

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 10: NUMBER 4.....APRIL 2015

Helpful Friend, Maybe?

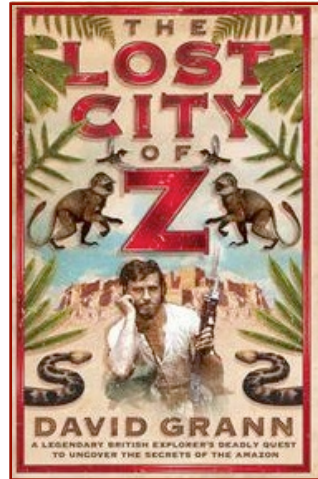
A few weeks back I received an email from a friend and neighbor that knew I was planning a trip to the Amazon. She had heard about a book on the National bestseller list concerning several explorations of the Amazon and thought it would be a good read for me. The subtitle: A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon. Huh.

Featured This Month

The Lost City of Z by David Grann

Grann's story centers on a twentieth century explorer's disappearance. Colonel Percy Harrison Fawcett explored and mapped many areas of the Amazon and its tributaries and heard many tales of a city as splendid as El Dorado. He made several attempts to locate the city he dubbed Z, and his last attempt was in 1925. He was accompanied by his son and son's close friend. Nearly a year into their adventure, the reports ended.

David Grann is a staff writer for the *New Yorker*. In researching for an article he came across the tale of Fawcett, his disappearance and the many attempts made to find his party. Grann poured over everything he could find about the explorer. He traveled to England to the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) who gave him permission to review Fawcett's numerous reports and maps. He learned from the RGS that there had been many, many individuals and groups over the years that had done the same thing: had taken copies of the maps and traveled to Brazil to find Fawcett or his remains. None of those early expeditions had success in finding him and many became lost themselves. Later individuals were said to be drawn more towards the riches that might be found in the City of Z rather than what happened to Fawcett. And still many of these groups did not return or be heard from ever again. Even those that found



their way back often died from diseases they had contracted in the Amazon Jungle.

The reports that Fawcett provided the RGS were filled with tales of venomous snakes and bugs, countless swarms of biting insects, fevers that drove men mad and an inexplicable land that seemed so rich and fertile yet provided little or nothing edible. Many of the native tribes were warrior-like and were given such labels as cannibals or the keepers of shrunken heads. Fawcett had proven successful in befriending most with gifts of mirrors and beads but there were reports of narrow escapes as well.

Grann became smitten by the tale and convinced his wife and fellow journalists (and himself) that the Amazon Jungle was now more civilized and he would succeed where no one else had been able. Did he find Z?

Even if you do not fancy yourself a non-fiction reader, think *Indiana Jones* or the TV series *Lost*. My opinion is you will find this biography-turned-adventure-tale entertaining and tough to put down.

Introduction and review by Robbin Brodsky

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New at the Library

Fiction

The Fifth Assassin by Brad Meltzer
The Tricking of Freya by Christina Lunley
The Orchard House by Lucinda Riley
The Smoke Thief by Shana Abe
The Dream Thief by Shana Abe
The Devil Will Come by Glenn Cooper
Telegraph Days by Larry McMurtry
Teresa of the New World by Sharman Apt Russell
A Beautiful, Cruel Country by Eva A. Wilbur-Cruce
The Virgin's Knot by Holly Payne
The Bonaparte Secret by Gregg Loomis
The Templar Legion by Paul Christopher
The Moses Legacy by Adam Palmer
The Sacred Sword by Scott Mariani

Mystery

Another Man's Moccasins by Craig Johnson
The Avalon Chanter by Lillian Stewart Carl
Off Kilter by Hannah Reed
Mercy by Jussi Adler-Olsen
Snare by Deborah J. Ledford
Blood Atonement by Dan Waddell
Dead Line by Stella Rimington
A Plea of Insanity by Priscilla Masters
The Book of Lies by Brad Meltzer
The Corpse Bridge by Stephen Booth
Already Dead by Stephen Booth
The Black House by Peter May
The Monkey's Raincoat by Robert Crais
Stalking the Angel by Robert Crais
Hot Mahogany by Stuart Woods (*Lg Print*)
Bel-Air Dead by Stuart Woods (*Lg Print*)
Kisser by Stuart Woods (*Lg Print*)

Nonfiction

Diary of a Citizen Scientist: ... *New Ways of Engaging the World* by Sharman Apt Russell
The Lost City of Z: *A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon* by David Grann

Films on DVD

All the President's Men ... A Beautiful Mind
Bright Star ...Invictus ... The Dark Knight Rises
Dead Man Walking ...The Soloist
Leaving Las Vegas ... Harper ...Cool Hand Luke
The Mackintosh Man Motherhood
Girl, Interrupted ... Somebody Up There Likes Me

Notes from the Library Board

Many thanks to the
**White Sands
Federal Credit
Union** for their
**generous 2015
grant to the
Library!**



The Hillsboro BookFest 2015, a literary festival sponsored by the Hillsboro Community Library, will take place in Hillsboro on **Saturday, May 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Hillsboro Community Center**. Regional writers of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry will read from their works. In addition, there will be books for sale and book signings by authors.

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, April 15

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