

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

READER

Events • Books • Services

March 2016 Vol. 74 No. 3

Spring Literary Luncheon Welcomes Curtis Sittenfeld



photo by Josephine Sittenfeld

Award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author Curtis Sittenfeld will be the featured speaker at the Spring Literary Luncheon, hosted by the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library. The event will be held on **Tuesday, May 3, 2016**, at the Wisconsin Club, 900 West Wisconsin Avenue. Sittenfeld will discuss her new novel, *Eligible*, a contemporary retelling of *Pride and Prejudice*.

When The Austen Project, published by HarperCollins, invited “authors of global significance” to reimagine Jane Austen’s six novels, they chose Sittenfeld for *Pride and Prejudice*. “It just sounded like so much fun,” she said. “I’ve loved *Pride and Prejudice* since I first read it as a 16-year-old, and it was a joy to immerse myself in its world of clever repartee, wise social insights, and swoony romance.”

Equal parts homage to Jane Austen and bold literary experiment, *Eligible* is a brilliant, playful, and humorous saga for the 21st century. Tender and funny, *Eligible* both honors and updates Austen’s much-loved tale. Tackling gender, class, courtship, and family, Sittenfeld reaffirms herself as one of the most captivating authors of today.

Eligible features Liz Bennet, a magazine editor, and her older sister Jane, a yoga instructor, who must leave New York City and return home to Cincinnati when their father falls ill. The other sisters, Kitty and Lydia (CrossFit fanatics) and Mary (a mysterious recluse busy getting her third online master’s degree) are still at home, and Mrs. Bennet is trying to get all her daughters married before Jane turns 40. Then, there are our bachelors: Chip Bingley, a handsome doctor who just appeared on a TV reality show called *Eligible*, and his friend Fitzwilliam Darcy, a neurosurgeon who’s decidedly less charming than Chip.

Curtis Sittenfeld is the author of five novels: *Prep*, the tale of a Massachusetts prep school; *The Man of My Dreams*, a coming-of-age novel and an examination of romantic love; *American Wife*, a fictional story loosely based on the life of First Lady Laura Bush; *Sisterland*, which tells the story of identical twins with psychic powers, and *Eligible*.

Sittenfeld was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and attended Stanford University, where she wrote for the college newspaper and edited its arts magazine. She was also chosen as one of *Glamour* magazine’s College Women of the Year. She earned her Master of Fine Arts degree from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop at the University of Iowa.

At the luncheon, Curtis Sittenfeld will talk about her new novel and sign copies, which guests will receive with their reservations. Boswell Book Company will be on hand to offer additional titles by Sittenfeld for purchase. One of the raffle prizes will be an opportunity to sit with the author at lunch. For reservations to the Spring Literary Luncheon, please see the enclosed invitation or register online at www.mpl.org/support.

- Contributed by Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library
Board President Barbara Franczyk.

Invitation Inside

FROM THE



CITY LIBRARIAN

PAULA A. KIELY



The Friends of Milwaukee Public Library’s annual Spring Literary Luncheon is an event I personally look forward to every year. While I’m proud of the many program opportunities the library provides, I admit, this one holds a special place in my heart. Gathering with so many

like-minded individuals who love all things literary, at a time of year in Wisconsin when the promise of spring is upon us, is a special annual treat.

The event itself puts me in mind of the long history of literary gatherings that have taken place throughout the centuries. At age 21, Benjamin Franklin formed a weekly discussion group, the Junto Club, which required members to ask themselves thirteen questions the morning of each weekly meeting - the first of which being *Have you met with any thing in the author you last read, remarkable, or suitable to be communicated to the Junto?* The club gathered books from the members’ personal libraries which led to the beginnings of the first lending library in the colonies.

Literary salons, defined by Oxford as “meetings of intellectuals or other eminent people at the invitation of a celebrity or socialite,” have been popular for centuries and were the inspiration for the Milwaukee Public Library Literary Society which merged with the Bookfellows in 1998 to create the current Friends of Milwaukee Public Library.

