

BookGuide Bulletin



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

Newsletter

July 2008

Vol. 1 No. 24

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

This Month!

Book Talks/Discussion Groups for July/August
New and/or Featured Booklists
Adult Summer Reading Program
One Book – One Lincoln
'Casting About' – BookGuide podcast series
Focus On: **Traveling Nebraska**

Book Talks & Book Discussion Groups

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

Bethany Books Talk is on hiatus until the Fall.

Courtyard Book Chats...in the Garden! [Tuesdays
in June/July 12:15 p.m.] [441-8530]

July 15 The Arts in Literature
July 22 Books I Found by Using **LibraryThing**
July 29 Biographies: Looking to Score!

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

Gere Books Talk is on hiatus until the Fall.

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

July 31 "St. Alban's Fire" by Archer Mayor
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]

Great Books Discussions are on hiatus until September.

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.**

[If You Like...Janet Evanovich](#)

Her latest Stephanie Plum adventure, [Fearless Fourteen](#), has just arrived and is on the New York Times Bestsellers List. If you've already burned your way through it, you might want to try some of these other authors, many of whom capture the same sense of wit and adventure as Evanovich.

[If You Like...James Patterson](#)

Thriller and suspense author James Patterson is known for his fast-paced, action-packed, plot-driven novels...which often come out two-per-year. If you've read his latest, [Sail](#), and can't wait for his next, try sampling some of the authors on this "readalike" list. Many have similar writing styles of Patterson.

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>



Adult Summer Reading Program

The **Adult Summer Reading Program** has been a smash success this summer, with literally thousands of book slips turned in by active summer readers.

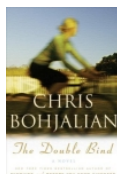
If you haven't been participating, you can still take part through the end of July. Adults can [register online](#) or at their local library. All participants receive a booklet that allows them to track their summer reading. Adult readers have been encouraged to read (or listen to) at least four books, between May 30th and July 31st.

For each book a participant reads, they can fill out a slip to be entered into a drawing for a Book Lovers Bag at their local library branch. If they read (or listen to) the minimum 4 books, participants can fill out a form to be entered into a Grand Prize drawing at the end of the summer. Participants in the **Adult Summer Reading Program** must be 18 or older.



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 titles (and authors) are:



The titles, and authors, 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 is scheduled for July and August, with members of the selection committee talking about how the five finalists were selected. You can attend any of these public sessions at:

Saturday, July 26th, 2:00-3:00 – Bluestem Books, 137 S. 9th St.
Sunday, July 27th, 2:00-3:00 – Lee Booksellers, Edgewood Shopping Center
Tuesday, July 29th, 7:00-8:00 – A Novel Idea Bookstore, 118 N. 14th St.
Thursday, July 31st, 7:00-8:00 – Barnes & Noble, 50th & "O" St.
Sunday, August 3rd, 2:00-3:00 – Barnes & Noble, Southpointe Pavilions

You can find out more about all things "One Book"-related at:

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

FOCUS ON: Traveling Nebraska

July is one of the most popular months of the year for family vacations and sight-seeing. While traveling to far-flung locales is certainly popular, we'd also like to emphasize the ways in which our own Cornhusker State might appeal to those looking for vacation ideas. The Lincoln City Libraries have a wide variety of materials related to traveling in Nebraska, and the sights and sounds you might find. Stop in and check out some of the following recently-released titles about travel in Nebraska! For more, try a catalog subject search under "Nebraska", "Nebraska – Description and Travel" or "Nebraska – History".

