



WORDS BY THE WATER

The Drury Lane Books Newsletter

Vol. 23, May 2018

TALKING BOOKS By Joan Drury



Owner Joan Drury, Gertie, Manager Gwen Danfelt, Future Reader Grace Danfelt

For most of us avid readers, there are certain categories or types of books we prefer. For instance, I am particularly drawn to books that deal with WWII. One example would be *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn, based on real people and events in both WWI and WWII. It is about a network of women spies during the wars, primarily English and French women, but other Europeans as well. This book was difficult to read at times but so important to know these facts, these true-life details of incredibly courageous and strong women.

Also based on real women in England during WWII, *Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein is about women flyers and spies in Great Britain and on the continent. More than anything, this story is about friendship and the high price it can cost. It is a difficult, astounding, harsh, and dazzling book. Although I read it many years ago, I can still think of certain parts of the book and begin to cry. Don't miss it!

Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys is an unusual book about a handful of disparate characters, all soldiers or refugees, fleeing to the west in front of the advancing Soviets during WWII. These people board a ship, the Wilhelm Gustloff, in the Baltic Sea heading to Germany from Poland. They are about to be part of the single greatest tragedy in maritime history. This is the story of four teen-agers born of separate homelands, all with their own stories,

secrets, and voices. This book employs a different and gripping style of an enormous and little-known disaster.

The Postmistress by Sarah Blake begins with American radio announcers in England, France, and other European countries bringing the war in Europe into American homes via the radio before our own involvement occurred. This is an extraordinary book about plausible and likeable characters in a small town on the East Coast of the U.S. who are afraid, confused, uncertain, and experiencing just about every other feeling to be found. The reader identifies so strongly with the characters that we FEEL their feelings as if they were our own.

Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows wrote *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, an epistolary novel celebrating literature and human connections and the absolute necessity of these two in one's life, particularly during trying times. The letters move back and forth between Guernsey, a Channel Island occupied by the Germans, and a woman in London during WWII. Stunning descriptions of the island and loving depictions of the characters make it impossible to put down.

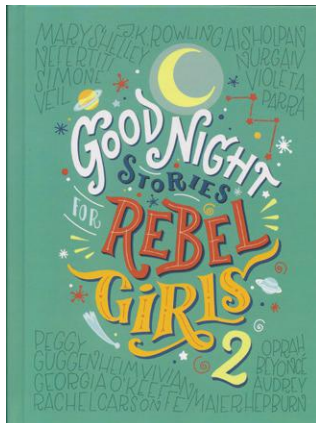
"...so far my only thought is that reading keeps you from going gaga."

— Mary Ann Shaffer, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*

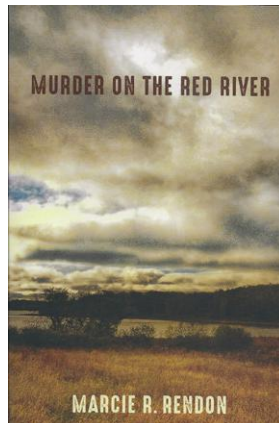
We now have an online store!

- Order books from us anytime, anywhere at drurylanebooks.com.
- Shop our collection plus any book in print, over 9 million titles
- Shipped to you or pick up in store
- Events, newsletters, and book picks as well!

Best Sellers 2017

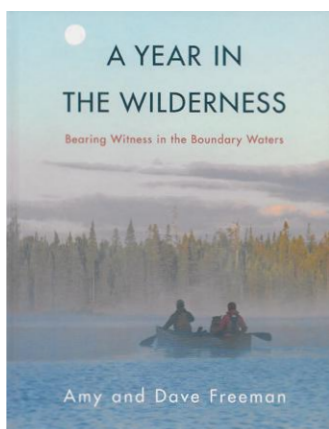


Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls by Elena Favilli & Francesca Cavallo was far and away our best seller in 2017! Volume 2 is now available as well.



