

Librarian's Shelf by Rachelle McPhillips

### Book Club Announces 2017 Reading List

With just two weeks left of 2016, the library is looking ahead, planning programs for all ages. Our long-standing book discussion group leads the way with a suggested reading list for the community for 2017.

The CPL Book Discussion Group meets eleven times each year at the library, usually on the last Thursday of the month. The library offers multiple copies of each book club selection for checkout. This group is free, relaxed, and fun.

Our first selection for the year is "Pioneer Girl: A True Story of Growing Up on the Prairie" by Andrea Warren. This is a true story of a young girl from a homesteading family in Nebraska. Warren's telling of Grace McCance Snyder's life was a Golden Sower Nominee and garnered a starred review from School Library Journal.

A reviewer at Kirkus had this to say: "The voice of Grace echoes the spirit of the pioneer families who settled the Midwest: 'Most pioneer children did not know how hard their lives were. They just did what had to be done.'"

Pick up a copy of "Pioneer Girl" and join us Thursday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss this acclaimed book set right here in Nebraska.

On February 23 the group will discuss, "Before I Go to Sleep" by S.J. Watson. This best-selling novel is about a woman who wakes up each morning having forgotten everything. She spends her day putting together the pieces of her life, trying to figure out who she is. Readers of this thriller describe this novel as "mesmerizing," "chilling," and "unsettling." This is a recommended title for readers who liked "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins and "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn.

Join us on March 30 to talk about "Lafayette in the Somewhat United States" by Sarah Vowell. Here the author follows General Lafayette's involvement in the American Revolutionary War. Vowell's coverage of this subject earned a lot of praise and positive reviews, including Library Journal's verdict: "Vowell's lively, droll style will attract readers to this cleverly crafted, well-researched book. It is especially recommended to those who are convinced that history is dry."

In April we'll continue our exploration of history with "Bridge of Spies: A True Story of the Cold War" by Giles Whittell. "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks is our return to fiction reading in May, and we take a look at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair in Erik Larson's "Devil in the White City" in June.

Other titles the book club will discuss this year include the One Book, One Nebraska 2017 title, "Black Elk Speaks" by John G. Neihardt. Later we will read "The Lake House" by Kate Morton, "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr, "Neverwhere" by Neil Gaiman, and "Loving Frank: A Novel" by Nancy Horan.

Book club books are made available each month at the front desk. A complete list can be found at <http://columbusne.us/index.aspx?nid=154>. If you have questions about the book club, please call me at 402-562-4201 or email me at [rmcphil@columbusne.us](mailto:rmcphil@columbusne.us).