

## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 17: NUMBER 1 ..... JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 2022

### A Present Day Fiction

We are used to fiction that is set in the past—even the very remote past, and of course, science fiction propels us into a possible, sometimes very distant future. It is usually non-fiction that takes up recent events. However, this latest work from popular author Louise Erdrich takes place in so recent a past that it might well be taken for the here and now, giving a view of events the reader has experienced and whose after effects still ripple through the pages of our news.

### Featured this Month

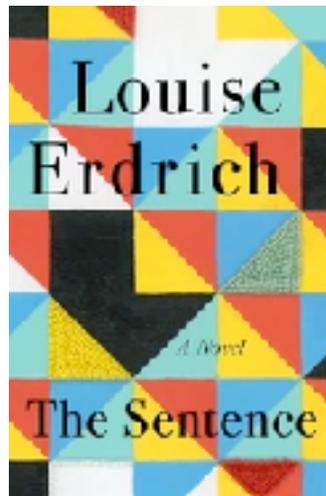
#### *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich

Louise Erdrich is a member of the Ojibwe Tribe and most of her many novels deal with the treatment of indigenous peoples, past and present.

There is so much truth to be told in the reading of *The Sentence*.

This novel, published in November 2021, relates the happenings in Minneapolis from November 2019 to election day 2020. Tookie, the narrator, tells the story of her life after having received an early release from her 60-year sentence. She is an avid reader and gets a job working for the Birchbark Bookstore, a renown purveyor of Native American as well as contemporary works. Tookie and fellow bookstore employees are all Native Americans and resent the many “wannabes” who frequent the bookstore to ask how they can prove their native heritage because they are sure that somewhere in their ancestry there is a Cherokee or Apache or Ojibwe or ... One such frequent customer is Flora. Flora dies suddenly and begins to haunt the bookstore and Tookie.

The horrors of the George Floyd murder and all the demonstrations and riots following are exposed. The fear and anxiety of the Corona 19 virus and the resulting hoarding as Tookie relays her feelings brings back those times as if it were yesterday. The



administration’s confusing messaging is related as well.

The federal government declares bookstores as a necessary service. Birchbark never closes. Flora haunts daily even through attempts at exorcism by Catholic and Native American means.

Tookie is haunted by her past, present and future, not just Flora. The Black Lives Matter movement and the pandemic all become personal. *The Sentence* is Tookie’s story of how she made it through that year.

A nice little aside is that Tookie often makes book recommendations to shoppers and those lists are keepers!

*Review by Robbin Brodsky*

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

### Library Hours:

**Sunday, Monday:** closed  
**Tuesday** ~ 3:00pm - 6:00pm  
**Thursday** ~ 3:30pm - 5:30pm  
**Friday** ~ 10:00am - 1:00pm  
**Saturday** ~ 12:00pm - 2:00pm

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## New at the Library

### Fiction

**The Sympathizer** by Viet Thanh Nguyen  
**Big Little Lies** by Liane Moriarity  
**Apples Never Fall** by Liane Moriarity  
**Golden Girl** by Elin Hildebrand  
**Calypso** by David Sedaris  
**Sisters in Arms** by Kaia Alderson  
**Outsider** by Stephen King  
**The Sentence** by Louise Erdrich  
**Lincoln Highway** by Amor Towles  
**The Magician** by Colm Toibin  
**Sold on a Monday** by Kristina McMorris  
**Malibu Rising** by Taylor Jenkins Reid  
**Beautiful World, Where Are You** by Sally Rooney  
**The Last Thing He Told Me** by Laura Dave

### Nonfiction

**Facing the Mountain: True story of Japanese American Heroes in WWII** by Daniel James Brown  
**Smithsonian Book of National Wildlife Refuges** by Eric Dolin  
**Smithsonian Natural History- The Ultimate Visual Guide to Everything on Earth** ed. by David Burnie  
**Jane Addams** by Louise Knight  
**Work** by James Suzman  
**Ancient China** by Maurizio Scarpari

### Mystery

**Long Range** by C J Box  
**Wild Life** by Molly Gloss  
**The Hunting Party** by Lucy Foley  
**Arsenic and Adobo** by Mia Manansala  
**Transient Desire** by Donna Leon  
**The Panda of Death** by Betty Webb  
**Daughter of the Morning Star** by Craig Johnson

### Bookmobile Schedule

**Wednesdays — January 19, February 16**  
Hillsboro Post Office 1:00pm – 2:00pm  
Kingston Fire Station 2:30-3:30 pm

### Western Fiction

**Sackett** by Louis L'Amour  
**Silver Canyon** by Louis L'Amour

### Science Fiction

**Project Hail Mary** by Andy Weir

### Board Notes

#### The Library needs your help!

We are looking for community volunteers who can help take care of maintenance needs at the library (e.g., repairing plaster walls in library, BRRR and hallway to BRRR; fix windows) Do you have skills to help repair plaster, fix windows, etc.? Please let us know if you can lend your hand.

Also library has two open positions: Vice President and Bake Sale Chair. The Vice President generally handles our annual membership drive and oversees other fundraising. The Bake Sale Chair conducts our monthly sales in the morning of the first Saturday of the month next to the P.O.

Anyone who would like to support the Library by volunteering for these positions/tasks please contact John Cornell, HCL President: [jcls1010@gmail.com](mailto:jcls1010@gmail.com).

#### It's a Raffle!!

When you next visit the Library, put in your name for our end-of-the-month raffle! You could win:

- a canvas tote with our beautiful Library logo
- a Gift Certificate to COAS for a discount on book purchases

**By the way, please don't forget to return your books and DVDs so we can lend them again!**

#### Published by

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