GENERAL FICTION

Murder on the Red River Marcie Rendon
A Man Called Ove Fredrik Backman
Still Life Louise Penny
A Gentleman in Moscow Amor Towles
Folly Laurie King
The Handmaid's Tale Margaret Atwood



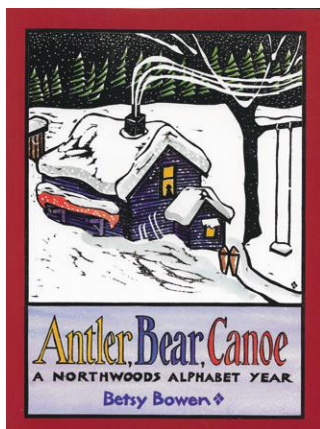
REGIONAL FICTION & NON-FICTION

Rock Picker's Guide to Lake Superior Mark Stensaas
Once in a Blue Moon Lodge Lorna Landvik
Iron Lake William Kent Krueger
Sulfur Springs William Kent Krueger
Lake Superior Rocks & Minerals Bob Lynch
Waterfalls: Minnesota's North Shore Eve & Gary Wallenga
North Shore Coloring Book Mike Klein
The Superior Life Jean Miriam Larson
White Birch, Red Hawthorn Nora Murphy
Wintering Peter Gey
In Winter's Kitchen Beth Dooley
A Year in the Wilderness Dave & Amy Freeman
Common Backyard Weeds Teresa Marrone



“We drove for a hundred hours past a lake called Superior. It was as big as the ocean.”

— Yvonne Pearson,
 Sadie Braves the Wilderness



CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Goodnight Loon Abe Sauer
Antler, Bear, Canoe Betsy Bowen
Little Moose Finger Puppet Books
Seven Ways to Trick a Troll Lisa Lunge-Larsen & Kari Vick
Agate Joy Dey & Nikki Johnson
The Girl Who Drank the Moon Kelly Barnhill

Events Calendar 2018

WRITER'S SALONS

Join us to hear authors read from their work, answer questions, and discuss writing and literature.

- June 30 7 PM Margot Galt *The Heart Beat of Wings*
A chapbook of poetry
- July 14 7 PM Bart Sutter *Nordic Accordion: Poems in a Scandinavian Mood*
New poetry collection
- July 28 11 AM Yvonne Pearson *Sadie Braves the Wilderness*
Children's picture book
- Aug 3 7 PM Kelly Barnhill *Dreadful Young Ladies*
Short stories for adults
- AUG 11 7 PM Ibtisam Barakat *Balcony on the Moon, Tasting the Sky*
Memoirs of a Palestinian childhood
- Aug 25 7 PM Brenda Child & Jonathan Thunder *Bowwow Powwow*
Children's picture book
- Sept 22 7 PM Jean Pendziwol *The Lightkeeper's Daughter*
Novel set on Lake Superior
- Sept 28 7 PM Patricia Hampl *The Art of the Wasted Day*
Memoir & travelogue



Margot Galt



Jean E. Pendziwol



Bart Sutter



Yvonne Pearson



Kelly Barnhill



Ibtisam Barakat

FULL MOON READINGS

Each full moon we gather outside around the fire to hear local writers read their own work or the work of others. Join us to enjoy the spoken word and the moon rising over the lake.

- June 28 8 PM Amy Schmidt
- July 26 7:30 PM Music with Roxann Berglund & Briand Morrison
- Aug 26 7:30 PM Children's Book Read-Aloud
- Sept 24 6:30 PM Rachel Andres
- Oct 24 6 PM Kate Fitzgerald



Jonathan Thunder



Brenda Child

THE MUFFIN MAN STORY HOUR

Captivating picture books read aloud for young children and the young at heart

Saturdays 11 AM Memorial Day through Labor Day



Patricia Hampl



Kevin The Muffin Man

Staff Recommends



HILLARY'S RECOMMENDATION

The Woman in the Window by A. J. Finn

This book is a fast-paced, page-turning thriller. It involves the story of a woman, who worked as a therapist and becomes agoraphobic after a traumatic event, not revealed until much later in the book. Her world becomes one of alcohol and drugs to cope, observing the world through her binoculars focused on her neighbor's properties. One day, she thinks she has observed a murder in that neighbor's house or has she? Let the reader discover.

JANE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating by Elisabeth Tova Bailey

A wonderful non-fiction story about Bailey, bedridden by an illness, and a wild snail that has taken up residence on her nightstand. She discovers solace and a sense of wonder that the snail brings to her. I, as well as Bailey, learned a great deal about our place in the world. This book is on my gift-giving list for years to come.

*"Reading aloud
A favorite book
An audience of sparrows"*

—Jon J Muth, Hi, Koo!

