

Author Ivan Doig Makes Bainbridge 'Whistling' Stop

By RACHEL PRITCHETT
RPRITCHETT@KITSAPSUN.COM

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

Ivan Doig, author of novels that celebrate America's West and human relationships, visits Eagle Harbor Book Co. today to introduce his newest work, "The Whistling Season."

Store organizers have brought in 50 extra chairs in anticipation of strong local interest in Doig's visit to the Winslow bookstore, his fifth, said Mary Gleysteen at the store.

Doig's presentation is at 7:30 p.m.

"The Whistling Season" takes place in 1909 in the Marias Coulee in Montana prairie country and centers around the lives of students of a one-room schoolhouse and homesteaders drawn by a massive irrigation project.

Big Sky country is what Doig knows best, having been raised there mostly by his father and grandmother. His

AUTHOR ON THE ISLAND

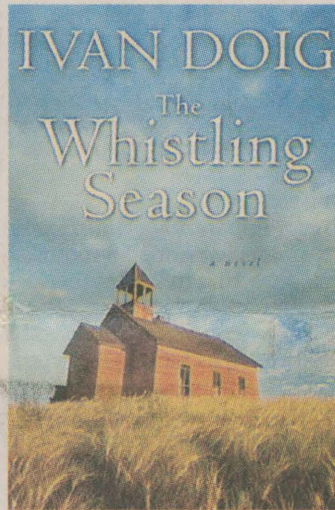
Ivan Doig visits Bainbridge Island's Eagle Harbor Book Co. at 7:30 p.m. today to introduce his new book, "The Whistling Season" (Harcourt, \$25). The event is free, but early arrival is recommended. The store is at 157 Winslow Way E, just west of Highway 305. Call (206) 842-5332 for information.

life was formed among the shepherders and characters of small-town saloons and valley ranches.

The author of "Dancing at the Rascal Fair" and "Prairie Nocturne" is a product of journalism hothouse Northwestern University. He has worked as a freelance journalist, magazine editor and ranch hand.

His first book, "This House of Sky," was a National Book Award finalist. He holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington.

Doig lives in Seattle.



COURTESY PHOTO
"The Whistling Season" is the new novel by author Ivan Doig.

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Writer strikes gold with Montana tales

Author Ivan Doig reads at Eagle Harbor Books July 6.

By Marcie Miller
What's Up writer

Seattle author Ivan Doig is a writer and a storyteller. The first gets his words down on the page in a way that is a joy to read. The second helps him spin a yarn that skirts the line between truth and tall tale. The combination is a winning formula that has made him one of the most popular writers of our time.

His new novel, "The Whistling Season," like many of his books, is set in Montana. The year is 1909, shortly before Halley's Comet makes its 1910 appearance in the "Big Sky" above Montana, and across the world.

The story is narrated by Paul, who is the oldest child of the Milliron family. He lives with his father, Oliver, and brothers Damon and Toby in a cabin in Montana. The all-male family is struggling to adjust to life without their mother, who died suddenly. Avid readers of several newspapers, life takes a turn when Oliver reads an intriguing ad: "Can't cook but doesn't bite."

Oliver decides they could use help, housekeeper Rose Llewellyn and her "font-of-knowledge" brother, Morris

Morgan, enter their lives and nothing is the same. Rose indeed can't cook, but she can whistle, which she does constantly. Morgan, with a dubious history but a head full of information, is soon pressed into service as a teacher in the one-room schoolhouse the boys attend. He introduces Paul to Latin, opening his world beyond the confines of the homestead.

They say that Latin is a dead language, but it comes alive on the pages of "The Whistling Season," and it has a place in Doig's heart.

"I had a powerful (Latin) teacher in high school," Doig said in a recent phone interview from his Seattle home. "She made us diagram sentences in Latin. Now there's taking the language apart

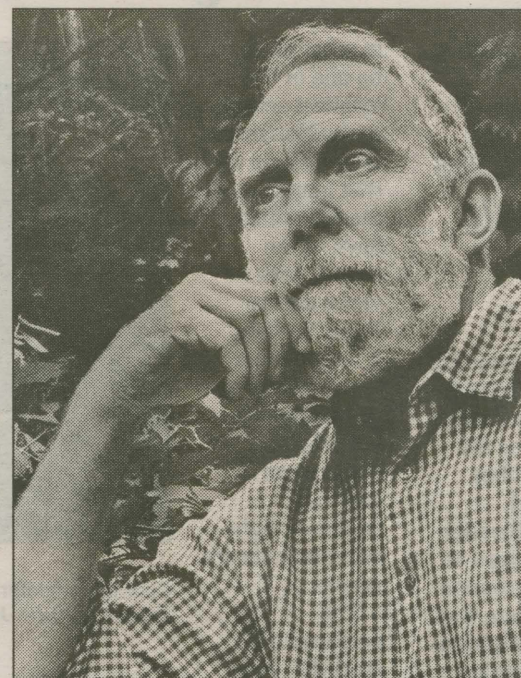


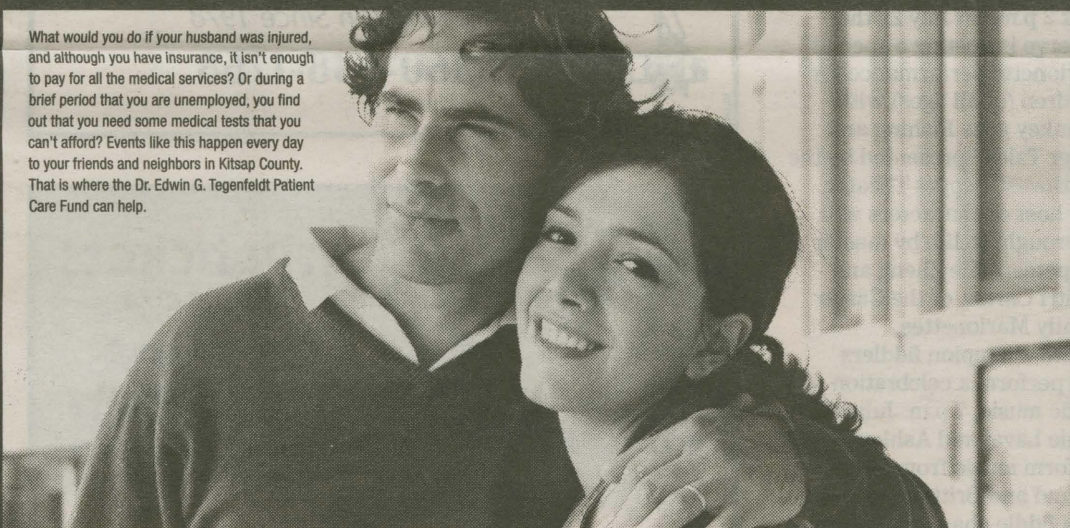
Photo by Marion Ettinger

Author Ivan Doig draws on his Montana childhood for his newest novel, "The Whistling Season."

It's only one night...

but it can change the life of a neighbor in need.

What would you do if your husband was injured, and although you have insurance, it isn't enough to pay for all the medical services? Or during a brief period that you are unemployed, you find out that you need some medical tests that you can't afford? Events like this happen every day to your friends and neighbors in Kitsap County. That is where the Dr. Edwin G. Tegenfeldt Patient Care Fund can help.



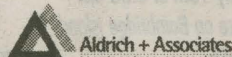
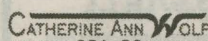
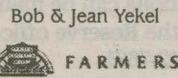
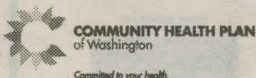
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Proceeds from Care To Jazz benefit the Dr. Edwin G. Tegenfeldt Patient Care Fund. This fund is used to pay for ancillary services like x-rays, lab work, blood tests, and prescription medication for uninsured and underinsured patients.

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to see how it works. It was extremely valuable to me."

Paul, a precocious seventh-grader, is introduced to Latin by Morgan, who realizes the boy needs a challenge.

"Latin is Paul's Internet," Doig said. "It's his entry into the world of language making, the roots and facility of language that he hasn't had. He had no TV or radio, but he had this magic box of Latin."

Paul goes on to become Montana Superintendent of Schools, and visits his old school while making the hardest decision of his life — whether to discontinue the one-room schoolhouse system. The book is a reminiscence of his school memories.

Doig also grew up in Montana, and while Paul's persona as the classroom prodigy is a "mental fingerprint" of the author's experience, Paul is not based on Doig's life.

"I had no siblings and I didn't go to a one-room school. I was more isolated than Paul," Doig said.

Doig's background includes an undergraduate degree in journalism and a Ph.D in history, both of which are valuable in his writing career.

History plays a big part in his stories, and "The Whistling Season" is no exception.

"There is almost always some historical force of gravity," Doig said. He likes to examine the question, "How do people do the best they can against the vaster circumstances of the world?"

This latest novel is set during the last homestead frontier, the opening up of Montana to settlers at the turn of the 20th century, who arrived by train, not wagon. Oliver Milliron works hauling freight for the "Big Dig," a major irrigation ditch that will carry water to previously unfarmable arid land.

Doig is known for the lyrical quality of his writing; how he says it is as important as what he says. This quality is at its most delightful in his descriptions of the characters. Rose steps from the train "all swathed in a traveling dress the shade of blue flame — Minnesota evidently did not lack for satin — and there did not seem to be an extra ounce anywhere on her pert frame. In fact, I had noticed Father give a double look as if there must be more of her somewhere."

Oliver Milliron makes coffee that is "so strong it is almost ambulatory, which he gulped down from suppertime to bedtime and then slept serenely as a sphinx."

Yet the author said he saves his most lyrical writing for non-fiction, such as his award-winning first book, "This House of Sky."

With non-fiction, he explained, there is already a groundwork of facts, "so I can then spin the language as fully as I can on top of that," he said. "With fiction, you better have a beginning, middle and end. The characters need portrayal,

IVAN DOIG CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

history needs clean elucidation, you have to create a setting. I seem to have to shift down just slightly and concentrate on the story.”

“Just slightly” is the key phrase here. “The Whistling Season” is told with the high quality of writing, rich language and passion for detail that readers have come to expect from Doig, who has written 11 books and countless magazine articles.

“The Whistling Season,” released just two months ago, is on its third printing from publisher Harcourt and is the

No. 1 seller at Booksense, the list for independent booksellers.

Ivan Doig will read from and sign “The Whistling Season” 7:30 p.m. July 6 at Eagle Harbor Books, 157 Winslow Way E., Bainbridge Island. **wu**



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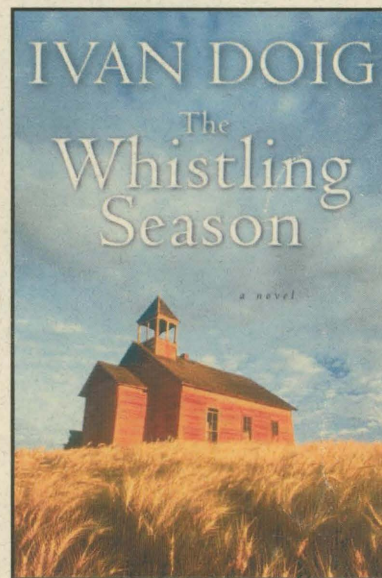
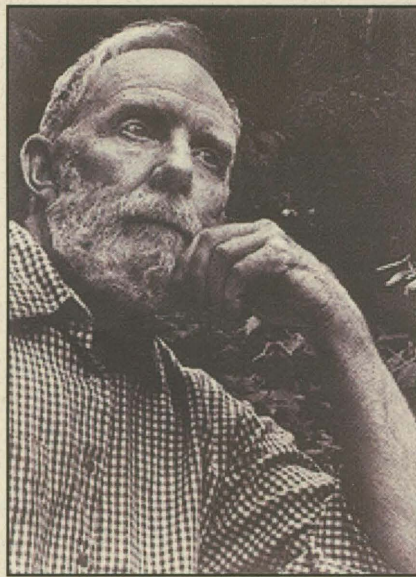
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Ivan Doig to speak & sign *The Whistling Season*



Thursday, June 29, 7:30 p.m.

"Can't cook but doesn't bite." So begins the newspaper ad offering the services of an "A-1 housekeeper, sound morals, exceptional disposition" that draws the hungry attention of widower Oliver Milliron in the fall of 1909. And so begins the unforgettable season that deposits the non-cooking, non-biting, ever-whistling Rose Llewellyn and her font-of-knowledge brother, Morris Morgan, in Marias Coulee, along with a stampede of homesteaders drawn by the promise of the Big Ditch—a gargantuan irrigation project intended to make the Montana prairie bloom. When the schoolmarm runs off with an itinerant preacher, Morris is pressed into service, setting the stage for the "several kinds of education"—none of them of the textbook variety—Morris and Rose will bring to Oliver, his sons, and the rambunctious students in the region's one-room schoolhouse.

A paean to a vanished way of life and the eccentric individuals and idiosyncratic institutions that made it fertile, *The Whistling Season* (Harcourt, \$25.00) is **IVAN DOIG** at his evocative best.

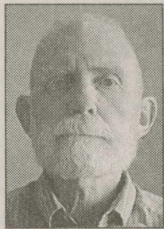
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Books

Ivan Doig

THU The Seattle-area author of several classic works of Northwest literature pens another novel grounded in memories of his native Montana. Hear him read from "The Whistling Season." 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Eagle Harbor Book Co., 157 Winslow Way E., Bainbridge Island; free (206-842-5332).



Ivan Doig will read from his new book Thursday.

3 July '06

Dick Estell
Radio Reader
WKAR-TV
Michigan State University
E. Lansing MI 48824

Dear Dick--

Well, isn't this like old times. Liz Darhansoff passed along the permission info for you to perform *The Whistling Season*, and as ever, I look (listen?) forward to your reading. How about dropping me a note or phone call when you're about to put the book on the air, and if you have a list of current stations, that would be helpful to me on the perpetual question I get from bookstore audiences, "Is the Radio Reader going to do your book?"

All is well here; this book is showing every sign of being my best-selling one yet, which is saying considerable. I suppose you can Google up any reviews you need these days--there was a terrific one in USA Today last Thursday, June 29--and I have a website now (ivandoig.com) for general background, but if the Harcourt publicity department can help you out with any other material, a very good publicity manager has been handling my book there: Michelle Blankenship (212)592-1023 or michelle.blankenship@harcourt.com.

Best wishes,

Ivan, byj we've granted permission, told HB.
What good reviews you're getting! hooray.

xox Liz D

Liz Darhansoff

From: <Dikestell@aol.com>
To: <liz@dvagency.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2006 2:14 PM
Subject: Ivan Doig

Dear Liz:

I was glad to learn that you are still there and after 42 years of reading books, I'm still here.

Among the 500 books I have read during this period, my records reveal that I have read "This House of Sky" (1979), "The Sea Runners" (1983), "English Creek" (1989), "Dancing at the Rascal Fair" (1988), and "Ride with me Mariah Montana" (1990). I am eager to add to my Doig files "The Whistling Season."

Would you kindly permit me to read Ivan's new book on public radio stations? All I need from you is the following:

"Permission is granted to Dick Estell, the Radio Reader for National Public Radio stations, to read "The Whistling Season" for these stations to broadcast and stream to their audiences."

I don't know the exact month my readings will begin, but I will alert you accordingly.

Thank you, once again, for your consideration. I know the Radio Reader fans will be pleased to learn that another Doig work is being considered.

Dick Estell
Radio Reader
WKAR-TV
Michigan State University
E. Lansing, MI 48824
Ph: 517-339-3937
Email: dickestell@radioreader.net
Website: Radio Reader.net

2065426658

A positive review of **THE WHISTLING SEASON** appears on www.bookreporter.com!

THE WHISTLING SEASON

Ivan Doig

Harcourt

Fiction

ISBN: 0151012377

Ivan Doig has been called "the reigning master of new Western literature." And **THE WHISTLING SEASON**, his latest book, certainly confirms his writing stature.

The story is told from the point of view of Paul Milliron, currently the Montana state superintendent of schools. He has been delegated to decide the fate of the state's last rural schools. As he struggles with the decisions he must make, Paul recalls his childhood and the one-room schoolhouse he attended in Marias Coulee, Montana in the fall of 1909.

Paul's father Oliver has been recently widowed. The family, including three boys --- Paul, Damon and Tobey --- are struggling to keep their daily chores done. This includes cooking, housekeeping, attending to their father's farming duties and going to school. It's too much for all of them, so Oliver decides to advertise for a housekeeper. When a woman applies with the statement, "Can't cook but doesn't bite," she is hired anyway, sight unseen. None of the Millirons quite believe that she can't cook.

The widow Rose Llewellyn arrives in Montana with an unexpected guest: her brother, the well-educated but quirky Morris Morgan. Both Rose and Morris are hard workers. Rose knows how to clean a house through and through, and Morgan works at any job that Oliver can find him --- including cleaning out a chicken coop.

For the boys, school life is never without its challenges. When Paul Milliron slugs the school bully, Eddie Turley, Damon comes up with a plan to prevent a fight. He suggests a horse race. The loser is to leave the other boy alone for the rest of the year. The only catch is that the riders will sit backwards on the horse. Paul wins the race and all is well, until their father finds out. As punishment, Paul will help Morris stack the wood piles for their elderly Aunt. During their work time together, Paul and Morris begin a relationship of mentor to student.

When the schoolteacher runs off to get married to a traveling minister, Paul's father talks Morris into taking on the job. As Morris engages the class, the reader is engaged in the minds of the students, the Milliron home and life in rural Montana in the early 1900s. Morris also tutors Paul in Latin after school, which deepens their relationship. His teaching abilities are tested when the inspector comes to visit.

A horse crushes Tobey's foot and Rose moves into the house to help Oliver take care of him. The closeness leads to romance between Rose and Paul's father, and Paul figures out the puzzle of why Rose and Morris left the midwest to journey to Montana.

Ivan Doig evokes the sense of the Old West as few writers can. His depiction and description of Montana gives the reader the breadth and depth of life on the land a hundred years ago. The reader travels back to the early 1900s with Paul, as he revisits his past to choose what to do with Montana's last rural schools in the 1950s.

The Boston Globe

An intimate tale under the West's big sky

By Gail Caldwell | June 18, 2006

The Whistling Season

By Ivan Doig

Harcourt, 345 pp., \$25

However inaccurate or inconclusive the grouping may be, we tend to equate the idea of Western literature with the place itself: big sky and inclement weather, a sparse human population trying to withstand nature's nonchalant cruelties. There are other trials as well: The adversities of poverty or ill health take on an even harsher cast when they're measured against miles and miles of empty space. Time, too, has to buckle and bend under all that sky -- beholden to early mornings and long winter nights, or blizzards or lonely disasters that can stop the clock altogether.

The Western novel, accordingly, moves with a particular interior momentum we tend to overlook in view of the genre's other dramas. Wallace Stegner's fiction epitomized this notion, what with his languid, generous stories as big as the country they tried to lasso and reveal. Ivan Doig has long been beloved as a Montana writer; his 1980 memoir, "This House of Sky," helped fix the landscape of the modern West in the contemporary American imagination. "The Whistling Season" is his 10th book, an autumnal work in a long writing career, and it feels almost radically old-fashioned -- a testament to a way of life as sweetly gone-but-familiar as railway stations and the Waltons.

The narrator of the novel is a middle-aged man named Paul Milliron, a superintendent of schools in mid-century Montana looking back to his childhood -- an interior country shaped by loss and huge vistas and the chance circumstances of any life. So the year of the story itself is 1909, in a little place called Marias Coulee, where 13-year-old Paul and his two little brothers live with their recently widowed father. Oliver Milliron is a taciturn, loving man, a dryland farmer trying to take care of his own land, plow the fields next door, and get his boys educated. When they see a newspaper posting of a widow in Minneapolis seeking a housekeeping position -- "Can't Cook But Doesn't Bite" -- its no-nonsense humor appeals enough to Oliver for him to overlook the fact that a cook is what they need. So here comes Rose Llewellyn, stepping off the train "at memory's depot" as Paul looks back on the education she brought them all.

"The Whistling Season" takes its title in part from Rose's remarkable temperament. She whistles softly while she cleans the dust-ridden farmhouse from top to bottom, then induces her tag-along brother to scrub down the filthy chicken house for free. Brother Morrie, with his dandy wardrobe and his propensity for Latin, showed up on the same train, and the pair turn out to have just about everything Marias Coulee needs -- while Rose remakes the Milliron boys' spartan male lives, Morrie takes on their education. The one-room schoolhouse of the town has gone through several teachers in five years, each leaving for the easier prospect of marriage, and Morrie, with his University of Chicago pedigree and his infinite curiosity, seems superior to all his predecessors. Within no time he has all his charges -- from first-graders to hulking boys on the verge of 16 -- engaged in spelling bees and Newtonian physics, learning a tailor-made curriculum that will serve them well and even save them.

Because this novel is in many ways a paean to the sheltering world of local, rural schooling, Morrie can't help being its star. He protects the class bully from his father, a loathsome wolf trapper with the remarkable name of Brose Turley, and he probably changes the boy's life when he gives him reading glasses. He sees in Paul a scholar waiting to be born, and begins tutoring him in Latin every afternoon -- a language that Paul remembers "gave my mind a place to go, and to make itself at home for a good, long while." Morrie is made even more exotic by the traits that don't match his fancy clothes and high ideas: When Turley shows up at the schoolroom looking for trouble, Morrie quietly reaches into his pocket, and out comes a hand wearing brass knuckles.

So life is more eventful than you might imagine in turn-of-the-century Montana, what with its fine skies and whistling housecleaners and renegade teachers, and Doig tells a tale that can warm on you with the same gradual insistence as Morrie and Rose. The narrative voice is by turns evocative and unsettlingly anachronistic. Looking back on his youth, Paul remembers that "Winters were the tree rings of homestead life, circumferences of weather thick or thin, which over time swelled into the abiding pattern of memory." Yet this same voice can sometimes sound fussy and dated in its narrative earnestness (where characters "exult" instead of speak), pedantic on its diatribes about education. Best to leave such excesses to Morrie, who has the style to pull it off as well as the mystery to counterbalance it.

And there is indeed a mystery inside "The Whistling Season," gratifying in its eventual revelations but oddly hollow in its resolution. This problem, too, bears traces of the old-fashioned Western -- a world where men were men and where the shadows disappeared at high noon, even if the menace behind them never really went away.

Gail Caldwell is chief book critic of the Globe. She can be reached at caldwell@globe.com. ■

Saletan, Rebecca (HTP-NYC)**From:** Blankenship, Michelle R. (HTP-NYC)**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2006 5:38 PM

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Subject: Flash! THE WHISTLING SEASON / The Denver Post

A disappointing review for **THE WHISTLING SEASON** by **Ivan Doig** ran in the June 18, 2006 edition of *The Denver Post*.

http://www.denverpost.com/books/ci_3942529

The Denver Post

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Article Launched: 6/18/2006 01:00 AM

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"The Whistling Season"**The waning days of the West's one-room schoolhouses**

By David Milofsky
Special to The Denver Post
DenverPost.com

Fans of Ivan Doig's writing are drawn to his admiring - one might say devotional - view of the West and the people who settled and live here. While his fiction lacks the hard edge of Tom McGuane, Kent Haruf and Cormac McCarthy - no unpleasant or difficult truths here - **he is capable of a sweet lyricism when describing the quotidian, and his attention to detail is meticulous.**

Set in 1909 Montana, Doig's latest, "The Whistling Season," serves both as a kind of memoir of its narrator, Paul Milliron, and the story of a memorable year in the life of his family, when his mother died, leaving his father heartbroken and responsible for three young boys.

Not surprisingly, the household soon careens out of control, and Oliver Milliron responds to an advertisement that reads, "Can't Cook but Doesn't Bite," in which Rose Llewellyn of Minneapolis offers her services as a housekeeper.

While it's hard to understand exactly why Rose can't cook, in due time she arrives by train, bringing along her brother, Morris. He serves first as a general factotum in the community and then as schoolteacher for the children of Marias Coulee in their one-room schoolhouse, after the regular teacher decides to elope in the middle of the academic year.

In the course of the novel we are given descriptions of the life of the town and the difficulty so-called "dryland" farmers find in attempting to coax crops out of the unyielding soil. But the subtext is Paul's meteoric rise from humble roots to the office of state superintendent of education.

His narrative, coming 50 years after the action in the novel, is prompted by political demands to close down one- room schools in favor of consolidated districts so America may compete with the Russians in the age of Sputnik.

It is in these sections that Doig is most affecting. He writes "What is being asked ... is not only the extinction of the little schools. It will also slowly kill rural neighborhoods ... No schoolhouse to send their children to. No schoolhouse for a Saturday-night dance. No schoolhouse for election day; for the Grange meeting; for the 4-H club." **Well, you get the idea. But nostalgia does not a novel make and it doesn't work very well here either.**

In having Paul present the argument in favor of small schools and rural life in general, Doig creates a narrative problem since Paul is not only accomplished as an adult but also was an outstanding student and thus has to periodically applaud himself.

To combat this, Doig makes Morris, who, improbably, is a graduate of the University of Chicago with a working knowledge of Latin, sing Paul's praises.

"Here I am," Morris says, "a teacher with a pupil who is already chockful of what I am supposed to be teaching him. Every minute of that, I'm holding you back from where an ability such as yours ought to be taking you ... I have been around prodigies before and you are one."

