Smythie

The monthly e-newsletter of the Smyth Public Library

May 2023

Volume 17, No.2



You may have tangible wealth untold; Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold. Richer than I you can never be--I had a Mother who read to me.

By Strickland Gillilan



Smyth Public Library will be closed in honor of Memorial Day on Monday, May 29

Originally called Decoration Day, from the early tradition of decorating graves with flowers, wreaths and flags, Memorial Day is a day for remembrance of those who have died in service to our country.

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.

Each year on Memorial Day a national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time.



NEW!!



Lego Club at Smyth Public Library meeting room

The First Saturday of each month 11am-1pm

Come create awesome Lego builds together or on your own and have access to rare Legos and mini figurines. Each month you can keep projects going or start new. Books and ideas will be available for themes and friendly competitions. Take a picture at the end and email to librarian@smythpl.org to have your creation posted on the website. Pre-registration and Adult supervision required.

NEW!!

Candia Country Handcrafter's Group

Smyth Library Meeting Room: First and Third Tuesdays 10:30am-noon

Come join the creative members of our community and share your craft or learn a new one!

Coming again this month!!

Candia's 6th Annual

TRIVIA NIGHT CONTEST

Wednesday, May 31, 7pm

Outdoor event on the library lawn by the Gazebo

{Bring chairs, snacks and outdoor gear as you like}

PRIZES to the TOP TEAMS!!

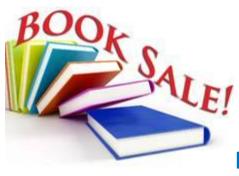
Teams:

- 1. Up to 6 people. Children under 12 don't count towards the 6.
 - 2. Must have at least 2 Candia residents
- 3. For purposes of this contest, all Jesse Remington faculty and students and Moore School teachers are Candia residents.

Get your neighbors, get your friends and *smart enemies*. We are asking for sign-ups just so we can judge how big the prizes will be. You can show up the night of and still join the fun.

Spectators Welcome!





Friends of Smyth Public Library

Book Sale
Saturday, June 10 from 8 am-2pm at the library.
Part of the town wide yard sale.

Seed Saving

June 20, 6:30 p.m.

Approximate time: 90 minutes, including Q & A

Audience: Adults of all ages

During this presentation attendees will learn why saving seeds is important, what kinds of seeds to save and when to harvest them, the different methods for processing seeds and preparing them for storage, and several tips and tricks to ensure successful germination.

Candia Farmer's Market

Every third Saturday, June-October, 9am-Noon~New vendors welcome!

Summer Reading Program opening event on Thursday, June 29 at the gazebo at 6 pm. (Weather permitting)



Mike Piazza is a multiple time world finalist and world record holder in the sport of K-9 frisbee and the current #1 Professional K-9 frisbee performer in the world! Mike has over 20 years of experience and performing more than 150 shows each year. Mike and his dogs have performed for the NFL, NBA, MLS, minor League Baseball, ESPN, Animal Planet, NESN, college halftime sporting events, Fairs, TV commercials, magazine covers, corporate events & functions, pet expos, kids camps, schools and libraries!

The act is very youth and family friendly! They perform a variety of frisbee & other entertaining tricks during the performance. What sets the show apart from other acts is a heavy volume of audience participation and perform with some of the most athletic Border collies on the planet to entertain audiences of all ages. We kindly ask that patrons not bring their dogs along to the show for safety reasons.

MUSEUM PASSES: Don't forget to take advantage of our awesome variety. Here are some to consider in this beautiful weather: **Email librarian@smythpl.org** to order one.

Strawbery Banke; Portsmouth Seacoast Science Center; Rye Libby Museum; Wolfeboro

Fuller Gardens; North Hampton Museum of Fine Arts; Boston Currier Museum; Manchester

NEW: Isabella Stuart Gardner; Boston

Launchpads and NEW 3D pens 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, the New Hampshire State Library and Friends of Smyth Library.

Smyth Public Seed Library: **free seed packets** for vegetables, fruits and herbs available. Come find seeds and gardening books!



