



HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 11: NUMBER 12.....DECEMBER, 2016

Time Out (inside)

Here in the high desert the winter holiday season rarely features snow, but for the occasional rainy day, it's a pleasure to have a video from the Library's extensive collection to slip into the player. So draw the shades, make a bowl of popcorn, invite a neighbor and enjoy the movies right at home.

Featured this Month

Sweet Land directed by Ali Selim

Here's a movie for the holidays suited for the whole family. No guns. No cleavage. The only human blood in Sweet Land flows through generations, reconnecting a family to its ancestors and the land they once settled. When it's over, parents may weep. Kids and grandkids will think less about the toys they got than who gave them. They may even do the dishes.

Set in post WWI in the wheat country of the upper midwest (think the Dakotas or Minnesota), a woman in a train station, seated beside a gramophone, studies the creased and crinkled photograph of a man and a horse. The crease is across the man's face, and however she turns the image it's indistinguishable. The horse is clearly the center of focus. This is farm country.

The woman, Inge, played by Elizabeth Reaser, is an immigrant, one of several at the depot waiting to meet men who will be their future husbands. Mail order brides, as they were called, left Europe to marry men they had never met. While Inge is showing the photo to another immigrant, who is also waiting for a future husband, a man approaches them. He tries to explain to the woman that no one will be coming to for her, but she speaks no English. She finally understands her situation well enough to weep as she is led away. The bank has repossessed her would-be husband's farm, kicking in the back story. Inge has better luck. Along with her gramophone, she is picked up at the



station by two men, one friendly and talkative, the other, Olaf, silent and passive. Inge mistakenly believes that the former is her husband to be before she figures otherwise. Reaser's face is brilliant in the process of discovery, one reason she won the Best Actress Award at the Newport Film Festival.

In cloistered communities like the Norwegian one she is bound for, foreigners were often regarded with suspicion, evermore so if they were German during the post-war era— and especially if they played music on the sabbath. John Heard is the community preacher, and his sermonizing casts Inge, living unmarried with a man, as a mail-order Hester Prynne. (Let it be known that while she may hang her undies on the clothesline, causing the ladies in the quilting circle to drop their stitches, Olaf has been relegated to the barn).

So begins the shunning, as the sinful couple aren't joined in the harvest by their neighbors. To continue would be to spoil the story; let it be enough to say that it informs us of the kind of triumph of will and spirit that can come about between a good man and a good woman, regardless of circumstance. To that, add the revelation a community comes to in overcoming fear and prejudice and Sweet Land delivers the kind of medicine the world can use in these times and at this time of year.

Review by Stephen Siegfried

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New at the Library

Non Fiction

The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors: *The Extraordinary World War II Story of the U.S. Navy's Finest Hour* by James D. Hornfischer
The Archeology of Colorado by Steve Cassells
Shaped by Wind & Water by Ann Zwinger
Cabins: A Guide to Building Your Own Retreat by David & Jeanie Stiles
Hiking to History: A Guide to Off-road New Mexico Historic Sites by Robert Julyan
Birding on the Navajo & Hopi Reservations by Brad Jacobs
The Opata: Inland Tribe of Sonora by Jean Johnson
Oasis Journal 2016: Stories, Poems, & Essays by writers over fifty
Navaho Weaving by Charles Avery Amsden
Dancing Moons by Nancy Wood
Complete Painting Course by Wendon Blake
Ava's Man by Rick Bragg
The Oregon Trail by Rinker Buck
Custer's Trials by T J Stiles

Films on DVD

The Lake House ... The Illusionist ... Emma Tender Mercies ... The Fugitive ... Walter Beasts of the Southern Wild ... Man on Fire Runner Runner ... Finding Neverland Blade Runner ... Finding Nemo T'ai Chi: Daily Practice ... The Homesman

Mystery

His Bloody Project by Graeme Macrae Burnet
Escape Clause by John Sandford
Home by Harlan Coben
Judas Island by Kathryn Wall
Perdition House by Kathryn Wall
Resurrection Road by Kathryn Hall
Bishop's Reach by Kathryn Wall
In for a Penny by Kathryn Wall
And Not a Penny More by Kathryn Wall
Abducted by T R Ragan

Fiction

The Last Juror by John Grisham
The Sellout by Paul Beatty
Swing Time by Zadie Smith
The Mercy Oak by Kathryn R. Wall

Science Fiction

Knocking on Heavens's Door by Sharman Apt Russell

Notes from the Library Board

The Library was happy to greet and treat our wonderful volunteer corps at the Volunteers Appreciation Party on December 17. For those who attended and for those couldn't make it —let us say again how much we all appreciate your time and efforts in support of the Library. You are the *community* in the Hillsboro Community Library. **THANK YOU! — and have a wonderful holiday!**

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 January 2017 -TBD

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