

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 14: NUMBER 5.....SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

The Swamp and the Marsh

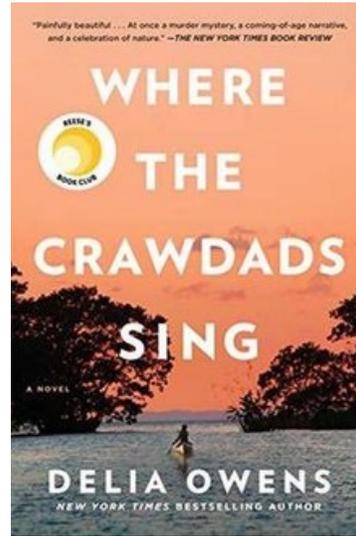
Although “swamp” has a political definition that is often applied to an urban setting, this term and the word “marsh” are mostly used synonymously to describe a wetlands. The author of this month’s featured book draws a distinction: “Marsh is not swamp. Marsh is a space of light, where grass grows in water, and water flows into the sky....Then within the marsh, here and there, true swamp crawls into low-lying bogs, hidden in clammy forests. Swamp water is still and dark, having swallowed the light in its muddy throat.”

Featured this Month

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

Kya Clark at seven years old, the youngest of the children in her family, watches from the doorway of their shack on the North Carolina coast as her mother walks away humming to herself and swinging a dilapidated suitcase. It’s not even the first abandonment. Her father is regularly absent, her oldest siblings are gone, and very soon her best-loved big brother leaves home too. At ten, she’s on her own.

For a time her infrequent father shows up with some life-lessons, chief among them, to use her keen observation and pragmatic judgment to make her way in her small but vital natural world. She is sporadically supported materially by the charitable impulses of a black family whose patriarch, Jumpin’ runs a general store. And after running away from school and social services, she is tutored in reading and general academics by a sympathetic older boy, Tate Walker. In time, Kya survives to become the “Marsh Girl,” a mysterious person looked upon with disgust and suspicion by the townspeople, but a young woman of insight, independence, and spirit.



No doubt that is what eventually attracts the older Tate, who is torn between his ambitions to become a research scientist and his desire for a life beside his fisherman father and this seemingly wild, natural girl in the beauty of the marsh. But such an exotic creature also attracts predators. The former football hero and son of the town’s big shot businessman, Chase Andrews, also desires her, and as Tate’s plans take him away from the marsh, Kya turns to a man who can legitimize her in a way she has never dreamed of.

But when Chase is found dead beneath a fire tower in the dark reaches of the swamp, this coming-of-age story becomes a murder mystery headed toward a gripping courtroom denouement.

Throughout the book, clues to Kya’s mind and the events that hold her fate are scattered in her observations of the wild creatures she communes with and the natural laws of the environment that has become her mother and her teacher. In the end, the answer has been there in front of us all along.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

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New at the Library

Non Fiction

Voices from Chernobyl by Svetlana Alexievich
Dancing to Pay the Light Bill: *Essays on New Mexico and the Southwest* by Jim Sagel
In search of the Canary Tree by Lauren E. Oakes
Cowboy Up! *Life lessons from Lazy B* by H. Alan Day with Lynn Wiese Sneyd
Bad Blood, *Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou
Shadowlands, *Fear and Freedom at the Oregon Standoff* by Anthony McCann
Southwestern Indian Arts & Crafts by Mark Bahti
Rocky Mountain Wildflowers by A E Porslid

Fiction

Legends of the Fall by Jim Harrison
Salvage the Bones by Jesmyn Ward
We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter
Order to Kill by Kyle Mills
Bone Horses by Lesley Poling-Kempes
Enemy of the State by Kyle Mills
Red War by Kyle Mills

Audio Books

The Bone Labyrinth by James Rollins
Kill Alex Cross by James Patterson
London Bridges by James Patterson
Zero Day by David Baldacci
Precious & Grace by Alexander McCall Smith
The Handsome Man's Deluxe Cafe by Alexander McCall Smith
The Woman Who Walked in Sunshine by Alexander McCall Smith
The Final Detail by Harlan Coben
Private Vegas by James Patterson
Phantom Prey by John Sandford
Cometh the Hour by Jeffrey Archer

Mystery

Who let the Dog Out by David Rosenfelt
Hounded by David Rosenfelt
The Bone Keeper by Luca Veste
Long Road to Mercy by David Baldacci
Leader of the Pack by David Rosenfelt
Dark Reservations by John Fortunado
The Survivor by Kyle Mills
Bad Country by C B McKenzie
Canaan's Gate by Kathryn Wall
Jericho Bay by Kathryn Wall
Echo in Death by J D Robb

Films on DVD

Myra Breckenridge ... Menace II Society
The Martian ... Cloud Atlas ... Safe
Juice ... Jupiter Ascending
House of Flying Daggers

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

September 18 & October 16 (anticipated)
Hillsboro 1:00- 2:00 Kingston 2:30- 3:30

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