Who bends a knee where violets grow, a hundred secret things shall know. Rachel Field

STORYTIME WITH BARB THURSDAY MORNINGS 10:30 AM SMYTH LIBRARY

BARB IS CURRENTLY A CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN AS WELL AS A LIVELY GRANDMOTHER OF FIVE SHE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HOSTING STORY HOUR AND MEETING ALL OF YOU AT THE LIBRARY

More Exciting Children's programs:

*Coloring Night for kids and adults, 6-7 pm, Wednesdays, all supplies provided.

*Monthly Lego night –Date TBD 6:30pm-all ages welcome. Also coming soon: Snap Circuits: Build exciting projects including computer interfaced experiments and solar cell applications. (Adult helpers needed!)

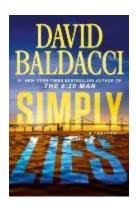
*CALDECOTT CHALLENGE – read through the award winning titles on your own or with a friend

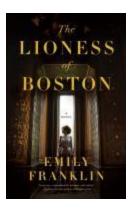
*1000 BOOKS before Kindergarten- Personal memory registers and book bags are available for parents

New Teen Opportunities at Smyth Public Library

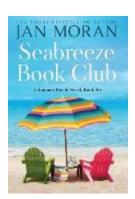
We are looking for more teens to participate in the Smyth Library Teen Advisory Group. Our goal is to have our youth participate in a variety of workshops, classes and events, for example: Lego night, Teen Crafts, the Middle and High School Book Club, Oration Day/Youth Poetry Slam and/or Teen Yoga. In addition, they could arrange for visiting artist programs in collaboration with our local schools and other institutions. To apply for membership of the Teen Advisory Group, please email librarian@smythpl.org for an application or more information.

New on our shelves...









New Fiction

Simply lies Tell no lies

Waiting For The Night Song Where are the children now? Under the cover of mercy: a novel

The wife stalker: a novel Where coyotes howl The Swiss nurse: a novel The lioness of Boston: a novel

The trackers: a novel Shadow of death The last remains

A girl called Samson: a novel

Who cries for the lost

The last of the seven: novel of World War II

Out of the dark

With my little eye: a novel The golden doves: a novel

Dark things I adore Moscow exile

Small mercies: a novel

A burning
Recall Zero
Only the beautiful
Seabreeze book club
John Saturnall's feast
Standing in the shadows
West with giraffes: a novel

Dark angel

The Island of missing trees: a novel

Heart of the Nile

The dead girls club: a novel

City of Dreams

Baldacci, David
Brennan, Allison
Carrick Dalton, Julie,
Clark, Mary Higgins
Connolly, Rebecca
Constantine, Liv
Dallas, Sandra
Escobar, Mario,
Franklin, Emily
Frazier, Charles
Graham, Heather
Griffiths, Elly
Harmon, Amy,
Harris, C. S.
Hartov, Steven

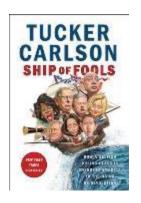
Hartov, Steven
Hurwitz, Gregg Andrew
Jackson, Joshilyn
Kelly, Martha Hall
Lattari, Katie
Lawton, John
LeHane, Dennis

Majumdar, Megha Mars, Jack Meissner, Susan Moran, Jan Norfolk, Lawrence, Robinson, Peter Rutledge, Lynda, Sandford, John

Shafak, Elif Thomas, William David Walters, Damien Angelica

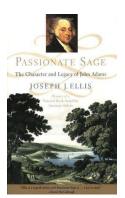
Winslow, Don

New Non-Fiction...









Bittersweet: how sorrow and longing make us whole Cain, Susan Ship of fools: how a selfish ruling class is bringing America to the brink of revolution Carlson, Tucker,

Follow me to hell: McNelly's Texas Rangers and the rise of frontier justice Clavin, Tom

The Brewster story: a definitive history of Brewster Academy

Richardson, Robert D

Hiker trash: notes, sketches, and other detritus from the Appalachian trail

Kaizar, Sarah,

Feel your way through: a book of poetry

The Wager: a tale of shipwreck, mutiny and murder

Grann, David

The girls who stepped out of line: untold stories of the women who changed the course of

World War II Eder, Mari K
The allies: Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin, and the unlikely alliance that won World War II

Groom, Winston

The forgotten Highlander: an incredible WWII story of survival in the Pacific

Urquhart, Alistair,

Iron coffins: a personal account of the German U-boat battles of World War II

Werner, Herbert A.