And my personal favorite, the intimate gathering of friends at book clubs held in libraries, community centers, and living rooms throughout our neighborhoods where the latest or much-loved books are discussed accompanied by a Danish and a cup of coffee. (My own book club began more than 20 years ago with *Cold Sassy Tree*.) Thanks to funds donated by the Friends of Milwaukee Public Library, you can even pick up book club kits for popular titles at your library which include 10 copies of the book and a discussion guide in a handy cloth bag. How convenient is that?

Wherever the future of books and libraries leads us, the gathering of people to debate, discuss, discover and delight in the words and thoughts of authors past and present will never go out of style – and you can count me in whenever they meet.



Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

-Elizabeth Andrew

Milwaukee Public Library staff are dedicated to helping people read, learn and connect at their library - work that’s aided in part by dedicated volunteers like Nancy Denmark at the East Branch.

Over the few months she has regularly served as a volunteer, Nancy has become an invaluable asset during the East Branch Play Group. The weekly program would not be the same without her reliable and welcoming presence. “She is the perfect volunteer,” said East Branch librarian Emily Stueven.

After the formal story time part of the program, Nancy is down on the floor with the children and their caregivers, playing, talking and encouraging. Grownups and children alike have come to see her as a good friend.

“We have several children who adore Miss Nancy, little ones whose shyness dissipates when she’s around, and who miss her on the rare occasions she is absent,” said Emily. “A couple weeks ago, Nancy was on vacation. After Play Group, a mother told me her daughter was so nervous that Miss Nancy wasn’t there! This same child has also gifted Nancy with drawings she’s made just for her.”

Clearly, “Miss Nancy” is a special person in these children’s lives, and a great partner with staff in serving the families at the East Branch.

Interested in volunteering? Learn about opportunities available at the library on the website at: www.mpl.org/about/volunteer/



Vision: The Milwaukee Public Library is an anchor institution that helps build healthy families and vibrant neighborhoods – the foundation of a strong Milwaukee.

Mission: Inspiration starts here – we help people read, learn, and connect.

- Library Director Paula A. Kiely
- Board of Trustees John Gurda, president;
Michele Bria, vice president; JoAnne Anton, Ald. Milele Coggs, Sharon Cook,
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- Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library President Barbara Franczyk

The Reader is published ten times per year by the Milwaukee Public Library to celebrate reading and share news about books, library services and events. The Reader is mailed to members of the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library, distributed free at library locations and available at www.mpl.org. Call (414) 286-3572 or send an e-mail with questions or comments to mailbox@mpl.org

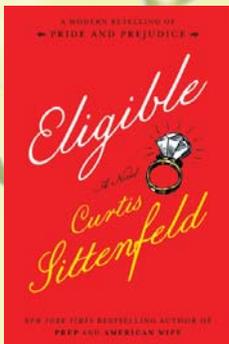


Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library
invite you to their annual

Featuring



photo by Josephine Sittenfeld



Spring Literary Luncheon

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

The Wisconsin Club
900 West Wisconsin Avenue

Author Signing

Raffle - Win a chance to lunch with Ms. Sittenfeld
11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Lunch and Program
Noon to 1:30 p.m.



FRIENDS of
the MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Curtis Sittenfeld
and her new novel "Eligible: A Modern
Retelling of Pride and Prejudice"

Spring Literary Luncheon online reservations: www.mpl.org/support

RSVP Seating is limited. Please reply by Wednesday, April 27. Reservations will be held at the door. Ticket price includes a hardcover copy of the book.

Individual Seat
\$70 each - Qty: _____

Friends Member Seat
\$60 each - Qty: _____

Patron Seat*
\$150 each - Qty: _____

Corporate Table of 8*
\$1,000 each - Qty: _____

*Includes Friends membership, preferred seating and mention in the program.

