

BookGuide Bulletin



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

Newsletter

June 2007

Vol. 1 No. 13

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

This Month!

Book Talks/Discussion Groups for June/July
Featured Booklists
Web features for Readers: **BookGuide Blogs**
Read...Discuss...Repeat!
Customer Reviews
This month's spotlight is: *Watergate after 35 Years!*

Book Talks & Book Discussion Groups

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

The Bethany Books Talk season concluded in May and will return in the fall with all-new talks.

Courtyard Book Chats – Central Courtyard – Downtown [Tuesdays Noon-1 p.m.] [441-8560]

June 5 – "Get **LOST!** The books of the TV series **LOST**"
June 12 – "ALA Notable Books List 2006/2007"
June 19 "From DC to Outer Space: Noteworthy Biographies"
June 29 "Booked to Die!" [mysteries featuring
libraries/librarians]
July 3 Susan S., Eiseley Teen Specialist, shares some faves!
July 10 "High Fashion and High Society Fiction"
July 17 "'Tis a Tale To Swet" – Medieval Romances
July 24 "Whodunit? New Mysteries!"
July 31 "New Authors I've Discovered"

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

The Gere Books Talk season concluded in May and will return in the fall with all-new talks.

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

June 28 – "Blood Sport" by Dick Francis
July 26 – "The Blessing Way" by Tony Hillerman

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

The Great Books 2006-2007 series has ended.

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

Featured Booklists

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

[Get LOST! A Booktalk Booklist](#)

Curious about the books that have popped up in scenes or behind-the-scenes in the mystery TV show LOST! Take a look at Sean's book talk booklist for some great quirky reading ideas!

[In Want of More Jane Austen](#)

Going through Austen withdrawal? Looking for something to enjoy on your summer vacation. Check out this list of Jane Austen follow-up novels!

iblog ublog weblog

The **BookGuide** site will be losing its **Book Lovers Discussion Forum** in the very near future, as the library launches a new "look" to the public web pages and the old Forums software can no longer be used.

However, readers who enjoyed getting involved in on-line discussions of authors, books and the culture of reading need not fear – BookGuide is diving headlong into the world of Blogging. "Blogs," shortened from the term web-logs, allow individuals, businesses and organizations to have a centralized place that they can post news and/or discussion topics. Visitors to the blog can then leave comments or replies to existing threads of discussion, creating a "give-and-take" environment between the owners of the blog and the readers of the blog.

Blogs can also be turned into RSS Feeds – an easy way to syndicate a stream of information so that regular visitors can simply have the latest postings/entries sent to them directly instead of having to come visit the site regularly. By signing up to use a Feed Reader or Aggregator, internet surfers can have their customized choice of news and discussion feeds delivered to their electronic doorstep as soon as new entries become available.

There are numerous Feed Readers or Aggregators available, both via the web or as applets that can be downloaded to your own computer. A few of the more well-known ones are: [Bloglines](#), [My Yahoo](#), [Amphetadesk](#), and [Google Reader](#).

BookGuide now has two new blogs, both of which are available as syndicated feeds.

bookguideatcl.blogspot.com

The first blog is the **Book Lovers Discussion Blog** – a place where BookGuide staff will regularly (hopefully on a daily basis) post news about books, writers and the world of reading – both inside the library and out. We will also try to post generalized discussion topics, especially on hot current books, so that readers can share their thoughts on what they're reading or looking forward to.

bookguideatclupdates.blogspot.com

The second blog is the **BookGuide Site Updates Blog** – where we will post news about changes, updates and additions to the features on the BookGuide web site. Want to know about new booklists added to the BookGuide site within minutes of their availability? Want to hear about the Books Talk schedules as soon as they're announced? You can even be notified by RSS feed about the availability of The BookGuide Bulletin if you'd rather not have it come to you as a PDF in your e-mail! Come subscribe to the Feed for the Updates blog!

These two new features available through the BookGuide readers site are most likely just the beginning...in the future you may very well see a separate Book Reviews blog, or Recorded Books blog, or Local Literary Events blog...we're still looking at all the possibilities! In the meantime, to see the first new blogs we're offering, just visit the BookGuide site and check out the top entry in the right-hand column:

[Visit BookGuide and Check Out the Blogs](#)

Staff Reviews



Bleak House [DVD Adaptation]
By Charles Dickens [2006 DVD]

This 2006 BBC production of Dickens' novel of lost wills and family secrets has become an instant classic. Don't let the title keep you from watching this brilliant



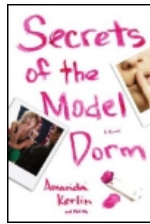
film. One of its greatest strengths is a perfectly chosen cast and terrific performances. There are no "throw-away" roles or poorly conceived characters to be found. Former *X-Files* star Gillian Anderson dominates the production, however, with her tour-de-force portrayal of the icily regal Lady Dedlock. This movie has it all -- lost love, new love, legal intrigue, lots of death-bed scenes and, of course, Dickens' biting social commentary and masterful storytelling. If you put any stock in ratings, *Internet Movie Database* has this one rated at almost a ten!

