

BookGuide Bulletin



A monthly "readers' services" newsletter from the Lincoln City Libraries

Newsletter

March 2007

Vol. 1 No. 11

[Looking for a good book? Each month the BookGuide site has new fiction and non-fiction reviews.](#)

This Month!

Book Talks/Discussion Groups for March
Featured Booklists
Web features for Readers: **Read...Discuss...Repeat!**,
Overdrive, **Customer Reviews**, and the new **Picture Book** and **Kids Books newsletters**
This month's spotlight is Spring Gardening

Book Talks & Book Discussion Groups

Bethany Books Talk [Fridays 10:30 a.m.] [441-8550]

March 2 – "In Like a Lion..."
March 9 – "For the Young at Heart" [books for young people]
March 16 – "Spring Reading" [Gardening]
March 23 – "History Mysteries" [Victorian period]
March 30 – "One Book, One Nebraska" [[Crazy Horse](#) by Sandoz]

Gere Books Talk [Mondays 2:30 p.m.] [441-8560]

March 5 – Bookshare Day
March 12 – "Royal Reads"
March 19 – "Spring Reading"
March 26 – Bookshare Day

Just Desserts Mystery Fiction Discussion Group – Downtown [last Thursday each month. 7 p.m.] [441-8530]

March 29 – "The Circular Staircase" by Mary Roberts Rinehart

Great Books Discussion Group [Gere Branch, Thursdays 6:45-8:45 p.m.] [co-sponsored by the Lincoln City Libraries]

March 8 – "Othello" by Shakespeare
March 22 – "Of Justice & Injustice" by Hume

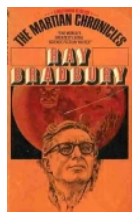
Visit [Book Talks and Book Discussion Groups](#) for more info

New Booklists

The following are either "new" booklists added to the BookGuide site recently, or older lists we'd like to shine a light on!

[The Allure of the Outdoors](#)

Are you a nature lover? Do you enjoy reading about the great unknown, or lounging on a lazy summer day with a book about man's connection to the natural world? If so, check out this booklist!



[If You Like...Ray Bradbury](#)

Do you enjoy the science fiction and fantasy of author Ray Bradbury! He's a master of lyrical, character-center stories of a fantastical nature, often with a strong midwestern feel. If this style appeals to you, take a look at this list of similar authors!

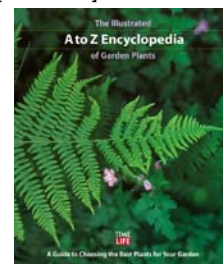
[Award Winners: The World Fantasy Award](#)

Since 1975, the World Fantasy Awards have been given to the best in international fantastic literature in a variety of lengths and formats. Check out our list of the winners in the **Novel** category!

March is time to start preparing your yard for Spring

Although the ground may still have some snow on it right now, things are going to start to turn green very soon. Time to start thinking about all the things that need to be done to prepare your yard and garden for Spring. The libraries own a wealth of materials related to Gardening and Lawn Care, including the following highlighted titles:

- *The New Encyclopedia of Herbs and Their Uses* by Deni Bown [615.32 qBow]
- *Garden Magic: Amazing Tips, Tricks & Tonics* by Jerry Baker [DVD 635 Bak]
- *This Organic Life* by Joan Dye Gusso [635.048 Gus]
- *Heirloom Country Gardens* by Sarah Wolfgang Heffner [635.048 Hef]
- *Step by Step Lawn & Garden Basics* by Liz Ball [635.9 Bal]
- *Theme Gardens* by Barbara Damrosch [635.9 qDam]
- *Beyond the Lawn: Unique Outdoor Spaces for Modern Living* by Keith Davitt [635.9 Dav]
- *The Virgin Gardener* by Jonathan Edwards [635 qEdw]
- *The Illustrated A to Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants* by Time-Life [635.9 qIII]
- *Old Fashioned Flowers* by Tovah Martin [635.9 Mar]
- *Grass Scapes: Gardening With Ornamental Grasses* by Martin Quinn [635.934 qGraYq]
- *Dryland Gardening* by Jennifer Bennett [635.952 Ben]
- *The Lawn Bible* by David R. Mellor [635.964 qMel]
- *A Man's Turf: The Perfect Lawn* by Warren Schultz [635.964 Sch]
- *The Container Kitchen Garden* by Antony Atha [635.986 qAth]
- *Reading Zen in the Rocks* by Francois Berthier [712.6 Ber]
- *Total 3D Landscape Deluxe* [CD-ROM 712.6 Tot]
- *Eden on Their Minds: American Gardeners With Bold Visions* by Starr Ockenga [712.609 qOck]



OVERDRIVE™

[OverDrive](#) is the new service of downloadable audio books that became available on the Lincoln City Libraries' web site in February 2007. Simply visit the library's main web site at www.lincolnlibraries.org and click on the highlighted link or icon for "downloadable audio." You'll be taken to a web catalog that will allow you to search only the downloadable audio files available to Lincoln City Libraries customers with a valid library card.

Titles currently available for download include both fiction and non-fiction, ranging from popular bestsellers to literary classics. Interested in learning a language on the fly? We've got several different options for you! Want to listen to a *Doctor Who* or *Twilight Zone* radio play? Take a look at what's available here! Want to relax with a classic Agatha Christie or Rex Stout mystery? Or how about a recent entry in Janet Evanovich's "Stephanie Plum" series? They're all here! Click on the [OverDrive](#) logo or either of the links in this article to jump straight to our downloadable offerings!