Special thanks to our event partners



Check enclosed, made payable to: **MPL Foundation**

Visa MasterCard

Name on Card _____

Account # _____ 3 digit security # _____

Exp. _____ Signature _____

I cannot attend. Please accept my enclosed contribution \$ _____

Name/Corporate Name (list additional guests on back)

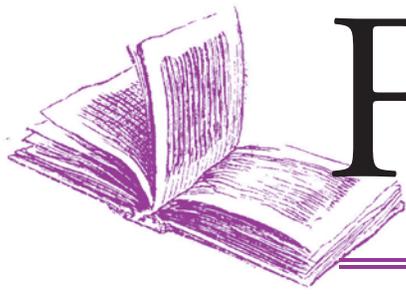
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please select an entrée: **Chicken** Qty: _____ **Vegetarian** Qty: _____

MPL Foundation/Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library
814 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233
(414) 286-8720 Friends@mpl.org



FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Thank You for Being Part of Tippecanoe's Success Story!



Neighbors and information seekers of all ages and interests are frequenting the new Tippecanoe Branch, and the first few months in operation indicate that the community loves its new library!

❖ **Library card registration is up by 42%**, and daily average circulation is up 43%!

❖ **Meeting Spaces are booked 68% of open hours** – a large part of the time is used for an active schedule of drop-in tutoring.



❖ **Teens enjoy having their own space after school**, and the children's area attracts kids, parents and caregivers with interactive materials and comfortable furnishings for family visits to the library – attendance at preschool story time is up 211%.

❖ **Programs with a green and sustainable living emphasis** complement Tippecanoe's new landscaping and partnership with the Garden District Neighborhood Association.

All donors who support Tippecanoe with gifts of \$100 or more before March 31 will be featured on the commemorative recognition wall and will also receive a garden party invitation to celebrate the new library's upcoming inaugural green season. Donate at www.mpl.org. Click on Support and Tippecanoe Branch, or call (414) 286-8720 for more information.

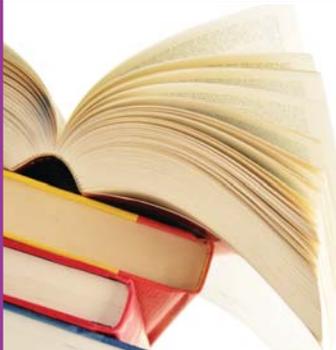
photos by Pat Robinson

You won't want to miss Tippecanoe's Inaugural Garden Party!



Architectural Tour of Central Library and a FREE Book

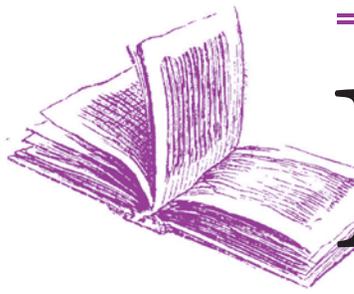
Experience fascinating Milwaukee Public Library history every Saturday at 11a.m. at the Central Library, located at 814 West Wisconsin Avenue. Tours begin in the rotunda and tour goers will receive a coupon for a free book at the end of the tour in the **Bookseller Book Store and Cafe**. Central Library is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. To arrange for a special tour or to learn more about becoming a docent, please call (414) 286-TOUR.



Spring Used Book Sale: Coincides with Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration

Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ~ Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. Bookseller Corridor, 1st floor

Featuring a large selection of children's books. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library. Friends members may enter sales 30-minutes before the public with current membership card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card. **There will be a 2-for-1 sale in the Bookseller Used Book Store during the sale.** During the month of March, the Bookseller will feature a selection of half-priced books on Parenting. **Next Sale: June 18 Summer Sale, Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.**



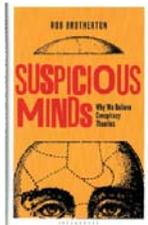
THE BOOKSHELF

Saturn Run by John Sandford and Ctein. Science Fiction.



A new sci-fi thriller from a master of suspense. In 2066, a discovery is made of a possible starship near Saturn. U.S. politicians and scientists want to be the first to make contact and have sole access to superior technology and knowledge. Unfortunately, so do the Chinese. The race is on, and a remarkable adventure begins.

