

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

...VOLUME 8: NUMBER 6.....JUNE 2013...

A Time Machine

Not an H.G. Wells romp into the far distant dystopian future for this month's book review, but an elaborate vision backward --and northward. This month's featured book is a beautifully wrought fiction of an immigrant family in North Dakota during the interregnum between the world wars. It was written by Louise Erdrich, last year's National Book Award winner for a her later novel, *The Roundhouse*.

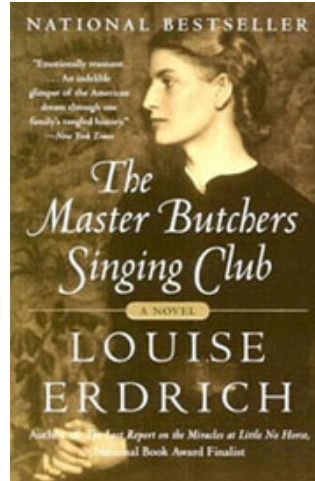
Featured This Month

The Master Butchers Singing Club by Louise Erdrich.

Fidelis Waldvogel arrives in America with a suitcase full of smoked sausages and a set of finely honed knives. What he carries inside him is a survivor's history of being a German sniper in WWI. The sausages get him as far as Argus, North Dakota, and then the knives succeed. Fidelis takes up the family trade and becomes a master butcher, in time bringing to America his wife and his sons, there to set down roots-- American, but with a German flavor.

Delphine Watzka is a native of Argus who has wandered away from her motherless childhood and perpetually drunken father. When she finally returns home, she is accompanied by Cyprian Lazarre, a man of curious talents and no honest trade --and not her husband. The day that Delphine walks into the Waldvogel's butcher shop and strikes up a friendship with Eva, Fidelis's wife, is the day she begins to rediscover her own roots. How Delphine is slowly drawn into the Waldvogel family --and at what cost -- is the melody line of this narrative symphony.

Erdrich's tale is no straightforward German leid. Although the relationship between Delphine and Fidelis occupies the forward movement of the plot, the story at times shifts to other voices: their families and friends, a harmony of inner lives in past times.



There are certainly some dissonant surprises -- shocks, actually --tragedies and mayhem, accidental, intentional, and natural --but the strength of the story is how poetically, and yet genuinely, Erdrich plays the quotidian life of the town and the judgments, jealousies, vengeance, hurts, and joys of her characters in their entangled lives.

As I read the book over several days, I found myself at times eager to make room in my day to get back into the world-gone-by of *The Master Butchers Singing Club*. And I was delighted to note that the Library has several volumes of Erdrich's other works. I anticipate more good reads ahead.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

Notes from the Library Board

Many thanks to all the volunteers, patrons, and friends of the Library who donated items for the Memorial Day Yard Sale, helped at the Library table, and bought some of the treasures on offer.

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New at the Library

Films on DVD

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
The Last Days of World War II
The Dark Knight ...Rebel Without a Cause
East of Eden ... Giant ... The Social Network

Fiction

The Devil's Punchbowl by Greg Iles
Returning to Earth by Jim Harrison
Driftless by David Rhodes
Work Song by Ivan Doig
The Fort: A Novel of the Revolutionary War by Bernard Cornwell
Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson
The Soledad Crucifixion by Nancy Wood
The Land by Robert K. Swisher, Jr.
The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton
Our Kind of Traitor by John le Carre
Three Day Road by Joseph Boyden
Driving Sideways by Jess Riley

Mystery

The Secret of Excalibur by Andy McDermott
The Intruders by Michael Marshall
Misery Bay by Steve Hamilton
Gone by Lisa Gardner
Friends, Lovers, Chocolates by A. McCall Smith
Both Ends of the Night by Marcia Muller
The Dangerous Hour by Marcia Muller
Listen to the Silence by Marcia Muller
Pennies on a Dead Woman's Eyes by M.Muller
There's Something in a Sunday by Marcia Muller
Where Echoes Live by Marcia Miller
Five O'clock Shadow by Susan Slater
The Pumpkin Seed Massacre by Susan Slater
Black Dog by Stephen Booth

Classic

So Big by Edna Ferber
Cimarron by Edna Ferber

Nonfiction

Riding with the Blue Moth by Bill Hancock
Indeh, an Apache Odyssey by Eve Ball
A Peculiar Treasure by Edna Ferber [autobiography]
Tracks and Trailcraft by Ellsworth Jaeger
Pueblos of the Rio Grand by Daniel Gibson
A Guide to Navajo Weavings by Kent McManis
Ghost Towns of the Southwest by Jim Hinckley
Cactus-the most beautiful varieties and how to keep them healthy by Elisabeth Manke
Weeds of the West by Western Soc.of Weed Science
New Mexico's Wilderness Areas by Bob Julyan
Beating the Midas Curse by Perry L. Cochell, Rodney C. Zeeb and Janet Krakowiak
49 Trout Streams in Southern Colorado by Mark D. Williams and W. Chad McPhail
The Poisoner's Handbook by Deborah Blum
Walking Outside the Box by Susan Reynolds Barron, Wild, and Worthless: *Living in the Chihuahuan Desert* by Susan Tweit
The Illustrated a Brief History of Time [and]
The Universe in a Nutshell by Stephen Hawking
Mankiller by Wilma Mankiller and Michael Wallis
The Book of the Dead by J.Lloyd and J.Mitchinson
When You Are Engulfed in Flames by David Sedaris

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit
<http://www.hillsborocommunitylibrary.com>

Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: closed
Tues. 3:30 - 5:30pm Wed. 1:00 - 4:00pm
Thurs: 3:30 - 5:30pm Fri: 10:00am - 1:00pm
Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, June 19

Hillsboro: 1:00 - 2:00 pm Kingston: 2:30-3:30 pm