"Look," Paul seems to say, "wasn't I brilliant?"

Paul's story is wrapped around the central narrative of the novel, but the real momentum is toward getting Oliver and Rose together, something that Doig telegraphs from the time she gets off her train. Since these are salt-of-the-earth people, there has to be a time for grieving his lost wife and her lost husband and no hanky-panky along the way. But the die has been cast and in the end, to no one's surprise, Oliver proposes and Rose accepts. Paul decides to fight the evil politicians and argue in favor of continuing small schools, and **the book ends predictably.**

All of this is fine for a certain kind of novel and Doig handles the material well for the most part, despite occasional challenges in the language. In this novel, as in others he's written, Doig favors an archaic, even oratorical, style that can be poetic but is at other times almost comic. Describing Rose's arrival, for example, he says, "Back there at memory's depot ..." At another point he says of Morris, "he could talk the air full."

Every so often Oliver will set the boys down for a talk, and inevitably the punishment for a misdeed is chopping wood or doing other chores. Think Ben Cartwright and the boys in "Bonanza" and you're nearly there. It's not that such corn-pone realism is bad, but it has been done to death elsewhere and one tends to start skipping passages that are meant to be uplifting.

More serious than these problems, however, is a melodramatic plot twist involving Rose, Morris and Rose's dead husband, which Doig introduces in the last section of the novel as the only impediment to Rose and Oliver's nuptials. Everything is resolved in the end, of course, but it knocks the novel and the reader off-balance because it has almost nothing to do with the 300 pages that have gone before. Novels and novelists can overcome linguistic infelicities,

but structure is all.

Still, Doig's admirers won't mind, and as a picture of a long-gone period in the history of our part of the country, "The Whistling Season" will make good summer reading for many.

David Milofsky is a Denver novelist and professor of English at Colorado State University.

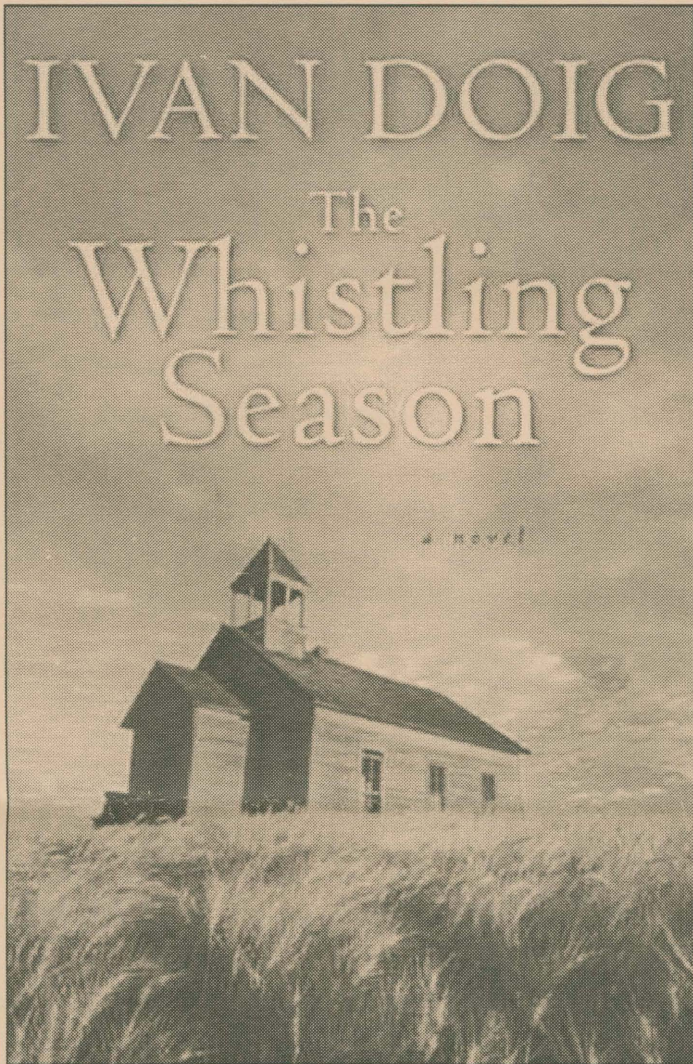
The Whistling Season

By Ivan Doig

Harcourt, 352 pages, \$25

Michelle Blankenship
Publicity Manager
Harcourt, Inc.
15 East 26th Street, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10010
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www.HarcourtBooks.com

Ivan Doig's New Work is Released



Prolific Innis Arden author, Ivan Doig, has just published a new novel, *The Whistling Season*. Set in 1909, the writer portrays a community of rural homesteaders drawn to "a gargantuan irrigation project intended to make the Montana prairie bloom."

Tim McNulty in the *Seattle Times* wrote "In *The Whistling Season*, Doig blends a coming of age story and late-life reflection to luminous effect. The author is masterful at portraying the emotional complexities of family and community through the eyes of a precocious youngster. In this case, a formative time for a boy and his family is remembered a half-century later."

Jennifer McCord of *Bookreporter.com* writes "Ivan Doig evokes the sense of the Old West as few writers can. His depiction and description of Montana gives the reader the

breadth and depth of life on the land a hundred years ago. The reader travels back to the early 1900s with Paul, as he revisits his past to choose what to do with Montana's last rural schools in the 1950s."

Ron Charles of the *Washington Post* summarizes "Doig has been at this for a long time; he's ... the author of eight previous novels and three works of nonfiction, including the memoir *This House of Sky*. You can see the evidence of that experience in his new novel: its gentle pace, its persistent warmth, its complete freedom from cynicism -- and the confidence to take those risks without winking or apologizing. When a voice as pleasurable as his evokes a lost era, somehow it doesn't seem so lost after all."

Other works of Mr. Doig include *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*, *English Creek*, *Ride with Me*, *Mariah Montana* and *Prairie Nocturne*.

Jacqueline Sherris Directs Program that Received Gates Grant

Recently, a vaccine has been developed to prevent cervical cancer. PATH, a non-profit international health promotion organization, received a \$27.8 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to identify obstacles to delivering the vaccine in poor countries and to come up with potential solutions to problems of access.

Dr. Jacqueline Sherris at the UW is the director of the cervical cancer program at PATH. Her interests include improving reproductive health in developing countries. She explained that "Cervical cancer disproportionately affects women in developing countries because infrastructure is lacking."

Cervical cancer kills a quarter of a million women every year, most of them in poor countries. Two types of HPV (human papillomavirus) are believed to cause 70 percent of all cervical cancer cases.

PATH, working with the World Health Organization as well as the drug firms Merck and GlaxoSmithKline, will conduct research in India, Peru, Uganda and Vietnam in an effort to reduce barriers to introducing the HPV vaccine in such countries.

Dr. Sherris lives in Innis Arden with her daughters and husband, Peter Rabinovitch.

6/29/06

Back to press

For 4,000 copies,
available by mid-July.

TOTAL Now

43,600

in print!



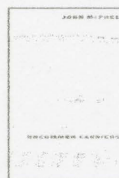
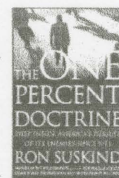
Bookcase - Bestsellers 6/29 + 7/6/06
week ending June 25

BESTSELLERS &

1. **Twelve Sharp**
Janet Evanovich, St. Martin's, \$26.95
2. **Water for Elephants**
Sara Gruen, Algonquin, \$23.95
3. **Terrorist**
John Updike, Knopf, \$24.95
4. **Digging to America**
Anne Tyler, Knopf, \$24.95
5. **Suite Francaise**
Irene Nemirovsky, Knopf, \$25
6. **Blue Screen**
Robert B. Parker, Putnam, \$24.95
7. **The Foreign Correspondent**
Alan Furst, Random House, \$24.95
8. **Beach Road**
James Patterson, Peter de Jonge, Little Brown, \$27.95
9. **The Whole World Over**
Julia Glass, Pantheon, \$25.95
10. **Blue Shoes and Happiness**
Alexander McCall Smith, Pantheon, \$21.95
11. **Everyman**
Philip Roth, Houghton Mifflin, \$24
12. **At Risk**
Patricia D. Cornwell, Putnam, \$21.95
13. **Telegraph Days**
Larry McMurtry, S&S, \$25
14. **The Whistling Season**
Ivan Doig, Harcourt, \$25
15. **The Husband**
Dean R. Koontz, Bantam, \$27
39. **Back to Wando Passo**
David Payne, Morrow, \$24.95
Two marriages, and centuries, are intertwined in this ambitious and haunting tale. A Book Sense Pick.



1. **Marley & Me**
John Grogan, Morrow, \$21.95
2. **The One Percent Doctrine: Deep Inside America's Pursuit of Its Enemies Since 9/11**
Ron Suskind, S&S, \$27
3. **Mayflower**
Nathaniel Philbrick, Viking, \$29.95
4. **Godless**
Ann H. Coulter, Crown Forum, \$27.95
5. **A Heckuva Job**
Calvin Trillin, Random House, \$12.95
6. **Wisdom of Our Fathers**
Tim Russert, Random House, \$22.95
7. **The Omnivore's Dilemma**
Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, \$26.95
8. **Dispatches From the Edge**
Anderson Cooper, HarperCollins, \$24.95
9. **The World Is Flat (Updated and Expanded)**
Thomas L. Friedman, FSG, \$30
10. **Cesar's Way**
Cesar Millan, Melissa Jo Peltier, Harmony, \$24.95
11. **Heat**
Bill Buford, Knopf, \$25.95
12. **Freakonomics**
Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, Morrow, \$25.95
13. **Uncommon Carriers**
John McPhee, FSG, \$24
14. **My Life in France**
Julia Child, Alex Prud'homme, Knopf, \$25.95
15. **Armed Madhouse**
Greg Palast, Dutton, \$25.95
23. **Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic**
Alison Bechdel, Houghton Mifflin, \$19.95
A moving, illustrated autobiographical work, dealing mostly with the author's relationship with her closeted gay father.



May We Recommend

Crows Over the Wheatfield by Adam Braver (Morrow, \$24.95) "From the tragic opening scene of an accident on a New England road to the uncovering of Van Gogh's secrets in Auvers, France, this is a haunting novel about truth, morality, and art, full of suspense and artful design. It's a story you will find impossible to put down—and impossible to forget."—**Sue Woodman, A Novel Idea, Bristol, RI**

May We Recommend

Let Me Finish, by Roger Angell (Harcourt, \$25) "In this series of autobiographical essays, Angell reflects on a rich, full life and looks back on his long career at *The New Yorker*, as well as the careers of his mother and stepfather, Katherine and E.B. White, at that same magazine. He also provides enchanting accounts of growing up in New York during the 1930s, his military career in World War II, and his love of baseball, movies, reptiles(!), and martinis. An undeniably witty and charming work."—**Joe Murphy, Olsson's Books & Records, Washington, DC**

Book Sense is a nationwide network of 1,200+ independent bookstores working together to bring knowledge, passion, character, personality, and community to your book-buying experience. Find book suggestions, store locations, and more at www.booksense.com or call 1-888-BOOKSENSE for a store near you.



Pacific Northwest Independent Bestseller List for the week ending June 25, 2006

Fiction

HARDCOVER

1. Twelve Sharp
Janet Evanovich, St. Martin's, \$26.95, 0312349483
2. The Whistling Season
Ivan Doig, Harcourt, \$25, 0151012377
3. Water for Elephants
Sara Gruen, Algonquin, \$23.95, 1565124995
4. Blue Shoes and Happiness
Alexander McCall Smith, Pantheon, \$21.95, 0375422722
5. Digging to America
Anne Tyler, Knopf, \$24.95, 0307263940
6. Terrorist
John Updike, Knopf, \$24.95, 0307264653
7. Suite Francaise
Irene Nemirovsky, Knopf, \$25, 1400044731
8. The Whole World Over
Julia Glass, Pantheon, \$25.95, 0375422749
9. Telegraph Days
Larry McMurtry, S&S, \$25, 0743250788
- 10. The Book of the Dead
Douglas J. Preston, Warner, \$25.95, 0446576980
- 11. The Stolen Child
Keith Donohue, Nan Talese, \$23.95, 0385516169
12. Beach Road
James Patterson, Little Brown, \$27.95, 0316159786
13. Blue Screen
Robert B. Parker, Putnam, \$24.95, 0399153519
- 14. Blow the House Down
Robert Baer, Crown, \$25.95, 1400098351
15. Everyman
Philip Roth, Houghton Mifflin, \$24, 061873516X

PAPERBACK

1. History of Love
Nicole Krauss, Norton, \$13.95, 0393027
2. Snow Flower and the Secret Fan
Lisa See, Random House, \$13.95, 0812968069
3. The Kite Runner
Khaled Hosseini, Riverhead, \$14, 1594480001
4. March
Geraldine Brooks, Penguin, \$14, 0143036661
5. Never Let Me Go
Kazuo Ishiguro, Vintage, \$14, 1400078776
6. Saturday
Ian McEwan, Anchor, \$14.95, 1400076196
7. The Mermaid Chair
Sue Monk Kidd, Penguin, \$14, 0143036696
8. The Shadow of the Wind
Carlos Ruiz Zafon, Penguin, \$15, 0143034901
9. The Devil Wears Prada
Lauren Weisberger, Broadway, \$13.95, 0767925955
- 10. The Highest Tide
Jim Lynch, Bloomsbury, \$13.95, 1582346291
11. Until I Find You
John Irving, Ballantine, \$15.95, 0345479726
12. Gilead
Marilynne Robinson, Picador, \$14, 031242440X
- 13. The Time Traveler's Wife
Audrey Niffenegger, Harvest, \$14, 015602943X
14. The Secret Life of Bees
Sue Monk Kidd, Penguin, \$14, 0142001740
- 15. Broken for You
Stephanie Kallos, Grove, \$13, 0802142109

aha!
you've been
out of town
....

MASS MARKET

1. 11 on Top
Janet Evanovich, St. Martin's, \$7.99, 0312985347
2. The Da Vinci Code
Dan Brown, Anchor, \$7.99, 1400079179
3. Angels and Demons
Dan Brown, Pocket, \$9.99, 1416524797
4. The Devil Wears Prada
Lauren Weisberger, Anchor, \$7.99, 0307275558
5. Deception Point
Dan Brown, Pocket, \$9.99, 1416524800
6. Black Wind
Clive Cussler, Dirk Cussler, Berkley, \$9.99, 0425204235
7. 4th of July
James Patterson, Maxine Paetro, Warner, \$9.99, 0446613363
8. Blood From a Stone
Donna Leon, Penguin, \$7.99, 014303698X
- 9. 1984
George Orwell, Signet, \$7.95, 0451524934
- 10. With No One as Witness
Elizabeth A. George, HarperTorch, \$7.99, 0060545615



Poetry
Out Loud
to begin
second
season

Poetry Out Loud, a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, is

Ivan Doig headlines High Plains Book Fest

Regional writers again converge in downtown Billings July 21-22 for the High Plains Book Fest. The fourth annual event is a smaller project than in past years, but coincides with Clark Days on the Yellowstone events, which features several Lewis and Clark scholars and writers.

Doig, a Montana native who now lives in the Seattle area, will read from his newest novel, *The Whistling Season*, 8 p.m. Saturday at the Alberta Bair.

His latest book is a paean to a vanished way of life and the eccentric individuals and idiosyncratic institutions that nourished it. Doig is the author of 10 previous books, including the novels *Prairie Nocturne* and *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*. Tickets for the reading will be available at the Alberta Bair Box Office.

On Friday, the Western Heritage Center hosts two presentations. Arthur DeRosier Jr. shares his research on William Dunbar, leader of the 1806 Red River Expedition, at 10 a.m.; and author and food historian Mary Gunderson presents excerpts from *The Food Journal of Lewis and Clark* at 11:30 a.m.

Saturday events at MSU-Billings downtown campus begin with a reading by poet M.L. "Mandy" Smoker from *Another Attempt at Rescue* at 10 a.m.; Wyoming novelist Craig Johnson shares *Death Without Company* at

SUMMER BOOK FESTIVALS

11 a.m.; and Flathead Valley writers Doug and Andrea Peacock read from *The Essential Grizzly – The Mingled Fates of Men and Bears* at 1 p.m. "Emerging Voices" at 2 p.m. features student writers from the MSU-Billings campus. Authors will sign their books from 3-5 p.m.

Action moves to Pompey's Pillar 2-4 p.m. Sunday for the "Set in Stone: The Legacy of William Clark" Symposium moderated by Stephenie Ambrose Tubbs. The discussion includes Clark biographers James J. Holmberg, William E. Foley, Landon Y. Jones and Jay H. Buckley.

For more information contact Corby Skinner at 406-294-2390.

Meagher County theme is "How We Tell Our Story"

The second annual Meagher County Book Fest, Aug. 3-5 in White Sulphur Springs, will focus on "How We Tell Our Story."

This year's event continues to explore the history of Meagher County and its famous namesake, General Francis Meagher. Historians and authors will also take a look at the ways in which Montana women have rendered their experiences in both word and deed.

The festival gets underway at 5 p.m. Thursday with a reception for participants, hosted by

the Mountain Star Book Club of Harlowton. Lenore Puhek, dressed as Libby Meagher, will read from her new novel *The River's Edge*, a romantic tale of Thomas Francis Meagher and Libby Townsend Meagher.

"The book was pure joy to write," says Puhek. "As far as I know, this is the first extensive exposure of Libby. The research did not come easily – Libby was a very private person."

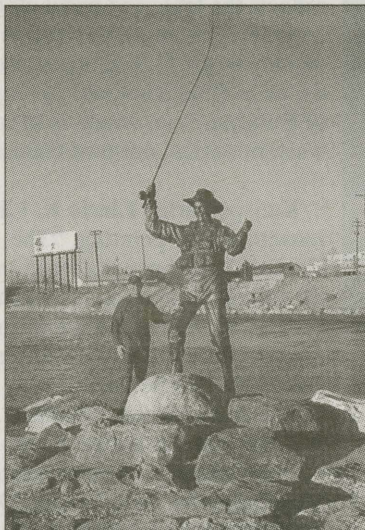
Historians Paul Wylie and Helen Hanson join several writers, including Lee Rostad, *Grace Stone Coates*, *Her Life in Letters*; Judy Blunt, *Breaking Clean*; Barbara Richard, *Dancing on His Grave*; Mary Clearman Blew, *Balsamroot, a Memoir*; and Mary Murphy, *Hope in Hard Times*. Sue Hart discusses her film about author Dorothy Johnson; and Great Falls television personality Norma Ashby shares recollections from her memoir, *Movie Stars and Rattlesnakes*.

Cooking also gets its fair share of the spotlight, with presentations Friday afternoon by Kim Anderson and Caroline Patterson from the *Montana Writers' Cookbook*, *Eat Our Words*; Molly Kruckenberg, *A Taste of Montana: A History of Cooking and Cookbooks in Montana*; Meredith Brokaw, *Big Sky Cooking*; and Sue Hart, *At Home on the Range: Food as Love in Literature of the Western Frontier*.

Readings are on tap Friday evening, following a barbecue at the Castle Museum, and Saturday, following breakfast at the Senior Citizen Center. For details, visit www.meaghercobookfest.com.

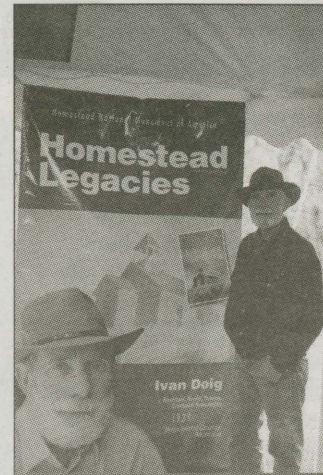
MORE CONGRATS TO ...

Anaconda sculptor **Fred Boyer**, whose 11-foot bronze angler, “Striking Silver,” was recently installed in the North Platte River in Casper, WY. His rendering of a fly fisherman casting from a rocky island is one of five whitewater features along the Parkway River Trail. The project took nine months to complete and was installed at the river site using a 200-foot boom crane. Boyer’s work will also be on display at two upcoming shows in Anaconda: Art in Washoe Park, July 14-17, and the Anaconda Wildlife Expo, Sept. 8-10; his sculptures are also part of the Kimball Arts Festival, Aug. 4-6 in Park City, UT; the Loveland Invitational Sculpture Show, Aug. 11-13 in Loveland, CO; Wild Wings Fall Festival, Oct. 6-8 in Lake City, MN; and Eastern Waterfowl Festival, Nov. 10-12



Fred Boyer with “Striking Silver”

Author and Montana native **Ivan Doig**, who was honored May 6 with a Homestead Legacy banner during the National Endowment for the Arts-sponsored “Heartland Experience” event at the National Homestead Monument near Beatrice, NB. Doig, the son of Scottish grandparents who homesteaded in Montana, joins Willa Cather, Laura Ingalls Wilder, George Washington Carver, the singer Jewel and a handful of other distinguished descendants of homesteaders, who are each portrayed on a large banner in the monument’s wall gallery. “What good company to be blowing in the wind with,” quipped Doig when his banner, with its “Ranch hand, novelist, historian” citation, was unveiled. Doig also read from his memoir, *This House of Sky*, and his new novel, *The Whistling Season*, during the event. The author, who now lives near Seattle, will visit bookstores throughout Montana July 11-17, and will read from his new book July 22 during the High Plains Book Festival in Billings. And congratulations also to Doig for his memoir, *This House of Sky: Landscapes of a Western Mind*, being chosen for One Book Montana (see page 6).



Ivan Doig

Pacific Northwest Independent Bestseller List for the week ending June 18, 2006 Fiction

HARDCOVER

1. The Whistling Season
Ivan Doig, Harcourt, \$25, 0151012377
2. Water for Elephants
Sara Gruen, Algonquin, \$23.95, 1565124995
3. Blue Shoes and Happiness
Alexander McCall Smith, Pantheon, \$21.95, 0375422722
4. Terrorist
John Updike, Knopf, \$24.95, 0307264653
5. Suite Francaise
Irene Nemirovsky, Knopf, \$25, 1400044731
6. Digging to America
Anne Tyler, Knopf, \$24.95, 0307263940
7. Telegraph Days
Larry McMurtry, S&S, \$25, 0743250788
8. The Foreign Correspondent
Alan Furst, Random House, \$24.95, 1400060192
- 9. The Blight Way
Patrick F. McManus, S&S, \$24, 0743280474
- 10. The Art of Detection
Laurie R. King, Bantam, \$24, 0553804537
11. The Whole World Over
Julia Glass, Pantheon, \$25.95, 0375422749
12. At Risk
Patricia D. Cornwell, Putnam, \$21.95, 0399153624
- 13. The Book of the Dead
Douglas J. Preston, Warner, \$25.95, 0446576980
14. Beach Road
James Patterson, Little Brown, \$27.95, 0316159786
- 15. The Stolen Child
Keith Donohue, Nan Talese, \$23.95, 0385516169

PAPERBACK

1. Snow Flower and the Secret Fan
Lisa See, Random House, \$13.95, 0812968069
2. Saturday
Ian McEwan, Anchor, \$14.95, 1400076196
3. The Kite Runner
Khaled Hosseini, Riverhead, \$14, 1594480001
4. History of Love
Nicole Krauss, Norton, \$13.95, 0393328627
- 5. The Highest Tide
Jim Lynch, Bloomsbury, \$13.95, 1582346291
6. The Shadow of the Wind
Carlos Ruiz Zafon, Penguin, \$15, 0143034901
7. Until I Find You
John Irving, Ballantine, \$15.95, 0345479726
8. Gilead
Marilynne Robinson, Picador, \$14, 031242440X
9. March
Geraldine Brooks, Penguin, \$14, 0143036661
- 10. Broken for You
Stephanie Kallos, Grove, \$13, 0802142109
- 11. Zorro
Isabelle Allende, Harper Perennial, \$14.95, 0060779004
12. Never Let Me Go
Kazuo Ishiguro, Vintage, \$14, 1400078776
13. The Mermaid Chair
Sue Monk Kidd, Penguin, \$14, 0143036696
- 14. The Alchemist (Updated)
Paulo Coelho, HarperSanFrancisco, \$13.95, 0061122416
- 15. Wicked
Gregory Maguire, Regan Books, \$16, 0060987103

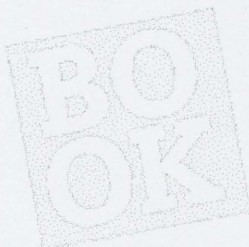
MASS MARKET

1. The Da Vinci Code
Dan Brown, Anchor, \$7.99, 1400079179
2. Angels and Demons
Dan Brown, Pocket, \$9.99, 1416524797
3. The Devil Wears Prada
Lauren Weisberger, Anchor, \$7.99, 0307275558
4. Blood From a Stone
Donna Leon, Penguin, \$7.99, 014303698X
5. Deception Point
Dan Brown, Pocket, \$9.99, 1416524800
6. Black Wind
Clive Cussler, Dirk Cussler, Berkley, \$9.99, 0425204235
- 7. The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary, 4th Edition
Merriam-Webster (Eds.), Merriam-Webster, \$7.50, 0877799296
- 8. 1984
George Orwell, Signet, \$7.95, 0451524934
- 9. Skeleton Man
Tony Hillerman, HarperTorch, \$7.99, 006056346X
10. 4th of July
James Patterson, Maxine Paetro, Warner, \$9.99, 0446613363

Book Sense

American Booksellers Association

Hardcover Fiction



Based on sales from independent bookstores across America.

bestsellers

BookSense.com



Bestseller List for June 22, 2006

from sales the week ending June 18, 2006

For the Book Sense store nearest you, call 1-888-BOOKSENSE or visit www.booksense.com

Hardcover Fiction

Last Week/ Weeks on List

- 1. **Terrorist** 1/2
John Updike, Knopf, \$24.95, 0307264653
Updike plumbs the mind of a young terrorist born and bred in New Jersey.
- 2. **Water for Elephants** 2/4
Sara Gruen, Algonquin, \$23.95, 1565124995
Indies are buzzing about this rich, romantic story set in a long-ago traveling circus. The #1 June Book Sense Pick.
- 3. **Digging to America** 3/7
Anne Tyler, Knopf, \$24.95, 0307263940
A family drama of cross-cultural adjustment and acceptance.
- 4. **Suite Francaise** 5/10
Irene Nemirovsky, Knopf, \$25, 1400044731
Long-lost stories set in German-occupied Paris, by an author exterminated shortly after their completion. A Book Sense Pick.
- 5. **Beach Road** 7/7
James Patterson, Peter de Jonge, Little Brown, \$27.95, 0316159786

A new "Trial of the Century" features a local sports hero accused in a triple murder in East Hampton.

