

BookGuide Bulletin



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

Newsletter

April 2008

Vol. 1 No. 21

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

This Month!

Book Talks/Discussion Groups for April/May
New and/or Featured Booklists
Reviewer Profile: **Jodene G.**
Staff Reviews
Focus On: **National Poetry Month**

Book Talks & Book Discussion Groups

Anderson Books Talk [Third Thursday 10:30 a.m.] [441-8540]

April 17 Book Sharing opportunity

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

April 4 Whodunnit? [Evelyn]
Apr 11 Through the Eyes of a Child [Kelley]
Apr 18 Some Personal Favorites [Vicki]
Apr 25 [library closed for In-Service Day]
May 2 Susan's Picks! [Susan]
May 9 Books in Bloom [Kaye]
May 16 Passport to Peril [Donna]
May 23 The War in Europe [Karen]
May 30 Summer of Stories [Rayma] [Season Finale!]

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

Apr 7 Whodunnit? [Evelyn]
Apr 14 The World of Biographies [Amber]
Apr 21 Some Personal Favorites [Vicki]
Apr 28 t.b.a.
May 5 Love for Sale [Lisa]
May 12 Passport to Peril [Donna]
May 19 Sean's Recent Reads [Sean] [Season Finale!]

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

Apr 24 "Gaudy Night" by Dorothy L. Sayers
May 29 "Holmes on the Range" by Steve Hockensmith

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

Apr 10 Locke – "Of Civil Government"
Apr 24 Swift – "Gulliver's Travels"
May 8 Thoreau – "Civil Disobedience" [Season Finale!]

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

We've now got three podcasts available on-line. You can find them either on the BookGuide site – look for the blue graphic next to the titles of Books Talk presentations – or on the main Lincoln City Libraries site – click on the "Blogs and Podcasts" link at the top of the page to get started. And don't forget to add the Podcasts feed to your RSS feed aggregator if you'd like to automatically receive future Podcasts, too!



<http://www.lincolnlibraries.org> or
<http://www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/lists/booktalkbooklists.htm>

Featured Booklists

The following are either "new" booklists added to the **BookGuide** site recently, or older and/or seasonal lists we'd like to shine a light on! **Click on the titles to see the full booklists.**

[The Bancroft Award](#)

Looking for some good non-fiction reads? The Bancroft Award is given annual to the best in works about American History and Diplomacy. Take a look at the winners from 2007 back to 1948!

[A Crop of Words – Nebraska Poets](#)

Celebrate **National Poetry Month** in April by checking out one of the noted Nebraska poets on this list, some of whom are listed below...

FOCUS ON: National Poetry Month

April has been known as **National Poetry Month** since 1996, when the Academy of American Poets introduced it as an opportunity to expand awareness and appreciation of poetry in American society. Nebraska has a rich and varied history in the field of poetry. In 1921, the Nebraska State Legislature named John G. Neihardt as the state's Poet Laureate – an honor he still maintains since his death in 1973. In 1982, William Kloefkorn was named State Poet – a position he still holds. And in 2004, the Library of Congress named Ted Kooser as the U.S. Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry – a title he held for two terms from 2004 to 2006. Among other awards, Kooser also received the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 2005. Try out some of the following additional Nebraska Poets! For more, try a catalog subject search under "**Nebraska -- Poetry**" or "**Poets -- Nebraska**".

- *Loren Corey Eiseley*
- *Twyla Hansen*
- *Weldon Kees*
- *Greg Kosmicki*
- *Greg Kuzma*
- *James Magorian*
- *Mordecai Marcus*
- *Matt Mason*
- *Nancy McCleery*
- *Hilda Raz*
- *Marjorie Saiser*
- *Roy Scheele*
- *Karl Shapiro* (also a Pulitzer Prize winner for Poetry)
- *Susan Strayer Deal*
- *Kathleene West*

See book reviews, site update announcements and literary news in the **BookGuide Blog** – visit us at <http://bookguideatcl.blogspot.com> and leave your own responses to our on-line postings! We also encourage you to subscribe to the RSS feed for the **BookGuide Blog** – so you're right on top of news and information about the BookGuide site!



New Podcasts!

We've had quite a bit of success already with the newest wave of high-tech ways to share book recommendations – **audio podcasts**! The library staff plan to continue recording upcoming Books Talk sessions at Bethany and Gere branches (and possibly at other venues) and make them available for interested patrons to download (or subscribe to via RSS feeds).

Read...Discuss...Repeat!