John H. Ames Reading Series

Betty Levitov – Professor and Author
Thursday, March 15, 7:30 p.m. – Heritage Room at Bennett Martin Public Library – 14th & "N" Sts.



Betty developed the "Doane College Semester in Africa," a full term of study and travel. She has written a book about the experience, ***Africa on Six Wheels: A Semester on Safari***, which is scheduled for publication by the University of Nebraska Press in 2007.

Lunch at the Library Series

Sandra Mathews – "Discovering Self: Donna McGladrey's Adventures Into the Last Frontier"
Wednesday, April 4, 12:10 p.m. – 4th floor Auditorium – Bennett Martin Public Library – 14th & "N" Sts.



Read...Discuss...Repeat!

Join Book Discussions Online

Don't forget! You can visit the BookGuide site at the beginning of every month to see what title has been selected for the next round of **Read...Discuss...Repeat!** This feature of BookGuide encourages readers to all read the same, recommended title, then return to BookGuide and leave your thoughts and opinions about that book by filling out a quick on-line form. Sort of a mini "One Book One Lincoln," only every month! There is also an archive of all past selections for **Read...Discuss...Repeat!** available, and anyone is welcome to leave comments about past recommended titles as well.

During the first week of each month, we'll post the newest selected title, along with some background about the book, some "readalikes", and some web-links to related on-line resources. Please come take part...we look forward to your participation!



The selected title for March 2007 is Jon Krakauer's [Into Thin Air](#).

Staff Reviews



Perfume: The Story of a Murderer
By Patrick Suskind [1986]

This book was a European bestseller in the 80's and has since been made into a movie. The book tells the story of Jean-Baptiste Grenouille, born in the gutter of a fish market in 18th century Paris. He is a unique baby, in that he possesses no smell. Perhaps that is why his own sense of smell is so well developed. The reader is transported through the streets and alleys of an olfactory affront – that which is Paris during the life of Jean-Baptiste.

Perfume, is a suspense novel with liberal doses of horror and mystery. It is an entirely unusual tale of an outcast with a spectacular gift of smell. The reader will follow his life while figuratively peeking through the cracks of their fingers, curiously and guiltily wanting more.

This book is recommended for those who love eccentrics and original stories. Sure to be like nothing you've ever read before.

Reviewed by Sean S.
Loren Corey Eiseley Branch Library

You can see this, plus other new reviews, every month on the [Staff Recommendations page](#) at the BookGuide web site!

Customer Book Reviews

Read Reviews and Contribute Your Own

Another interactive feature on the **BookGuide** site which we want to draw your attention to is our [Customer Reviews](#) page.

Ever since **BookGuide** launched in October 2005, we've been soliciting reviews from the visitors to the site – reviews of any kind of material found in the Lincoln City Libraries collection – books, magazines, CDs, videos and DVDs, CD-ROMs, audiobooks, or whatever else strikes the reviewers fancy. In 18 months, we've received a grand total of 20, mainly from a core group of 2 to 3 reviewers, but we'd like to see many, many more than that!

Reviewers can remain anonymous...we'll use an abbreviation of your name – "John D." – plus the name of your most frequently-used branch. Or, we can even use a "screen name" of your own choice.

[THE CUSTOMER REVIEWS CHALLENGE:](#)

So here's our challenge to all the readers of the **BookGuide Bulletin**: As of February 2007, there were 80 subscribers to this electronic newsletter. We know you all love books, or you wouldn't be here reading about all of the developments at **BookGuide** and the Lincoln City Libraries' web site. We want to see at least 10% of you visit the [Customer Reviews](#) page (linked below) and submit a review of something you've read, watched or listened to lately and would like to share your opinion about.

[Customer Reviews Page](#)

[Customer Reviews Submission Form](#)

We'll include one review in the April 2007 **BookGuide Bulletin** from everyone who submits *at least* one review by March 31st, as a result of this challenge – not to mention the fact that they'll be on the **BookGuide** web site as well!

And finally...

The **NextReads** newsletters have continued to remain very popular among BookGuide visitors, with over 130 subscribers having signed up for one or more of the adult newsletters to date.

Now, the kids in the family (and their parents) have something more to look forward to. Starting in March 2007, two new Newsletters join the roster of lists available for monthly delivery in your e-mail. **Picture Books** – focusing on books in the picture book and/or chapter book category, and **Kids' Books** – focusing on fiction and/or non-fiction for pre-teen readers, will join the newly renamed **Young Adult Books** (formerly Teen Scene). As usual, for each newsletter, each month's list will include a selection of brand new titles purchased by the libraries, as well as a thematic collection of older, noteworthy titles that should appeal to readers.

To subscribe to the **Picture Books**, **Kids' Books** or **Young Adult Books** newsletters, just visit our [NextReads sign-up page](#) (or click the image at right) and fill out the check-off form. If you're already a subscriber to one or more other **NextReads** newsletters, go to the same page and click "manage subscriptions" and you can add either of the new lists to your existing subscriptions!



Feedback...

We're interested in hearing from you regarding what you'd like to see here in our e-newsletter each month. What have you enjoyed in our first year's issues? If you have any suggestions or comments to offer us about **BookGuide** or the **BookGuide Bulletin**, please drop us an e-mail at:

bookguide@lincolnlibraries.org



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