

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 10: NUMBER 1.....JANUARY, 2015

Catching Up

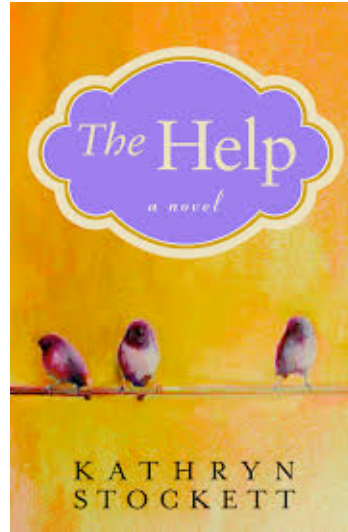
At the start of our tenth year, I took some time to browse the list of one-hundred-plus books, movies and other resources that the Newsletter has reviewed and paused to reflect on some favorites. One title that caught my eye was *Devil in the Junior League*, which led me to browse for a very popular book from 2009, which I thought we surely must have written about already. When I noticed that we had not, but had just added a large print edition of this novel to our collection, it seemed quite the time to catch up.

Featured This Month

The Help by Kathryn Stockett

Set in the 1960's, **The Help** is the tale of a very personal civil right movement involving one Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan, a privileged young Southern woman and a band of brave and beleaguered black maids, principally Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson, who serve Skeeter and her Junior League friends.

Skeeter has returned home from college to the expectation that she will marry well and settle down to life as it was known in the Mississippi of that era. But her instincts that this is not the life she is looking for get a shove forward from three disconcerting circumstances: her own beloved maid Constantine has mysteriously quit and moved away; her friend, the obnoxious Hilly Holbrook is campaigning to have separate bathrooms mandated for the black domestics; and she finds herself incompetent in her first job as a journalist--writing the household tips column for the local newspaper. When Skeeter persuades her friend Elizabeth to allow her maid, Aibileen, to help with the column, Skeeter's glimpse into the lives of these virtually invisible women inspires a radical idea -- to write a book about their experiences and so expose the injustices of the Jim Crow South. This is not only a scandalous prospect for Skeeter but a downright dangerous one for the maids.



Much of the novel is actually told from Aibileen's point of view and her chapters along with Minny's are the heart of the book, even though there are several subplots involving, for instance, Skeeter's romance with a state senator and the trials and tribulations of Aibileen's employer, a lower class white woman who has married into wealth but not social acceptance. However, the recruitment of the maids, the compilation of the book, and the reaction of the community when it all comes out are what really drive the plot.

The Help was criticized during the height of its popularity as an African American's story co-opted by a Caucasian author --on two levels. Despite the politics of its creation, it is an engaging tale of a time that many of us knew, but a place that was well behind the Selma and Montgomery of the newspaper headlines-- far more intimate, but just as meaningful.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

Notes from the Library Board

The Annual Meeting of the Hillsboro Community Library will be held in the first two weeks of February. Stay tuned for the notice of date and time.

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New at the Library

Fiction

Shadow Patrol by Alex Berenson
Queen of America by Luis Alberto Urrea
The City by Dean Koontz
Long Man by Amy Greene
The Priest's Graveyard by Ted Dekker
Keep Your Friends Close by Paula Daly
The Restorer by Amanda Stevens
The Kingdom by Amanda Stevens
Support and Defense by Mark Greaney
Against all Enemies by Tom Clancy
The Map of True Places by Brunonia Barry
Weird Sisters by Eleanor Brown
Redeployment by Phil Klay
A Word Child by Iris Murdoch
Nuns & Soldiers by Iris Murdoch

Mystery

Remains of Innocence by J A Jance
Summer of the Dead by Julia Keller
Cop Town by Karin Slaughter
The Golem of Hollywood by Jonathan Kellerman
Power Play by Catherine Coulter
Blood on the Water by Anne Perry
Burn by James Patterson
State Fair by Earlene Fowler
Close to the Broken Hearted by Michael Hielbert
The Next Time You See Me by Holly Goddard Jones
The Dinosaur Hunter by Homer Hickam
The Risk Agent by Ridley Pearson
Fatal Grace by Louise Penny

Classics

Death in Venice by Thomas Mann
The Hand of Ethelberta by Thomas Hardy
The Complete Science Fiction Treasury of H G Wells by H G Wells

Nonfiction

The Poetry of Maya Angelou by Maya Angelou
The Anthropology of Turquoise: *Meditations on Landscape, Art, and Spirit* by Ellen Meloy
Lit: A Memoir by Mary Karr
Discovering Fossils-how to find and identify remains of the historic past
Irrigated Eden: *Making of an Agricultural Landscape in the American West* by Mark Fiege
The Chaco Meridian: *Centers of Political Power in the Ancient Southwest* by Stephen Lekson
Santana: *War Chief of the Mescalero Apache* by A N Blazer
The Healing Powers of Peppers by Dave Dewitt
North Star & Southern Cross by Ann Yarmal
Deep-sky Wonders by Walter Scott Houston
Astronomy of the Ancients by Kenneth Brecher
Chronicles of War-Apache & Yavapai Resistance in the southwest US & northern Mexico 1821- 1937 by Berndt Kuhn

Films on DVD

Danny Kaye Double Feature (The Court Jester, The Five Pennies) ... The Last Station
Fantasia ... The Great Dictator ... Talk to Her
Lines of Wellington ... Easy Rider ... The Town
To Be or Not to Be ... Whisky Galore! ... M

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, January 21
Hillsboro: 1:00 - 2:00 pm Kingston: 2:30-3:30 pm

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<http://www.hillsborocommunitylibrary.com>