Suspicious Minds: Why We Believe Conspiracy



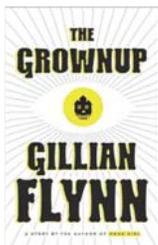
Theories by Rob Brotherton. 153.4 B874. Conspiracy theories abound from ancient Athens and Rome to 9/11 and who shot JFK. *Suspicious Minds* explores the phenomenon and reveals the important consequences conspiracy theories can have from discouraging parents in vaccinating their children against deadly diseases to hampering political policies for combating climate change.

The Lufthansa Heist by Henry Hill and Daniel Simone.



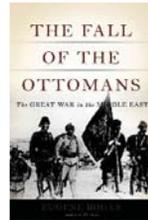
364.162 H646. On December 11, 1978, a daring armed robbery rocked Kennedy Airport, resulting in the largest unrecovered cash haul in world history. Hill, the organizer of the theft, recounts his days in crime, the famed Lufthansa Heist, and how he testified against the mob to save his life. If you've seen *Goodfellas*, the story will be familiar.

The Grownup by Gillian Flynn. Mystery.



This thrilling short novel follows a fortune teller who tries to make a quick buck by helping Susan Burke, who is experiencing a haunting in her new home. A visit to Burke's Victorian home reveals a ghostly presence and a suspicious stepson. Is the haunting real - or is the evil a more deliberate force?

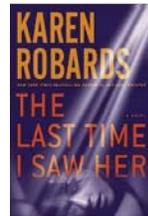
The Fall of the Ottomans: The Great War in the Middle East by Eugene Rogan. 940.356 R722.



Rogan offers a balanced understanding of the First World War from the Ottoman, Armenian, and Arab political perspectives including how the Ottoman Turks entered the war on the side of the Central Powers, what happened during and after the war, and how the Great War and fall of the Ottoman

Empire contributed to the formation of the modern Middle East.

The Last Time I Saw Her by Karen Robards. Romance.



Dr. Charlotte Stone is head-over-heels in love with the infuriating yet sexy Michael, a convicted serial killer and ghost who is eternally damned to Hell. If that wasn't enough, Charlie's life is filled with drama and suspense as an FBI expert on serial killers. Could this case be the one where she gets too close?

Strong Looks Better Naked by Khloe Kardashian.



927.973 K1825A.

Khloe Kardashian chronicles her journey towards living a better life that embodies being mindful and healthy. Get to know the reality television starlet through her descriptions of how she deals with grief, stress, weight loss, and fame, all while trying to be strong for herself and family.

Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto Vol. 1 by Nami



Sano. Graphic Novel.

There's a new cool kid at school: smart, athletic, gorgeous, and absurdly perfect. All the guys hate him, and all the girls want him. When his classmates try to bring him down to their level, he crushes their attempts with godlike grace and almost supernatural abilities.

Submitted by Forest Home Library staff Amanda Rentas, Zarina Mohd Shah, David Sikora, Caitlin Sprague and Kimberly Zapata.

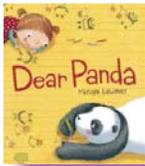
CHILDREN'S ROOM



Writings for Reading

The “dear diary” genre has been a popular fad in children’s books, with the *Wimpy Kid* and *Dork Diaries* series being particular favorites. This format allows readers to feel like they are getting a personal glimpse into the life of the character and helps readers connect to the story’s main character. Whether looking to find a great character, a correspondence or diary style format, or simply a good book, check out one of these great titles from your Milwaukee Public Library.

Dear Diary...



Dear Panda by Miriam Latimer. PIC LATIMER. Ages 4-7. Florence is nervous about making friends at a new school. She begins exchanging letters with the panda that lives at the zoo next door, developing a wonderful new friendship and the confidence to make friends at school.



I Wanna Go Home by Karen Kaufman Orloff; illus. by David Catrow. PIC ORLOFF. Ages 4-7. Through letters and emails, Alex chronicles the visit he and his siblings have with their Grandma and Grandpa. While Alex is at first apprehensive, his grandparents’ antics quickly win him over.



Dear Yeti by James Kwan. PIC KWAN. Ages 5-8. Two young hikers are on an adventure to find a yeti and write him brief letters to let him know how their trip is progressing. Dear reader, don’t miss this yeti fun!