- *To Bucktail and Back: A Million Miles of Memories*, by Tom Allan [070.44 All]
- *Cinematical Journeys*, by Mike Walker [791.43 Wal]
- *The Complete Roadside Guide to Nebraska, 2007*, by Alan Boye [917.82 Boy]
- *The Nebraska Landscape*, by Michael Forsburg [917.82 For]
- *Interior Places*, by Lisa Knopp [917.82 Kno]
- *Nebraska: Off the Beaten Path, 5th Edition*, by Hannah McNally [917.82 McN]
- *Nebraska Impressions*, by Steve Mulligan [917.82 Mul]
- *Iowa, Nebraska, Travel Smart*, by Kyle Munson [917.82 Mun]
- *My Nebraska, the Good, the Bad and the Husker*, by Roger Welsch [917.82 Wel]
- *Marking Time: Nebraska's Historic Places*, by Bobbi Olson [978.2 qOls]
- *Nebraska* [DVD 917.82 Neb]

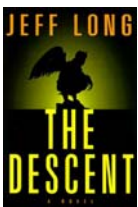
Staff Reviews

From Dead to Worse by Charlaïne Harris

With destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina still adversely affecting Louisiana residents, including the supernatural community, telepath Sookie Stackhouse discovers family she never knew she had and once again risks her life for both the Were and Vampire communities. This latest series installment (published in May 2008) further cements Sookie's relationship with the supernatural community - every one and every thing from witches to werpanthers to fairies to vampires - as the Were community prepares for going public as vampires did years earlier. With a surprising yet pleasing ending, this one is hard to put down!



-- recommended by Jodene G. – Walt Branch



The Descent by Jeff Long

What if hell were a real place underneath our feet? That's the premise of Jeff Long's The Descent, which is a rip-roaring adventure book. Mankind has seen demons, gargoyles, and Satan since the dawn of time. What if these creatures were real? The plot of this book sucks you in to a place you never want to visit but can't turn away from. The characters are interesting but the "what if-ness" of the story is what kept me turning the pages.

-- recommended by Deanne J. - Gere Branch

The Prestige [a movie on DVD]

Marvelously dark period drama with heavy doses of fantasy and mystery. Two turn-of-the-century Victorian stage magicians begin a rivalry and feud that involves one-upsmanship, thievery, and manipulations of loved ones, sabotage, and ultimately murder. This film is exceptionally atmospheric -- filmed, where possible, with natural lighting. The



set designs are gorgeous. And the acting, on the parts of Christian Bale and Hugh Jackman, is wonderful. The script, based on an award-winning novel by Christopher Priest, is by the same writer/director who brought us Memento, and this summer's upcoming hit Batman: The Dark Knight, so be prepared for lots of twists and turns. This is NOT, however, a movie for kids...it has a very dark tone, and by the end you realize that both magicians are willing to sacrifice their humanity and become monsters to outdo the other. Nevertheless, a highly recommendable movie.

-- recommended by Scott C. – Bennett Martin Public Library



STORI Telling by Tori Spelling

This is a great autobiography from Tori Spelling herself, most notably famous for her television character, Donna Martin in Beverly Hills 90210 which was produced by her father, Aaron Spelling. The actresses' personal life has been filling celebrity gossip columns ever since she landed her breaking role in one of her father's weekly TV series during her late teens. Belonging to one of California's most wealthy families, Tori has chronicled juicy snippets of her lonely, but elaborate childhood, the much publicized relationship with her mother, a nose job at the age of 15, the fight to be taken seriously in Hollywood as a talented actress, her paltry disinheritance from her father, and most notably a fairytale wedding to the wrong man and then scandalously stealing a married man from another woman. Finally settling down to family life with the man of her dreams, Tori describes her recent changes in life, most notably her excitement over finally having the "normal" family life she has always wished for and learning to subside in Hollywood on a much more modest income. Tori discusses her newest ventures and projects such as the Oxygen channel's series Tori & Dean Inn Love and Tori & Dean Home Sweet Hollywood.

-- recommended by Jessica H. – Walt Branch Library

[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. Each week, you can download the latest episode to hear a team of two or three library staff members holding a casual discussion about both new releases and classics that deserve a second look. Content includes fiction and non-fiction, with material appropriate for teens to adults.



As we go to press, we've now got eight episodes of 'Casting About' available on-line, plus nine podcast recordings of branch book 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 Bloggs 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

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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