

BookGuide Bulletin



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

Newsletter

August 2008

Vol. 1 No. 25

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

This Month!

Book Talks/Discussion Groups for August
New and/or Featured Booklists
Reviewer Profile: Donna G.
One Book – One Lincoln
Submit Your Own Reviews!!
'Casting About

Book Talks & Book Discussion Groups

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

Bethany Books Talk returns in early September

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

Gere Books Talk returns in early September

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

Aug 28 "Champagne for One" by Rex Stout

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

Sep 11 Dewey – "Habits and Will"

Sep 25 Mill – "On Liberty"

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 and/or seasonal lists we'd like to shine a light on! **Click on the titles to see the full booklists.**

[Nebraska Author Don Winslow](#)

Nebraska thriller writer Don Winslow has a new book out – The Dawn Patrol. You can read about this and the rest of Winslow's body of work on this Nebraska Author booklist.

[The Hugo Award Winners](#)

Michael Chabon's alternate history novel [The Yiddish Policemen's Union](#) was awarded both the **Sideways Award** (for alternate histories) and the **Hugo Award** (for best science fiction or fantasy novel of the year) for 2007 at the 2008 World Science Fiction Convention in Denver in early August. You can see some of the other top SF titles selected over the years on our Hugo Award Winners page.

[The Mean Magical Streets: Contemporary Urban Fantasy](#)

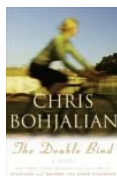
One of the Courtyard Book Chats for July 2008 took a look at some new contemporary urban fantasy series that have gained popularity in the past few years. If vampires, werewolves and witches congregating at your local latte joint appeals to you, then some of the series listed here are right up your alley.

Note to readers seeing this newsletter only as a paper copy – All examples of blue underlined text in this newsletter are hotlinks to pages on the **BookGuide** or **Lincoln City Libraries** web sites. For full functionality, please visit the electronic version of this, and past issues of the **BookGuide Bulletin** at:

<http://www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/newsletters.htm>

Counting Down to September 8th

The five finalists for the 2008 **One Book – One Lincoln** community reading program were announced in June. Extra copies of all five titles have been added to the collection, and **Book Club in a Bag** sets are available for check-out to Book Groups.



The **Five Finalists** are: [Double Bind](#) by Chris Bohjalian, [The Memory of Running](#) by Ron McLarty, [Three Cups of Tea](#) by Greg Mortenson [915.491 Mor], [The Thirteenth Tale](#) by Diane Setterfield and [The Book Thief](#) by Markus Zusak

The final selection will be announced on September 8th, after which the times for book discussions and special programming events will be announced to the general public. A series of preview discussions were held in July and early August, featuring members of the **One Book – One Lincoln** selection committee talking about all five titles (and the process of selecting the finalists), and three of these were recorded for release as Podcasts on the library's web site. You can find links to these, and to much more about all things "One Book"-related at:

www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/obol/obol2008/finalists.htm

welcome to a new... Reviewer Profile



Our featured Reviewer for August 2008 is **Donna G.** Donna is one of the computer technicians in the libraries' Virtual Services department, but she's also an avid reader and her reviews show up with some regularity on our Staff Recommendations displays and on the BookGuide web site. Donna has always enjoyed reading and sharing that reading experience, 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 grew up on a farm near Friend, Nebraska. My mother took me to the library when we drove to town to shop. At the library I met the Bobbsey Twins, Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys. I devoured these books along with the Happy Hollisters, the Dana Girls, Judy Bolton, Cherry Ames, Sue Barton and the Black Stallion series. I then moved on to Agatha Christie, Daphne du Maurier and the Brontes.



How long have you been an active reader, and were there any particular books or authors or other people that "made you a reader"?

I think that I have always been fascinated by words. Learning to read opened a whole new world for me. The mysteries that I read as a child instilled my love of mysteries. Certain books still stand out in my mind - [Rebecca](#), [Jane Eyre](#), [Gone With the Wind](#) and the Nancy Drew books.

How important are books and reading to you?

Reading books is very important to me. I always have three books going. One at home, one that I read while I work out on the Stairmaster and one that I carry with me to read at lunch and while I wait for appointments.

How do you select what books to read next?

I read reviews in the newspaper and online. I get recommendations from my friends and from the [Just Desserts](#) book club members. I also pick up books that have an intriguing title or appealing cover and read the summary on the book flap.