GRACE (AGE 3) & GWEN'S FAVORITE PICTURE BOOKS

One North Star

by Phyllis Root,
illustrated by Beckie Prange
& Betsy Bowen

The entire Betsy Bowen canon is worth having in your library, for the wonderful art and focus on Northwoods ecology and culture. Her most recent collaboration with Phyllis Root is a counting book that introduces a WIDE range of Minnesota flora and fauna. There is a lot to learn in this book, so it will grow with your children. Right now, Grace likes the page with otters and pointing out the North Star in each corner. I enjoy learning the names of flowers and insects!

Hi Koo!: A Year of Seasons

by Jon Muth

Muth is a favorite in our house. His recurring character is a wise, friendly, Zen-inspired panda bear depicted in frame-worthy watercolors. Each page is a haiku describing an aspect of the season and a letter of the alphabet, as Koo and his friends (a human brother and sister) explore and play. There are tons of books that follow the seasons through the alphabet but many are rather boring. This one is clever and thoughtful with underlying values of mindfulness and contentment.

Love Is

by Diane Adams,
illustrated by Claire Keane

Oh-so-sweet rhyming story of a little girl who finds a lost duckling on her city street and cares for her until the duck is grown and ready to fly away. The metaphor of all the parenting stages, from waking up for nighttime feedings to mourning an empty nest, is right on. Grace likes the picture of the duck—swimming and splashing in the bathtub. I like the urban setting (for a change of scene!) and the poetry of the verse.

Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions

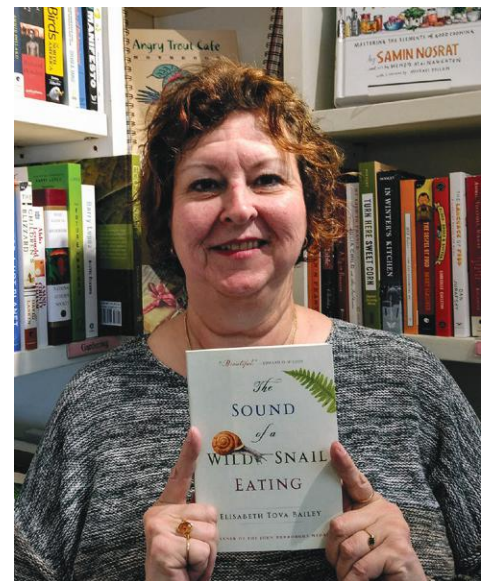
by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Not a children's book, but this 60 page manifesto is my new go-to baby shower gift. It is a letter to an expectant parent, (a friend of the author), and the tone is great for new parents: clear, concise, honest, hopeful, supportive. It is also an accessible primer on feminism in our culture today and how it can inform your parenting, whether you are raising girls or boys.

A Book That Takes its Time: An Unhurried Adventure in Creative Mindfulness

by Irene Smit & Astrid van der Hulst

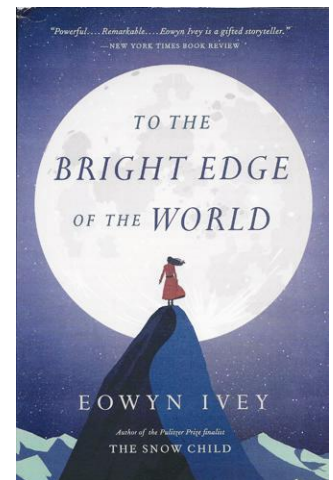
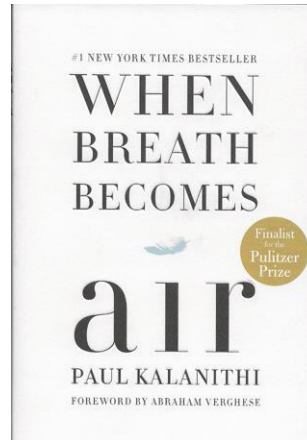
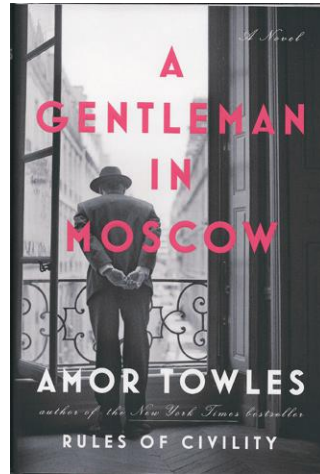
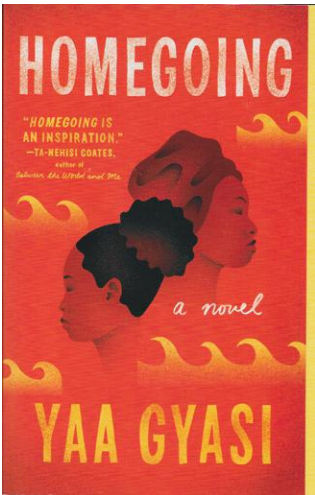
At first look, you might think this is a book for young children. It is not! Remember when you were a child? Remember staring at a ladybug or a caterpillar for hours on end? We had all the time in the world. In our busy, hectic, scheduled days, this book brings us back to surprises, spontaneous get-togethers, and idleness through creative activities. I am finding my childlike wonder for living again by actively participating in this book.



