

Librarian's Shelf by Rachelle McPhillips

Book group announces reading list for 2012

The Columbus Public Library Book Discussion Group usually meets at the library on the last Thursday of the month. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion.

In October each year, book club attendees make suggestions for the reading list for the upcoming year. At our last meeting, we discussed those titles and chose eleven for 2012. Our 2012 reading list includes classics, bestsellers, fiction and nonfiction. I hope you will find something appealing to check out.

On Thursday, January 26th, the group will discuss Ernest Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises." This classic American novel, published in 1926, is a love story between an American journalist living in Paris and a twice-divorced Englishwoman. Friends travel to Pamplona for the running of the bulls and drinking and fighting ensue.

In February we will read and discuss, "Expecting Adam" by Martha Beck. This is Beck's memoir of her difficult pregnancy and the odd coincidences she experienced during that time. About this "wickedly funny and wrenchingly sad," tale, Kirkus Reviews said, "Even skeptics will find magic in this story, and parents of a Down syndrome child will cherish it."

"I Am a Man," by Joe Starita is our selection for March. Starita documents the groundbreaking court case involving Chief Standing Bear of the Ponca tribe. Two years after being moved from Nebraska to Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma, Chief Standing Bear led a group of Ponca back to Ponca homeland, was arrested and fought for his right to stay on his land.

Our Gale Books and Authors database has this to say about "I Am a Man": Chief Standing Bear's Search for Justice:

"Starita "is more interested in reaching general readers than legal historians," noted a Kirkus Reviews contributor, and "succeeds admirably," crafting an "illuminating" tale."

In October, it was announced by the Nebraska Center for the Book that this is our One Book, One Nebraska title for 2012. This program aims to get Nebraskans reading and talking about the same book. This is the eighth year for the Nebraska "One Book" program. For more information, visit <http://onebook.nebraska.gov/>.

Other titles we will discuss in 2012 include, "The Call of the Wild," by Jack London, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," by Rebecca Skloot, "Zeitoun," by Dave Eggers, and "Olive Kitteridge," by Elizabeth Strout.

For a complete list of all the books we will read and chat about, visit the book club page at <http://www.columbusne.us/library> or call Rachelle at 562-4201.

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