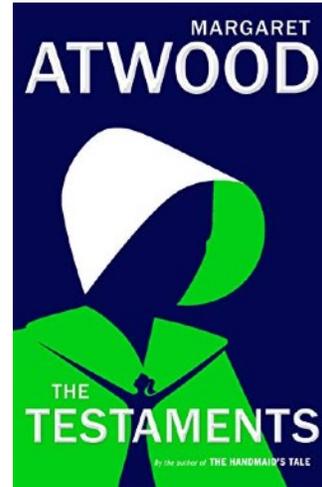


HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 15: NUMBER 2.....MARCH - APRIL, 2020

A Long Awaited Sequel

Thirty two years after the publication of *The Handmaid's Tale*, video streaming service Hulu presented an adaptation of this winner of the 1986 Man Booker Prize and revitalized the dystopian world of Gilead not just in video, but with the creation of a new novel. Continuing the story in *The Testaments*, author Margaret Atwood commented to her readers, "Everything you've ever asked me about Gilead and its inner workings is the inspiration for this book. Well, almost everything! The other inspiration is the world we've been living in."



Featured this Month

The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

In the not too distant future, as told in the preceding novel, *The Handmaid's Tale*, the US government is violently overthrown and the Republic of Gilead is established in a portion of the former northern states as a fundamentalist theocracy with a strict caste system. Women are stripped of their civil rights and consigned to roles solely as wives and mothers. Only a select few, the Aunts, wield any power, and that is only in their authority over other women, notably the Handmaids, who by virtue of their resistance to the new order and by their increasingly rare fertility, become child bearing slaves in the households of the patriarchs.

Aunt Lydia, the nemesis of the first novel, is one of the narrators of this sequel, and readers may be surprised to discover that she is Gilead's "Deep State," working her own subversive plot toward the overthrow of the Commanders. Her agents, who also tell parts of this story, are three young women: Agnes and her friend Becka who are being groomed as prospective wives in the corrupt and hypocritical hierarchy of Gilead and a girl named Daisy, possibly the daughter of Offred the heroine of *The*

Handmaid's Tale, who escaped to Canada at the end of that novel. In what may be an echo of the 1999-2000 Elian Gonzalez case, Gilead has been looking obsessively for "Baby Nicole" who had supposedly been stolen from the nation, and whose recovery has been a major diplomatic and publicity goal.

Aunt Lydia's scheme to recruit these young women and build a scandal huge enough to topple the leadership of Gilead takes the reader past many signposts from her previous "speculative fiction" and shines a light on events in the real and present world.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

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

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New at the Library

Non Fiction

Goodbye, Monique. Requiem for a Brief Marriage

by John Nichols

Underland. A Deep Time Journey by Robert

Macfarlane

A Warning by Anonymous

Firewater: *How alcohol is killing my people (and yours)* by Harold Johnson

Locally Laid: *How we built a plucky, industry-changing egg farm from scratch* by Lucie

Amundsen

Go Find: *My journey to find the lost-and myself* by

Susan Purvis

The Hare with Amber Eyes: *A hidden inheritance*

by Edmund De Wall

Perfect Horse by Elizabeth Letts

Murder Interrupted by James Patterson

Blowout by Rachel Maddow

Mystery

Breaking Point by CJ Box

Juror # 3 by James Patterson

Target Alex Cross by James Patterson

Mistress by James Patterson and David Ellis

Pot Thief Mystery Series by J Michael Orenduff

The Pot Thief Who Studied Billy the Kid

The Pot Thief Who Studied Edward Abbey

The Pot Thief Who Studied D H Lawrence

The Pot Thief Who Studied Einstein

The Pot Thief Who Studied Pythagoras

The Pot Thief Who Studied Ptolemy

The Pot Thief Who Studied Georgia O'Keeffe

The Pot Thief Who Studied Escoffier

Audio Books

Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver

The Holy Thief by William Ryan

Memorial Day by Vince Flynn

The 9th Girl by Tami Hoag

Films on DVD

The Office Season 3 & The Office Season 4

Fiction

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng

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

Bookmobile Schedule

Tentatively: March 18 & April 15

Hillsboro 1:00- 2:00

Kingston 2:30- 3:30

Notes from the Library Board

The 2020 census will begin this month! The Sierra County Manager's Office has asked the Library to assist community members who would like to make their response online. Accordingly, our public computer and volunteer assistance will be available during regular Library hours for community members to participate in this extremely important civic responsibility. Census data is used to make vital decisions on funding and services from the government. Everyone living in the USA needs to be counted, and all information given is confidential.

<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

If we want to count, we need to be counted!

Our thanks once again to **White Sands Federal Credit Union** for their generous grant to the Library for 2020!

