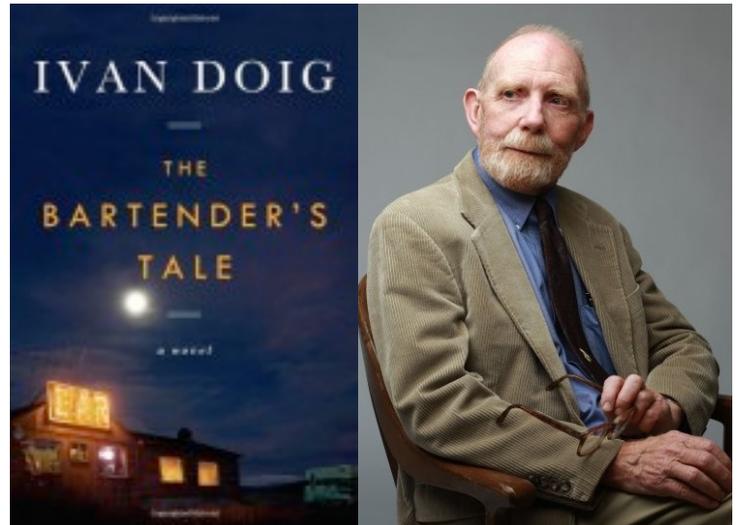


HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 11: NUMBER 3MARCH 2016

Storytellers

Ivan Doig was acclaimed as “the dean of Western writers.” Born to a ranching family in Montana, Doig graduated from Northwestern University with a journalism degree and worked as a reporter and for the US Forest Service before beginning to write fiction. Over his long career he wrote sixteen books, thirteen of which were novels. This month’s featured book was his eleventh, published in 2012 three years before his death in April of last year. It is the story of a man Doig would have likened to himself --someone with a “working class point of view” and a traditional storyteller.



Featured this Month

The Bartender’s Tale by Ivan Doig

The bartender in the title is one Tom Harry (no, Dick is not his middle name), but his tale is told by his son, Rusty, beginning from the day when Tom comes to claim the six-year old from the aunt who has raised him through a boring and not overly cheerful early childhood. But Rusty Harry’s adventures are about to begin.

Young Rusty is introduced to the rough and tumble world of saloon keeping in Gros Ventre, Montana, where Tom’s watering hole, The Medicine Lodge, is known far and wide and Tom has a reputation as the best bartender in the west.

Rusty knows that he was an unintended product of a marriage that went south soon after he was born. As much as he loves his dad, he lives with a gnawing insecurity about his whole family situation, especially when his father makes mysterious week-long trips to some unknown destination to supplement their income with sales of items traded in at the bar.

Most of the action, which is really a set of rather ordinary events of small town life, takes place during one summer in the 1950’s when Rusty turns twelve

and three people appear in Gros Ventre to shake up his life.

First there is Zoe, the daughter of the new owners of the only cafe in town, a sharp slip of a girl who becomes Rusty’s sidekick, confidant, and co-conspirator in a number of little plots. Then there is Delano Robertson, an emissary from the Library of Congress collecting oral histories from the fast-fading old-timers of the post war period. And finally there is Francine, the daughter of Proxy Shannon, a former taxi dancer at Tom’s old bar, The Blue Eagle, whose father, Proxy claims, is Tom Harry himself.

As the summer progresses, Francine apprentices at the Medicine Lodge with the expectation of inheriting the place when Tom is no longer up to the work. Proxy’s visits unsettle Rusty who wonders at his new relations. Del convinces the legendary Tom Harry to lend a hand to his project by revisiting some of Tom’s history at the Fort Peck dam workers reunion --and in the biggest event of the novel, history repeats itself.

It is all wonderfully charming --a slow stroll through a time and place now gone but gilded with nostalgia.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 11: NUMBER 3.....MARCH 2016

New at the Library

Fiction

The Bartender's Tale by Ivan Doig
For Love Alone by Shirlee Busbee
Kill Me by Stephen White
Willow Brook Road by Sherryl Woods
They Die But Once by James B. O'Neil

Mystery

Save Me by Lisa Scottoline
Rumpole and the Pence Bungalow Murders by John Mortimer
The Forgotten Man by Robert Crais
Cemetery Yew by Cynthia Riggs (Large Print)
Exposed by Laura Griffin
One Last Breath by Laura Griffin
One Wrong Step by Laura Griffin
Thread of Fear by Laura Griffin
Unforgivable by Laura Griffin
Unspeakable by Laura Griffin
Untraceable by Laura Griffin

Non Fiction

The Operators: *The wild and terrifying inside story of America's war in Afghanistan* by Michael Hastings
Mogollon Mountain Man: *Nat Straw grizzly hunter and trapper* by Carolyn O'Bagy Davis
The Company We Keep: *A husband-and-wife true-life spy story* by Robert Baer and Dayna Baer
American Desperado by Jon Roberts and Evan Wright
More Mysteries & Miracles of New Mexico by Jack Kutz

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

Notes from the Library Board

Thank -you

Many thanks to those who came out to the Hillywood Players presentation of **Home on the Hillsboro Range** on February 13 at the Community Center. The play raised over \$1800 shared among the Hillsboro Historical Society, the Community Center and the Library. It was a highly enjoyable performance and a real showing of community spirit!

Magazines

The Library would like you to know that we have current subscriptions/editions of **Consumer Reports**, **The Week**, **National Geographic**, **Cowboys and Indians**, **Smithsonian**, and others. You can find them in the Betty Reynolds Reading Room --and they are **all available to be checked out!**

Bullocks Rebate Program

If you are shopping at Bullocks, please save your receipts. The Library collects receipts at the desk and at the Bake Sale for redemption in the Bullocks Rebate Program. Every dollar spent is worth a 2¢ donation to the Library. Help us keep the stacks stacked by donating your receipts to the Library.

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

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, March 16

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

Published by

THE HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 205, HILLSBORO NM 88042 (575-895-3349)