

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 17: NUMBER 5SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 2022

Pulitzer and Emmy Winner

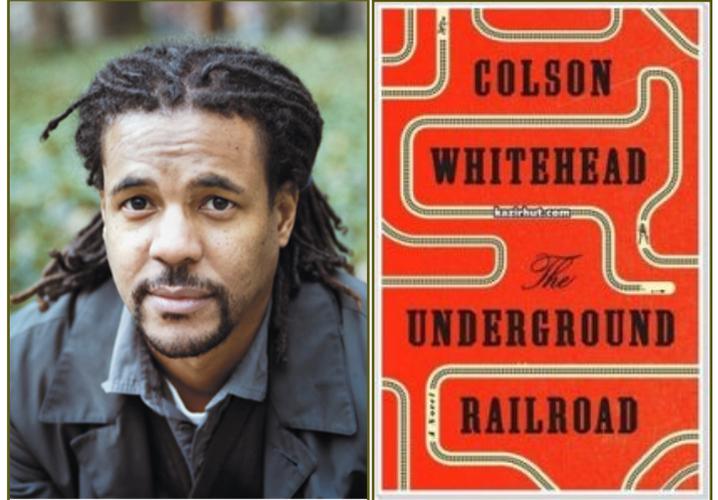
Last year, Amazon Prime Video adapted Colson Whitehead’s Pulitzer Prize winning novel into a limited series that went on to win an Emmy Award for his story as well. While the Library has yet to acquire the video, the original novel is available and well worth the read.

Featured this Month

The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead

Colson Whitehead’s celebrated tale is both a historical and fantastical account of nineteenth century slavery in the United States and the storied Underground Railroad — a network of routes, safe houses, conveyances, guides, and abolitionist conspirators who smuggled runaway slaves from plantations in the South to the non-slave states and as far north as Canada in order to secure their freedom. Whitehead mixes brutally true and realistic descriptions of life in slavery with completely imaginary elements, most famously, the conceit of an Underground Railroad as an actual subterranean railway system complete with tracks, locomotives and stations. The result of the jarring juxtaposition is an insightful commentary on the social consequences of an inhuman system both in that historical period and in contemporary life.

The main character of the story is Cora, a runaway slave haunted by her mother Mabel’s abandonment of her in Mabel’s escape toward freedom. An outcast even among her own people on the Randall plantation in Georgia, Cora is nonetheless reluctant to risk running away at the invitation of Caesar, a sold-South slave who has a connection they can exploit to make their escape. The book follows Cora’s progress along the Underground Railroad, accompanied at times by other runaways: Caesar, her friend Lovey, the heroic freeman Royal, but always shadowed by the slave catcher Arnold Ridgeway, a man fiercely dedicated by warped principle to his cruel profession. It is a chase



far more terrifying than Simon Legree’s melodramatic pursuit of Eliza across the ice floes.

At various “stations” along this Underground Railroad, Cora’s progress northward is paused as the author and his characters explore the communities that the “track” runs through. The places are on one level real, but on a different level, allegorical. Each community has its view of “The Peculiar Institution” and has made decisions about how best to relate to it. In “South Carolina” a insidious plot underlies a seemingly welcome facade; in “North Carolina” Cora experiences what Ralph Ellison would call an “invisible” existence. In “Indiana” the Black community is itself divided. In the customs and laws of these fictionalized communities, the reader finds echoes of the entire history of race relations in America well beyond the ostensible time period of the novel.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

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

Legends of the Desert Series by W Michael Farmer:

Mariana's Knight book 1,
Knight's Odyssey book 2,
Knight of the Tiger book 3

Nonfiction

Southwest Slow Cooking by Tammy Biber
'I Will Not Surrender the Hair of a Horse's Tail'
The Victorio Campaign 1879 by Robert N. Watt
Valley of Shining Stone-the Story of Abiquiu by
Lesley Poling-Kempes

Audio Books (CD)

The World Until Yesterday by Jared Diamond

Mystery

The Tears of the Giraffe by Alexander McCall Smith
The Bullet by Iris Johansen

DVDs

Sleepless in Seattle ... In the Time of Butterflies,
The Mirror Has Two Faces ... Tigerland,
Sleepers ... Untamed Heart ... Green Zone
What Dreams May Come ... Blood Work,
Windtalkers ... The Tourist ... Traffic
The Libertine ... Sneakers ... Runaway Bride,
Caddyshack ... Notes on a Scandal ... The 100
Love and a .45 ... Forever Young ... Cry-baby
I now pronounce you Chuck and Larry
Our Brand is Crisis ... Don Juan DeMarco
The Cable guy ... 300, Rise of an Empire
Leprechaun -in the Hood ... Big daddy
Ramona and Beezus ... Underworld Awakening
The Fountain ... Collateral Damage

Juvenile fiction

Little Red Cowboy Hat by Susan Lowell
Don't Call Me Pig by Conrad J Storad

Bake Sale

Many thanks to all the bakers and buyers who support the Library Bake sale every first Saturday of the month!

**Next Sale: Saturday, October 1 from
10am-1:00pm**

in front of the Masonic Lodge next to the PO.
Come and get your goodies!

Board Notes

Like the Marines, the Library is looking for a few good ... people. Volunteers are needed to man work the desk helping folks to check out their new books and receive their returns. Training is easy, and it's a great way to keep in touch with your neighbors. Volunteers are what makes the Hillsboro Community Volunteer Library run. If you'd like to give it a try, you can get in touch with Cindy Cornell at chcornell04@gmail.com.

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesdays, Oct 12, Nov 16, Dec 14
Lil Abner's, Caballo 9:45am- 11:00am
Hillsboro Post Office 1:00pm – 2:00pm
Kingston Fire Station 2:30-3:30 pm

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

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