Reviewed by Kim J.

Reference Department – Bennett Martin Public Library

Secrets of the Model Dorm

By Amanda Kerlin and Phillip Oh [2007]



See the Manhattan modeling industry through the eyes of Heather Johnson, an aspiring young model that was "discovered" in her Virginia home town. As with most aspiring models, Heather is forced to reside in "a model dorm", a one bedroom apartment in the Financial District of Manhattan. Not only is the apartment small, but she must share it with five roommates at one time, all over 5 foot 10, who are also trying to land major modeling campaigns in the fashion industry. With a rotating cast of back stabbing roommates who are caught up with club hopping, drugs, men and their weight loss obsessions; Heather tries to rise to the top while struggling to keep her small town morals and values intact. This book is a great light read with wonderful references to big fashion names, Manhattan clubs, restaurants and even art galleries. Written by a former young model, that lived in the model dorm while trying to make it big, Amanda Kerlin combines humor, wit and juicy details of a vicious industry with the help of former dorm roommate, Phil Oh, in their debut book, Secrets of the Model Dorm.

Similar titles=This book is great for anyone who enjoys reading about the high fashion lifestyle or has enjoyed books by Plum Sykes, Candice Bushnell and Cecily VonZiegesar should check it out.

Reviewed by Jessica H.
Walt Branch Library

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

35th Anniversary of the Watergate Break-In

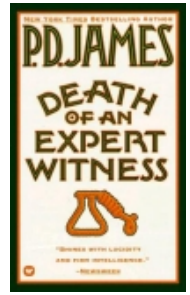
Political corruption today seems uncomfortably commonplace, however on June 17, 1972, a break-in at the Democratic Party Headquarters in the Watergate Hotel launched two years of investigations and revelations that toppled a presidency. On this 35th anniversary, look back at the history of Watergate!

- *The Secret Man* by Bob Woodward [364.132 Woo]
- *Abuse of Power* by Stanley Kutler [364.132 Kut]
- *Watergate* by Fred Emery [364.132 Em]
- *All the President's Men* by Carl Bernstein [364.132 Ber]
- *Observing the Nixon Years* by Jonathan Schell [973.924 Sch]
- *Lost Honor* by John Dean [364.132 Dea]
- *Will: The Autobiography of G. Gordon Liddy* by G. Gordon Liddy [B L6165]
- *"I Gave Them a Sword"* by David Frost [353.03 Fro]
- *The Ends of Power* by H.R. Haldeman [364.132 Hal]

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 June 2007 is P.D. James' classic mystery novel, Death of an Expert Witness.

Customer Book Reviews

Read Reviews and Contribute Your Own

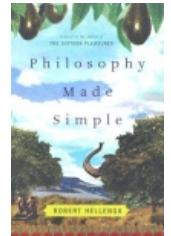
Despite two months of cajoling readers of **The BookGuide Bulletin** into submitting customer book reviews, as part of a challenge, we only received one review from any of you. ☺

But we promised to print one here in the **Bulletin** from every reviewer who submitted, so here's the contribution from **Barbara R.**, one of our regular customer reviewers:

Philosophy Made Simple

By Robert Hellenga [2006]

Middle-aged Rudy is recently widowed, with grown daughters, so he decides that an avocado farm in Texas is the place to be. It certainly is a different life. His new Russian friend owns an elephant named Norma Jean, after Marilyn Monroe. One daughter needs a Hindu wedding. His farm help need "cultural Fridays" at the local, mmm, house of pleasure. To get him through all of it, he takes along a slender book called "Philosophy Made Simple," which highlights the ideas of philosophers from Plato to Sartre and in-between.



What does philosophy have to do with running an avocado farm, love, high-priced Hindu wedding feasts and a very personal elephant? Read and find out. Enjoyable and fun, particularly for those who read Hellenga's Sixteen Pleasures, about one of the daughters featured in this book.

Reviewed by Barbara R.
Patron of the Gere Branch Library

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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