

# CFPL NOVELT NEWS

## *Featured Book Group: The Wednesday Afternoon Book Club (WABC)*

### **Who are we?**

The Wednesday Afternoon Book Club (WABC) began with several newly retired educators who missed reading and discussing YA books. The group has evolved and each month we read an adult title as well as a YA selection. Our members represent several occupations but we all share the enjoyment of talking about books.

### **How do we choose our books?**

In September every member nominates 3 adult titles, a list is sent via email, evaluations are completed independently, and a

vote is taken in November (each member has a total of 12 votes). The top 12 become the list for the following year. The YA list is compiled from a list of suggestions and then distributed to the members.\

### **How do we keep track of our books and discussions?**

There is a communal journal that includes an image of the book cover, a very brief blurb (to help us remember what the book was about), and space where attendees sign in and enter a brief opinion.

### **Which books have we liked and why?**

Some of the titles we have most enjoyed are The Help, Unbroken, The Cape Ann, Forgotten Fire (YA), and Long Walk to Water (YA).

### **Which books have we not liked and why?**

Our “best” discussions often occur when we do not really like the book. However, sometimes we get to the group not enjoying what we read only to discover the author had a lot to say and at the end of the hour we leave with a different opinion.



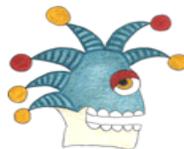
### **New Book Club Titles**

- The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves, and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History  
by Robert M. Edsel
- Still Life With Bread Crumbs  
by Anna Quindlen
- Philomena: a Mother, Her Son and a Fifty Year Search  
by Martin Sixsmith

### *Suggested Website:*

Are you a lover of mystery and suspense novels? Have you heard about “Stop, You’re Killing Me?” This website is fantastic! Each month a list of new mystery and suspense titles in hardcover, paperback, large print, and audio is published.

Can you remember the character, but not the author? No worries. You can search by both



## **Stop, You’re Killing Me!**

**A website to die for ... if you love mysteries.**

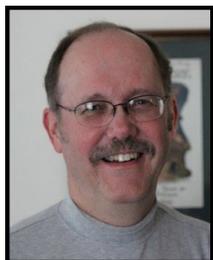
[www.StopYoureKillingMe.com](http://www.StopYoureKillingMe.com)

on this website, and retrieve the series titles, published order, and years published. Many mystery award lists (both winners and nominated) abound. If you prefer a particular time period, dates are indexed, so you can locate your favorite period in

history for murders, too. The location index allows searches by your favorite mystery locale. Even jobs of lead characters are indexed, just in case you like your detective to have a particular profession. On top of all that, there’s a free newsletter.

**An Evening With  
Author David Craig  
Thursday, August 7,  
at 7pm in the Library  
Meeting Room**

Local author David Craig will discuss his books, which will be available for sale and signing after the program. Whether it is Alzheimer's mental illness, or stories about his dog, Dr. Craig writes books that touch the heart and encourage the reader. Dr. Craig is the author of *Taking Care of Joe*, *The Birds Sang a Sad Song*, and *The Gospel According to Molly*.



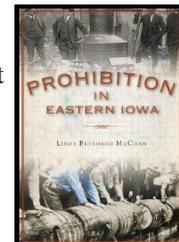
**Author Linda Betsinger McCann visiting Cedar Falls Public Library**



**Author Linda Bestinger McCann  
Tuesday, August 19, at 7 p.m.  
in the second floor Meeting Room**

Local author Linda Betsinger McCann will discuss her latest book, *Prohibition in Eastern Iowa*, an account of how ordinary people in Iowa were swept up in the conflict between the factions that obeyed the law and those who flaunted it.

A book-signing will follow the presentation, with copies available for sale.



**Open Book Discussions**

Friends of the Cedar Falls Public Library will sponsor a discussion on *One Summer: America 1927* by Bill Bryson and/or another book about the time period.

Possible selections, but not limited to include *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin, *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood* by John M. Berry, or *The Spirit of St. Louis*

by Charles A. Lindbergh on August 26, at 10 a.m.

The Friends will also sponsor a discussion of *Call to Midwife* by Jennifer Worth on September 2, at 7 p.m. in the Cedar Falls Public Library Conference Room.

The Goodreads group will discuss YA books throughout the month of August.

The Waterloo Public Library will be discussing *Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead* by Sheryl Sandberg on September 4 at 10 a.m.

Waterloo Public Library's Facebook online book club, **SoMe**, will discuss *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward in August.

These groups are open to everyone.

**Summer Reads**

Liane Moriarty is poised for another big hit with *Big Little Lies*. Toss three female friends in with a little biting humor, a potential mystery, ex-husbands with new wives, and enjoy Moriarty's edgy style of chick lit.

Gabrielle Zevin's *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikery* delivers "an unforgettable tale of transformation and second chances, an irresistible affirmation of why we read, and why we love."

If you'd like to lose yourself in a generational saga set against a steamy Southern backdrop, try *The Hurricane Sisters* by Dorothea Benton Frank. Complex relationships are tested by hurricanes both real and metaphorical.

Chris Bohjalian's *Close Your Eyes, Hold Hands* is set in a near-future Vermont after a nuclear accident. Emily Shephard is on her own after this devastation, bent on survival and overcoming her grief and guilt.

J.K. Rowling's newest dark hero, Cormoran Strike, returns in *The Silkworm*, a great British crime novel. A poison-pen author meets nasty fate, and Strike steps in to see who was desperate enough to take action.

Diana Gabaldon fans will be excited to have *Written In My Own Heart's Blood* for summer escapism. Number eight in The Outlander series, "historical fiction with a Moebius twist."

Iowa's own Heather Gudenkauf has released *Little Mercies*, a "powerful and emotionally charged tale about motherhood and justice."