Passionate sage: the character and legacy of John Adams Ellis, Joseph J

Books on CD...

Dear Edward: a novel CD
Dark Angel CD
The Big Four CD
Return to the Hundred Acre Wood CD
Origins of Great Ancient Civilizations-The Great Courses

Napolitano, Ann, Sandford, John Christie, Agatha Benedictus, David Harl, Kenneth **DVD...**

Dog DVD Marlowe DVD

Where the red fern grows 1 & 2: double feature DVD

The big year DVD Turning red DVD

Paws of fury: the legend of Hank DVD

Gettysburg DVD

Buzz Lightyear of Star Command: the adventure begins DVD

The contractor DVD

G.I. Joe — The rise of Cobra DVD Minions: the rise of Gru DVD Sanditon DVD-SAND1

Spider-Man: no way home DVD



Terry Gross: Can you share some of your favorite comments from readers that you've gotten over the years?

Maurice Sendak: Oh, there's so many. Can I give you just one that I really like? It was from a little boy. He sent me a charming card with a little drawing. I loved it. I answer all my children's letters—sometimes very hastily—but this one I lingered over. I sent him a postcard and I drew a picture of a Wild Thing on it. I wrote, "Dear Jim, I loved your card." Then I got a letter back from his mother and she said, "Jim loved your card so much he ate it." That to me was one of the highest compliments I've ever received. He didn't care that it was an original drawing or anything. He saw it, he loved it, he ate it.





The island of the coast of Britain that inspired Agatha Christie's great And Then There Were None is for sale for \$18.9 million. It includes the art deco hotel in which the murders occurred which has been fully restored. You can reach the island by foot or car at low tide, sea tractor at high. Of course, if you can afford the island, you probably have a helicopter.



If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.-Cicero

National Garden Month

National Garden Month is a celebration that takes place in the United States every April. It is a month-long event that encourages people to explore and enjoy the natural beauty of gardens, and to learn about the benefits of gardening for individuals, communities, and the environment. The celebration was established by the National Gardening Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting gardening and horticulture education. The aim of National Garden Month is to encourage people to connect with nature, to get outside and enjoy the beauty of gardens, and to learn about the importance of gardening for health, well-being, and the environment. It is also an opportunity to recognize the hard work and dedication of gardeners and horticulturists who work to create and maintain the beautiful gardens that we all enjoy. Get out your garden gloves and check out books and seeds galore at the library.

Heidi Deacon, Director



Did you know...

Anne Perry, author of more than 100 novels that have sold more than 26 million copies worldwide, a "crime writer with her own dark tale," as the *New York Times* put it, died on April 10 at age 84. Born in London, England, Perry spent part of her childhood in New Zealand, where at age 15, then named Juliet Hulme, she was at the center of a grisly homicide. She and her best friend murdered the best friend's mother in an attempt somehow to keep the girls together as Perry's parents were separating and about to send Perry abroad. The two went to prison for five years, were given new identities and instructed never to meet again under penalty of life imprisonment.

Perry's work included two suspense series set in Victorian England: the William Monk novels and the Charlotte and Thomas Pitt novels. She also wrote a series of books featuring Charlotte and Thomas Pitt's son, Daniel, as well as the Elena Standish series, set during World War I, *The Sheen on the Silk*, set in the Byzantine Empire, and short stories. Her most recent novel is *The Traitor Among Us*, the fifth installment in the Elena Standish series, to be published in September.

"Perry's criminal past was revealed publicly in the summer of 1994 when word leaked out that Peter Jackson would recount her story in his forthcoming film *Heavenly Creatures*, starring Kate Winslet as the smugly confident teenage girl who later changed her name to Anne Perry and Melanie Lynskey as her sullen and insecure classmate Pauline," the *Times* wrote. When her past became public, Perry acknowledged the crime, saying "she had been afraid that if she did not go along with the murder plan, her distraught friend might kill herself."

Ballantine Books, her publisher for more than two decades, said her work is noted for "memorable characters, historical accuracy, and exploration of social and ethical issues." Perry's agents Donald Maass and Meg Davis said, "Anne was a loyal and loving friend, and her writing was driven by her fierce commitment to raising awareness around social injustice. Many readers have been moved by her empathy for people backed into impossible situations or overwhelmed by the difficulties of life. Her characters inspired much love among her fans and comforted many readers who were going through tough times themselves."