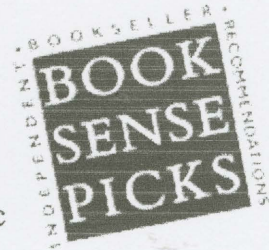
6. **Blue Shoes and Happiness** 6/9
Alexander McCall Smith, Pantheon, \$21.95, 0375422722
Precious Ramotswe is back for her seventh delightful adventure.
7. **Everyman** 8/9
Philip Roth, Houghton Mifflin, \$24, 061873516X
Roth movingly and beautifully considers mortality and illness.
8. **The Foreign Correspondent** 4/3
Alan Furst, Random House, \$24.95, 1400060192
Dateline: Paris, 1939. Genre: Noirish, smoky thriller.
9. **Blue Screen - Debut** /1
Robert B. Parker, Putnam, \$24.95, 0399153519
A new Sunny Randall installment.
10. **At Risk** 9/4
Patricia D. Cornwell, Putnam, \$21.95, 0399153624
The New York Times Magazine serialized police procedural novel in one volume.
11. **The Whole World Over** 10/4
Julia Glass, Pantheon, \$25.95, 0375422749
A lovely, engaging follow-up to the National Book Award-winning debut and Book Sense Pick, *Three Junes*.
12. **Telegraph Days** 11/4
Larry McMurtry, S&S, \$25, 0743250788
In this June Book Sense Notable, a young telegraph operator becomes witness to the iconic Old West.
13. **The Hard Way** 13/5
Lee Child, Delacorte, \$25, 0385336691
The new fast-paced adventure of former military cop Jack Reacher.
14. **The Whistling Season** 12/3
Ivan Doig, Harcourt, \$25, 0151012377
"Flawlessly crafted," says bookseller Stephen Grutzmacher of Passtimes Books, Sister Bay, WI, of this Book Sense Pick.
15. **The Poe Shadow - Debut** /1
Matthew Pearl, Random House, \$24.95, 1400061032
The odd circumstances surrounding the death of Edgar Allan Poe provide the basis for this



BOOKSELLING THIS Week

May 04, 2006

Here is the full listing of the June Book Sense Picks, with booksellers' comments, as well as a preview of the June Notables. Independent booksellers in the Book Sense program will be receiving their June Picks fliers in the May Red Box. (The flier includes jacket images, bibliographic information, and bookseller quotes.)



May Notables and , featuring booksellers' comments, are now also available in PDF format on

The June 2006 Book Sense Picks

1. *[Title]*, by Sara Gruen
(Algonquin, \$23.95, 1565124995) "For her latest novel, Sara Gruen has chosen a wonderfully captivating setting, the gritty and complex life of a 1930s traveling circus. She creates a balance of unforgettable characters and a compelling storyline that engages both imagination and emotion. This is a unique and enjoyable book that will stay with you for a long time." --**Hilary Vonckx, Queen Anne Books, Seattle, WA**

THE WHISTLING SEASON: A Novel, by Ivan Doig (Harcourt, \$25, 0151012377) "Doig has given us a wonderful novel of a widowed father and his three sons living on the Montana frontier in 1909 who hire a housekeeper from Minnesota. Memorable characters and a vivid portrayal of how a one-room schoolhouse unifies a rural community are just some of the facets of this flawlessly crafted novel." --**Stephen Grutzmacher, Passtimes Books, Sister Bay, WI**

CITY OF SHADOWS: A Novel of Suspense, by Ariana Franklin (Morrow, \$24.95, 0060817267) "Germany after World War I was a country of strong emotions and beliefs, where many were caught in the crossfire. Franklin's story conveys fear, passion, and greed, and

Contents

COVER: IRAQ FIVE YEARS LATER

- 4 **Dreams and Shadows**
By Robin Wright
Reviewed by Geoffrey Wheatcroft
- 5 **The Three Trillion Dollar War**
By Joseph E. Stiglitz and
Linda J. Bilmes
Reviewed by Carlos Lozada
- 6 **Rediscoveries:**
**The War for America,
1775-1783**
By Piers Mackesy
Reviewed by Thomas E. Ricks
- 6 **Washington's War**
By Michael Rose
Reviewed by Dennis Drabelle
- 7 **Daydream Believers**
By Fred Kaplan
Reviewed by Anne-Marie Slaughter
- 7 **Books on the Middle East**
By Dennis Drabelle
- 8 **Defeat.** By Jonathan Steele
Reviewed by Daniel Benjamin

HISTORY

- 15 **The Purpose of the Past**
By Gordon S. Wood
Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

FICTION

- 2 **The Soul Thief**
By Charles Baxter
Reviewed by Maureen Corrigan
- 3 **The Blue Star.** By Tony Earley
Reviewed by Ron Charles
- 10 **Things Fall Apart**
By Chinua Achebe
Reviewed by Michael Dirda
- 14 **Remember Me?**
By Sophie Kinsella
Reviewed by Debra Leithauser

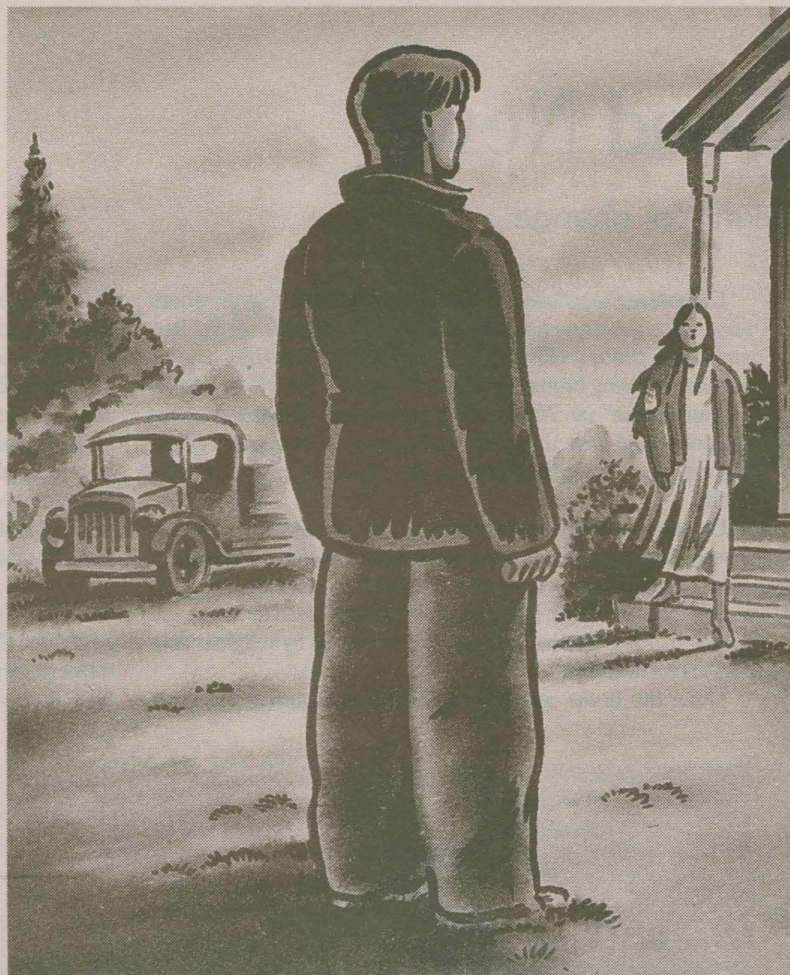
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- 11 **The Writing Life.** By Lois Lowry
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By Elizabeth Ward
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- 14 **Advice and Miscellaneous**

The Washington Post BOOK WORLD

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FICTION

Jim the Teen

As World War II approaches,
precocious Jim Glass begins to grow up.

THE BLUE STAR

By Tony Earley
Little, Brown, 286 pp. \$23.99

Reviewed by Ron Charles

In 2000, Tony Earley published a delicate, daringly uneventful novel called *Jim the Boy*. His short stories in Harper's and the New Yorker had already attracted enthusiastic praise, but this first novel about a sensitive 10-year-old in a small North Carolina town inspired ferocious devotion. I thought it was one of the best books of the year; I tried to read chapters to my family but kept getting too choked up. Newspapers ran adulatory author profiles of the modest Vanderbilt professor, and there was talk about the advent of a new classic.

At the time, I remember consulting with several reviewers around the country about how to categorize *Jim the Boy*. The problem concerned us because we cared so much. Was it a YA book? The juvenile jacket cover — retained, unfortunately, for this sequel — seemed aimed at middle-schoolers, but we worried about scaring off adult readers with that label, and we suspected it was too slow for teens anyhow (no rape, school shooting or bone cancer — the unholy trinity of YA lit).

We've waited a long time for a sequel to that story, and during those eight years, Jim the boy has grown into Jim the young man, the sort of person you'd expect from the first novel. He's decent and contemplative, concerned about others' feelings and his own shortcomings, suspended awkwardly between adolescence and adulthood.

The key to Jim is that he's an ordinary teenager who's endowed with an extraordinary consciousness of the ineffable sadness and beauty of life. In

fact, that point gets laid on a bit thick this time around. He can seem like some undiscovered, rural superhero: Sensitive Teen. Despite the strict emotional code of high school, he feels "tempted to weep with some mysterious, nostalgic joy. The warm sunlight on his face seemed to remind him of something — but he couldn't explain what — and some vague but pleasant longing filled his chest." As poignant as these moments are, a character who feels too many ineffable things can eventually excite our effable distrust.

It's October of 1941, and though war is raging in Europe and Asia, it's still possible for Americans to pretend they might sit out the conflict. As new seniors, Jim and his buddies "had ruled Aliceville School for less than a month," Earley writes, "but now held this high ground more or less comfortably. . . . He and his friends were it." Their reign, however, is pretty benign. These are the kind of guys who, when provoked, pop off with language like this: "Leave a boy alone, for gosh sakes, why don't you?" Gearing up for a hot weekend, one of them claims, "Nothing makes a girl go crazy like square dancing." Opie could rumble with these ruffians.

Most of the story concerns Jim's forbidden attraction to a part-Cherokee girl named Chrissie, whose father is on the lam. She lives up the mountain with her mother and grandparents in a state of degrading servitude to a wealthy apple farmer. Chrissie already has a boyfriend, but he's off in the Navy; for that reason, lusting after her — even by Jim's chaste standards — feels adulterous and vaguely unpatriotic. Nonetheless, sitting behind her in history class, Jim studies her hair "with a scholar's single-minded intensity. . . . It became a warm, rich space into which it suddenly seemed possible to fall and become lost."

Adolescent romance is a charming, if well-worn subject, and Earley handles it here in a charming, if well-worn way. Driving alone in his car, after an argument with a friend, Jim comes face to face with his new ardor: "Something warm inflated and rose inside his chest, replacing in a single mo-

ment his ill temper with a growing elation. 'I love Chrissie Steppe,' he said out loud, realizing as he did so that the words were carrying him over some momentous boundary he had never known existed. Jim didn't know in what strange country this unexpected crossing landed him, or what dangers faced him, only that he found the vistas glorious to consider."

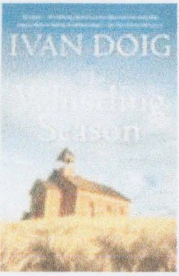
The object of his affection, though, considers him too naive, too optimistic and too privileged to take seriously. Jim and Chrissie have a few impromptu, adorable dates, but she won't accept his declarations. "I think you're a very nice boy," she tells him, "but I also think you've never learned you don't get to have everything you want." Jim lost his father a week before he was born, but he's been raised by his mother and her three brothers amid a wealth of affection and material support that has carried them through the Depression in far better condition than many of their neighbors. After visiting Chrissie's cabin in which "the walls were sealed with newspapers and pieces of cardboard," Jim begins to consider the pernicious effects of poverty and the severely cramped dimensions of others' lives.

The novel builds slowly to these more serious themes — probably too slowly. Although *Jim the Boy* walked the line between banality and profundity with exquisite sensitivity, here the balance is not so well executed. Many of these chapters are warm and graceful but not sufficiently essential, and the writing isn't note-perfect enough to sustain the lack of import. Ivan Doig pulled off this sort of pastoral childhood a couple of years ago in a lovely Montana novel called *The Whistling Season*, but *The Blue Star* too often grows slack, too enamored with Jim's precious epiphanies.

Fortunately, as the novel nears its conclusion, these merely nostalgic scenes begin to acquire real emotional depth. The bubble of Jim's pleasant adolescence pops, and he must confront some life-shattering events — pain his mother and uncles have effectively shielded him from. "The attendant beauty and sadness of the world suddenly seemed to him available for pondering in a way they never had before," Earley writes. "He felt as though he had spent his life until this evening poised over an exam, waiting for the teacher to say, 'Begin.' Now he had begun."

These late chapters are as good as anything Earley has ever written — unashamedly sweet and pure and sad — but I'm worried that only patient readers will hang on to reap these rewards. That would be too bad because by the end I was enthralled again, and the novel left me eager for the story of Jim's adventures in World War II. ■

Ron Charles is a senior editor of Book World. Send e-mail to charlesr@washpost.com.



15. The Whistling Season

By Doig, Ivan

"Flawlessly crafted," said bookseller Stephen Grutzmacher of Passtimes Books, Sister Bay, WI, of this Book Sense (hardcover) Pick.



29. The Space Between Us

By Umrigar, Thrity

A Book Sense (hardcover) Pick and choice for the 2007 Reading Group list. Rich and poor, caste and class, in modern India.

Promoting "Rock Star" Readers

First Indian ALA President reaches out to Native youth

By Rob Capriccioso

See
Pg 21
Loriene Roy

LORIE NE ROY'S DESK IS cluttered with books. Amidst a couple of textbooks from classes she teaches, she's got some leisure books mixed in, one of which she is halfway through and another that she has just begun. She has one more novel out in her car and a few that she has started at home.

Roy's love of books has certainly served her well. She became the first American Indian ever elected as president of the prestigious American Library Association (ALA) in June. An enrolled member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe who grew up on the outskirts of the Fond du Lac reservation, she now finds a large part of her time focused on indigenous reading and literacy.

A lifelong book addict, Roy began working in libraries in Arizona in the 1980s and later received her doctorate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Today, she is a respected professor in the School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin.

The added duties of presiding over the ALA often leaves her crunched for time to read all the new titles she has gathered through her recent travels. But she makes time. And she made time, too, to share her ideas and goals in this *American Indian Report* interview:

AIR: *What unique aspects do you bring to this position as an American Indian woman?*

Roy: I think that part of it is a sense of modernity. A lot of Native people realize that non-Indian people think we are dead or that we live stereotypical lives. But you can be a modern person, and you can express yourself culturally. You don't know everything, but you are on a constant path to discovering yourself and your community. Also, the essence of community and that we extend beyond borders. ... Of course, a lot of my work for ALA is what any other ALA president would do — chairing meetings, making phone calls, giving talks at conferences — but I'm lucky that I can do this in my own way. I can be myself.

individual members of many are Native American

Roy: It's hard to even identify the number of Native libraries and Native librarians, but I would think there are about 50 members.



ALA President Loriene Roy.

I certainly hope to receive support from my Native colleagues who are members of the association.

AIR: *Would you like to increase the number of Indians who belong to the association?*

Roy: Certainly — by putting a face on the association as the president and drawing attention to what is going on in Indian Country and connecting with Indian people. ...

AIR: *Why do you think Native students tend to have lower literacy rates?*

Roy: Well, in some cases, kids live way out in rural areas, and they are in the busses for long distances every day. Three hours to school, three hours back. We also know that children tend to model what their parents do. We have to continually help parents to understand their role as readers — their role as lifetime

educators. In some tribal communities, young people are being raised by extended families, which makes it more difficult. And then there are the social challenges for all young people. Sometimes reading might not look cool, for instance. ...

AIR: *What can be done to combat illiteracy problems among youth in Indian Country?*

Roy: I'm fortunate here to have graduate students to help me with a lot of service work. Eight years ago, my students and I started a reading support avenue for Native kids — it became a project called, "If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything." We work with about 28 tribal schools in the U.S. to help promote reading as a lifelong and leisure activity for children. ...

I think it's a matter of many people contributing. It isn't just the schools. Parents have to be involved. Reading for its own sake is wonderful, but we also want young people to be more prepared for their studies. We also want to look at how to incorporate and support indigenous language efforts.

AIR: *What are some positive examples of libraries you have seen that are doing a good job of connecting culture and reading?*

Roy: I was just at several libraries in New Zealand. And just walking into them, you have a sense of indigenous presence. For example, signage. They have signs that are both written in English and Maori because in that country there are two national languages. ... The carpets are woven to reflect the navigational maps that the Maori used to travel to New Zealand 800 years ago. There is a cultural heritage floor [with] a learning area where indigenous people can hold their events.

One school that we have worked with in Maine, Indian Island School, just loves the scary stories aspect of supporting reading for kids. They would do open mic events where any child could come with a spooky story to share. The connection of oral culture and printed culture, I think, is a very fluid and natural connection for Native people.

AIR: *Is there a role for libraries to play in tribal language revitalization efforts?*

Roy: We have dual responsibilities for our young people to prepare them for a lifetime where they can incorporate aspects of their culture. We know that language reflects not only a strict translation, but also a world view. To be able to speak in one's language, you understand different elements of existence.

The role of the library may be to model: To provide social space for people to meet; to have bilingual collections; and to also provide almost a laboratory where Native people can be together. The library can provide a space for people of all ages, a non-judgmental area for people of [all] ages to create and document.

AIR: *What are some books that you have found that really resound with Indian students?*

Roy: The books "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark" and "More Scary Stories" are always the most popular — we try to help libraries to have those on hand. Funny books, stories about animals and other Native people are also popular. ... Native authors tend to be the rock stars of the field.

AIR: *Can you provide some examples of these "rock star" authors?*

Roy: Yes. Cynthia Leitich Smith. She is Muskogee Creek and she writes picture books and young adult novels. Tim Tingle writes books that elementary students love. Luci Tapahonso, a Navajo poet, has some great picture books out. Joe Bruchac is probably the most well-known Native writer for children. Larry Loyie, who is Canadian Cree, is another good one.

AIR: *What are a couple books you would recommend for adult readers?*

Roy: The one I'm reading now is called *Eagle Blue: A Team, A Tribe and a High School Basketball Season in Arctic Alaska* by Michael D'Orso. Another one that I'm just about done with is called *The Whistling Season* by Ivan Doig. It's a very nostalgic book about rural Montana. I like Patricia Grace, too. She is a great indigenous author that many might not have encountered before. I highly recommend her novel *Baby Two-Eyes*.

AIR: *Who is your favorite author?*

Roy: Louise Erdrich. I read everything I can by her. She mainly writes about Anishinabe culture. The first time I read one of her short stories, I sent it to my mother. And my mother has only called me about six times in my whole life, but she immediately called me and asked, "Where did you find this? It's just like looking out my back door."

AIR: *What's next on your agenda at ALA?*

Roy: Well, one of the big things is National American Library Week next April, where we will enroll 50 to 100 schools from around the world that serve indigenous children. We want them to share something about their schools and provide a base to introduce some of these Native writers to students. Right now, we have already identified 40 interested schools. And that is without advertising.

The National Library Week theme will be "Join the Circle At Your Library." We really want to show that Native cultures are around and thriving and that our kids are thriving and expressing their culture through their schools. ■

USET 2007 ANNUAL MEETING & EXPO



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Tamahka Trails Golf Club • October 14
USET Annual Meeting • October 15-18
12th Annual USET EXPO • October 15-16

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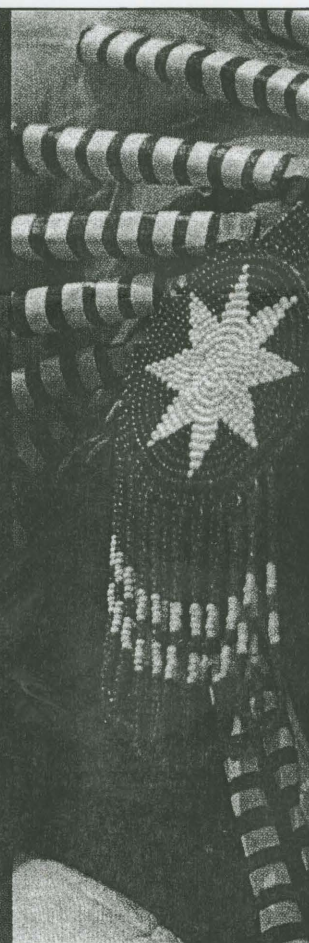
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FYI: Ivan: Could be interesting
for you —

BOOK=THE WHISTLING SEASON, IVAN DOIG - DISCUSSION, 9-29-07 G. Lange
(Somewhat random notes to help you get more out of rereading the book.)

Center for the Book was created by the Library of Congress in 1977. South Dakota was first awarded a grant in 2002 for "celebrating" the written word.

glange@
SVTV.com

Reviews? "...characters are vivid, the prose flawless..." "incantatory gifts for evoking quintessentially American prairie life and history..." (See web page reviews.)
"The melodrama is a weak ending..." Are Paul and Morrie believable? Mother dies. I can relate to that! Eddie Turley's morning "chore." School kids that contentious?
Ethnic diversity. Belgian uncle near Chester made a fortune as a "dry-land" farmer.
Wallace Stegner's comment... very positive! You know his work?

How many of us went to a country school? With horses? 209 - "Tree rings of homestead life."

Orrery - A mechanical model of the solar system. [After Charles Boyle (1676-1731), fourth Earl of Orrery, for whom one was made.] 163 "...last poor Yorick."

→ "Lux desiderium universitatis" - Ablatives? Pluviometer? Classical allusions.
Archimedes, Chanticleer, Rubicon, Polonius? Santayana on history? P. 70-1 Viktor Frankl on "airiness of our life..." "Lord's prayer in French is different!" -The value of studying a foreign language? "Light is a universal *sina qua non!*"

→ "Tovers not in my dictionary. "Argot" like "swag!" Special language, idiom, of a group. "Skritch" of pens? Spitbath handshakes. Lunch pails. Syrup pails.

Miss Trent.. "high in the rump, low in the bosom and rather bunched in the middle."
(Aunt Emily) Why Oliver didn't respond to the "making eyes" episode? Brose Turley also went to revivals. Soft side? Superstitious? Mark Twain, Comet concern? Morrie!
Delacroix print

Harmonica
284

→ Horses? Steel grey! Every kid, a horse and saddle? Room at the school for that many horses? We had a barn for four, as I remember. Race backwards in the saddle? Horse collars on the seats? Workable? Don't question an "artist" at work on his book!
"If you're riding a thoroughbred, you should give them 'their head.'" Well st. broker

Metaphores and similes abound! "All servants steal!"
"Land fever knows no Sabbath." Honus Wagner - "flying Dutchman?" (Deutschman)
"Rabrab" - "feline whispers." "symphonic" spellings? Ghoti or phych equals _____
Spelling bees. Look for the root. Fletcher. Miller. Baker, 165..money, values?
Lincoln "assinated."

Toby's foot? Six weeks out of school? "Proud as a kitten with its first mouse."
Damon... age? As precocious as Paul, in a way... Scrap books? Able to saddle his own horse? Early responsibility on a farm! Kicked in the face at age six.

Harry Taggart age? Paul, his boss in 1957 - (60)
NCLB (40? = 82 in 1957) spatnik year
307 - Mendelssohn? 288 - parents "gros ventre" Snare Gophers

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007



Seattle Post-Intelligencer

LIFE AND ARTS

SECTION E

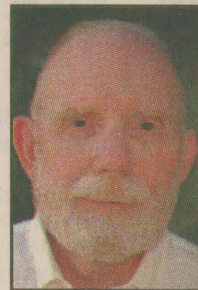
CONTACT LIFE AND ARTS AT 206-448-8330

TELEVISION

Spousal sport: Could you do your spouse's job with only two days of training? Bravo next month will unveil "Better Half," in which two people compete against each other for \$20,000 performing jobs their spouses or significant others normally do. The first episode Oct. 3, after the third-season finale of "Top Chef," will feature the spouses of professional chefs competing for the prize money. Among the professions scheduled for future episodes are professional comic, hairstylist, fitness trainer and photographers. Susie Essman ("Curb Your Enthusiasm") will host.