The April selection for BookGuide's [Read...Discuss...Repeat!](#) feature is Lisa Lutz's popular 2007 light-hearted, humorous mystery/thriller, [The Spellman Files](#).



If you've read this book, we encourage you to stop by the BookGuide site (or our blog) and leave a comment about it! If you haven't read it yet, stop by the [RDR](#) page for background info about the book!

welcome to a new... Reviewer Profile



Our featured Reviewer for April 2008 is **Jodene G.** Jodene has worked for Lincoln City Libraries for several years now and her reviews show up with some regularity on our Staff Recommendations displays and on the BookGuide web site. Reading, reviewing and working in a library are a good fit for her, as she indicates in her responses to our profile questions:

Would you care to share any personal info with our readers -- such as where you grew up, what you read as a child, etc.?

I was born in Kansas City, but prior to living in Lincoln, I lived until I was five in Bob Dylan's hometown of Hibbing, Minnesota. When we get a lot of snow here I always remember those days when the snow drifted up over the roof of our house and am grateful I no longer live there!

Prior to working in libraries I worked for various non-profits and state agencies. When I landed a job at the Nebraska Library Commission I knew I had found my profession. I enrolled in graduate school and did the clichéd nights and weekends of school to obtain my Masters degree in Library Science. I now work as the branch supervisor at Walt Branch in Southwest Lincoln.

How long have you been an active reader, and were there any particular books or authors or other people that "made you a reader"? Has there been any book or author that "changed your life" or strongly influenced you?

The earliest book I remember reading was Dr. Seuss' [And to think that I saw it on Mulberry Street](#). I loved this book so much as a child I would dream the illustrations and asked for my own copy as an older teen.

How important are books and reading to you?

Reading is very important to me. I love a good story, whether it be in a book or movie. A good story has the ability to entertain, move you, or change the way you think. I am always amazed at the abilities some have to put words together and make literary art. I am thankful for all the new authors who continue creating stories for me to read.

How do you select what books to read next?

I love it when I can find a good series! Fortunately, there are many I read so that I don't spend much time waiting for a favorite author to publish a new title. Something I've just started doing is reading anthologies containing works by authors I like in order to find other, new, authors I can begin reading. Over the past year or two I've begun reading Charlaire Harris. I found an anthology in the LCL collection, [Many Bloody Returns](#), which contains

stories by Harris and other authors. Doing this, I have already found some new authors to try.

What do you enjoy about writing book recommendations?

It helps me put down in words what I liked about a book. It also makes me think more about what I read -- it makes me an active participant in the process rather than just a passive reader.

and finally...

If there was only one author you could convince people to read, that author would be:

Laurie R. King. She is a smart author. Her books are well researched, well-written, and interesting. She is one of few authors whose books create a visceral reaction when I'm reading them. In her book, [Folly](#), she describes in detail how a character living alone on an island builds a house by hand. The description is surprisingly interesting! Her books include the series about sleuth Mary Russell who partners with Sherlock Holmes, as well as the Kate Martinelli series about a San Francisco cop. She also has some riveting stand-alones to her name.

[See Jodene's Reviewer Profile \(and her reviews\)](#)

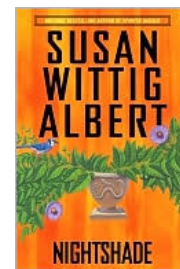
You can see previous profiles of other BookGuide reviewers, by visiting the [Staff Recommendations Index by Reviewers](#) page on the BookGuide web site, and clicking on the [Staff Profile](#) links next to the reviewers' names!

Staff Reviews

[Nightshare](#)

By Susan Wittig Albert

With this book, Wittig Albert brings us another suspenseful installment in the China Bayles series. Herb store owner, China Bayles, continues reluctantly to investigate her late father's suspected murder. This time her husband, affectionately known as McQuaid, takes a more active role in the investigation - even getting some chapters told from his point of view. This book brings to a conclusion the story of China's father begun three books back in [Bleeding Hearts](#). A must read for anyone who enjoys a good mystery, books set in Texas, or cooking or gardening-themed stories.



Reviewed by Jodene G.
Walt Branch Library

You can see other new reviews, every month on the [Staff Recommendations page](#) at the BookGuide web site or posted in the [Book Lovers Discussion and News Blog!](#)

The latest new Reader's List

[The Doctor is In](#) -- submitted by [Linda Mae Van Housen](#)

Click this link -- [to check out other Reader Lists and submit your own!](#)



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 past issues? If you have any suggestions or comments to offer us about the [BookGuide](#) site or the [BookGuide Bulletin](#), please drop us an e-mail at:

bookguide@lincolnlibraries.org



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