Reading Club

Readers meet <u>every 3rd Wednesday</u> of the month

Next month join us May 17th ~ 6:30 pm

THIS MONTH'S SELECTION:



Testimony

By Anita Shreve

At a New England boarding school, a sex scandal is about to break. Even more shocking than the sexual acts themselves is the fact that they were caught on videotape. A Pandora's box of revelations, the tape triggers a chorus of voices--those of the men, women, teenagers, and parents involved in the scandal--that details the ways in which lives can be derailed or destroyed in one foolish moment.

Writing with a pace and intensity surpassing even her own greatest work, Anita Shreve delivers in TESTIMONY a gripping emotional drama with the impact of a thriller. No one more compellinglyexplores the dark impulses that sway the lives of seeming innocents, the needs and fears that drive ordinary men and women into intolerable dilemmas, and the ways in which our best intentions can lead to our worst transgressions.

EVEN THE BEST LIBRARIES NEED FRIENDS

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 reading program and 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 www.smythpl.org.



Overdrive/ Libby



Overdrive is the original app, which is compatible with most devices. Use this if you have a Kindle Fire, a Mac, a Windows device, or a PC.

Libby is a new app by Overdrive. It has the same collection as Overdrive. If you have an Android or iOS device, use the Libby app.



What is Kanopy?

Kanopy is a popular on demand film streaming service that will be available for free with your library card! You can get 4 titles per month.

Films can be streamed from any computer, television, mobile device or platform by downloading the Kanopy app for iOS, Android, AppleTV, Chromecast or Roku.

With the motto of "thoughtful entertainment," Kanopy provides patrons with access to films of unique social and cultural value; films that are often difficult or impossible to access elsewhere, and programming that features diversity, with a wide array of foreign language films and films on race, and current affairs.

Kanopy also offers **Kanopy Kids**, with categories include TV Series, Learning Languages, Animated Storybooks, Anime Favorites, Classic Films and Movies for the Whole Family.

Kanopy Toolkits:

At the start of 2020 Kanopy launched new toolkits to help patrons and viewers access theme-specific videos and movies. Each month a new toolkit shall be published; the tooklkits offer program guides and suggestions on what films to view.

Click here to view the toolkits.

Accessing Kanopy:

Library card holders can access Kanopy and sign up to start streaming films on instantly by visiting smythpl.kanopy.com.

NOTE: When logging-in to Kanopy it requires your Library Card Number and

a *Library Card Pin/Password*. The *Pin/Password* is the seven digits of your phone number, or ten digits of your phone number if the number i

Hoopla



STEAM Look Book

The 2021 hoopla <u>STEAM Look Book</u> is now available! hoopla offers the best selection of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics titles for patrons of all ages. STEAM education is known to increase problem-solving and critical thinking skills, so the content is great anytime, but especially for back to school!

Browse our STEAM Library Resources, Look Book, and collections for every age

The Great Courses

We're thrilled to announce <u>The Great Courses</u> now on video on hoopla. Patrons can enjoy over 200 individual courses in a variety of topics taught by award-winning experts and professors including *Health*, *Fitness & Nutrition*, *Literature & Language*, *Science & Technology*, and more.

hoopla Book Club:

hoopla's digital collection is available instantly with no holds and no waiting, including the **Book Club Spotlight Selection**, giving readers access to eBooks and audiobooks even if the library's physical building is closed.

New Book Club Spotlight Selection: *Before the Coffee Gets Cold*The Winter 2021 hoopla Book Club Spotlight is <u>Before the Coffee Gets Cold</u> by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. This is his debut as an author, and has become an international bestseller.

hoopla's online resources, including an <u>exclusive Q&A with the author</u>, are also available on the <u>hoopla Book Club Hub</u> site to access and share digitally. Readers can keep the discussion going virtually or in person, no matter where they are, with the hoopla Book Club.

Accessing hoopla:

To register for and enjoy hoopla digital for free with your library card, please download the hoopla digital app from your Apple or Google Play store on your mobile device. If you are using a computer, you may

visit https://www.hoopladigital.com/home.