Diary of a Mad Brownie: With Supporting Documents by Bruce Coville; illus. by Paul Kidby. SF COVILLE. Ages 9-12. Can Angus, the cleaning Brownie and Alex, the world’s messiest girl, break the curse that binds them together, as well as the strange curse that is on the McGonagall male descendants? This fun read may be the first in a new series.



Secrets Out! by Julie Sternberg; illus. by Johanna Wright. INT STERNBE. Ages 8-11. Second of the *Top-Secret Diary of Celie Valentine* series. Everyone has a secret – Celie, Jo, Lulu – but the worst might be the one her parents have about why Celie’s grandmother moved in with them.



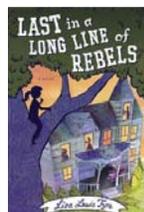
From the Notebooks of a Middle School Princess by Meg Cabot. FIC CABOT. Ages 8-12. Bi-racial Olivia Grace Clarisse Mignonette Harrison considers everything about herself to be average. What a surprise to find out she’s really Princess Mia’s half-sister!



Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer by Kelly Jones; illus. by Katie Kath. FIC JONES. Ages 8-12. When Sophie Brown and her family move from Los Angeles to a farm, she isn’t anticipating inheriting some truly unusual chickens! Told through various correspondence, Sophie chronicles her efforts to care for and even protect them when someone sets their eyes on stealing these super-powered hens.



My Diary from the Edge of the World by Jodi Lynn Anderson. SF ANDERSO. Ages 9-12. Led by her scientist father, Gracie’s family tries to outrun a death cloud in a world filled with Sasquatches, ghosts and Guardian Angels for hire.



Last in a Long Line of Rebels by Lisa Lewis Tyre. MYS TYRE. Ages 9-12. Louise, aka, Lou is the junkman’s daughter. She finds a Civil War diary written by her namesake. The hunt is on to find the hidden gold and solve a long ago murder. Oh yeah, and save her parents’ house, too!



Milwaukee Public Library Foundation
814 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Meet the Author: Markus Zusak *The Book Thief*

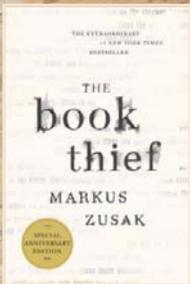


Meet author Markus Zusak on **Friday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m.** in Centennial Hall, 733 N. Eighth Street as he presents the 10th anniversary of *The Book Thief*.

One of the most enduring stories of our time, *The Book Thief* is just a small story really, about, among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. The 10th-anniversary edition features pages of bonus content, including marked-up manuscript pages, original sketches, and pages from the author's writing notebook.

Markus Zusak is the author of *I Am the Messenger*, a Printz Honor Book and LA Times Book Award finalist, as well as *Getting the Girl* and *Underdogs*.

A book signing follows the event. Books will be available for purchase from co-sponsor Boswell Book Company.



"The Book Thief" is unsettling and unsentimental, yet ultimately poetic. Its grimness and tragedy run through the reader's mind like a black-and-white movie, bereft of the colors of life. Zusak may not have lived under Nazi domination, but "The Book Thief" deserves a place on the same shelf with "The Diary of a Young Girl" by Anne Frank and Elie Wiesel's "Night." It seems poised to become a classic.
- USA Today



MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES - 414.286.3000

Atkinson 1960 W. Atkinson Ave. • **Bay View** 2566 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. • **Capitol** 3969 N. 74th St.
Center Street 2727 W. Fond du Lac Ave. • **Central** 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. • **East** 2320 N. Cramer St.
Forest Home 1432 W. Forest Home Ave. • **Martin Luther King** 310 W. Locust St. • **Mill Road** 6431 N. 76th St.
Tippecanoe 3912 S. Howell Ave. • **Villard Square** 5190 N. 35th St. • **Washington Park** 2121 N. Sherman Blvd.
Zablocki 3501 W. Oklahoma Ave. • **Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library** 813 W. Wells St.
MPL Express at Silver Spring 5550 N. 64th St. • **Community Education and Outreach Services** • www.mpl.org