AWARDS

Western exposure: Ivan Doig, the prolific Seattle writer, will receive the 2007 Wallace Stegner Award for his contribution to the American West. The award, named for the Pulitzer Prize-winning author often considered the dean of western writers, means much to Doig, who said, "I knew Stegner a bit, corresponded some, traded admiration. I feel happy to be in the shadow of that one-man Mount Rushmore." The University of Colorado's Center on the American West has conferred previous Stegner Awards on such notables as Terry Tempest Williams, Billy Frank Jr. of the Nisqually Tribe, and Vine Deloria Jr.



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"The Pirates of Penzance," wrote a poem about ozone).

As I read through "Apollo's Fire," I kept slipping into dreamy reveries, comparing my own experiences with what Sims describes. I remembered the first time I saw moon shadows, trying to focus the light of a partial solar eclipse onto pavement, watching the changing colors of dawn or dusk. His writing not only helped me to understand the science of those experiences, but Sims' stories helped put them into a broader context.

Sims has written a delightful book that will make you think and, I hope, encourage you to go outside and consider the world around you.

Reviewed by David B. Williams

book that David Takami described as "an appealing mix of nature description, dialogue, history and personal musing."

"The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic — and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World" by Steven Johnson (*Riverhead, \$15*). A history of the 1854 cholera epidemic in London and two men, a physician and an assistant curate, who discovered the disease was spread through drinking water. Bruce Ramsey called this "history at its best: colorful, con-

urine"
14.95).
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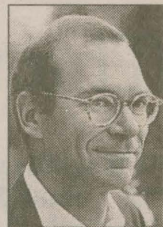
BOOK BUZZ | Ivan Doig, two other local writers receive awards

Local authors make good department: We'd like to spread the good news about three who have recently been honored.

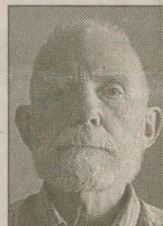
• **Alma García**, who has been a bookseller at the Secret Garden Bookshop in Ballard, learned this month that she won a 2007 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award, which includes a \$25,000 grant. García is working on a novel tentatively titled "Shallow Waters."



• Seattle writer **David Laskin** is the 2007-08 Maxine Cushing Gray Endowed Visiting Writer at the University of Washington libraries. He gets an honorarium and a library office. Laskin is a frequent contributor to the Seattle Times book pages.



• **Ivan Doig**, the author of "This House of Sky" and 10 other books, including the recent "The Whistling Season," has won the Wallace Stegner award from the University of Colorado. The prize goes to an individual who has made "a sustained contribution to the cultural identity of the American West through the literature, lore or understanding of the West." Doig picked up the award in Boulder last week — you can see him locally this week when he reads from "The Whistling Season," as part of the If All of Kirkland Read the Same Book program, at 7 p.m. Thursday Parkplace Books in Kirkland (425-828-6546).



Mary Ann Gwinn, Seattle Times book editor



Marsh Member Kitty Crosby models a new Fall ensemble from The Shop.

Shop at The Marsh...

This Fall fashion season embraces the classics... drawing inspiration from the timeless looks of silhouettes and elegant, feminine lines done in a romantic, monochromatic

color story. Shades of taupe, charcoal, tawny tans (as modeled above) and rich chocolate browns, not to mention, black and white hounds tooth, animal prints, glen check plaid, fur trimmings and leather lacing create a stunning and versatile new Fall wardrobe. You can find these elegant styles and much more in The Shop at The Marsh.

New Fall Must-Have Items:

- ☞ *Mélange gabardine pants*
- ☞ *A pencil skirt*
- ☞ *Slim leg trouser*
- ☞ *Tiered princess jackets*

Action Abstraction A Member's Experience...

Philip Noyed, an active Marsh Member, has created a series of oil paintings that he says was inspired by his personal experiences at The Marsh. Philip, who participates in Marsh Runners, yoga classes and personal training, says "I joined The Marsh because of the emphasis on the balance of mind and body."

We are grateful to Philip for sharing his work and his expression of balance with us. Please join us for an artist's reception to learn more about Philip and the thoughts behind his artwork. **Monday, August 13, 6:00 p.m.** in the Dragon Room. *Please register in advance at the Front Desk.*

Kid's Korner...

Taekwondo Camp

Marsh Trainer and Taekwondo Black Belt, Candy Swanson leads the Taekwondo Camp for kids six and up, **August 13 - 16, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.** *Members' children or grandchildren \$130, Non-members' children or grandchildren \$155. Cost per day: \$35/\$45. Please register in advance at the Front Desk.*

Seriously FUN!

Keep your daughter or granddaughter energized, happy and inspired through the end of the summer. *Seriously FUN!* is a camp for girls ages 11-13. Each day we will explore different activities to empower the girls...



- *Exercises for the Heart and Mind... Cardio Bounce, Pilates and Yoga;*
- *Beautiful You... Girl power, manicures and other surprises;*
- *The Art of... self-defense, writing a thank you note and proper etiquette.*

The girls will receive a special gift to take home with them each day. We will celebrate on the final day with a pool party. **Monday - Thursday, August 6 - 9, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.** *Members' children or grandchildren \$140, Non-members' children or grandchildren \$175. Cost for a single session: \$40/\$60. Please register in advance at the Front Desk.*

Fall Swim Lesson Registration Begins August 16

Contact Diane Pattridge, Swim Lesson Coordinator at 952-935-2202, for more information. Private and Semi-private lessons available.

Family Splash

Plenty of games and toys... bring your children or grandchildren for an afternoon of fun in the water. Family Splash is **August 18, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.** *Complimentary to Members, Non-members \$6.*

Let's Talk Books...

The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig

This is a nostalgic novel set in 1906 Montana with a fast forward to the 1950's and the challenges faced by the U.S. educational system after the launching of the Russian Sputnik. The characters, the writing and the scenes are memorable - providing a perfect summer read. Join us... we have a great time! **Tuesday, August 14, 7:00 p.m.** in the Member's Lounge and **Tuesday, August 21, 1:00 p.m.** in the East Studio. *Complimentary to Members and guests.*

Paperback Row

THE WHISTLING SEASON, by Ivan Doig.

(Harvest/Harcourt, \$14.) A presiding figure in the literature of the American West, Doig sets his latest novel, like most of his books, in rural Montana. His narrator, a school superintendent named Paul Milliron, looks back to the fall of 1909, when he was 13 and his recently widowed father answered a newspaper ad from a woman seeking employment. The housekeeper, Rose Llewellyn, is as feisty and willful as she is charming, and she brings with her a surprise guest — her scholarly brother, who, after the elopement of the community's only teacher, takes over the one-room schoolhouse. "The land and its people — the family, the neighbors — are laid out before us with a fresh, natural openness," Sven Birkerts wrote in the Book Review.



KNOWLEDGE AND THE WEALTH OF NATIONS: A Story of Economic Discovery, by David Warsh.

(Norton, \$16.95.) Warsh, a former columnist for The Boston Globe who writes the online newsletter Economic Principals, recounts the intellectual revolution that swept economics in the 1970s and '80s and describes a centuries-old contradiction at the heart of economic theory: the conflict between unrestrained economies of scale, which tend toward monopoly, and the free-market assumption that there are many competitors.

ELEMENTS OF STYLE, by Wendy Wasserstein.

(Vintage, \$14.95.) Wasserstein's only novel — the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright died of lymphoma last year, at 55 — is a bright social comedy that takes a sudden, tragic turn. As well-heeled Manhattan socialites adapt to post-9/11 life, their antics are satirized through the eyes of Wasserstein's heroine, Francesca Weissman, a Fifth Avenue pediatrician who treats both the children of her social peers and the disadvantaged of East Harlem.



ROUGH CROSSING: Britain, the Slaves and the American Revolution, by Simon Schama.

(Harper Perennial, \$16.95.) This stirring reconsideration of the American Revolution focuses on the tens of thousands of runaway slaves who served the British crown in hopes of securing their freedom. Of those who reached British protection, many died of disease or in battle, and Schama, a British historian, follows the exiled survivors to Nova Scotia and to Sierra Leone, where they experimented with democracy with the help of British abolitionists.

MIDDLE PASSAGES: African American Journeys to Africa, 1787-2005, by James T. Campbell. (Penguin, \$17.) An episodic book of interlocking stories, "Middle Passages" outlines two centuries of black

June 17, 2007

THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

Paperback Best Sellers

This Week	FICTION	Weeks On List
1	WATER FOR ELEPHANTS , by Sara Gruen. (Algonquin, \$13.95.) A young man — and an elephant — save a Depression-era circus.	7
2	THE KITE RUNNER , by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$15.95 and \$14.) An Afghan-American returns to Kabul to learn how a childhood friend has fared.	117
3	ANGELS FALL , by Nora Roberts. (Jove, \$7.99.) A woman newly arrived in the Wyoming mountains claims to have witnessed a murder, but only one man believes her.	1
4	THE HUSBAND , by Dean Koontz. (Bantam, \$7.99.) A man whose wife has been kidnapped has 60 hours to come up with a huge ransom.	5
5	THE ROAD , by Cormac McCarthy. (Vintage, \$14.95.) A father and son travel in post-apocalypse America.	10
6	THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER , by Kim Edwards. (Penguin, \$14.) A doctor's decision to send his newborn daughter, who has Down syndrome, to an institution haunts everyone involved.	50
7	BEACH ROAD , by James Patterson and Peter de Jonge. (Warner Vision, \$9.99.) A lawyer defends a high school basketball star suspected of murder.	1
8	SUITE FRANÇAISE , by Irène Némirovsky. (Vintage, \$14.95.) Two novellas about life in France under the Nazis, by an author who died at Auschwitz.	8
9	THE MAN FROM STONE CREEK , by Linda Lael Miller. (HQN, \$7.99.) A tale of love and outlaws set in an Arizona border town in 1903.	1
10	BLACK ORDER , by James Rollins. (Harper, \$7.99.) Operatives of Sigma Force become entangled in a modern-day Nazi experiment.	1
11	SLEEPING WITH FEAR , by Kay Hooper. (Bantam, \$7.50.) A woman investigating occult activity wakes up covered in blood, with no memory of what happened.	1
12	THE 5TH HORSEMAN , by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro. (Warner, \$14.99.) Detective Lindsay Boxer and the Women's Murder Club investigate unexplained deaths at a San Francisco hospital.	7

This Week	NONFICTION	Weeks On List
1	EAT, PRAY, LOVE , by Elizabeth Gilbert. (Penguin Books, \$15.) A writer's yearlong journey in search of self takes her to Italy, India and Indonesia.	19
2	THE GLASS CASTLE , by Jeannette Walls. (Scribner, \$14.) The author recalls a bizarre childhood during which she and her siblings were constantly moved from one bleak place to another.	73
3	BLINK , by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay, \$15.99.) The author of "The Tipping Point" explores the importance of instinct to the workings of the mind.	9
4	90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN , by Don Piper with Cecil Murphey. (Revell, \$12.99.) A minister on the otherworldly experience he had after an accident.	32
5	THE FINAL MOVE BEYOND IRAQ , by Mike Evans. (Frontline, \$14.99.) The author, a political conservative, says America should act decisively in confronting radical Islam and restricting Iran's nuclear plans. (†)	3
6	THREE CUPS OF TEA , by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. (Penguin Books, \$15.) A former climber builds schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.	18
7	THE TIPPING POINT , by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay/Little, Brown, \$14.95.) A journalist's study of social epidemics, otherwise known as fads.	146
8	THE MEASURE OF A MAN , by Sidney Poitier. (HarperSanFrancisco, \$14.95.) The movie actor's spiritual autobiography.	19
9	NIGHT , by Elie Wiesel. (Hill & Wang, \$9.) The horrors of Auschwitz and Buchenwald.	67
10	MAYFLOWER , by Nathaniel Philbrick. (Penguin Books, \$16.) How America began, from the author of "In the Heart of the Sea."	6
11	THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING , by Joan Didion. (Vintage, \$13.95.) The author's attempts to come to terms with the death of her husband and the grave illness of their only daughter.	16
12	STUMBLING ON HAPPINESS , by Daniel	11

BOOKS

E8 Sunday, June 3, 2007

Skagit Valley Herald

Section Editor: Beverly Crichfield 360-416-2135 / features@skagitvalleyherald.com

ON OUR SHELVES

Author's novel spotlights homesteading and one-room education



Cynthia Harrison

Heading west to start a new life ranks highly in the annals of American dreams. In "The Whistling Season," a heart-warming story told in the context of homesteading in a harsh land, Ivan Doig writes perhaps his most memorable work since his National Book Award Nominee, "This House of Sky."

As the superintendent of public schools in 1957 Montana, Paul Miliron can only look back at his childhood in the dry land of Marias Coulee with fondness and nostalgia. It was all about scraping a life out of the tough

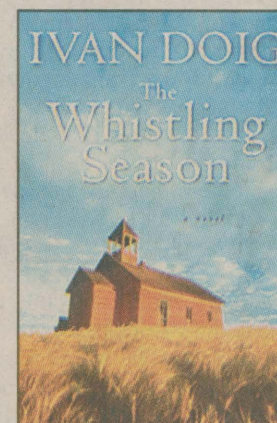
Title: "The Whistling Season"
Author: Ivan Doig
Publisher: Harcourt
Pages: 345
Price: \$25

landscape, a close connection with his widowed father and his two brothers and the one-room schoolhouse where he and other students interacted. At the time, one-room schools were not only bastions of education, they served as social hubs for those living on the vast prairies.

As the story begins, Paul is about to face the daunting task of announcing the closing of all one-room schools in Montana. The sadness of the moment pushes him to reminisce about a time in his childhood that changed his life forever — and that happened primarily in the cocoon of that one-room school house.

After his wife dies, Paul's father, Oliver, hires a housekeeper, Rose Llewellyn of Minneapolis, who is accompanied by her font-of-knowledge brother, Morrie.

See **WHISTLING**, Page E7



BOOK CORNER

Compiled from staff reports

ANACORTES

Reading programs

Anacortes Public Library will offer the summer reading programs "Get a Clue @ Your Library" for ages 2 through 11, and "YNK @ Your Library" for ages 12-18, from June 11-28. Free special events will include performances by Alleyoop, Last Leaf Productions and Magician Sterling Dietz. A special "CSI Crime Lab" for seventh- and eighth-grade students will be offered July 16-20. For more information, visit the library at 1220 10th St. or call 360-293-1910, ext. 27.

MOUNT VERNON

Themed reading kits

The Mount Vernon City Library is offering themed resource kits to support early learning for preschoolers. For information, call 360-336-6209 or visit the library at 315 Snoqualmie St.

BELLINGHAM

Wiersema at bookstore

Author Robert Wiersema will read from and sign copies of his book "Before I Wake" at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 24, at Village Books, 1200 11th St. 360-671-2626.

At local libraries

Anacortes Public Library, 1220 10th St.

■ Family Storytime from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Thursdays through July 19.

■ Toddler Storytime presented by Welcome Baby of Skagit County for ages 18

Peering behind the Afghan veil

Author Khaled Hosseini continues to explore his native country

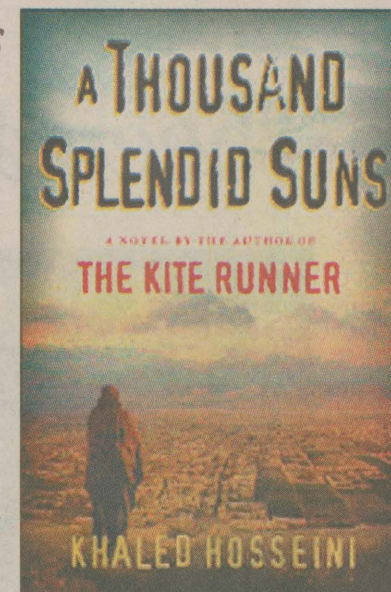
By TAMARA JONES
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — For Khaled Hosseini, the wildly acclaimed author of "The Kite Runner," life doesn't go forward so much as backward. He continues to explore the psyche of the country he left as a boy, avoiding three decades of war and mayhem by being the "nauseatingly fortunate" son of a diplomat who was already posted to Paris when the turmoil began. He did not escape Afghanistan so

Just before the release of "The Kite Runner" in 2003, Hosseini returned to Afghanistan for the first time. Those two weeks would provide much of the material for "A Thousand Splendid Suns," with Hosseini on a novelist's deeply personal fact-finding mission.

"To my knowledge, everything I wrote was based on something I saw or heard," Hosseini says. The dismal conditions at a Kabul hospital, for example, came straight from Hosseini's own visit to a surgical ward, where he encountered a family whose small son was having an operation.

"The neurosurgeon came out, and he has this handful of prescriptions he's trying to give the father. He's telling him, 'We don't have serum' — which is what you use for IVs — 'we don't have calcium,



were days when I couldn't pay people to read that novel."

Now, as Hosseini launches a seven-week publicity tour across the country for "A Thousand

Writing the book after Sept. 11 and during the Iraq war, he stuck close to the historical record, but was also interested in the origins of terrorism.

For his main characters, he tried to give these ideas flesh: One is a charming, sadistic Nazi named Von Leinsdorf; the other is a confused Brooklyn-bred soldier of divided loyalties named Bernie. And before long, a hard-bitten American MP named Grannit picks up their trail, and the book becomes what Frost calls "a triangle."

Another character, the charismatic SS officer Otto Skorzeny, who masterminded Operation Griffin and freed Mussolini in '43, lurks in the background in the novel. Frost calls him "kind of the godfather of modern terrorism."

"This is the man who would go on

OBJECTIVE
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE GREATEST GAME EVER PLAYED

to form ODESSA after the war," Frost said of the group thought to have funneled SS men to Spain and South America. "And we're all kind of living with the consequences of what happened when these guys decided they could blur the lines."

The book sprang from hundreds of pages of declassified documents -- Griffin was only declassified in 1995, it's thought, because of a postwar alliance between American intelligence and Skorzeny. Frost and an assistant also read through dozens of books on the Battle of the Bulge.

But he'd been a history buff for

matic and literary thriller, the end of the Cold War dealt the genre a real blow. Gone are the days when every airport bookstore was festooned with swastikas and hammer-and-sickles on the jackets of best-sellers. Thrillers now are as likely to take place among lawyers or serial killers.

Two of Frost's favorite writers responded to the fall of the Berlin Wall in very different ways: John le Carre has largely abandoned Cold War settings, putting his books in Africa or among international criminals, while Alan Furst has thrived with historical espionage novels set in an elegantly re-created 1930s and '40s Europe, especially Paris.

"Writers haven't known which way to go," Hyperion's Miller said. "Do you invent a new villain that's modern, and

But what makes "The Second Objective" stand out, besides the historical detail, is its absolutely relentless pacing and cliffhanger turns. At times it feels so much like a movie that you can see the camera angles.

It was partly his years writing episodes for "The Six-Million Dollar Man" and "Hill Street Blues" -- which the author says was always intended as "an apprenticeship" to a career writing books -- that taught Frost the importance of tight, old-school three-act storytelling.

"I'm really driven by narrative more than interior experience, both as a writer and as a person," Frost said. "I think a lot of contemporary fiction gazes inward more than out, and can hover dangerously close to narcissism."

Whistling: Doig's tale is rich with humor and dialogue

Continued from Page E8

Both Rose and Morrie come to the Millirons' lives as brightly as Halley's Comet did to the heavens in 1909. Rose brings cheer and her female presence to spark life into a family that has been grieving the loss of wife and mother. Of course, the romance that develops isn't a big surprise.

Rose's brother, Morrie, electrifies his classroom by making the comet the central theme of the school year. His teaching talent makes all the routine, tedious subjects come to life.

The interaction of Morrie and a menacing wolf-hunter, Brose Turley, adds welcome conflict to the plot. Moreover, contrast between the Milliron family and Morrie's drive for education, and the Turleys' anti-intellectu-

alism represents a real tension that existed and continues to exist in the rural West. As Rose and Morrie's pasts are revealed, a surprise ending awaits the reader.

Doig's tale is rich with humor and dialogue. He has the ability to write with poignancy and a genuine understanding of life in a land where every vehicle kicked up dust you could see for miles; where you took notice when the wind stopped blowing; and where in winter you watched for "the first smudge on the horizon that signaled a blizzard coming." With characteristic humor, he calls the stuff that stays on the ground for months at a time, "Snirt" -- a combination of snow and dirt.

An adult Paul says, "If I have learned anything in a lifetime spent overseeing schools, it is

that childhood is the one story that stands by itself in any soul. As surely as a compass needle knows north, that is what draws me to these remindful rooms as if the answer I need by the end of this day is written in the dust that carpets them."

Moreover, this sense of community typified by the one-room school, almost unknown in an

urban world, still exists in places like Marias Coulee.

The books mentioned in this review and others with similar themes of dry land farming and ranching in Montana are available at your Skagit Libraries:

■ "Giants in the Earth" by O. E. Rolvaag
■ "Bad Land" by Jonathan

Raban

■ "Winter Wheat" by Mildred Walker

■ "Breaking Clean" by Judy Blunt

■ Cynthia Harrison is the director of the Anacortes Public Library. She can be reached at 360-293-1910 or cynthiah@cityofanacortes.org.



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connecting notions of intimacy collide.
This may sound like modest subject
matter for McEwan to take on, but he
handles it so sensitively and insight-
fully that, as in the best passages of
Virginia Woolf, something large and
visionary emerges from his close study
of these delicate personal moments.

The book's symmetrical, five-part
structure serves only to heighten its
spare intensity. Parts 1, 3 and 5 place
us in the present — that summer's
night in 1962 — when Florence and
Edward are approaching their mo-
ment of no return. Parts 2 and 4 delve
back into their family backgrounds —
Florence's as the daughter of a suc-
cessful businessman and his Oxford-
don wife; Edward's as the son of a vil-
lage schoolteacher and a vaguely artis-
tic mother who's not quite with it.

At certain points McEwan adopts
the tone of a sociologist: "This was still
the era ... when to be young was a so-
cial encumbrance, a mark of irrele-
vance, a faintly embarrassing condi-
tion for which marriage was the
beginning of a cure."

Or more humorously: "This was not
a good moment in the history of Eng-
lish cuisine, but no one much minded
at the time, except visitors from
abroad."

The period detail is astonishingly
good, especially when Edward is en-
tering the unfamiliarly upscale world
that Florence's family inhabits. But it
is McEwan's close, blameless psycho-
logical reading of Florence and Ed-
ward themselves that makes this book
a masterpiece. As you turn the pages,
you inhabit both their perspectives
with a frankness that illuminates not
just *their* situation but something es-
sential in the nature of human connec-
tion.

There's a famous Philip Larkin
poem, "Annus Mirabilis," that many
English reviewers of "On Chesil
Beach" have cited. It reads, in part:

*Sexual intercourse began
In nineteen sixty-three
(which was rather late for me) —*

*...
Up till then there'd only been
A sort of bargaining,
A wrangle for a ring,
A shame that started at sixteen
And spread to everything.*

"On Chesil Beach" beautifully ex-
pands upon the premise of that poem.
In catching so precisely the fears and
frustrations of its era, it's just about as
satisfying as a novel can be.



Michael Upchurch:
mupchurch@
seattletimes.com.
He has been the Seattle
Times book critic since
1998 and has published
four novels.

3. The Reagan Diaries
Ronald Reagan

4. The Dangerous Book
for Boys
Conn Iggulden and
Hal Iggulden

5. God Is Not Great
Christopher Hitchens

6. Einstein
Walter Isaacson

7. Reposition Yourself
T.D. Jakes

8. A Long Way Gone
Ishmael Beah

9. Animal, Vegetable,
Miracle
Barbara Kingsolver with
Steven Hopp and
Camille Kingsolver

10. Where Have All the
Leaders Gone?
Lee Iacocca

McClatchy Newspapers

Local Scene

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Kirkland,
425-828-6546.

Hardcover

1. Einstein
Walter Isaacson

2. The Children of Hurin
J.R.R. Tolkien, edited by
Christopher Tolkien

3. Peak
Roland Smith

4. The Dangerous Book
for Boys
Conn Iggulden and
Hal Iggulden

5. Animal, Vegetable,
Miracle
Barbara Kingsolver with
Steven Hopp and
Camille Kingsolver

5. (tie) The Audacity of Hope
Barack Obama

Paperback

1. The Whistling Season
Ivan Doig

2. Water for Elephants
Sara Gruen

3. Eat, Pray, Love
Elizabeth Gilbert

4. Three Cups of Tea
Greg Mortenson

5. The Madonnas
of Leningrad
Debra Dean

Saletan, Rebecca (HTP-NYC)

From: Von Drasek, Paul (HTP-NYC)
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007 10:40 AM
To: Brown, Laurie K. (HTP-NYC); Berg, Patricia A. (HTP-NYC); Saletan, Rebecca (HTP-NYC)
Subject: FW: whistling season staff rec--reading groups, paperback, etc...