For more information or should you have questions, please visit or call Smyth Public Library.

Please note, that when logging-in to Hoopla, type in your *email*, and then the *Password/PIN* required is simply your phone number.

FAQ of hoopla:

With Hoopla, you can check out 3 items per month with your library card! NO WAITING!

You will have immediate access to:

MOVIES, FULL MUSIC ALBUMS, eBOOKS, eAUDIOBOOKS, TV EPISODES, and COMICS and GRAPHIC NOVELS!

ALL of this content will be available in one all-inclusive mobile app or website. The platform is simple, intuitive and free. BEST OF ALL? There is NO WAITING for titles, the collection contains half a million titles and is growing every day!!

hoopla has added over 6,500 new titles! Click <u>here</u> for more information.

Family Movie Nights made easy with hoopla!

With many families staying in more than ever, hoopla can help make decisions for family movie night easy with our wide selection of family titles. We have curated a **special collection of some of our favorites** available now with no holds or waiting – including *Ella Enchanted*, *Daddy Day Care*, *The 3 Tails*, and more!

Discovering titles your patrons will love has never been easier with the new and expanded **Movies of the Month** on hoopla!

Reading guides

The hoopla Resource Center now has <u>reading guides</u> for IDW Publishing graphic novels available on hoopla, including *March Book One* and *March Book Two*. John Lewis's game-changing graphic memoir *March* has brought attention to a

powerful issue and its three books have won numerous awards and have been a #1 New York Times Bestseller.

Check out the Reading Guides

Curate your own film festival with the power of your library card and hoopla!

The programs new Art House collection full of documentaries and films is the perfect place to start; click <u>here</u> for more information.

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 smythpl.org 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 and young adults...

Einstein for beginners Schwartz, Joseph,

The secret life of movies: hidden hints, motifs, refrences and background detail in the

greatest movies

My brother is a big, fat liar

Roller girl Jamieson, Victoria 'Tis the season Martin. Ann M. **Welcome to Camden Falls** Martin, Ann M.

Katie and the cupcake cure; Mia in the mix; Emma on thin icing; Alexis and the perfect

Patterson, James

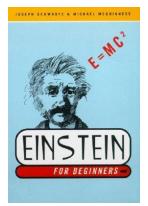
recipe Simon, Coco,

The Booford summer Smith, Susan Mathias.

Sutherland, Tui T Against the tide I su rvived the sinking of the Titanic, 1912 Tarshis, Lauren Hawkeye — Volume 3, — L.A. woman / Fraction, Matt, Jemima J.: a novel about ugly ducklings and swans Green, Jane

Agatha of Little Neon Luchette, Claire,

Disturbing the peace: a novel Yates, Richard



Einstein for Beginners

Amusing, irreverent, sophisticated and highly accessible, Einstein for Beginners is the perfect introduction to Einstein's life and thought.

Reaching back as far as Babylon (for the origins of mathematics) and the Etruscans (who thought they could handle lightning), this book takes us through the revolutions in electrical communications and technology that made the theory of relativity possible. In the process, we meet scientific luminaries and personalities of imperial Germany, as well as Galileo, Faraday, and Newton; learn why moving clocks run slower than stationary ones, why nothing can go faster than the speed of light; and follow Albert's thought as he works his way toward E = mc2, the most famous equation of the twentieth century.

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 ladies of Amy Tan's "Joy Luck Club" meet to play what game with plum blossom and chrysanthemum tiles?

A. In 1949, the four mothers meet at the First Chinese Baptist Church in San Francisco and agree to continue to meet to play mahjong. They call their mahjong group the Joy Luck Club.

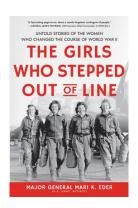
This Month's Trivia Question:

What do the initials J. D. stand for in author J. D. Salinger's name?

From the New and Recent Shelves~

We (being J) 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

Mon-Fiction ...