What do you enjoy about writing book recommendations?

I love to share my love of books with people. Writing book reviews and making recommendations give me the chance tell people about books I enjoy.

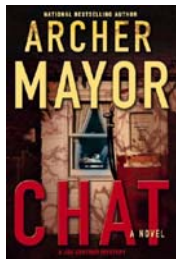
Are there any interesting book- or reading-related stories or bits of trivia in your past that you'd like to share with our readers?

My country schoolteacher, Mrs. Hasseler, read books to us everyday after lunch. One of the books that stand out in my mind is [Swiss Family Robinson](#). A Disney movie based on this book came out shortly after she read it and Mrs. Hasseler took my school to see the movie in York.

and finally...

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

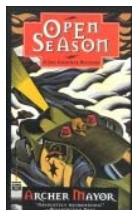
Archer Mayor. He writes a police procedural series set in Vermont. Mayor says that each book is a chapter in a never-ending series. The characters grow and the crimes they solve change as the social issues Vermont faces change. In the first book, [Open Season](#), we meet police Lieutenant Joe Gunther who has to find out why the members of a past trial jury are being targeted by a masked man. The crimes that Gunther solves in succeeding books evolve to Internet predators in his latest book [Chat](#).



[Click Here to see Donna's Reviewer Profile \(and links to her reviews\)](#)

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



Open Season
by Archer Mayor

The town of Brattleboro, Vermont is facing a crime wave. A wealthy young man's dog is stolen. He gets a note telling him where to find his dog. He enters the house, as instructed, and is shot and killed by an elderly woman fearing for her life. A man with a false tattoo assaults a young woman. Joe Gunther, a lieutenant on the Brattleboro Police Department investigates and finds that all three victims were jury members on murder trial several years ago. The powers that be pressure Gunther to not re-open the old murder case, but Gunther persists. [First in the series]

-- recommended by Donna G. -- Eiseley and Walt Branches

Simply Perfect by Mary Balogh



Regency romance writer Mary Balogh completes her *Simply Quartet* series with [Simply Perfect](#). In this final book, Claudia Martin, the very proper headmistress of Miss Martin's School for Girls, finds that her proper world can be a very lonely world. She has succeeded in becoming independent, but at what cost? Then she meets Joseph, the Marquess of Attingsborough, and everything becomes clear. Balogh weaves her usual sensual tale of two people from different worlds finding love amidst problems of grand proportions. Of course they could never be together -- or could they? Read the book to find the [Simply Perfect](#) solution.

-- recommended by Janet K. -- Walt Branch

[Click here to see more Staff Recommendations from this month plus an archive of all past Staff Recommendations by title or reviewer](#)

'Casting About...



'Casting About' is an all-original weekly series of podcast recordings, featuring library staff from throughout the Lincoln City Libraries system -- talking about books, recorded books, DVDs, magazines and much, much more. As we go to press, we've now got eleven episodes of 'Casting About' available on-line, plus 13 podcast recordings of branch book talks, **One Book -- One Lincoln** talks, or **Courtyard Book Chats** downtown. You can find them all either on the BookGuide site -- look for the blue graphic (at left) next to the titles of **Books Talk** presentations at the second link below, on the booktalk booklists page (third link) -- or on the main Lincoln City Libraries site -- click on the **Blogs and Podcasts** link at the top of the page to get started. You can also add the Podcasts feed to your RSS feed aggregator if you'd like to automatically receive future *Books Talk*, *Courtyard Book Chats* and 'Casting About' Podcasts, as soon as they become available!

www.lincolnlibraries.org or
www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/bookgroups.htm or
www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/lists/booktalkbooklists.htm

Submit your own reviews!!

You now have two ways to submit your own review of books or other materials owned by the Lincoln City Libraries. On the BookGuide site, under the category [Reader Connections](#), local patrons of Lincoln City Libraries can submit a **Customer Review** of any material owned by the library system, at any time. **Now**, you can also submit brief reviews directly through the library's online catalog. When looking at the entry for any item in the library catalog, you should see a small **Reader Rating** graphic in the left column (reproduced here at right), showing from 1 to 5 stars, if any readers have thus far submitted a review and rating score for that title. This system, which includes ratings/reviews from library users across the country, both systems allow users to share their thoughts and feelings about books, dvds, music and other library materials with each other.

Customer Reviews

Read Reviews and Contribute 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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