Nice recommendation!

paul von drasek executive director of sales 212-592-1076

From: Sugg, Ellen H. (HTP-NYC)
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007 10:26 AM
To: Von Drasek, Paul (HTP-NYC); Harrigan, Michael J. (HTP-NYC)
Subject: FW: whistling season staff rec--reading groups, paperback, etc...

Below is a staff rec for Whistling Season from a Harry W. Schwartz bookseller. Daniel forwards these to Booksense.

E

Ellen Sugg | National Accounts Manager | 651-762-7648

From: dgoldin@schwartzbooks.com [mailto:dgoldin@schwartzbooks.com]
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2007 4:23 PM
To: Sugg, Ellen H. (HTP-NYC); Dan Cullen; marketing@schwartzbooks.com
Subject: whistling season staff rec--reading groups, paperback, etc...

THE WHISTLING SEASON (0156031647), by Ivan Doig, Harcourt, \$14, 5/1/07 (reprint)
 "Back there at memory's depot. . ." perfectly describes this tender and true picture of life on Montana's prairie in the early 1900s. Center stage is a one-room school house, three brothers, their recently widowed father and a surprising pair of mail-order transplants who become a housekeeper and the teacher. Artfully crafted language full of literary and historical references makes Doig's most recent tale a worthwhile read for anyone with an interest in the West, teaching, family life and the pure joy of the written word.
 --Susan Shimshak, Mcquon

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	# of pages ▶ 1
To	Mr. Ivan Doig	From	Tom Bama
Co./Dept.		Co.	
Phone #		Phone #	
Fax #	206 542 6658	Fax #	

5/1/2007

L'America, Seeing and ***The Whistling Season*** are all featured in Marie Arana's Spring Preview in the *Washington Post Book World!*

1 of 1 DOCUMENT

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The Washington Post

April 2, 2006 Sunday
Final Edition

SECTION: Book World; T08 , Spring Preview By Marie Arana

LENGTH: 2631 words

HEADLINE: Put away the heavy lifting, stash the winter doldrums -- it's time for the fresh books of spring.

BYLINE: Marie Arana

BODY:

In spring all things seem possible. Or so you might think when you walk into a bookstore and shelves greet you with bright, new titles clamoring for attention. Publishers know very well that, come spring, anything goes. It's the time of year readers are inclined to entertain books that are somewhat beyond their normal fare -- perhaps wholly different, even a wee bit crazy. As Emily Dickinson wrote, "A little Madness in the Spring/ Is wholesome even for the King." So here are some of the season's offerings; let the madness begin.

The good news is that there's plenty of promise in these latest releases. Lighthearted romps join meaty world issues. Some seriously big names distinguish the season's fiction, from Anne Tyler to Philip Roth. In nonfiction the names are just as recognizable (if diverse): on the one hand, veteran country crooner Willie Nelson's *Tao of Willie*; on the other, Simon Schama's *Rough Crossings*, a historian's new slant on the American Revolution.

Here is a short list of books we'll be watching from April through early June. We'll review a good many of them in coming weeks. For summer recommendations, look for *Book World's Summer Issue* (June 4).

Absurdistan, by Gary Shteyngart (Random House, May). The author of the very funny *The Russian Debutante's Handbook* offers a quirky story about "Snack Daddy," a grossly overweight man stranded in an unstable East European country, trying to make his way home to America.

Academy X, by Anonymous (Bloomsbury, June). An English teacher in an elite Manhattan prep school is besieged by pushy parents, besotted with the librarian and very badly in trouble with his boss.

Adverbs, by Daniel Handler (Ecco, April). The children's writer known as Lemony Snicket takes on a very adult subject: forbidden love.

After, by Marita Golden (Doubleday, May). A black police officer who can do no wrong shoots a young black man in an unfortunate split-second decision and forever alters his own life and family.

Apex Hides the Hurt, by Colson Whitehead (Doubleday, April). The author of *John Henry Days* and *The Intuitionist* offers this satire of contemporary culture: A "nomenclature consultant" is hired to give a feisty little town a new name.

At Risk, by Patricia Cornwell (Putnam, May). A shocking crime in Tennessee, an ambitious district attorney and the hapless investigator in the middle.

The Attack, by Yasmina Khadra (Nan A. Talese, May). An Arab surgeon in a Tel Aviv hospital works frantically to save lives after a suicide bombing only to find that the terrorist responsible is his lovely, intelligent wife.

Bed Rest, by Sarah Bilston (HarperCollins, May). A type-A lawyer, pregnant and confined to three months in bed, experiences adventures she never imagined possible.

Black Swan Green, by David Mitchell (RH, April). The author of the virtuosic *Cloud Atlas* gives us one year in the life of an English boy and his pinched, economically stagnant village.

Blue Screen, by Robert B. Parker (Putnam, June). Boston P.I. Sunny Randall, hired to protect the girlfriend of a slick movie mogul, finds this kind of work can be murder.

Cage of Stars, by Jacquelyn Mitchard (Warner, May). When the savage killing of her two younger sisters shatters a 12-year-old's charmed life in a Mormon community, she vows to avenge their deaths.

Daniel Isn't Talking, by Marti Leimbach (Talese, April). By the author of *Dying Young*, the story of a mother's refusal to have her autistic son treated by experts, and the dire consequences of that decision.

Digging to America, by Anne Tyler (Knopf, May). Two American families -- one of them originally from Iran -- are inextricably intertwined by the adoptions of two infant girls from Korea.

Elements of Style, by Wendy Wasserstein (Knopf, April). The late, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright leaves us this satire of stupendously rich Manhattanites in a post-9/11 world.

Everyman, by Philip Roth (Houghton Mifflin, May). A brash, arrogant man discovers he is seriously ill, prompting a sober reconsideration of three failed marriages and two estranged children.

The Foreign Correspondent, by Alan Furst (RH, May). It's Paris 1939, and the editor of an anti-fascist newspaper is found in a hotel bed -- alongside a French politician's wife -- murdered by the long hand of Mussolini.

Fortunate Son, by Walter Mosley (Little, Brown, April). Two boys -- one rich, one poor -- are close friends until life drives them apart and surprising circumstances bring them together again.

Gatsby's Girl, by Caroline Preston (HM, May). The author of *Jackie* by Josie reimagines the life of the very troubled Ginevra King, F. Scott Fitzgerald's first love.

How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, and Got a Life, by Kaavya Viswanathan (LB, April). Diligent high school girl ISO a Harvard education is told by the admissions dean that she needs to prove she can have fun.

JPod, by Douglas Coupland (Bloomsbury, May). By the author of *Generation X* and *Microserfs*, a sly peek into the life of a tech weenie in a daffy Vancouver video-game design company.

Killer Instinct, by Joseph Finder (St. Martin's, May). A young Boston sales executive befriends a former Special Forces guy and finds his stalled career taking off in a dizzying, corpse-strewn ascent.

L'America, by Martha McPhee (Harcourt, April). When carefree Beth falls for spoiled-boy Cesare on a sun-drenched Aegean island, she learns something about the cultural ravine that separates Europe from America.

Lost and Found, by Carolyn Parkhurst (LB, June). From the author of *The Dogs of Babel*, a tale of seven couples on the road to self-revelation via the mad labyrinth of a TV reality show.

Malinche, by Laura Esquivel (Atria, May). The cunning, double life of the lover and translator of the great conquistador Hernan Cortes, by the author of *Like Water for Chocolate*.

The Man of My Dreams, by Curtis Sittenfeld (RH, May). Hannah's fantasies about a perfect marriage contrast sharply with everything she ever witnessed between her exasperatingly human parents.

My Latest Grievance, by Elinor Lipman (HM, April). Frederica lives a charmed life on the campus of Dewing College, until her glamorous new dorm mother turns out to be dad's ex-wife.

Saving the World, by Julia Alvarez (Algonquin, April). A novel within a novel about a Latin American writer's obsession with the 22 Spanish orphans who were purposely infected with smallpox and shipped to 19th-century America on a mission to inoculate the populace.

Seeing, by José Saramago (Harcourt, April). A revolution begins when a stunning majority of blank ballots are cast on election day. The president declares a state of emergency and orders a wall erected around the capital.

She May Not Leave, by Fay Weldon (Atlantic, May). Hattie and Martyn are enlightened life partners with a new baby, but when Martyn marries the nanny to fend off the immigration police, domestic life gets a bit sticky.

The Sisterhood of Blackberry Corner, by Andrea Smith (Dial, May). A childless woman in a small African-American community creates an adoption network for unwanted babies. When her life falls apart as a result, she learns some lessons the hard way.

A Student of Living Things, by Susan Richards Shreve (Viking, May). In a Washington, D.C., of the future, the murder of Claire's brother launches a strange and revelatory odyssey.

Telegraph Days, by Larry McMurtry (Simon & Schuster, June). Feisty, smart, sexually insatiable Nellie takes a job as telegraph operator in the dusty Oklahoma town of Rita Blanca and rises to become its mayor.

Terrorist, by John Updike (Knopf, June). In New Prospect, N.J., 18-year-old Ahmad, filled with loathing for his oversexed mother, absent father and the self-indulgent society around him, plans revenge in the name of God.

Theft: A Love Story, by Peter Carey (Knopf, May). Into the lives of a "famous" ex-painter and his mentally impaired younger brother comes a too-smart, beautiful woman in very high heels.

Through a Glass, Darkly, by Donna Leon (Atlantic, April). A night watchman is found dead in Murano, and Guido Brunetti must navigate the highly secretive world of Venetian glass factories to find out why.

Twelve Sharp, by Janet Evanovich (St. Martin's, June). Stephanie Plum braves new adventures down the mean streets of Trenton, N.J.

We Are All Welcome Here, by Elizabeth Berg (RH, April). It's Tupelo, Miss., at the height of Freedom Summer, and Diana's mother -- despite her failed struggle with polio -- is being pursued by two lovesick men.

The Whistling Season, by Ivan Doig (Harcourt, June). A widower in 1909 Montana hires the ever-whistling Rose as his housekeeper, and nothing in the rambunctious town of Big Ditch is ever the same again.

The Whole World Over, by Julia Glass (Pantheon, May). By the author of Three Junes, the story of a plucky Greenwich Villager who turns family life upside down to go off and bake pastries for the governor of New Mexico.

Who Moved My Blackberry?, by Lucy Kellaway (Hyperion, April). Inspired by the author's weekly column in the Financial Times, the life of a clawing, self-absorbed London marketing director, told via his e-mail correspondence.

America Back on Track, by Edward M. Kennedy (Viking, April). The country has departed further from its deepest ideals than at any other time in its history, says the Massachusetts senator. He proposes a different avenue.

And You Know You Should Be Glad: A True Story of Lifelong Friendship, by Bob Greene (Morrow, May). The Chicago Tribune columnist looks back on his youth in Bexley, Ohio, and the friends with whom he had a moving reunion two years ago.

The Big Bam: The Life and Times of Babe Ruth, by Leigh Montville (Doubleday, May). The author of an admirable biography of Ted Williams turns his lens on the world's most famous slugger.

Burnt Toast: And Other Philosophies of Life, by Teri Hatcher (Hyperion, May). The star of "Desperate Housewives" turns out to be a struggling single mother with some life lessons to impart.

Clemente: The Passion and Grace of Baseball's Last Hero, by David Maraniss (S&S, April). The ballplayer really had heart -- on the field and off.

Crime Beat: A Decade of Covering Cops and Killers, by Michael Connelly (LB, May). A thriller writer (The Lincoln Lawyer, The Closers, and others) tells of his former career as an investigative journalist.

A Death in Belmont, by Sebastian Junger (Norton, April). In the quiet suburb of Belmont, Mass., a gruesome murder takes place, and its bizarre M.O. fits the pattern of the Boston Strangler. The man under suspicion is a carpenter in the author's home.

F.U.B.A.R: America's Right-Wing Nightmare, by Sam Seder and Stephen Sherrill (HarperCollins, June). What's wrong with the Republicans, according to two angry liberals.

A G-Man's Life: The FBI, Being 'Deep Throat' and the Struggle for Honor in Washington, by Mark Felt and John O'Connor (PublicAffairs, April). Deep Throat reveals his motivations for tipping off one of the greatest scandals in modern American history.

The Good Fight, by Peter Beinart (HC, May). An editor at the New Republic claims that only liberals can win the war on terror and make this country great again.

Guests of the Ayatollah, by Mark Bowden (Grove, April). The author of Black Hawk Down argues that the age of terrorism began nearly 27 years ago, when radical Islamist students took Americans hostage in our embassy in Tehran.

Heat: An Amateur's Adventures as Kitchen Slave, Line Cook, Pasta-Maker, and Apprentice to a Dante-Quoting Butcher in Tuscany, by Bill Buford (Knopf, May). The former fiction editor of the New Yorker offers a detailed chronicle of his frenzied three-year stint as a kitchen orderly in the New York restaurant Babbo.

House of War: The Pentagon and the Disastrous Rise of American Power, by James Carroll (HM, May). The award-winning author of An American Requiem takes on the most powerful institution in America.

Laura Bush: An Intimate Portrait of the First Lady, by Ronald Kessler (Doubleday, April). She enjoys an overwhelming approval rating from the American public and yet maintains a strict silence about life behind the scenes in her husband's turbulent presidency.

Mayflower, by Nathaniel Philbrick (Viking, May). The American Pilgrims, in all their pugnacious splendor.

The Mighty and the Almighty: Reflections on America, God, and World Affairs, by Madeleine Albright (HC, May). Madam Secretary tells how her faith helped her pursue high stakes missions.

Miracle in the Andes: 72 Days on the Mountain and My Long Trek Home, by Nando Parrado (Crown, May). Given up for dead in an Andean air crash, a rugby player has the persistence and fortitude to save 15 of his companions.

My Life in France, by Julia Child with Alex Prud'homme (Knopf, April). The loud, gawky intelligence agency employee enrolled for lessons in Paris's Cordon Bleu. The rest is delicious history.

The New Ann Coulter, by Ann Coulter (Crown, June). She's back! To explain how the left is poisoning America.

Now It's My Turn: A Political Memoir, by Mary Cheney (S&S, May). The vice president's daughter on the sacrifices of political life.

On the Couch, by Lorraine Bracco (Putnam, June). The actress best known as Dr. Jennifer Melfi tells about her awkward childhood, difficult marriages, mid-career depression and rise to fame on "The Sopranos."

The One That Got Away, by Howell Raines (Scribner, May). Fishing stories, from the former executive editor of the New York Times.

Politics Lost, by Joe Klein (Doubleday, April). The formerly anonymous author of Primary Colors argues that our political life has been coarsened by cynics who think we'll buy anything.

Possible Side Effects, by Augusten Burroughs (St. Martin's, May). From the author of Running With Scissors, a collection of reflections on wayward dogs, charismatic cardiologists, dry skin and other facts of life.

The Pro: Lessons From My Father About Golf and Life, by Butch Harmon (Crown, May). Big picture thoughts from a big golf guru.

Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different, by Gordon Wood (Penguin Press, May). A towering scholar of the American Revolution offers portraits of the republic's early titans.

Revolutionary Wealth: How It Will Be Created, Who Will Get It, and How It Will Change Our Lives, by Alvin Toffler and Heidi Toffler (Knopf, April). The coming economic revolution will depend on "prosumers," people who are quietly, persistently transforming society.

Rough Crossings: Britain, the Slaves, and the American Revolution, by Simon Schama (Ecco, May). At the cusp of the revolution, American slaves waged a mass movement to escape to the British side.

The Tao of Willie, by Willie Nelson (Gotham, May). From harmony at the mic to happiness in the heart: a singer's views on love, war and religion.

Tiger Force: A True Story of Men and War, by Michael Sallah and Mitch Weiss (LB, May). An elite Army group's murderous rampage through the jungles of Vietnam.

A Twist of Lemmon: A Tribute to My Father, by Chris Lemmon (Algonquin, May). On the film star whose greatest skill was his ability to seem perfectly ordinary.

Überpower: The Imperial Temptation of America, by Josef Joffe (Norton, June). A leading European conservative who edits Germany's Die Zeit offers a provocative take on U.S. power.

A Writer's Life, by Gay Talese (Knopf, April). From the veteran New Journalist, author of The Kingdom and the Power, a hard look at what it takes to be a writer.

You Must Set Forth at Dawn, by Wole Soyinka (RH, April). The Nobel Prize-winner on his lifework, his numerous exiles and his contempt for the tyrants who beleaguer his Nigerian homeland. *

Marie Arana is the editor of Book World.

We just enjoyed a wonderful Spring Arts Walk weekend. It is amazing how many people who came by mentioned they were from out of town. Our downtown brings people from far away places, and they frequently comment on the beauty of our natural setting. If you haven't noticed how beautiful the Olympics are from the downtown post office, check out the view the next time you mail a package!

Late spring is the time to think about graduation gifts and wedding presents. For both occasions, consider *How to Cook Everything* by **Mark Bittman**. Both of my children talk about delicious meals they have made using this book. Think of it as a more hip *Joy of Cooking*. Another favorite for graduating women is *Being Perfect* by **Anna Quindlen**. The book is really about *not* being perfect. Too much striving for perfection does have its complications! Also we now sell Booksense Gift Cards. These are plastic cards that can be used in over 1200 independent bookstores in the US. You'll miss the view from the post office as the cards are easy to mail.

Northwest author **Ivan Doig's** new *The Whistling Season* arrives in June. I think it is his best book since his first *This House of Sky*. It is the story of a widowed Montana rancher with three sons sending east for a housekeeper who advertises, "Can't cook but doesn't bite." Doig writes beautifully of the one-room schoolhouse and its importance to the community. Reserve your copy now! Another June title not to be missed is *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee*. It tells of her struggle to create *To Kill a Mockingbird* and of her lifelong friendship with **Truman Capote**.

My Life in France captures **Julia Child's** voice perfectly. She had been working with her nephew on this book before she died in 2004. It is based on hundreds of letters she and her husband wrote from Europe to America in the 1950's. Julia knew little about cooking when she married Paul Child at age 35. The book is her story of love for Paul and learning to cook. I loved the book!

The Timberland Regional Library's Reads Together Author Series is providing a *free* wonderful event for the community. On Monday June 5 at 7 pm, **Jim Lynch**, author of *The Highest Tide*, will discuss his book at the Washington Center. If you haven't heard Jim speak, you are in for a treat. His coming of age story with an Olympia setting will touch your heart. His descriptions of Puget Sound are so poetic you will want to read them aloud. Bloomsbury Publishing has sent Jim all over the country for book events and also to Holland. Don't miss the chance to hear him here! Thanks to Jim, we almost always have signed copies available in the store, paperback as well as hardback.

Scholastic's new *Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship* is a title kids as well as adults will enjoy reading. The book is about Owen, a Kenyan hippopotamus that was orphaned during the 2004 tsunami, becoming inseparable from Mzee, a 130 year-old giant tortoise. It is a joyous reminder that in times of trouble friendship can be stronger than differences. Another children's title not to miss is *Marvelous Mattie: How Margaret E. Knight Became an Inventor* by **Emily Arnold McCully**. Knight was the first woman to receive a US patent for an invention. Her machine to make paper bags was cutting edge at the time.

Our garden table is covered with new titles as it always is this time of year. Be sure to see *Outside the Not So Big House* as well as *Small Gardens* by **John Brookes**. I am enjoying bringing fresh flowers from my garden for the front counter. It is a treat to live a climate where we can easily grow bouquet material. Stop by the store for ideas for your garden.

See you here,
Jane Laclergue
352 4006



WINTER BROTHERS: Still a 'must read'

Doig's lecture captivates Port Townsend audience

By Kathie Meyer Leader Contributing Writer

About 200 history and literary buffs attended the lecture by honored guest Ivan Doig, author of *Winter Brothers: A Season at the Edge of America*, at the Jefferson County Historical Society Founders' Day celebration on April 2 in Wheeler Theater.

The event and champagne buffet following at the Bartlett House owned by Board President Linda Maguire were deemed among the best attended in the society's history.

"I can remember 15 years ago when it was hard to get 25 members to come to the annual meeting," said Barbara Marseille, board member, as she partook of the sumptuous fare provided by JCHS volunteers.

Jefferson County's historical society was founded in 1879, 20 years after James Swan, a "frontier scientist," tireless diarist and subject of Doig's *Winter Brothers*, arrived in Port Townsend. One hundred years after the JCHS founding, Doig arrived to write the book most agree is the "must read" for any newcomer.

Doig described the book as a "journal of a journal" as he wove the story of his research with Swan's diaries depicting life on the peninsula among the Makah.

Haida art inspires

In his introduction, JCHS Director Bill Tennent spoke of a carved Haida cane acquired

by Swan in 1883 now held in the JCHS Museum, the carving of which Doig meticulously and poetically described in *Winter Brothers*, ending with:

"Snakes, white and brown, contorting a stick of wood into struggle, legend, art. I very nearly reel back from this example of Haida blade magic."

Tennent told the audience he thinks of Doig every time he walks past the case that keeps the cane. Doig himself spoke of the layers and connections of Haida art and said it was this that inspired the structure for *Winter Brothers*.

"Like patterns of Haida Northwest coastal art, I made patterns of time recur in the book," he said.

Doig's description

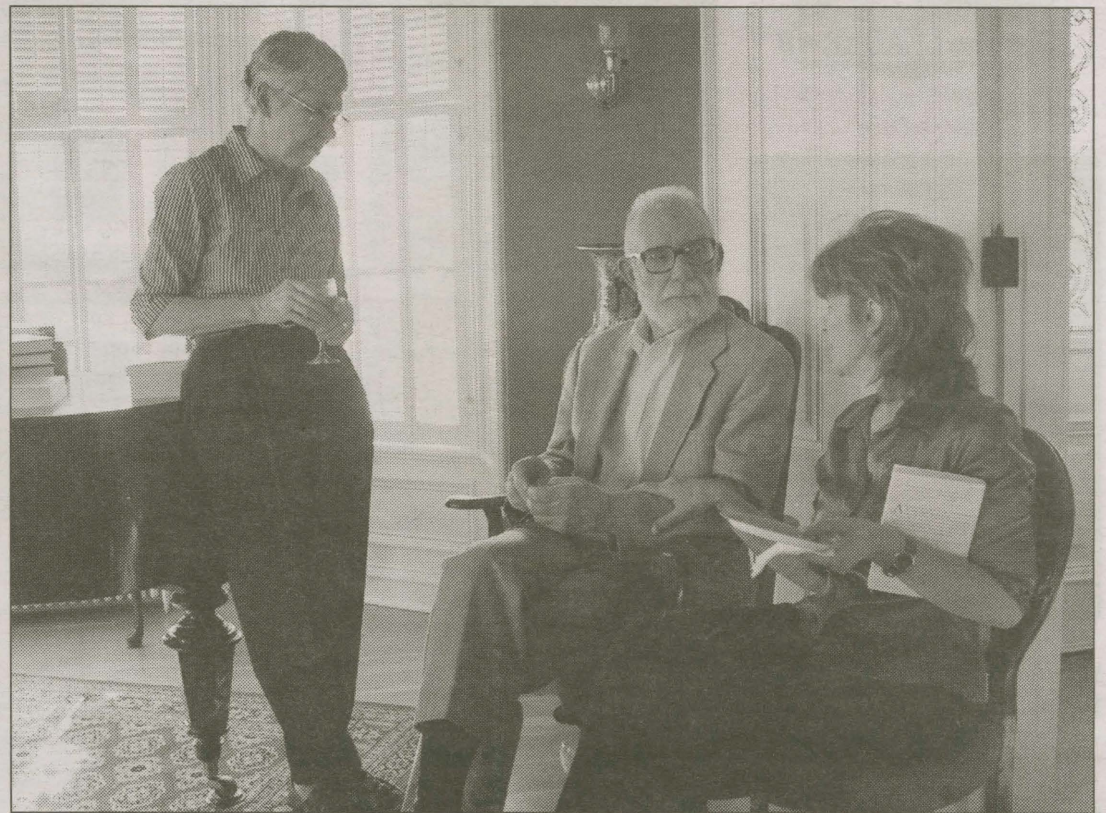
At the core of *Winter Brothers*, said Doig, is the question, "What bring us out here and what keeps us out here?"

"Here" is our edge of the American West. Doig read a descriptive excerpt, holding the audience's rapt attention:

"The Strait of Juan de Fuca swings broadly in from the Pacific, a fat fjord between the Olympic Mountains of Washington and the lower peaks

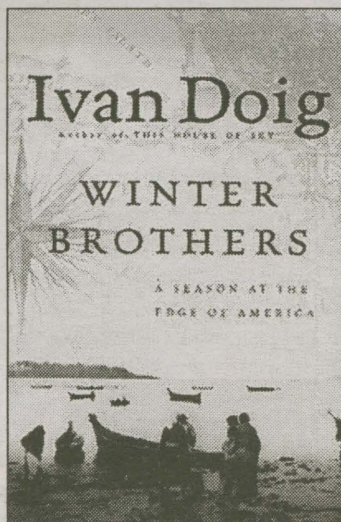
of British Columbia's Vancouver Island, until at last, after a hundred miles and precisely at the brink of land which holds Port Townsend, the span of water turns southward in a long, sinuous stretch like an arm delving to the very bottom of the barrel."

During Doig's stay during the winter of 1978-79, the Hood Canal Bridge lay "tumbled beneath three hundred feet of



Ivan and Carol Doig chat with Linda Maguire, JCHS board president, at Maguire's home, the Bartlett House. Maguire hosted a champagne buffet following Doig's lecture at the JCHS Founders' Day celebration.

Photo by Kathie Meyer



riptide," forcing him to use a ferry to travel from Edmonds to Port Townsend. Readers of *Winter Brothers* will find yet more description:

"Seen here from the water, Port Townsend stands forth as a surprising new place. It regains itself as the handsome port site of its beginnings, the great water-facing houses appear correct and captainly on their bluff, the main street is set broadside along the shore as it ought to be in a proper working wharftown. Instead of the dodgy glimpses along its downtown through too many cars and powerlines, this Port Townsend looks you level in the eye and asks where you've sailed in from."

Twelfth book

When Doig sailed in to Port Townsend, he was riding the success of his first book, *This House of Sky*, a memoir of his childhood in Montana. Prior to that, Doig, who has both bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern and a doctorate from the University of Washington, worked as a freelance writer until "freelancing

"Like patterns of Haida Northwest coastal art, I made patterns of time recur in the book."

Ivan Doig, author of *Winter Brothers*



became more and more preposterous" financially.

Included in his vitae of "hundreds" of freelance pieces, he wrote the standard "evergreen" article on Victorian homes in *Port Townsend* for (he thinks) the *Everett Herald* in the late 1960s. His wife, Carol, took the article's photographs. As he freelanced, he worked on his breakthrough memoir.

"It was fairly audacious to publish a memoir when you're

only 39 years old," he remembered. "Memoir is a different form because we know we can't remember everything verbatim. But we can remember how people talked ... look up their letters. I do feel there is a professional, journalistic way to do very rich memoir."

In *Winter Brothers*, Doig never uses contrived conversation to depict Swan's life, instead letting diary entries speak for themselves. When journalizing conversation he took part in personally, Doig says he would run out to the car or into the men's room to jot down what people said.

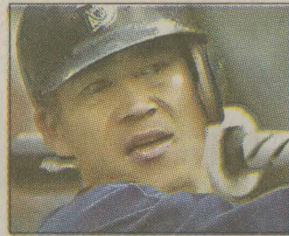
"When the *Million Little Pieces* thing happened, our household was mortified," said Doig, whose wife, Carol Doig, is also a writer. "I'm very much against making anything up. I'm still a reporter at heart."

After *Winter Brothers* was published, Doig switched from reportage and began his long career as a novelist. He is currently at work on his 12th book set during World War II. His 11th book, *The Whistling Season*, set in the 1950s in rural eastern Montana, is due out in June.

Monday



Mostly cloudy,
chance of
showers **C10**



Time to play ball today

Johjima behind plate for Mariners' opener **B1**

PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

50 cents

Port Townsend-Jefferson County's Daily Newspaper

April 3, 2006

Author Doig tells the Jefferson County group about writing, filming Olympic Peninsula history

The season of a writer's life

BY JENNIFER JACKSON
PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

PORT TOWNSEND — When Ivan Doig read an excerpt from his book, *Winter Brothers*, most of the audience was already familiar with it.

So are Todd Beuke's students.

"I teach Pacific Northwest history, and use his description of what it means to be in the West, to be Western, in my class," Beuke said.

"He's my favorite author."

Beuke, who teaches middle school in Sequim, came to Port Townsend on Sunday to hear Doig speak at the Jefferson County Historical Society's annual Founders' Day meeting.

Held at Wheeler Theater at Fort Worden State Park, the program drew Western literature fans from around the Peninsula to meet Doig in person and hear him talk about writing *Winter Brothers*, based on the journals of pioneer James Swan.

Like a 'conversation'

"It was like sitting in on a conversation with him," said Tim McNulty, a naturalist, writer and poet who came from Sequim for the program.

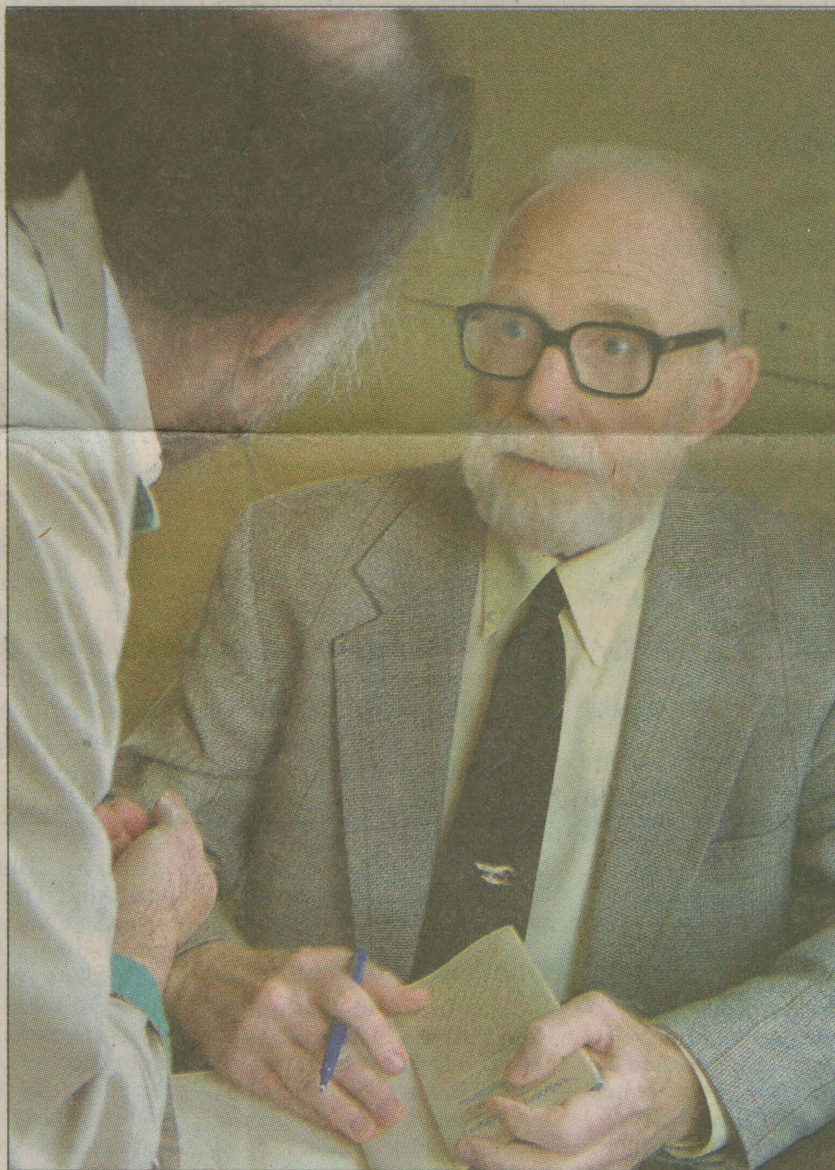
Doig, 67, has lived in Seattle for 40 years, but was born in Montana, the setting of his first book, *This House of Sky*, and his later novels.



Winona Prill is honored by the Jefferson County Historical Society for her book, *Quilcene's Heritage: Looking Back*.

But the author researched his second book, *Winter Brothers — A Season at the Edge of America*, at the Jefferson County Historical Society research library.

Doig also spent the winter of 1978 and 1979 visiting places on the Olympic Peninsula where Swan had gone, including Neah Bay, and blending his impressions with those of Swan, who was a student of nature, native culture and art.



JENNIFER JACKSON (2)/PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

Ivan Doig signs a copy of *Winter Brothers* for Tim McNulty, a naturalist writer and poet from Sequim, on Sunday.

"It's a journal of a journal," Doig said.

"I was exploring back and forth between his era and mine.

"Swan provided a path back into that period of time that interested me the most — the American West."

On Saturday, despite the rain, Doig and his wife, Carol, said they drove to Dungeness Spit and hiked the spit, a ritual they've done between 150 and 200 times.

"We were the only ones there," Doig said. "You can imagine that it was almost in Swan's time."

In recalling previous visits to Port Townsend, Doig told about the day he brought the Jefferson County legal system to a halt.

It was after *Winter Brothers* was published in 1980, and he was asked to appear in a documentary about the book for the Seattle public television station.

One scene was scheduled to be filmed in the Jefferson County Courthouse on a day when court was in session and the courthouse was jammed with people, Doig said.

TURN TO HISTORY/A5

Teen dies in fiery car crash

Lexus breaks in two after hitting billboard

PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

PORT ANGELES — A 17-year-old motorist died early Sunday when her car left U.S. Highway 101, skidded into a billboard support, snapped in two and burst into flames.

Dead at the scene was Hayley Haller of Port Angeles, the Washington State Patrol said later Sunday.

The crash occurred about 4:20 a.m. on the south side of the road between 3134 and 3142 E. Highway 101, just east of Mount Pleasant Road.

The 2001 Lexus sedan that Haller was driving left skid marks east from the center lane of the highway to the point of impact, a 12-by-6½-inch steel I-beam supporting the billboard.

The impact squashed the beam and knocked the catwalk from the billboard's back side.

Half of the car remained beneath the billboard, setting it on fire.

The other half clipped the corner of The Paint Store, 3142 E. Highway 101, and came to rest about 40 feet from the billboard, charring a split-rail fence.

Report of car eluding police

According to the State Patrol, it was unknown whether Haller was impaired by drugs or alcohol or if she was wearing a seat belt.

About five minutes before the fatal crash, Port Angeles police reported a car eluding officers at high speed on East Eighth Street.

Neither Port Angeles offices nor State Patrol investigators could confirm that the two incidents were linked.

The eastbound lanes of U.S. 101 were closed for about five hours, the State Patrol said.

Haller's body was taken to Drennan-Ford Funeral Home in Port Angeles.

History: Preservation awards presented

CONTINUED FROM A1

Making his way through the crowd, he helped the producer and the cameraman carry the equipment to the third floor of the courthouse.

There, he was supposed to bring out a ledger and read from it. But the light was so poor, all the auxiliary lighting was plugged in.

"The Channel 9 lighting gear blew the fuses in the entire courthouse," Doig said.

Doig said he has been back to Port Townsend many times, including book signings, but has never been back to the scene of the crime.

"I've not dared to show my face in the courthouse," he said.

Preservation awards

Before Doig spoke, Steve Levin presented historic preservation awards. Ernest and Schen Callahan were honored for the rehabilitation of Eaglemount Rockery, Pat and Mike Kenna for the care of the Old Schoolhouse Building, and Gwen Head and Bernard Taper for the stewardship of

the Capt. John Barneson House.

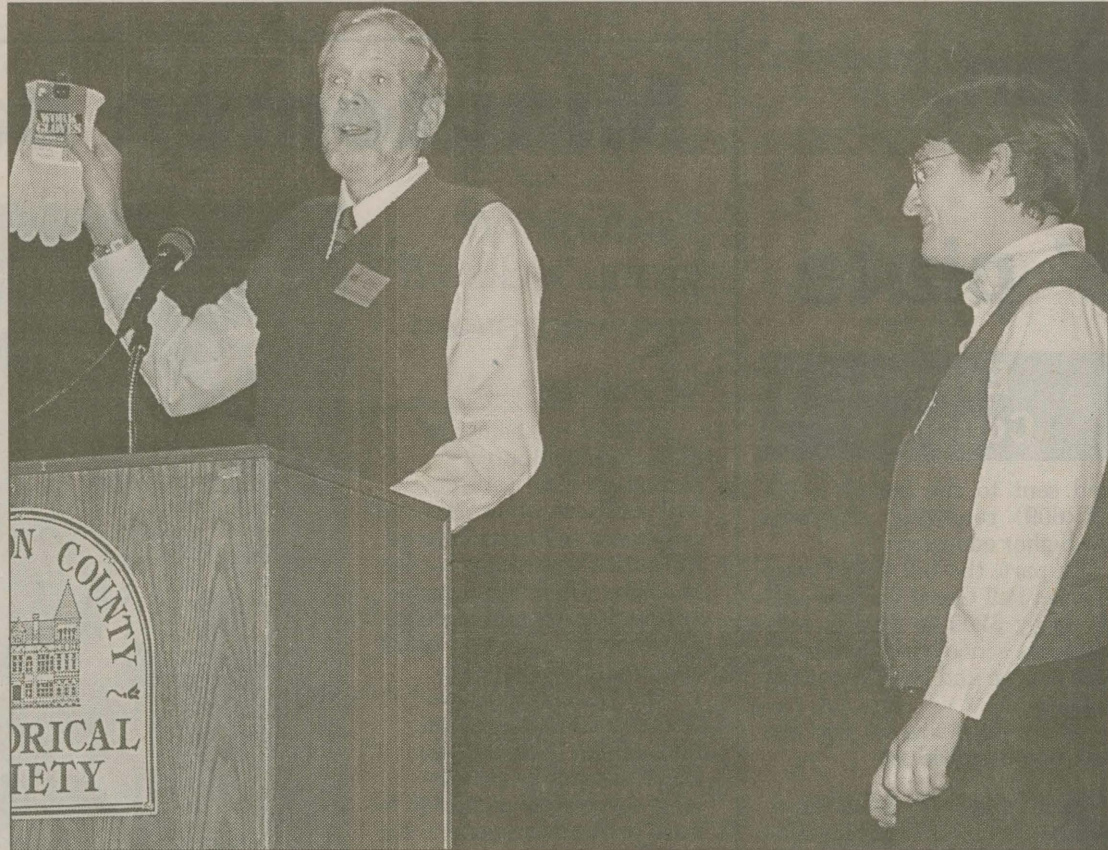
Author Winona Prill was recognized for the publication of *Quilcene Heritage: Looking Back*, and the Quilcene Historical Museum honored for the publication of the cookbook, *Quilcene Cooks: Past and Present*.

Named JCHS Volunteers of the Year for 2005 were Vicki Davis and Jim Christensen, who work at the JCHS research center.

Bev Brice was named outstanding volunteer at the research center, and Laura Reutter was honored by Bill Roney for her volunteer work at the Rothschild House, Lynne Sterling, who started the Living History Walking, was named outstanding museum/program volunteer, and Gay and Tim Stover the outstanding Victorian Festival volunteers.

More than 200 volunteers donated 10,000 hours of time in the past year, JCHS director Bill Tennent said.

PDN reporter/columnist Jennifer Jackson can be reached at jjackson@cablespeed.com.



JENNIFER JACKSON/PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

Bill Roney, left, manager of the Rothschild House, presents a pair of work gloves to Laura Reutter, who was named the Rothschild House's outstanding volunteer.

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"In the world of American sports, it is the book publishing industry that has made the major play in the last year."

RICK BASS
REVIEWS
IVAN DOIG'S
'THE WHISTLING SEASON'

Rites of Spring

The Crack of the Bat,
March Madness,
Deca-Durabolin and the
Books That Explain Them

PLUS

A Gallery of Comics
AAP: Readers Wanted
Nelson on Dan Brown
Soapbox: In Praise of
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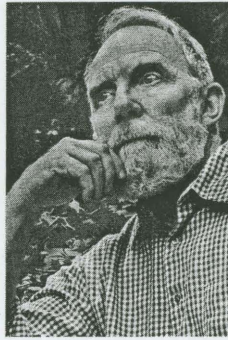
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Reviewed by RICK BASS

The Whistling Season

IVAN DOIG. Harcourt, \$25 (352p) ISBN 0-15-101237-7

Any writer's work should be judged solely on its own merits, yet in this fine novel by Ivan Doig, one may be forgiven for marveling at the creation of such a work at an advanced stage of this writer's illustrious career. (Wallace Stegner—to whom, as with Doig, landscape was character and event in any story, and particularly Western landscapes—comes to mind with his classic *Crossing to Safety*.)



Ivan Doig

Like many of Doig's earlier novels, *The Whistling Season* is set in the past in rural eastern Montana—and addresses that time and place in distinct, uncluttered prose that carries the full enthusiasm of affection and even love—for the landscape, the characters, and the events of the story—without being sentimental or elegiac. The novel is narrated by an aging Montana state superintendent of schools, Paul Milliron, who is charged with deciding the fate of the state's last scattered rural schools, and who, in the hours preceding his meeting to determine those schools' fate, recalls the autumn of 1909, when he was 13 and attending his own one-room school in Marias Coulee.

Recently widowed, Paul's father, overwhelmed by the child-rearing duties presented by his three sons, in addition to his challenging farming duties, hires a housekeeper, sight unseen, from a newspaper ad. The housekeeper, Rose, proclaims that she "can't cook but doesn't bite." She turns out to be a beguiling character, and she brings with her a surprise guest—her brother, the scholarly Morris, who, though one of the most bookish characters in recent times, also carries brass knuckles and—not to give away too much plot—somehow knows how to use them.

The schoolteacher in Marias Coulee runs away to get married, leaving Morris to step up and take over her job. The verve and inspiration that he, an utter novice to the West, to children and to teaching children, brings to the task is told brilliantly and passionately, and is the core of the book's narrative, with its themes of all the different ways of knowing and learning, at any age.

Doig's strengths in this novel are character and language—the latter manifesting itself at a level of old-fashioned high-octane grandeur not seen previously in Doig's novels, and few others': the sheer joy of word choices, phrases, sentences, situations, and character bubbling up and out, as fecund and nurturing as the dryland farmscape the story inhabits is sere and arid. *The Whistling Season* is a book to pass on to your favorite readers: a story of lives of active choice, lived actively. (June)

Rick Bass is the *Puscart* and *O. Henry* award-winning author of more than 20 fiction and nonfiction books. His second novel, *The Diezmo*, will be published in June.

Tales of war and alienation, crime and religion,
artists, cops and even the weather

spring books

by Mary Ann Gwinn and Michael Upchurch |
illustrated by Paul Schmid

THERE ARE LOTS OF LITERARY TREATS in store this spring and summer, headed for a bookshelf near you. Books on food are forthcoming from Julia Child, Michael Pollan and Marion Nestlé, and a memoir of true crime from Michael Connelly, reprising his days as a police reporter. Thriller writer Alan Furst is back in between-the-wars Paris. Philip Roth, John Updike, Anne Tyler and Ivan Doig are publishing new novels. And for the get-away-from-it-all crowd, there are not one, not two, but three new books on seminaries.

They're all here in our list of 101 choice prospects in literary fiction, popular fiction and nonfiction, to be published this month through August.

Questions about spring books?

Any "You've gotta read this!" suggestions to share? Join The Seattle Times books editor Mary Ann Gwinn at noon Tuesday for a live Q&A about all things literary. To send questions in advance, go to www.seattletimes.com/books

literary fiction, poetry, graphic novels

MARCH

"Sinners Welcome" by Mary Karr (HarperCollins). A volume of verse by the poet-memoirist ("The Liar's Club"), documenting her evolution into "a resolutely irreverent Catholic."

"Ego & Hubris: The Michael Malice Story" by Harvey Pekar, illustrated by Gary Dumm (Ballantine). Pekar, of "American Splendor" fame, writes a tale about the startling transformation of "a slight, unintimidating man who has never really stood out in the crowd."

"Night Watch" by Sarah Waters (Riverhead). The Man Booker Prize-nominated British lesbian writer whose specialty up until now has been Victorian-era fiction ("Tipping the Velvet," "Fingersmith") shifts gears with a novel set in the 1940s, about four wartime Londoners "whose lives . . . connect in ways that are surprising and not always known to them."

within a novel — the first about a Latin American novelist transplanted to the United States, the second a historical tale about an early-19th-century attempt to vaccinate Spain's American colonies against smallpox.

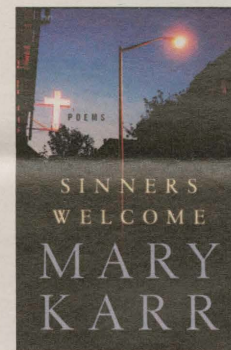
"The Dead Fish Museum" by Charles D'Ambrosio (Knopf). The Seattle-raised writer, now based in Portland, delivers a long-awaited follow-up to his 1995 debut story collection, "The Point," with this gathering of eight tales.

"No Man's Land" by Graham Greene, foreword by David Lodge (Hesperus). This recently discovered novella by the author of "The Quiet American" is set in Cold War Germany and involves "espionage, superstition and betrayal."

"Black Swan Green" by David Mitchell (Random House). The Man Booker Prize-nominated British writer ("Cloud Atlas") sets his latest novel in "the sleepest village in mud-diest Worcestershire in a dying Cold War England, 1982," where his 13-year-old hero is trying to figure out what's what.

"Rapids" by Tim Parks (Arcade) and **"Talking About It"** by Tim Parks (Hesperus). A new novel and a short-story collection by the Man Booker

Continued on page 22 >

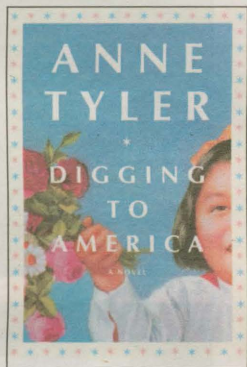


APRIL

"Saving the World" by Julia Alvarez (Algonquin). The author of "In the Time of the Butterflies" offers a novel

Everyman

PHILIP ROTH



"District and Circle" by Seamus Heaney (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). A new volume of verse by the Nobel Prize-winning poet.

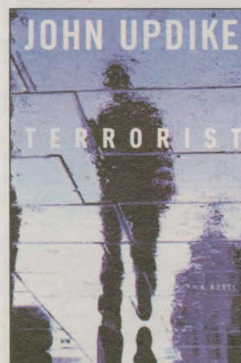
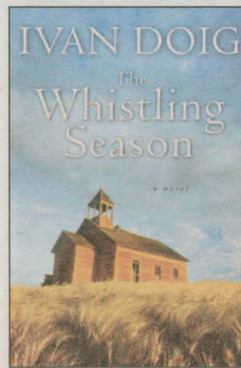
"The Unfinished Novel and Other Stories" by Valerie Martin (Vintage). A paperback-original collection of stories about "artists — driven and blocked, desired and detested, infamous and sublime." By the author of "Mary Reilly" and the Orange Prize-winning "Property."

"Everyman" by Philip Roth (Houghton Mifflin). The prize-winning novelist's new work is about a man "whose youthful sense of independence and confidence begins to be challenged when illness commences its attack in middle age."

"Digging to America" by Anne Tyler (Knopf). The latest by the Pulitzer Prize-winner ("Breathing Lessons") focuses on an Iranian-born American woman "who, after 35 years in this country, must finally come to terms with her 'outsiderness.'"

JUNE

"The Whistling Season" by Ivan Doig (Harcourt). Set in 1909, the new novel by the Seattle writer portrays a community of rural homesteaders drawn to "a gargantuan irrigation project intended to make the Montana prairie bloom."



"Touchy Subjects" by Emma Donoghue (Harcourt). The always surprising lesbian writer ("Slammerkin") delivers a book of 19 stories encompassing "characters old, young, straight, gay, and simply confused."

"The Whole World Over" by Julia Glass (Pantheon). In her sophomore effort, Glass, whose debut novel "Three Junos" won the National Book Award, portrays a "fiery" Greenwich Village pastry-business owner whose impulsive actions affect those around her in serendipitous ways in the year leading up to 9/11.

"Telegraph Days" by Larry McMurtry (Simon & Schuster). The latest novel by the prolific author is set during "the gun-slinging days of the Old West" and is narrated by a young woman who becomes her frontier town's telegraph operator.

"Terrorist" by John Updike (Knopf). In a nifty move, Updike enters the mind of an 18-year-old would-be Islamic terrorist, born of an Irish-American mother and a long-vanished Egyptian father.

"She May Not Leave" by Fay Weldon (Atlantic Monthly). The feisty satirist addresses a new side of the domestic-help issue: A partnered-but-not-married London couple, with a new child on their hands, are so desperate not to lose their Polish nanny that they engineer a marriage between nanny and father . . . a solution that isn't exactly trouble-free.

Continued on next page >

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TO: *Ivan*

FROM: *Liz D.*

NO. OF PAGES (INCL COVER SHEET):

SUBJECT:

WOW !

*is Rick Bass your
long-lost son? !!*

236 West 26th Street
Suite 802

New York, NY 10001

Phone (917) 305-1300 Fax (917) 305-1400

UPFRONT:

Reviews

Nonfiction

☆ **Carville, James and Begala, Paul.** *Take It Back: Our Party, Our Country, Our Future.* Jan. 2006. 351p. Simon & Schuster, \$23 (0-7432-7752-X). 324.

With the inimitable styles for which they are known, Democratic political consultants Carville and Begala dissect the 2000 and 2004 elections when Republicans triumphed over Democrats and take a long-range look at the national impact of the Bush-Cheney years. Rather than cry over the recent losses, Carville and Begala applaud the strengths of the Republicans and strongly advise the Democrats to recast the respective images of the two parties and take the lead on social and cultural issues. On abortion, Democrats need to stand up to pressure groups and advocate to reduce the need for abortions; on gun control, they should respect gun owners and enforce the laws already on the books; on Iraq, they should challenge Bush to win the war and respect the military; on energy, they should push for independence on oil; on taxes, they should advocate for taxation of wealth. Citing numerous instances of Democrats shying from identification with religion, the consultants strongly advise that those who have such beliefs should express them, and the party should point to the religious basis of policies to provide for the poor and protect the environment. With great humor

and frequent jabs at the Bush administration—Louisiana native Carville is particularly incensed about the handling of the New Orleans flooding—these consultants offer a thoughtful and passionate appeal for change in the Democratic Party and the nation. —*Vanessa Bush*

Evans, Richard Paul. *The Five Lessons a Millionaire Taught Me about Life and Wealth.* Jan. 2006. 160p. Fireside, \$14.95 (0-7432-8700-2). 059.15.

In 1993, best-selling novelist Evans wrote *The Christmas Box*, a popular, self-published inspirational book. His new book was also self-published, but it has been picked up by a big publisher and is now being given wider exposure. By his words here, he would like readers to learn what he learned from a millionaire whom he met as a teenager; this man taught Evans, even at that tender age, how to manage a dollar or two, with the intended goal of financial independence. Evans is concerned that people accrue big bucks responsibly—that is, mindful of self-improvement and social good. To that end, he shares what the millionaire he knew years ago taught him. The first thing required is realizing that superior intelligence is not a prerequisite for being a millionaire; nor is wealth, generally speaking, the result of the luck of inheritance. The real requirement, Evans posits, is putting into practice five principles of wealth accumulation, which Evans explains and illustrates in cogent, lively terms: "Decide to Be Wealthy," "Take Responsibility for Your Money," "Keep a Portion of Everything You Earn," "Win in the Margins," and "Give Back." Librarians should be aware that the book contains several pages of blank forms for readers to fill out to keep track of their personal financial situations. —*Brad Hooper*

☆ **Doig, Iven.** *The Whistling Season.* June 2006. 352p. Harcourt, \$25 (0-15-101237-7). General Fiction.



Doig's latest foray through Montana history begins in the late 1950s, with Superintendent of Public Instruction Paul Milliron on the verge of announcing the closure of the state's one-room schools, seen as hopelessly out of date in the age of Sputnik. But quickly the narrative takes us back to Paul's pivotal seventh-grade year, 1910, when he was a student in one of those one-room schools, and two landmark events took place: the Milliron family acquired a housekeeper, and Halley's comet came to Montana. Throughout his long career, Doig

has been at his best when chronicling the passing of a season in the lives of a Montana family, usually farmers at around the turn of the century. It's no surprise, then, that this is his best novel since the marvelous *English Creek* (1985). As in all of his books, he digs the details of his historical moments from the dirt in which they thrived. We see Paul, his father, and his two younger brothers struggling to make a life on their dryland farm in the wake of their mother's death, and we feel their shock when they lay eyes on their new housekeeper, a recent widow who looks nothing like the "great-bosomed creature shrouded in gray" they had come to expect. The saga of how this stranger from Minneapolis and her brother (soon to become the new teacher) change lives in unexpected ways has all the charm of old-school storytelling, from Dickens to Laura Ingalls Wilder. Doig's antique narrative voice, which sometimes jars, feels right at home here, coming from the mouth of the young Paul, who is eagerly learning Latin as he tries to make sense of his ever-enlarging world. An entrancing new chapter in the literature of the West. —*Bill Ott*

YA/M: The style isn't teen friendly, but the story hits the bull's-eye. B+

Wills, Garry. *What Jesus Meant.* Mar. 2006. 144p. Viking, \$24.95 (0-670-03496-7). 232.

From the foreword's critique of the initials WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?) and politicians who claim to be guided by the slogan, Wills' explication of the canonical expressions of Jesus may seem to merit the publicity pitch that the book is a pre-midterm-elections volley in the politico-religious theater of the culture wars. It is much better than such touting suggests. For instance, instead of co-opting the Christian Right-associated WWJD for liberals, Wills directs us to such things as 12-year-old Jesus sneaking off to pelaver at the temple without telling his parents, and grown-up Jesus telling others to hate their parents and asserting "I am the truth." This is scandalous behavior in a person, comprehensible only of "a divine mystery walking among men," Wills says. Looking more closely at Jesus' words and deeds, Wills says we find God with us in them, and an inescapably egalitarian message of love. Jesus establishes no institutions and endorses no political structure or leader. Indeed, he rails against religious hierarchy in the harshest terms, and he utterly divorces religion from politics. Yes, he preaches justice, but beyond justice, he preaches the personal acceptance and security of love. Wills' dissent from certain pro-clerical and exclusivist statements Benedict XVI has made assure him the continued opprobrium of institutional church hardliners, but his portrayal of Jesus the radical is so profoundly familiar as to be irrefutable. —*Ray Olson*

Fiction

Archer, Jeffrey. *False Impression.* Mar. 2006. 384p. St. Martin's, \$27.95 (0-312-35372-3). Crime Fiction.

Archer's legion of fans have been waiting for seven years for his new

the makings of a light and mildly entertaining read. The strength of this novel is not the wandering plot but the detailed description of every outfit, shoe, and handbag in Alex's wardrobe. As frilly as a designer's spring line, this work will grab readers' attention with its flashy cover and catchy title. Recommended for large popular fiction collections where this genre is popular.—Anika Fajardo, Coll. of St. Catherine Lib., St. Paul, MN

Delibes, Miguel. *The Heretic*. Overlook, dist. by Penguin Group (USA). Apr. 2006. c.352p. ISBN 1-58567-570-9. \$24.95. f

Delibes (b. 1920), the author of more than 50 books, tells a tale that shows how Catholic Spain contrived to withstand the landslide of Lutheranism. On the very day that Luther proclaims his 95 theses at Wittenberg, a child named Cipriano Salcedo is born in Valladolid, Spain, and is destined to join the Protestant movement there. The new Christians meet secretly at great risk, sharing the belief that faith alone (without good works) guarantees salvation as well as disbelief in purgatory and the worship of relics. The Inquisition is now being zealously implemented because Emperor Charles V, sorry that he did not execute Luther when he had the chance, has charged his son Philip II to compensate for his error. The novel is not at all gruesome until the larger-than-life penitential "ceremony" at the very end, and its appeal resides in the vivid details of Cipriano's everyday 16th-century life, such as his career in business and fashion, his failed marriage, and the insanity and institutionalization of his wife. Recommended for all readers of historical fiction.—Jack Shreve, *Allegany Coll. of Maryland, Cumberland*

Doig, Ivan. *The Whistling Season*. Harcourt. Jun. 2006. c.352p. ISBN 0-15-101237-7. \$25. f

Doig, a native of Montana, has been celebrating the natural beauty of his state and depicting the pleasures and challenges of frontier life for many years now in books like *This House of Sky* and *English Creek*. Here he returns to Montana to deal with these signature themes once again, with very satisfying results. Set in the early 1900s, this novel is a nostalgic, bittersweet story about a widower, his three sons, and the year these boys spend in a one-room country schoolhouse. The novel begins with the father, Oliver, hiring a widowed housekeeper named Rose from Minneapolis (her advertisement reads "Can't Cook but Doesn't Bite"). She arrives with her unconventional brother, Morrie, in tow. Morrie is something of a scholar, and he soon finds himself pressed into service as a replacement teacher. During the course of

the novel, these intriguing and unpredictable characters come together in surprising and uplifting ways. This is an affectionate, heartwarming tale that also celebrates a vanished way of life and laments its passing. Recommended for all libraries.—Patrick Sullivan, *Manchester Community Coll., CT*

Dorsey, Tim. *The Big Bamboo*. Morrow. Apr. 2006. c.336p. ISBN 0-06-058562-5 [ISBN 978-0-06-058562-4]. \$24.95. f

The Big Bamboo is an actual cocktail lounge in Kissimmee, FL, that serves as a hangout for killer/conman Serge Storms and his disreputable friends, including dope-addicted sidekick Coleman. Yet most of the action in this eighth book (after *Torpedo Juice*) to feature hyper-lunatic Serge takes place in L.A., where Serge is hired to kidnap actress Ally Street. Because the book is a lampoon of everyone's worst impressions of Hollywood, it has a kind of slapstick humor that will keep readers grinning from the first page. The laugh riot really takes off when Serge puts a nylon stocking over his face, makes a film commentary, and sends it to a television news station as a kind of offbeat ransom note. This book has everything you'd ever want in a sleazy Hollywood B movie—immoral studio owners, high-maintenance actresses, the party that never stops, little guys trying to get their big break in film, the Yakuza, the Alabama mafia, freeway driving, and a big Hollywood finish on a movie set where all the forces finally come together. Howlingly funny! Rated R for language and adult situations. [See Prepub Alert, *LJ* 12/05.]—Ken St. Andre, *Phoenix P.L.*

D'Souza, Tony. *Whiteman*. Harcourt. Apr. 2006. c.288p. ISBN 0-15-101145-1. \$22. f

To read D'Souza's debut novel is to be plunged into the precarious—and authentic—existence of the foreign relief worker. American Jack Diaz is in Ivory Coast to help bring clean drinking water to the people. But in the chaos following September 11, his funding is cut, and instead he insinuates himself into village life, farming a small tract of land and romancing the local women while halfheartedly tackling AIDS education. Jack's adventures as an honored outsider are alternately amusing, sexy, moving, and, when war erupts, frightening. Presented as a series of tales with a mostly shifting cast of characters except for the wonderful Mamadou, Jack's wise best friend who has just the right proverb for every occasion, this novel reads more like a short story collection. While each story is enchanting, the impact doesn't linger, and Jack's development isn't totally satisfying. Still, he's an appealing main character, a wanderer seeking his place in the world, a man most at home in an alien

landscape, a volunteer whose major project is himself. Recommended for all public libraries.—Evelyn Beck, *Piedmont Technical Coll., Greenwood, SC*

Dugoni, Robert. *The Jury Master*. Warner. Mar. 2006. c.438p. ISBN 0-446-57869-X. \$24.95. f

This fiction debut from former lawyer Dugoni, author of the nonfiction *The Cyanide Canary*, displays few of the pitfalls commonly seen in a first novel. David Sloane is a San Francisco wrongful death attorney everyone either envies or hates. With his words and actions, he can manipulate a jury into doing anything he wants, and he hasn't lost a trial in 15 years. But his existence begins to unravel when, on the other side of the United States, a presidential adviser evidently takes his life. Days later, Sloane receives a mysterious package from the man. Suddenly, he finds himself the target of assassins who want the contents of the package and who also know that the adviser's death was no suicide. Sloane must use all of his courtroom powers of persuasion in the real world if he is to survive and shatter a conspiracy. This thriller is reminiscent of the early John Grisham and should easily find its way onto the best sellers lists. For all fiction collections. [See Prepub Alert, *LJ* 11/15/05.]—Jeff Ayers, *Seattle P.L., WA*

Ellmann, Lucy. *Doctors & Nurses*. Bloomsbury, dist. by St. Martin's. Mar. 2006. c.224p. ISBN 1-59691-102-6 [ISBN 978-1-59691-102-4]. pap. \$14.95. f

Cross Tom Robbins with James Joyce and throw in a George Carlin rant (only don't make it funny), and you might have this novel; if its incessant Riot Of Capital Letters isn't off-putting enough, perhaps its constant vulgarity will be. Tiresome and self-indulgent (e.g., 13 pages listing repulsive medical conditions, repeated lengthy descriptions of female genitalia) Ellmann's (*Dot in the Universe*) fifth novel boasts several loathsome characters, notably Jen, an obese, misanthropic nurse with a penchant for murdering her patients. She lives in a squalid basement flat below the office of the dishy but detestable Dr. Lewis, with whom she has a sordid affair fueled by handbag fetishes. Occasional bursts of humor—e.g., "Dr. Lewis had an innocent love of football which had only led to a few fatalities so far"—do not make up for the ceaseless onslaught of darker-than-dark ridiculous observations. By the end, numerous people have been overdoxed, sodomized, or hacked with knives. One gets the sense the author feels incredibly clever and liberated by all these expressions of rage. Not recommended.—Christine Perkins, *Burlington P.L., WA*

NOTE!

REBECCA SALETAN

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March 1, 2006

from an early-20th-century Montana childhood, from this veteran Western author (*Turn of Mind*, 2003, etc.).

By the government promise of free land for homesteaders, Oliver Milliron forsook his payage business and brought his family to Montana. Now it's 1909, and Oliver has been blindsided as a dryland farmer, weathering the death of his wife from a burst appendix. Oliver is trying to raise his three boys single-handedly (13-year-old Paul, the narrator, and kid brothers Damon and Toby) when he spots an ad for a housekeeper. Rose Llewellyn doesn't come cheap; she wants her fare paid from Minneapolis, plus three months wages in advance. Oliver submits, not expecting that pretty, petite Rose will have her brother Morrie in tow. Conveniently, the teacher from the one-room schoolhouse absconds, and dapper, crude Morrie steps into the breach. Doig's story centers on the impact of these unconventional siblings on simple rural lives. While Rose gets the farmhouse shipshape, Morrie proves a surprisingly successful novice teacher. Overall, it's a sunny tale. The boys ride horseback to school. A dispute between Paul and an older bully is settled with a race, riders facing backwards. The novel is also an elegy for the "central power" of the country school as a much older Paul, in 1957 the state superintendent of schools, is charged, to his dismay, with their abolition. In 1910, the school passes its inspection with flying colors, as Halley's comet streaks across the sky and the schoolkids greet it with harmonicas. Paul hasn't developed an interest in girls yet, but he will have a man-size decision to make. Oliver has fallen for Rose and they are set to marry when Paul discovers that Rose and Morrie are on the run from a scandal. Should he tell his dad? The melodrama is a weak ending for a novel that had so far avoided it.

Minor work, carried along by homespun charm. (Agent: Liz Darhansoff/Darhansoff, Verrill, Feldman Literary Agents)

PEOPLE

Britney: 'Better than ever' in '07

Pop Tarts III – it's **Britney Spears'** turn. The pop star/tabloid target tells her fans to be prepared for a hot career comeback. "The last couple of years have been quite a ride for me, the



Spears

media has criticized my every move and printed a skewed perception of who I really am as a human being," the 25-year-old writes in a posting Friday on her Web site quoted by The Associated Press. "I look forward to coming back this year bigger and better than ever," writes Spears, who says she wants to go on tour and hopes her new album will be released later

this year. Spears, the mother of two young children, has drawn disapproval for her recent nights out with party girls Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan. "Trust me, I get it. I know I've been far from perfect," she writes.

On the mommy front, she and hubby **Kevin Federline**, who are divorcing, reached a one-month custody arrangement for January, tmz.com reports. He gets to see the kids three afternoons a week at her home; she gets to take Sean, 1, and Jayden, 4 months, to Florida for a week.

► Singer **Trey Anastasio** made a surprise appearance in an upstate New York court this week and pleaded not guilty to a drug possession charge that a prosecutor said could be bumped up to a felony. The 42-year-old former

Phish frontman took to reporters after arraignment on charges of drug use and driving under the influence. He was pulled over by W police on the morning of Dec. 22 and said they found prescription pills and an anti-anxiety drug but hadn't been prescribed for him. He is free on his own recognizance due back in court on Feb. 14.

► A woman in **Oprah Winfrey's** studio, she was injured in a rush during a taping of a TV show in Chicago last April, AP reports. Milner said she was pushed down stairs between a waiting area and dance seating. She wants \$50,000.

— P-I staff news services



RICHARD DREW / AP

Hair today, gone tomorrow. Weatherman Al Roker hands a comb along with a can of "Big Sexy Hairspray" to Matt Lauer as they celebrate Lauer's 10th anniversary with the "Today" show. That's his co-host Meredith Vieira laughing. The gifts kidded Lauer about how much hair he's lost during his decade on the show.

Adoption is indeed a viable option

ASK HARRIETTE

HARRIETTE COLE



Dear Harriette: Thanks for including the word "adoption" along with the term "abortion" in your advice to the mother of the pregnant 14-year-old. Adoption is a viable alternative, in the true sense of the word "viable." More than 2,000 years ago, another 14-year-old girl was pregnant and the father not known. Thank God she delivered her son.

— Tom, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Tom: I sometimes think families in crisis over a teen who is pregnant – or an older woman who is pregnant but doesn't want to have the child – forget there are multiple alternatives to abortion.

I encourage parents to talk to their children years before adolescence, about cause and effect and sexual intimacy. Often parents don't discuss the basics of human sexuality and reproduction with their children – in part because it's a tough conversation to have, in part because they threaten in-

away. How can I let him down easily? I don't want to hurt him again. When we were together years ago, I walked away, mainly because I went away to school.

— Penny, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Penny: Tell him you enjoyed seeing him again but you are not interested in getting together again. Apologize if you misled him.

Dear Harriette: I have wanted to move past renting and buy a home for a while now; however, my husband of 18 years is paranoid and terrified of change – and credit. We make good money, but he has never indulged in any type of credit activity. He just does not believe in the whole lending process. Even though he doesn't have any established relationships with credit companies, I know he would fare better than me in applying for a condo. Unfortunately, I have made some bad choices in the past and my credit is horrible, therefore I cannot buy property without him. How can I get him to understand that his bending this one time will make things better for us both?

— Pauline, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Pauline: Start by getting a credit report for each of you. If your husband has no credit history, he actually may not be an asset to having a

Awards to 6 books by NW writers

BY JOHN MARSHALL
P-I book critic

Talk about the strength of writing in the region – books published by Harcourt. "Doig writes in the region – books once again masterfully invokes the spirit of early 20th century and one Canadian province with Montana, revisiting the simplicity of the 2007 book award that was and mourning the voids left by the inevitable change of time. He reminds us not only to always stop and smell the roses, but to occasionally take a shooting star."

Independent booksellers in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Alaska chose six titles with their honor begun in 1965.

► "God Laughs & Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentals of the Fundamentalists," a novel set in small-town Montana in the early 20th century by David James Duncan of Triad Books. "In his wonderfully rich storytelling ways, Duncan explains why the 'Christian Right' is wrong in their stranglehold on religion in this country. Humorous and poignant, Duncan hits all the right notes, reminding us that honoring our neighbors and ourselves shouldn't be a political thing."

The 2007 winners, along with brief comments from the awards' committee, follow:

► "Long Journey: Contemporary Northwest Poets," an anthology edited by David Biespiel of Portland. Published by Oregon State University Press. "A keen sense of place repeats throughout – a common strength to define the whole as North-

western."

► "The Whistling Season," a novel by Ivan Doig of Seattle.

► "Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission To Promote Peace ... One School at a Time," a memoir by Greg Mortenson of Bozeman, Mont., and David Oliver Relin of Portland. Published by Viking. "Never felt the urge to scale the world's largest mountain peaks, but have wondered if one person can make a difference in the world? How might the two relate? Mortenson's story proves that wild things are obtainable and his work is a shining example of how to leave a legacy."

► "The Zero," a novel by Jess Walter of Spokane. Published by ReganBooks. "Imagine a man with huge gaps in his memory trying to make sense of his city and his life five days after 9/11. From the laughable absurdity of

and the U.S. build-up in Vietnam. Heavy with loss and dreams dashed, 'Gemini Summer' is ultimately an unforgettable tale of strength and hope."

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celebrity tours of ground zero to the terrifying reality of what one's government may do in times of crisis, the reader slowly recognizes all that our hero has lost – and all that we have lost as well."

Walter's powerful novel also was a finalist for the National Book Award.

The 2007 Book Awards, which were selected from 300 nominees, will be presented on March 16 at the PNBA's annual spring convention in Portland.

P-I book critic John Marshall can be reached at 206-448-8170 or johnmarshall@seattlepi.com.

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"PURE ADRENALINE!"

Richard Roeper and Aisha Tyler Guest Critic, *Ebert & Roeper*

"TWO BIG THUMBS UP!"

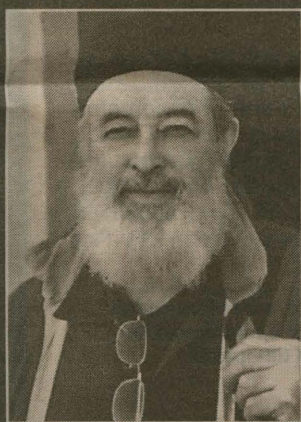
GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE

Shred old

CASINO ROYALE

BOOKS

BEST BET



RED PINE

Red Pine (aka Bill Porter) of Port Townsend is one of the country's leading translators of historic Chinese texts. He discusses his latest translation – the teachings of Hui-neng, Sixth Patriarch of Zen – Wednesday evening at The Elliott Bay Book Co.

The cream of the year's bumper book crop is particularly satisfying

BY JOHN MARSHALL
P-I book critic

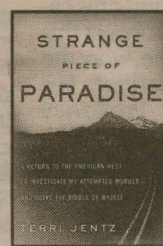
This has been a banner year for books, with 2006 yielding the strongest offerings in several years. What follows, in the usual top-10 ranking, are the best books read by this critic in 2006:

1. **Strange Piece of Paradise**

By Terri Jentz (Farrar, Strauss, 535 pages, \$27)

This breathtaking memoir deserves a place on the shelf of essential books about the American West. Jentz, the victim of horrific violence in Oregon along with her cycling partner, returns 15 years later to Redmond, Ore., in hopes of finding the perpetrator.

This is an epic story of courage and heroism, as well as a chilling portrait of small-town life and complicity.



2. **Death of a Writer**

By Michael Collins (Bloomsbury, 307 pages, \$24.95)

This stunning novel by the Bellingham writer from Ireland does a remarkable dance through many genres – page-turning thriller, campus farce, love story, murder mystery, publishing industry satire, psychological study, disturbing noir. Collins uses the incapacitation of a professor and the discovery of his scandalous early novel to showcase his highly original and maturing talents.

3. **Eat, Pray, Love**

By Elizabeth Gilbert (Viking, 331 pages, \$24.95)

What may seem to be a trite subject for a memoir – a woman's search for meaning after the collapse of her eight-year marriage – is transformed into a powerful reading experience by a globe-trotting journalist. Gilbert devotes a year to three separate pursuits in three separate places (pleasure in Italy, devotion in India, love in Indonesia) and produces an account that is always entertaining, frequently enlightening, but also one with an undercurrent of genuine seriousness.

4. **The Lay of the Land**

By Richard Ford (Alfred A. Knopf, 485 pages, \$25.95)

This is the final installment in Ford's remarkable trio of books detailing the life transitions and travails of Frank Bascombe, which began with "The Sportswriter" and continued with "Independence Day," winner

of the Pulitzer Prize. The New Jersey real estate agent is facing advancing age and prostate cancer in this last volume, which, although overly long, impresses greatly with its ambition, its scope and its brilliant observations on the malaise of American life today.

5. **Big Box Swindle**

By Stacy Mitchell (Beacon Press, 258 pages, \$24.95)

In the muckraking tradition of "Fast Food Nation" and "Nickel and Dimed," this is a searing indictment of the impact of behemoths



Terri Jentz's epic story of courage and heroism, "Strange Pieces of Paradise," is an essential book about the American West.

moth retailers (Wal-Mart, Costco, Best Buy, et al.) on this country, its landscape and small towns, as well as the global marketplace. An independent business activist from Maine fills this urgent book with eye-openers on every page, including many trenchant examples from the Northwest.

6. **The Whistling Season**

By Ivan Doig (Harcourt, 345 pages, \$25)

This resonant novel about unexpected drama in a Montana one-room schoolhouse in 1910 is the best work in years by the renowned Seattle author of "This House of Sky." Doig's evocative portrait of bygone times and strong frontier characters succeeds on many fronts despite some predict-

able, even trite, plot elements. It is an admirable yarn of yore too seldom seen these days.

7. **The Weather Makers**

By Tim Flannery (Atlantic Monthly Press, 192 pages, \$22.95)

Climate change rose to new prominence in 2006, as it is likely to do each successive year in the future. An Australian scientist – long a skeptic of the advancing phenomenon – pens the year's best single volume on the subject, a book that has been a best-seller in Great Britain, Canada and Australia. Although its title is needlessly oblique, Flannery's book is approachable, convincing and downright scary, a signal call to urgent action.

8. **Cross Country**

By Robert Sullivan (Bloomsbury, 372 pages, \$24.95)

A Brooklyn-based literary journalist crafts this irresistible hymn to the all-American road trip, drawing upon his 30 trans-continental treks. Sullivan is no easy rider and his cranky recollections make for some laugh-out-loud reading. But he also is a relentless researcher who enlivens his definitive trip narrative with tasty historical tidbits about other travelers on the American road stretching back to Lewis and Clark.

9. **Rise and Shine**

By Anna Quindlen (Random House, 269 pages, \$24.95)

The much-beloved writer and commentator had her first No. 1 best-seller with this New York novel that examines the much-different lives of two sisters – a Katie Couric-like star of a morning TV show and a social worker at a homeless women's shelter in the poorest section of the Bronx. Never have Quindlen's considerable talents as a social critic been more evident than they are in this novel's passages about New York life. But this also is a powerful meditation on family, especially sisterhood.

10. **CrazyBusy**

By Dr. Edward M. Hallowell (Balantine Books, 229 pages, \$24.95)

A longtime teacher at Harvard, whose specialty is attention deficit disorder, provides this helpful, jargon-free self-help guidebook that examines one of the greatest problems of American life today – excessive demands and media consuming more and more of a person's time. Hallowell argues the problem has reached such epic proportions that many Americans are exhibiting the same symptoms as those afflicted with ADD. He offers a wealth of practical solutions in this slim yet invaluable volume.