The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line: Untold Stories of the Women Who Changed the Course of World War II

For fans of Radium Girls and history and WWII buffs, The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line takes you inside the lives and experiences of 15 unknown women heroes from the Greatest Generation, the women who served, fought, struggled, and made things happen during WWII—in and out of uniform, for theirs is a legacy destined to embolden generations of women to come. The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line are the heroes of the Greatest Generation that you hardly ever hear about. These women who did extraordinary things didn't expect thanks and shied away from medals and recognition. Despite their amazing accomplishments, they've gone mostly unheralded and unrewarded. No longer. These are the women of World War II who served, fought, struggled, and made things happen—in and out of uniform. Young Hilda Eisen was captured twice by the Nazis and twice escaped, going on to fight with the Resistance in Poland. Determined to survive, she and her husband later emigrated to the U.S. where they became entrepreneurs and successful business leaders. Ola Mildred Rexroat was the only Native American woman pilot to serve with the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) in World War II. She persisted against all

odds—to earn her silver wings and fly, helping train other pilots and gunners. Ida and Louise Cook were British sisters and opera buffs who smuggled Jews out of Germany, often wearing their jewelry and furs, to help with their finances.

They served as sponsors for refugees, and established temporary housing for immigrant families in London. Alice Marble was a grand-slam winning tennis star who found her own path to serve during the war—she was an editor with Wonder Woman comics, played tennis exhibitions for the troops, and undertook a dangerous undercover mission to expose Nazi theft. After the war she was instrumental in desegregating women's professional tennis. Others also stepped out of line—as cartographers, spies, combat nurses, and troop commanders. Retired U.S. Army Major General Mari K. Eder wrote this book because she knew their stories needed to be told—and the sooner the better. For theirs is a legacy destined to embolden generations of women to come.





Under the Cover of Mercy

November, 1914.

The Great War has come to Brussels, the Germans have occupied the city, and Edith Cavell, Head Nurse at

Berkendael Medical Institute, faces an impossible situation.
As matron of a designated Red Cross hospital, Edith has sworn an oath to help any who are wounded, under whatever flag they are found. But Governor von Lottwitz, the ranking German officer, has additional orders for her. She and her nurses must also stand guard over the wounded Allied prisoners of war and prevent them from escaping.

Edith feels that God called her to be a healer, not a jailer. How can she heal these broken boys, only to allow them to be returned to the hands of their oppressors to be beaten again?

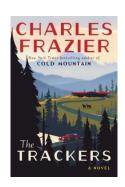
So when members of the Belgian resistance, desperate for help, bring two wounded British soldiers to her hospital in secret, she makes a decision that will change everything: she will heal the soldiers, and then attempt to smuggle them out of the hospital to freedom.

With her loyal friend and fellow nurse, Elizabeth, by her side, Edith establishes her hospital as a safe house for the resistance, laboring tirelessly to save as many soldiers as she can. Working under the watchful eyes of the German army, Edith faces challenging odds and charges of treason—which carries the death penalty if she is caught—as she fights alongside the resistance to bring—and keep—hope to her small corner of a war-torn world.

Based on a true story, Under the Cover of Mercy is the remarkable account of one woman who defied an entire nation in order to heal those who needed her help the most.

Goodreads

More fiction...



The Trackers

Charles Frazier

From the New York Times bestselling author of Cold Mountain and Varina, a stunning new novel that paints a vivid portrait of life in the Great Depression

Hurtling past the downtrodden communities of Depressionera America, painter Val Welch travels westward to the rural town of Dawes, Wyoming. Through a stroke of luck, he's landed a New Deal assignment to create a mural representing the region for their new Post Office.

A wealthy art lover named John Long and his wife Eve have agreed to host Val at their sprawling ranch. Rumors and intrigue surround the couple: Eve left behind an itinerant life riding the rails and singing in a western swing band. Long holds shady political aspirations, but was once a WWI sniper--and his right hand is a mysterious elder cowboy, a vestige of the violent old west. Val quickly finds himself entranced by their lives.

One day, Eve flees home with a valuable painting in tow, and Long recruits Val to hit the road with a mission of tracking her down. Journeying from ramshackle Hoovervilles to San Francisco nightclubs to the swamps of Florida, Val's search for Eve narrows, and he soon turns up secrets that could spark formidable changes for all of them.

In *The Trackers*, singular American writer Charles Frazier conjures up the lives of everyday people during an extraordinary period of history that bears uncanny resemblance to our own. With the keen perceptions of humanity and transcendent storytelling that have made him beloved for decades, Frazier has created a powerful and timeless new classic.

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.

Rich Mitchell and the library staff
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