

Booktalking

A Reader's Advisory Service from the Davenport Public Library

321 Main Street * Davenport, Iowa 52801 * 563.326.7832 * www.davenportlibrary.com

April 2008



April Showers bring... a lot of time to read!

Are you prepared for the rainy season? It's one of my favorite times of the year! Imagine, a whole afternoon spent reading instead of digging up weeds, painting the house, or other outdoor chores. Try out some of these new favorites to help you see the sunshine behind the clouds:

The Friday Night Knitting Club, by Kate Jacobs

* Described as "Steel Magnolias taking place in Manhattan."

The Post-Birthday World, by Lionel Shriver

* How would one woman's life change if she decides to kiss a man who is not her husband?

Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert

* A compelling memoir that will touch your heart & soul.

Pinkerton's Secret, by Eric Lerner

* Biographical fiction about the Pinkerton National Detective Agency and the first female detective, Kate Warne.

The Outcast, by Sadie Jones

* The setting is post WWII suburban London, featuring a family's love, loss, and redemption.

Lush Life, by Richard Price

* "A novel that reads like a movie in prose." (NY Times)

Song of Everlasting Sorrow, by Wang Anyi

* Fashion serves as a lens as the main character goes from fame to anonymity in Maoist China.

The Paper Marriage, by Susan Kay Law

* Beautifully written, contemporary relationship drama. What do you do when your husband is in a coma?

New Blog Features Books & Reading

The Reference Department of the Davenport Public Library is pleased to announce the creation of a new blog entitled, "Info Café." A blog is an online journal that encourages comments and postings from its readers.

The Library invites the public to visit the Info Café as a resource for information, focusing on reader's advisory (good reads, viewing, and listening recommendations) and other reference news, tips, and helpful websites.

You can access this blog by going to the following web address: blogs.davenportlibrary.com/reference, or link to it from the Library's website at www.davenportlibrary.com.



Recently reviewed books from Info Café:

Flower Confidential, by Amy Stewart

Three Bags Full, by Leonie Swann

The Return of Jonah Gray, by Heather Cochran

In the Defense of Food, by Michael Pollan

Booktalking is a bi-monthly publication produced by the Public Relations staff of the Davenport Public Library. If you would like to submit content or ideas to *Booktalking*, please email Angela at: acampbell@davenportlibrary.com.



The "Edgar" Nominees Announced

Mystery Writers of America is proud to announce its Nominees for the 2008 Edgar Allan Poe Awards, honoring the best in mystery fiction, non-fiction, television, and film published or produced in 2007. The Edgar Awards will be presented to the winners at a Gala Banquet on May 1, 2008.

Best Novel Nominees:

Christine Falls, by Benjamin Black
Priest, by Ken Bruen
The Yiddish Policemen's Union, by Michael Chabon
Soul Patch, by Reed Farrel Coleman
Down River, by John Hart

Best First Novel by an American Author Nominees

Missing Witness, by Gordon Campbell
In the Woods, by Tana French
Snitch Jacket, by Christopher Goffard
Head Games, by Craig McDonald
Pyres, by Derek Nikitas

Best Paperback Original Nominees

Queenpin, by Megan Abbott
Blood of Paradise, by David Corbett
Cruel Poetry, by Vicki Hendricks
Robbie's Wife, by Russell Hill
Who is Conrad Hirst, by Kevin Wignall

Best Fact Crime Nominees

The Birthday Party, by Stanley Alpert
Reclaiming History, by Vincent Bugliosi
Chasing Justice, by Kerry Max Cook
Relentless Pursuit, by Kevin Flynn
Sacco & Vanzetti, by Bruce Watson

Best Short Story Nominees

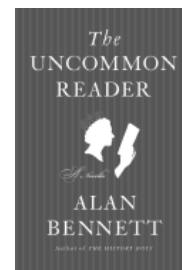
"The Catch" - *Still Waters*, by Mark Ammons
"Blue Note" - *Chicago Blues*, by Stuart M. Kaminsky
"Hardly Knew Her" - *Dead Man's Hand*, by Laura Lippman
"The Golden Gopher" - *Los Angeles Noir*, by Susan Straight
"Uncle" - *A Hell of a Woman*, by Daniel Woodrell

To view more of the nominees, including "Best Juvenile," "Best Young Adult," "Best Play," "Best Television Episode Teleplay," and "Best Motion Picture Screenplay," visit the Mystery Writers of America webpage at www.mysterywriters.org.

The Uncommon Reader By Alan Bennett Reviewed by Reference Librarian, Lynn Seline

A very quick read (120 pages) about the Queen of England who discovers a love of reading when she wanders into a bookmobile. She reads widely and indiscriminately with the help of a young palace employee. She finds that she is changed by what she reads as well as by the process of reading.

The Queen as a character is immensely likeable and honest, yet the author gives insight into the very real class and status differences she has always had to live with. One (as the Queen refers to herself) gets an insider view of what life as a monarch may be like.



The act of reading as subversive and suspect is also explored - very interesting for those who love reading, books and libraries. Though the style is light and funny, there are many poignant moments as well. Highly recommended.

READiscover
Your Library! 
www.davenportlibrary.com

Beginning June 2, and running through July 24, the Davenport Public Library will be offering its one-of-a-kind Summer Reading Program to the community. Expect over 100 educational and entertaining programs for people of all ages.

Additionally, adults can read 8 books to earn a great finishing prize - a beach mat that collapses into a book bag. Finishing the program also puts you into the grand prize drawing for a MP3 player. It's simple to enter. Come to the Library on June 2 to register and to enjoy summer reading.