Book buzz

What's new on the list and in publishing



Didion: Her Year for Broadway.

Didion's new year: Although Joan Didion says "a lot happened" after she finished writing *The Year of Magical Thinking*, including the death of her daughter, she didn't revise the paperback edition, out Tuesday (Vintage, \$13.95). The book, which reached No. 16 on USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books list and won the National Book Award in 2005, chronicles the year after the death of her husband, writer

John Gregory Dunne. He had a heart attack shortly after the couple visited their gravely ill daughter in the hospital. Later, Quintana Roo Dunne Michael improved, but shortly after Didion finished the book, Quintana, 39, died of complications from pancreatitis. "That would take a whole other book to do," Didion says. "It's not a book I'm ready to write." She plans to, someday, but isn't "sure what form it will take." These days, she's at rehearsals for a one-woman play she wrote based on her book. It stars Vanessa Redgrave and opens on Broadway next month. Didion, 72, says, "It's using up all my energy levels. I'm not used to spending all day with other people."

Potter 'hysteria': Publication is more than five months away (July 21), but thanks to pre-orders, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* is riding high at online booksellers. At last check, the seventh and final Potter book was No. 1 at both Amazon and Barnes & Noble. The novel costs \$34.99, up \$5 over the sixth *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. A deluxe edition for \$65 also is selling well.



Rowling: Book flying off e-shelves.

Not to worry: Discounting is in full force. Both sites report that initial sales are outstripping the sixth book. Says Amazon's Sean Sundwall: "All things are converging to create hysteria over this last book."



By Garry Jones, AP

Barbaro: Undeclared: Until Preakness.

won the 2006 Kentucky Derby, then shattered his leg in the Preakness. His heroic fight to come back from the injury ended in January, when he was euthanized.

By Bob Minzesheimer, Jacqueline Blais and Carol Memmott

For more reviews, book news and a searchable archive of USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books list, visit us on the Web at books.usatoday.com.

USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books

To see USA TODAY's complete list of 150 best-selling books, go to top150.usatoday.com

The top 10

Ranking this week		Ranking last week		(F) - Fiction	(NF) - Non-fiction	(P) - Paperback	(H) - Hardcover	Publisher and price in italics
1	6	The Measure of a Man Sidney Poitier		Memoir from actor; Oprah's Book Club pick, January (NF) (P) HarperSanFrancisco, \$14.95	6	2	Forever in Blue Ann Brashares	The magical Traveling Pants return for a final summer (F) (H) Delacorte Books for Young Readers, \$18.99
2	150	Irish Dreams Nora Roberts		Has two romances: "Irish Rebel" and "Sullivan's Woman" (F) (P) Silhouette Special Releases, \$2.99	7	1	The Best Life Diet Bob Greene	Plan for losing weight and keeping it off from Oprah's personal trainer (NF) (H) Simon & Schuster, \$26
3	4	The Memory Keeper's Daughter Kim Edwards		Mother and her baby are separated (F) (P) Penguin, \$14	8	141	McKetterick's Luck Linda Lael Miller	Romance: First in trilogy about the McKettericks, set in present day (F) (P) HQN, \$2.99
4	-	The House Danielle Steel		Story centers on 1920s San Francisco house (F) (P) Dell, \$2.99	9	11	Bridge to Terabithia Katherine Paterson	Jess and Leslie create the imaginary land of Terabithia; movie (F) (P) HarperEntertainment, \$6.99
5	-	Most Likely to Die Jackson, Barton, Staub		Three stories about revenge and romance (F) (P) Zebra, \$2.99	10	3	You: On a Diet Michael F. Roizen, Mehmet C. Oz	Subtitle: "The Owner's Manual for Waist Management" (NF) (H) Free Press, \$25

The rest

11	5	Plum Lovin' /Janet Evanovich		Stephanie Plum tracks down mysterious advice columnist (F) (H) St. Martin's Press, \$16.95
12	20	The Secret /Rhonda Byrne		Promises to be "life-transforming for all who experience it" (NF) (H) Atria/Beyond Words, \$23.95
13	136	The Winter Lodge /Susan Wiggs		Romance: Second in the Lakeshore Chronicles (F) (P) MIRA, \$2.99
14	7	Honeymoon /James Patterson, Howard Roughan		FBI agent discovers cloudy past of a seemingly perfect woman (F) (P) Warner Books, \$2.99
15	-	What Price Love? /Stephanie Laurens		Romance: Beauty charms all (F) (P) Avon, \$2.99
16	8	The Freedom Writers Diary /The Freedom Writers and Erin Gruwell		Teacher helps students write about their hostile environment; movie (NF) (P) Broadway, \$13.95
17	10	The Audacity of Hope /Barack Obama		Democratic senator on "reclaiming the American dream" (NF) (H) Crown, \$25
18	-	What a Lady Wants /Victoria Alexander		One bachelor down, three more to go (F) (P) Avon, \$6.99
19	13	The Glass Castle: A Memoir /Jeannette Walls		Memoir: Author's parents eventually became homeless (NF) (P) Scribner, \$14
20	-	The Templar Legacy /Steve Berry		Treasure could change the modern world (F) (P) Ballantine, \$2.99
21	-	Bite Me If You Can /Lynsay Sands		Romance: Vampire must tutor new recruit on being immortal (F) (P) Avon, \$6.99
22	-	Angels All Over Town /Luanne Rice		Single Una wonders if there's something more (F) (P) Bantam, \$2.50
23	14	For One More Day /Mitch Albom		Troubled man spends a day with his dead mother (F) (H) Hyperion, \$21.95
24	9	Point Blank /Catherine Coulter		FBI agents search for kidnapped entertainer (F) (P) Jove, \$2.99
25	-	The Alexandria Link /Steve Berry		Ancient document could change the destiny of the Middle East (F) (H) Ballantine Books, \$25.95
26	-	Speak No Evil /Allison Brennan		Detective Carina Kincaid investigates the murder of an 18-year-old (F) (P) Ballantine Books, \$6.99
27	29	Hannibal Rising /Thomas Harris		Early days of Hannibal the Cannibal (F) (H) Delacorte Press, \$22.95
28	26	Dreams From My Father /Barack Obama		Memoir: Illinois senator's search for meaning as a black American (NF) (P) Three Rivers Press, \$13.95
29	-	Kissing Sin /Keri Arthur		Romance, werewolves, danger (F) (P) Dell, \$6.99
30	40	Junie B. Jones and the Mushy Gushy Valentine Barbara Park, art by Denise Brunkus		Children: Someone has a crush on Junie (F) (P) Random House, \$3.99
31	21	The Pursuit of Happiness /Chris Gardner with Quincy Troupe		Rags-to-riches story is a movie; Will Smith plays Gardner (NF) (P) Amistad, \$14.95
32	27	The Tenth Circle /Jodi Picoult		Trixie, 14, finds everything she believes is a lie (F) (P) Washington Square Press, \$15
33	-	All Night Long /Jayne Ann Krentz		Romance/suspense: Murder and intrigue throw together shy reporter and ex-Marine (F) (P) Jove, \$2.99
34	17	Eragon /Christopher Paolini		Young adult: Eragon, 15, finds his destiny as a dragon rider; movie (F) (P) Knopf Books for Young Readers, \$9.95
35	-	Dirty Blonde /Lisa Scottoline		Judge leads a dark double life (F) (P) HarperCollins, \$2.99
36	35	Blood Bound /Patricia Briggs		Mercy Thompson repays a favor to a vampire friend (F) (P) Ace, \$2.99
37	12	The Seat of the Soul /Gary Zukav		Becoming alive with reverence, compassion, trust (NF) (P) Fireside, \$14
38	24	Cross /James Patterson		Thriller: Alex Cross hunts his wife's killer (F) (H) Little, Brown, \$22.99
39	38	The Kite Runner /Khaled Hosseini		Friendship, betrayal of two boys in Afghanistan (F) (P) Riverhead, \$14
40	-	Hide /Lisa Gardner		Killer returns to do harm (F) (H) Bantam, \$25
41	28	Eldest: Inheritance, Book II /Christopher Paolini		Young adult: Eragon discovers new world (F) (H) Knopf Books for Young Readers, \$21
42	46	The Alchemist /Paulo Coelho		Shepherd boy searches for buried treasure; 10th anniversary edition (F) (P) HarperSanFrancisco, \$13.95
43	97	Eat, Pray, Love /Elizabeth Gilbert		Subtitle: "One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India, and Indonesia" (NF) (P) Penguin, \$15
44	25	The Innocent Man: Murder and Injustice in a Small Town /John Grisham		Story of a man wrongly sent to death row (NF) (H) Doubleday, \$28.95
45	15	Gone /Lisa Gardner		When someone you love vanishes, how far would you go to get them back? (F) (P) Bantam, \$2.99
46	39	The South Beach Diet /Arthur Agatston		Allows dieters to eat food they love (NF) (P) St. Martin's Press, \$14.95
47	-	Deep Storm /Lincoln Child		The discovery of Atlantis might be a cover for something far more sinister (F) (H) Doubleday, \$24.95
48	19	The Calorie King Calorie, Fat & Carbohydrate Counter 2007 /Allan Borushek		Calories, carbs and fats for 11,000 food items, including 200 fast food restaurants and chains (NF) (P) Family Health Publications, \$2.99
49	-	How to Abduct a Highland Lord /Karen Hawkins		Romance: Will marriage to handsome wastrel last? (F) (P) Pocket, \$6.99
50	44	What to Expect When You're Expecting /Heidi Murkoff, Arlene Eisenberg, Sandee Hathaway		Updated classic tells you how to navigate those nine months (NF) (P) Workman, \$13.95

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Adult fare for teens

Libraries and bookstores have young-adult sections. But each year, the American Library Association recommends 10 grown-up books with appeal to teenagers. This year's top 10:

- **The Book of Lost Things.** John Connolly's novel about a 12-year-old who loses his mother and finds an alternative world in books.
- **The Whistling Season.** Ivan Doig's novel about an unforgettable teacher and a one-room school in Montana.
- **Eagle Blue.** Michael D'Orso's non-fiction take on a high school basketball season in arctic Alaska.
- **Water for Elephants.** Sara Gruen's novel narrated by a former veterinary student who runs away and joins a struggling traveling circus.
- **Color of the Sea.** John Hamamura's Japanese-American coming-of-age novel.
- **The Floor of the Sky.** Pamela Carter Joern's novel about a pregnant teenager who is sent to live with her grandmother on her Nebraska ranch.
- **The Blind Side.** Michael Lewis' non-fiction account of a teen football star making his way from poverty to the pros.
- **Black Swan Green.** David Mitchell's version of *The Lord of the Flies*, set in rural England.
- **The World Made Straight.** Ron Rash's novel about a pot-stealing high school dropout and his unlikely mentor.
- **The Thirteenth Tale.** Diane Setterfield's novel about a book seller's daughter transported orally and figuratively, by a book.

By Bob Minzesheimer



14 February 2007

Mr. Ivan Doig
17277 15th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98177

Dear Mr. Doig,

Enclosed please find a copy of a favorable mention of *THE WHISTLING SEASON* that recently appeared in *USA Today*.

Best,

Tom Bouman
Editorial Assistant
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Book buzz

What's new on the list and in publishing



Didion: Her *Year for Broadway*.

John Gregory Dunne. He had a heart attack shortly after the couple visited their gravely ill daughter in the hospital. Later, Quintana Roo Dunne Michael improved, but shortly after Didion finished the book, Quintana, 39, died of complications from pancreatitis. "That would take a whole other book to do," Didion says. "It's not a book I'm ready to write." She plans to, someday, but isn't "sure what form it will take." These days, she's at rehearsals for a one-woman play that was based on her book. It stars Vanessa Redgrave and opens on Broadway next month. Didion, 72, says, "It's using up all my energy levels. I'm not used to spending all day with other people."

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Getty Images

Rowling: Book flying off e-shelves. For \$65 also is selling well. Not to worry: Discounting is in full force. Both sites report that initial sales are outstripping the sixth book. Says Amazon's Sean Sundwall: "All things are converging to create hysteria over this last book."



By Garry Jones, AP

Barbaro rides again: The story of Barbaro, the horse that stole America's heart, will be told in three new books. HarperCollins will publish *Barbaro: A Nation's Love Story* later this month. *Barbaro: America's Horse* by Shelley Fraser Mickle, a children's book, will be published by Aladdin Paperbacks in March. *Barbaro: The Horse Who Captured America's Heart* by Sean Clancy is due in April from Eclipse Press. Barbaro won the 2006 Kentucky Derby, then shattered his leg in the Preakness. His heroic fight to come back from the injury ended in January, when he was euthanized.

By Bob Minzesheimer, Jacqueline Bliss and Carol Mermott

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USA TODAY's Best-Selling Books

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The top 10

Ranking this week		Ranking last week		F	NF	P	NF	P	H	Price
1	6	The Measure of a Man Sidney Poitier	Memoir from actor; Oprah's Book Club pick, January (NF) (P) <i>HarperSanFrancisco</i> , \$14.95	6	2	Forever in Blue Ann Brashares	The magical Traveling Pants return for a final summer (F) (H) <i>Delacorte Books for Young Readers</i> , \$18.99			
2	150	Irish Dreams Nora Roberts	Has two romances: "Irish Rebel" and "Sullivan's Woman" (F) (P) <i>Silhouette Special Releases</i> , \$7.99	7	1	The Best Life Diet Bob Greene	Plan for losing weight and keeping it off from Oprah's personal trainer (NF) (H) <i>Simon & Schuster</i> , \$26			
3	4	The Memory Keeper's Daughter Kim Edwards	Mother and her baby are separated (F) (P) <i>Penguin</i> , \$14	8	141	McKetterick's Luck Linda Lael Miller	Romance: First in trilogy about the McKettericks, set in present day (F) (P) <i>HQN</i> , \$7.99			
4	-	The House Danielle Steel	Story centers on 1920s San Francisco house (F) (P) <i>Del</i> , \$7.99	9	11	Bridge to Terabithia Katherine Paterson	Jess and Leslie create the imaginary land of Terabithia; movie (F) (P) <i>HarperEntertainment</i> , \$6.99			
5	-	Most Likely to Die Jackson, Barton, Staub	Three stories about revenge and romance (F) (P) <i>Zebra</i> , \$7.99	10	3	You: On a Diet Michael F. Roizen, Mehmet C. Oz	Subtitle: "The Owner's Manual for Waist Management" (NF) (H) <i>Free Press</i> , \$25			

The rest

11	5	Plum Lovin' /Janet Evanovich	Stephanie Plum tracks down mysterious advice columnist (F) (H) <i>St. Martin's Press</i> , \$16.95
12	20	The Secret /Rhonda Byrne	Promises to be "life-transforming for all who experience it" (NF) (H) <i>Atria/Beyond Words</i> , \$23.95
13	136	The Winter Lodge /Susan Wiggs	Romance: Second in the Lakeshore Chronicles (F) (P) <i>MIRA</i> , \$7.99
14	7	Honeymoon /James Patterson, Howard Roughan	FBI agent discovers cloudy past of a seemingly perfect woman (F) (P) <i>Warner Books</i> , \$7.99
15	-	What Price Love? /Stephanie Laurens	Romance: Beauty charms all (F) (P) <i>Avon</i> , \$7.99
16	8	The Freedom Writers Diary /The Freedom Writers and Erin Gruwell	Teacher helps students write about their hostile environment; movie (NF) (P) <i>Broadway</i> , \$13.95
17	10	The Audacity of Hope /Barack Obama	Democratic senator on "reclaiming the American dream" (NF) (H) <i>Crown</i> , \$25
18	-	What a Lady Wants /Victoria Alexander	One bachelor down, three more to go (F) (P) <i>Avon</i> , \$6.99
19	13	The Glass Castle: A Memoir /Jeannette Walls	Memoir: Author's parents eventually became homeless (NF) (P) <i>Scribner</i> , \$14
20	-	The Templar Legacy /Steve Berry	Treasure could change the modern world (F) (P) <i>Ballantine</i> , \$7.99
21	-	Bite Me If You Can /Lynsay Sands	Romance: Vampire must tutor new recruit on being immortal (F) (P) <i>Avon</i> , \$6.99
22	-	Angels All Over Town /Luanne Rice	Single Una wonders if there's something more (F) (P) <i>Bantam</i> , \$7.50
23	14	For One More Day /Mitch Albom	Troubled man spends a day with his dead mother (F) (H) <i>Hyperion</i> , \$21.95
24	9	Point Blank /Catherine Coulter	FBI agents search for kidnapped entertainer (F) (P) <i>Jove</i> , \$7.99
25	-	The Alexandria Link /Steve Berry	Ancient document could change the destiny of the Middle East (F) (H) <i>Ballantine Books</i> , \$25.95
26	-	Speak No Evil /Allison Brennan	Detective Carina Kincaid investigates the murder of an 18-year-old (F) (P) <i>Ballantine Books</i> , \$6.99
27	29	Hannibal Rising /Thomas Harris	Early days of Hannibal the Cannibal (F) (H) <i>Delacorte Press</i> , \$23.95
28	26	Dreams From My Father /Barack Obama	Memoir: Illinois senator's search for meaning as a black American (NF) (P) <i>Three Rivers Press</i> , \$13.95
29	-	Kissing Sin /Keri Arthur	Romance, werewolves, danger (F) (P) <i>Del</i> , \$6.99
30	40	Junie B. Jones and the Mushy Gushy Valentine Barbara Park, art by Denise Brunkus	Children: Someone has a crush on Junie (F) (P) <i>Random House</i> , \$3.99
31	21	The Pursuit of Happiness /Chris Gardner with Quincy Troupe	Rags-to-riches story is a movie; Will Smith plays Gardner (NF) (P) <i>Amistad</i> , \$14.95
32	27	The Tenth Circle /Jodi Picoult	Trixie, 14, finds everything she believes is a lie (F) (P) <i>Washington Square Press</i> , \$15
33	-	All Night Long /Jayne Ann Krentz	Romance/suspense: Murder and intrigue throw together shy reporter and ex-Marine (F) (P) <i>Jove</i> , \$7.99
34	17	Eragon /Christopher Paolini	Young adult: Eragon, 15, finds his destiny as a dragon rider; movie (F) (P) <i>Knopf Books for Young Readers</i> , \$9.95
35	-	Dirty Blonde /Lisa Scottoline	Judge leads a dark double life (F) (P) <i>HarperCollins</i> , \$7.99
36	35	Blood Bound /Patricia Briggs	Mercy Thompson repays a favor to a vampire friend (F) (P) <i>Ace</i> , \$7.99
37	12	The Seat of the Soul /Gary Zukav	Becoming alive with reverence, compassion, trust (NF) (P) <i>PineSider</i> , \$14
38	24	Cross /James Patterson	Thriller: Alex Cross hunts his wife's killer (F) (H) <i>Little, Brown</i> , \$27.99
39	38	The Kite Runner /Khaled Hosseini	Friendship, betrayal of two boys in Afghanistan (F) (P) <i>Riverhead</i> , \$14
40	-	Hide /Lisa Gardner	Killer returns to do harm (F) (H) <i>Bantam</i> , \$25
41	28	Eldst: Inheritance, Book II /Christopher Paolini	Young adult: Eragon discovers new world (F) (H) <i>Knopf Books for Young Readers</i> , \$21
42	46	The Alchemist /Paulo Coelho	Shepherd boy searches for buried treasure; 10th anniversary edition (F) (P) <i>HarperSanFrancisco</i> , \$13.95
43	97	Eat, Pray, Love /Elizabeth Gilbert	Subtitle: "One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India, and Indonesia" (NF) (P) <i>Penguin</i> , \$15
44	25	The Innocent Man: Murder and Injustice in a Small Town /John Grisham	Story of a man wrongly sent to death row (NF) (H) <i>Doubleday</i> , \$28.95
45	15	 Gone /Lisa Gardner	When someone you love vanishes, how far would you go to get them back? (F) (P) <i>Bantam</i> , \$7.99
46	39	The South Beach Diet /Arthur Agatston	Allows dieters to eat food they love (NF) (P) <i>St. Martin's Press</i> , \$14.95
47	-	Deep Storm /Lincoln Child	The discovery of Atlantis might be a cover for something far more sinister (F) (H) <i>Doubleday</i> , \$24.95
48	19	The Calorie King Calorie, Fat & Carbohydrate Counter 2007 /Allan Borushek	Calories, carbs and fats for 11,000 food items, including 200 fast food restaurants and chains (NF) (P) <i>Family Health Publications</i> , \$7.99
49	-	How to Abduct a Highland Lord /Karen Hawkins	Romance: Will marriage to handsome wastrel last? (F) (P) <i>Focket</i> , \$6.99
50	44	What to Expect When You're Expecting /Heidi Murkoff, Arlene Eisenberg, Sandee Hathaway	Updated classic tells you how to navigate those nine months (NF) (P) <i>Workman</i> , \$13.95

Reporting stores include: Amazon.com, B. Dalton Bookseller, Barnes & Noble.com, Barnes & Noble Inc., Books-A-Million.com, Books-A-Million and Bookland, Borders Books & Music, Bookstar, Bookstop, Brentano's, Davis Kidd Bookellers (Memphis, Nashville, Jackson, Tenn.), Doubleday Book Shops, Hudson Booksellers, Joseph-Beth Bookellers (Lexington, Va.; Cincinnati, Cleveland), Powell's Books (Portland, Ore.), Powell's.com, R.J. Julia Bookellers (Madison, Conn.), Schuster Books & Music (Grand Rapids, Mich.), Target, Barnes and Noble Book Store (Denver), Waldenbooks. The book list appears every Thursday.



Adult fare for teens

Libraries and bookstores have young-adult sections. But each year, the American Library Association recommends 10 grown-up books with appeal to teenagers. This year's top 10:

- ▶ **The Book of Lost Things**, John Connolly's novel about a 12-year-old who loses his mother and finds an alternative world in books.
- ▶ **The Whistling Season**, Ivan Doig's novel about an unforgettable teacher and a one-room school in Montana.
- ▶ **Eagle Blue**, Michael D'Orso's non-fiction take on a high school basketball season in arctic Alaska.
- ▶ **Water for Elephants**, Sara Gruen's novel narrated by a former veterinary student who runs away and joins a struggling traveling circus.
- ▶ **Color of the Sea**, John Hamamura's Japanese-American coming-of-age novel.
- ▶ **The Floor of the Sky**, Pamela Carter Joern's novel about a pregnant teenager who is sent to live with her grandmother on her Nebraska ranch.
- ▶ **The Blind Side**, Michael Lewis' non-fiction account of a teen football star making his way from poverty to the pros.
- ▶ **Black Swan Green**, David Mitchell's version of *The Lord of the Flies*, set in rural England.
- ▶ **The World Made Straight**, Ron Rash's novel about a pot-stealing high school dropout and his unlikely mentor.
- ▶ **The Thirteenth Tale**, Diane Setterfield's novel about a book seller's daughter transported eerily and figuratively, by a book.

By Bob Minzesheimer

Coretta Scott King Book Award recognizing an African American author and illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults

"Copper Sun," written by Sharon Draper, is the King Author Book winner. The book is published by Simon & Schuster/Atheneum Books for Young Readers.

One King Author Honor Book was selected: "The Road to Paris" written by Nikki Grimes and published by G.P. Putnum's Sons, a division of Penguin Young Readers Group.

"Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom," illustrated by Kadir Nelson, is the King Illustrator Book winner. The book was written by Carole Boston Weatherford and published by Jump at the Sun/Hyperion Books for Children.

Two King Illustrator Honor Books were selected: "Jazz," illustrated by Christopher Myers, written by Walter Dean Myers and published by Holiday House, Inc.; and "Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes" illustrated by Benny Andrews, edited by David Roessel and Arnold Rampersad, and published by Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.

Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award

"Standing Against the Wind," written by Traci L. Jones is the Steptoe winner. The book is published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Schneider Family Book Award for books that embody the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences

"The Deaf Musicians," written by Pete Seeger and poet Paul DuBois Jacobs, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie and published by G. P. Putnam's Sons wins the award for children ages 0 to 10.

"Rules," written by Cynthia Lord and published by Scholastic Press is the winner in the middle-school category (age 11-13).

"Small Steps," written by Louis Sachar and published by Delacorte Press, is the winner in the teen category (age 13-18).

Theodor Seuss Geisel Beginning Reader Award for the most distinguished beginning reader book

"Zelda and Ivy: The Runaways," written and illustrated by Laura McGee Kvasnosky is the Geisel Award winner. The book is published by Candlewick Press.

Three Geisel Honor Books were named: "Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride," written by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Chris Van Dusen and published by Candlewick Press; "Move Over, Rover!" written by Karen Beaumont, illustrated by Jane Dyer and published by Harcourt, Inc.; and "Not a Box," written and illustrated by Antoinette Portis and published by HarperCollins.

Margaret A. Edwards Award for lifetime achievement in writing for young adults

Lois Lowry, author of "The Giver," is the 2007 Edwards Award winner. "The Giver" is published by Walter Lorraine Books/Houghton Mifflin Company.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Award for a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children

Author-illustrator James Marshall is the 2007 Wilder Award winner. Marshall was the author and illustrator of the "George and Martha" books, the "Fox" easy reader series, "The Cut-Ups" and "Goldilocks and the Three Bears."

(more)