What Book Groups in Cook County are Reading 2018

There are two motives for reading a book: one, that you enjoy it; the other, that you can boast about it."

— Bertrand Russell



801 BOOK CLUB

Red Sparrow Jason Matthews
Salvage the Bones Jesmyn Ward
When the English Fall David Williams

AVID READERS

Rules of Civility Amor Towles
The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane Lisa See
Annabel Kathleen Winter

THE BOOKIES

Hidden Figures Margot Lee Shetterly
A Gentleman in Moscow Amor Towles
The Latecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir Kao Kalia Yang

THE BOOK TROUTS

Ali and Nino: A Love Story Kurban Said
The Shadow of the Wind Carlos Ruiz Zafon
Homegoing Yaa Gyasi

BOOKS THAT BIND

Americanah Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
The Sense of an Ending Julian Barnes
Bless Me Ultima Rudolfo Anaya

HOVLAND BOOK GROUP

People of the Book Geraldine Brooks
A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota
Editor Sun Yung Shin
The Rosie Project Graeme Simsion

NO GUILT BOOK GROUP

The Latecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir Kao Kalia Yang
Station Eleven Emily St. John Mandel
Homegoing Yaa Gyasi

SHAKESPEARE READERS GROUP

This group is public and meets October - May to read Shakespeare plays.
Measure for Measure, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Henry VI*

SENIOR CENTER BOOK CLUB

(OPEN TO PUBLIC)
Homegoing Yaa Gyasi
When Breath Becomes Air Paul Kalanithi
A Man Called Ove Fredrik Backman

WEST OF EDEN BOOK CLUB

Born a Crime Trevor Noah
Animal Dreams Barbara Kingsolver
The Story of Edgar Sawtelle David Wroblewski

WEST END BEER AND BOOK POSSE

Brown Dog Jim Harrison
The Night Birds Thomas Maltman
Origin by Dan Brown

READ IT OR NOT, HERE I COME

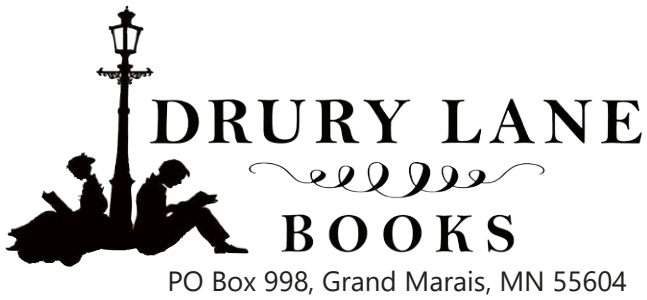
To the Bright Edge of the World Eowyn Ivey
The Girl Who Drank the Moon Kelly Barnhill
Lincoln in the Bardo George Saunders

WESTENDERS

A Gentleman in Moscow Amor Towles
Future Home of the Living God Louise Erdrich
Sing, Unburied, Sing Jesmyn Ward

WHOLE LOT OF WOMEN WINE AND WORDS

The Story of Edgar Sawtelle David Wroblewski
A Gentleman in Moscow Amor Towles
Ordinary Grace William Kent Krueger



HOURS 2018

May & June
Mon - Sat 10-5

July & Aug
Mon-Thurs 9-6
Fri & Sat 9-8
Sun 10-4

Sept & Oct
Mon-Sat 10-5
Sun 10-4

Open all winter,
call or check website for open hours

“This is the problem of history. We cannot know that which we were not there to see and hear and experience for ourselves. We must rely upon the words of others.”

— Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing