Steel, Danielle Strout, Elizabeth Towles, Amor Unger, Lisa Woods, Stuart

New Non-Fiction...









The book of hope: a survival guide for trying times Goodall, Jane

Thomas Paine: enlightenment, revolution, and the birth of modern nations Nelson, Craig

How to Win Friends and Influence Enemies: Taking on Liberal Arguments With Logic and Humor

Witt, Will.

Arriving today: from factory to front door--why everything has changed about how and what we buy

Mims, Christopher,

The art of tattoo: a tattoo artist's inspirations, designs, and hard-won advice

Massacre, Megan,

Between you & me: confessions of a Comma Queen Norris, Mary The writing of the gods: the race to decode the Rosetta Stone Dolnick, Edward

Life from above: epic stories of the natural world

Bright,

Michael

Fuzz: when nature breaks the law Roach, Mary

A doctor's dozen: twelve strategies for personal health and a culture of wellness

Pipas, Catherine Florio,

The weedless garden Reich, Lee.

The self-care cookbook: easy healing plant-based recipes Ogston, Gemma.

Martha Stewart's new pies and tarts: 150 recipes for old-fashioned and modern favorites

Stewart, Martha

Tiny house: live small, dream big Heavener,

Brent,

A revolution in color: the world of John Singleton Copley Kamensky,

Jane

All in: an autobiography King, Billie

Jean,

Falter: has the human game begun to play itself out? McKibben, Bill 1,000 perfect weekends: great getaways around the globe National Geographic

The Auschwitz photographer: the forgotten story of the WWII prisoner who documented thousands of lost souls

Crippa, Luca,

Gray ghosts and rebel raiders Jones, Virgil

Carrington,

To rescue the republic: Ulysses S. Grant, the fragile Union, and the crisis

of 1876 Baier, Bret

New Books on CD...

Overboard!: [a true blue-water odyssey of disaster and survival] CD (6)

Tougias, Mike

The bookseller of Kabul CD (7) Seierstad, Asne Blind tiger: a novel CD (14) Brown, Sandra A country affair CD (8) Macomber, Debbie

Bloodless CD (9) Preston, Douglas J. The wish: a novel CD (10) Sparks, Nicholas.

New Video...

All creatures great & small DVD 089C [PG] — The complete series 1 collection

The misfits DVD 1331 [R]

Escape room: tournament of champions DVD 1332 [PG13]

Queen bees DVD 1333 [PG13]

12 Mighty orphans DVD 1334 [PG13]

Finding you DVD 1335 [PG] Dream horse DVD 1336 [PG]

American traitor: the trial of Axis Sally DVD 1337 [PG13]

The Green Knight DVD 1338 [R] Spirit untamed DVD 1339A [PG]

Space jam: a new legacy DVD 1340A [PG]

Mare of Easttown DVD 1341 [PG13]



I heard that Amazon has started a program to try to get people to trade in their old bound books to get an electronic reader. They call it "Kindling."

- Kate Deimling



Why is a book your best friend? When it bores you, you can shut it up without it taking offense.



Tip from the front desk



Happy Birthday Yosemite National Park
On October 1, 1890, an act of Congress creates Yosemite
National Park, home of such natural wonders as Half Dome and

the giant sequoia trees. Environmental trailblazer John Muir (1838-1914) and his colleagues campaigned for the congressional action, which was signed into law by President Benjamin Harrison and paved the way for generations of hikers, campers and nature lovers, along with countless "Don't Feed the Bears" signs. Native Americans were the main residents of the Yosemite Valley, located in California's Sierra Nevada mountain range, until the 1849 gold rush brought thousands of non-Indigenous miners and settlers to the region. Tourists and damage to Yosemite Valley's ecosystem followed. In 1864, to ward off further commercial exploitation, conservationists convinced President Abraham Lincoln to declare Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias a public trust of California. This marked the first time the U.S. government protected land for public enjoyment and it laid the foundation for the establishment of the national and state park systems. Yellowstone became America's first national park in 1872. Learn more and check out our books on the parks.

?

Did you know...

LIBRARIANS USED TO HAVE TO ADOPT A
PARTICULAR STYLE OF HANDWRITING KNOWN
AS "LIBRARIAN HAND."

The practice was prevalent in the late 1800s, when library pioneer Melvil Dewey—of the Dewey Decimal System

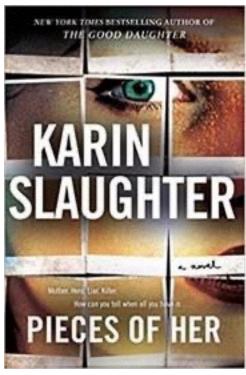
fame—and other curators of early collections believed that legible handwriting was a must for card catalogs. The practice faded as typewriters grew in popularity.

STORYTIME with Kara
Thursday 10:30am*
*11/18 Outdoor at Gazebo; weather
permitting

Monthly Reading Group

Wednesday, December 8, 7 pm Monthly Reading Group meeting at the Library

Book feature Pieces of Her, by Karin Slaughter



Coming to Netflix!

Mother. Hero. Liar. Killer. How can you tell when all you have is... *Pieces of Her*

What if the person you thought you knew best turns out to be someone you never knew at all . . . ?

Andrea knows everything about her mother, Laura. She knows she's spent her whole life in the small beachside town of Belle Isle; she knows she's never wanted anything more than to live a quiet life as a pillar of the community; she knows she's never kept a secret in her life. Because we all know our mothers, don't we?

But all that changes when a trip to the mall explodes into violence and Andrea suddenly sees a completely different side to Laura. Because it turns out that before Laura was Laura, she was someone completely different. For nearly thirty years she's been hiding from her previous identity, lying low in the hope that no one would ever find her. But now she's been exposed, and nothing will ever be the same again.

The police want answers and Laura's innocence is on the line, but she won't speak to anyone, including her own daughter. Andrea is on a desperate journey following the breadcrumb trail of her mother's past.

And if she can't uncover the secrets hidden there, there may be no future for either one of them. . . .

<u>New Museum Pass List!</u>

These passes are available for check out and provide free or reduced admission. Many museums now require advance registration for visits. See website details.

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE MUSEUM
BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
CURRIER MUSEUM OF ART
FULLER GARDENS
LIBBY MUSEUM
MUSEUM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORY
SEACOAST SCIENCE CENTER AT ODIORNE STATE PARK
SEE SCIENCE CENTER
SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER
STRAWBERY BANKE



Want to help make a difference

while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Smyth Public Library Assoc" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features

- 3. Select "Smyth Public Library Assoc" as your charity
- 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile

Making Your Life Easy:

By going to our website, you can search our entire catalogue for books, CD's, DVD's and movies. Once found, you can check to see if what you want is in. If so, just to our website and reserve the book. The next time you come in, it will be waiting for you at the front desk. WITH OUR NEW WEBSITE YOU CAN DO IT WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

PLUS!! Check out our <u>smythpl.org</u> website updates and Smyth Library's Public Catalog featuring:

- A new signup button for new library card accounts! Tell your friends and neighbors!
- A crawl of new items.
- "What's Hot" now covers several choices.
- -"Most Popular" titles (a combination of checkouts and reserves are used to determine this list).
- "More Search Options" includes Medium that lets members search by DVD or Large Print, etc.

More Research Options:

Full text articles from thousands of magazines, journals and national newspapers, plus NoveList. Call or e-mail us and provide your name and your library card number, and we'll give you the password.

We're on Facebook!

Like the Smyth Public Library

Look at our page on Facebook

for events and updates about

our library!

Downloadable Books!!!!

Ipods and Kindles work and you can Order right from our website!

New books for juniors...

The mysterious Benedict society: Mr. Benedict's book of perplexing puzzles, elusive enigmas, and curious conundrums

Stewart,
Trenton Lee

The man who was Poe Avi

The Beatryce Prophecy DiCamillo, Kate

Dipper of Copper Creek, George, Jean Craighead

The Ghostly bell ringer: and other mystery stories

The art of keeping cool
The case of the killer bugs

Lisle, Janet Taylor
Montavon, Jay.

The cursed carnival and other calamities: new stories about mythic

heroes

Riordan, Rick

Daughter of the deep
Under the blood-red sun
Kaleidoscope
Barakah Beats
Riordan, Rick
Salisbury, Graham
Selznick, Brian
Siddigui, Maleeha

From the Junior Shelves~



Under the Blood-Red Sun (Prisoners of the Empire #1)

by Graham Salisbury

Tomi was born in Hawaii. His grandfather and parents were born in Japan, and came to America to escape poverty.

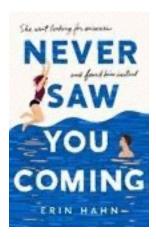
World War II seems far away from Tomi and his friends, who are too busy playing ball on their eighth-grade team, the Rats.

But then Pearl Harbor is attacked by the Japanese, and the United States declares war on Japan. Japanese men are rounded up, and Tomi's father and grandfather are arrested. It's a terrifying time to be Japanese in America. But one thing doesn't change: the loyalty of Tomi's buddies, the Rats. Goodreads

New books for young adults...

Beyond the mapped stars
Once upon a broken heart
Garber, Stephanie
The lines between us Green, Amy Lynn
Never saw you coming
Hahn, Erin,
Following Fake Man
Holmes, Barbara Ware
That's awesome!: the world's most amazing facts & records!
Pocket timeline of China
Doring Kindersley

From the Young Adult Shelves~



Never Saw You Coming

by Erin Hahn

Raised by conservative parents, 18-year-old Meg Hennessey just found out her entire childhood was a lie. Instead of taking a gap year before college to find herself, she ends up traveling north to meet what's left of the family she never knew existed.

While there, she meets Micah Allen, a former pastor's kid whose dad ended up in prison, leaving Micah with his own complicated relationship about the church. The clock is ticking on Pastor Allen's probation hearing and Micah, now 19, feels the pressure to forgive - even when he can't possibly forget.

As Meg and Micah grow closer, they are confronted with the heavy flutterings of first love and all the complications it brings. Together, they must navigate the sometimes-painful process of cutting ties with childhood beliefs as they build toward something truer and straight from the heart.

In Erin Hahn's *Never Saw You Coming*, sometimes it takes a leap of faith to find yourself. Goodreads



Every month we ask a trivia question. If you know the answer, drop it off at the front desk or e-mail it here.

Last month's question and answer:

Q. The Girl with the Dragoon Tattoo was originally published in which language?

A. Swedish

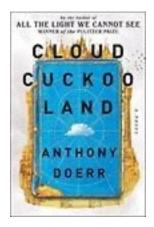
This Month's Trivia Ouestion:

Who is Harry Potter's best female friend?

From the New and Recent Shelves~

We (being I) are always looking for contributors to this reviews section. The editor has a limited range of taste, so any reviews would be more than welcomed. Just e-mail them in reply to this, or to librarian@smythpl.org

Fiction...



Cloud Cuckoo Land, Anthony Doerr's highly anticipated follow-up to <u>All the Light We Cannot See</u>, begins in what previous devotees might consider an unlikely time and place: a spaceship partway through a vast interstellar journey to colonize a new planet. In this ambitious, sprawling novel about the necessity of storytelling for people on the edge of catastrophe, Doerr introduces a dizzying array of characters and settings, from Konstance, a 14-year-old passenger on the aforementioned spaceship, the <u>Argos</u>, to young Anna and Omeir, who find themselves on opposing sides during the 1453 siege of Constantinople. Zeno and Seymour are at

the center of a kind of modern-day siege in the present, though Doerr also captures their lives long before and after their pivotal confrontation. The characters are connected by the crises they face, which are both personal and civilization-wide, and by their shared appreciation for "Cloud Cuckoo Land," an ancient, fictional tragicomic Greek text about the persistent human drive to escape suffering and find somewhere better.

Except for Konstance, the characters are paired--Anna and Omeir in the 15th century, Seymour and Zeno in the present day--and meet at moments of violent disaster.

Anna's already precarious, impoverished life in Constantinople is further threatened by the arrival of Muslim soldiers putting the city to siege, while Omeir and his pack animals are dragooned into service by the Sultan's forces. Cloud Cuckoo Land possesses a fable-like quality, sometimes skipping through characters' lives in a few pages, in a manner reminiscent of the briskly paced but sweeping scope of the titular Greek text. Thus, we are elegantly brought up to speed on Omeir's miraculous survival as a child maligned for his facial deformity and Anna's unlikely adventures smuggling books out of a crumbling building before the siege begins. Doerr's storytelling abilities--and the book's fable-like elements-come to the fore as the siege approaches and Anna and Omeir observe a conflict so large it is almost beyond their comprehension. Doerr describes the impact of an enormous cannon:

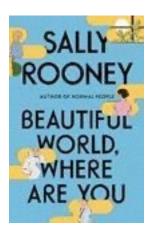
"It's as though the finger of God reaches down through the clouds and flicks the planet out of orbit. The thousand-pound stone ball moves too fast to see: there is only the roar of its passage lacerating the air as it screams over the field past Omeir--but before the sound has even begun to register in his consciousness, a tree at the opposite end of the field shatters. A second tree a quarter mile farther also vaporizes, seemingly simultaneously, and for a heartbeat he wonders if the ball will travel forever, beyond the horizon, smashing through tree after tree, wall after wall, until it flies off the edge of the world."

The apocalyptic air created by the siege and the impending sack of Constantinople is echoed in the present by Seymour's growing obsession with ecological catastrophe. Raised in poverty by his mother, as a boy Seymour finds his unusual tendency toward sensory overload soothed by frequent trips into the forest behind his home. When the forest is leveled by developers, Seymour's grief morphs into rage at the toll humanity is taking on the planet. Doerr realistically portrays Seymour's gradual radicalization, eventually resulting in a violent stand-off at a library where Zeno is putting on a play adaptation of "Cloud Cuckoo Land." Doerr does not dismiss Seymour's apocalyptic concerns as overblown-ecological destruction and climate change are treated as very real concerns--but he does use Seymour to illustrate how personal suffering and despair at the state of things threaten to close us off from the parts of our world that are beautiful and precious.

Through it all runs "Cloud Cuckoo Land" itself, long passages of which are quoted in between chapters. On the surface, the story is a relatively light one, tracking one man's humorous search for utopia, during which he suffers multiple indignities, including being transformed into a donkey. The characters discover the story of Aethon's quest in a variety of ways, but it serves for each of them as both a necessary distraction from the suffering around them and an insight into their own

search for a place free from pain. Aethon is treated as a fool by many, but his quest for greener pastures is one that recurs in different forms over millennia, from Konstance and the other passengers' search for an unspoiled exoplanet to Zeno's need for a way out of his circumscribed life. Doerr suggests that while this impulse is an understandable human response, it can also stand in the way of appreciating what we already have. There are no utopias over the next horizon, but we do have stories, the miracles of nature, and each other. Cloud Cuckoo Land is ultimately an optimistic novel about humanity's tendency to teeter on the edge of nothingness. It suggests that the harm people do does not and will not overwhelm their capacity for kindness and bravery. And in Doerr's kaleidoscopic slides between characters and time periods, it argues that stories have the power to bind us together over millennia. For stories to do that necessary work, we must keep them alive with the same dedication as Doerr's characters preserving the fragments of "Cloud Cuckoo Land" against the ravages of time and forgetfulness. --Hank Stephenson

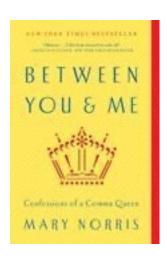
More fiction...



Beautiful World, Where Are You is a new novel by Sally Rooney, the bestselling author of Normal People and Conversations with Friends.

Alice, a novelist, meets Felix, who works in a warehouse, and asks him if he'd like to travel to Rome with her. In Dublin, her best friend, Eileen, is getting over a break-up and slips back into flirting with Simon, a man she has known since childhood. Alice, Felix, Eileen, and Simon are still young—but life is catching up with them. They desire each other, they delude each other, they get together, they break apart. They have sex, they worry about sex, they worry about their friendships and the world they live in. Are they standing in the last lighted room before the darkness, bearing witness to something? Will they find a way to believe in a beautiful world.

Non-fiction...



Mary Norris has spent more than three decades in *The New Yorker*'s copy department, maintaining its celebrated high standards. Now she brings her vast experience, good cheer, and finely sharpened pencils to help the rest of us in a boisterous language book as full of life as it is of practical advice.

Between You & Me features Norris's laugh-out-loud descriptions of some of the most common and vexing problems in spelling, punctuation, and usage—comma faults, danglers, "who" vs. "whom," "that" vs. "which," compound words, gender-neutral language—and her clear explanations of how to handle them. Down-to-earth and always open-minded, she draws on examples from Charles Dickens, Emily Dickinson, Henry James, and the Lord's Prayer, as well as from The Honeymooners, The Simpsons, David Foster Wallace, and Gillian Flynn. She takes us to see a copy of Noah Webster's groundbreaking Blue-Back Speller, on a quest to find out who put the hyphen in Moby-Dick, on a pilgrimage to the world's only pencil-sharpener museum, and inside the hallowed halls of The New Yorker and her work with such celebrated writers as Pauline Kael, Philip Roth, and George Saunders.

Readers—and writers—will find in Norris neither a scold nor a softie but a wise and witty new friend in love with language and

alive to the glories of its use in America, even in the age of autocorrect and spell-check. As Norris writes, "The dictionary is a wonderful thing, but you can't let it push you around."

Goodreads

Ever want to be one of those know-it-all reviewers?

Got a book to recommend?

Want to write a blurb?

Have a child with a favorite book who would like to contribute to the Smythie?

We welcome contributors (less for us to write!), especially children and teens to review and recommend favorite books. Just drop Heidi Deacon an e-mail at librarian@smythpl.org or "reply" to this and we'll include it here. It need not be a new book – it can be a golden oldie, a classic, a trashy beach book or whatever you have enjoyed.

I hope you have enjoyed this edition. Comments, suggestions and, of course, reviews are always welcomed.

Rick Mitchell and the library staff

The Smythie is now over a gazillion subscribers strong!!

But... We may not be for everyone. If you do not want to be on this e-mail list, just reply and tell us to remove your name.

Heidi Deacon, Director Smyth Public Library 55 High Street Candia, NH 03034 603.483.8245 librarian@smythpl.org

