

# Bookshelves & Beyond

Crete Public Library & Founded 1878



March 2017

Crete Public Library Newsletter



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## Tea for Two Tuesday

by Laura Renker

Tea is the most consumed beverage in the world...after water. How do you drink your tea? Do you use a dash of cream or milk? Maybe you add a bit of sugar? Perhaps you like a chai latte? Or are you a purist? Any way you drink it is fine—just celebrate Tea for Two Tuesday on March 21. This day was established last year for people to enjoy a cup of tea together. It's a day to encourage people to drink "a spot of tea." Please don't limit yourself to one friend; invite an entire group to partake.

Did you know that all tea comes from the same plant? Tea originates from a species of evergreen shrub in which the leaves and leaf buds are used to produce tea. The plant, native to China and India, is *Camellia sinensis*. Different harvesting and processing methods account for the difference in the five types of tea. Do you have a favorite? Black, green, white, oolong or puerh? The less processing that the tea undergoes the more antioxidants it contains. Green and white tea have the most antioxidants which may help against free radicals that can contribute to diseases such as cancer, heart disease and clogged arteries. Drinking tea also helps your total fluid intake each day.

Enjoy the book, *Tea With Grandpa*, by Barney Stalzburg. Sit, relax and drink a cup of tea with a little one while you read about a little girl and her grandfather who share a cup of tea every day even though they are far apart. One of my favorite books to read when my children were young, *Miss Spider's Tea Party* by David Kirk, shares the story of how sad and lonely Miss Spider is because the other insects are too scared to come to her tea party (for fear of being eaten). Finally, a little wet moth who can't fly away finds out how kind Miss Spider really is. For those who like a little excitement in their tea parties, read *Tea Rex* by Molly Idle. Cordelia and her brother host a tea party for their guest, T-Rex!



Check out, *Come to Tea: Fun Tea Party Themes, Recipes, Crafts, Games, Etiquette and More*, by Stephanie Dunnwind, to help plan a tea party. There are several parties included: Classic Tea Party, Princess Tea Party, Garden Tea Party and five more. My favorite, of course, is Literary Tea Party!

Everybody is welcome to join us on March 21 for a cup of tea at the Library. We'll have tea available all day, so stop in for "a spot of tea."

## What's Coming Up?

### Preschool Story Time

Thursday, 10:30 am

March 2 - Jungle Animals

March 9 - Mice are Nice

March 16 - Monkeying Around

March 23 - Night Skies and Outer Space

March 30 - Now I Know My ABC's



March 2 - Dr. Seuss Day

March 12 - Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 20 - *SPRING!* 5:28 am

March 23 - National Tamale Day



## Opinionated Librarian

by Maridza Vasquez

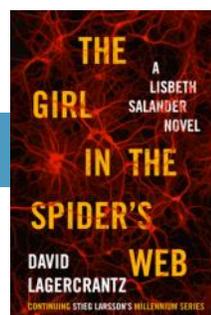
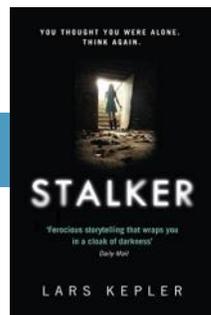
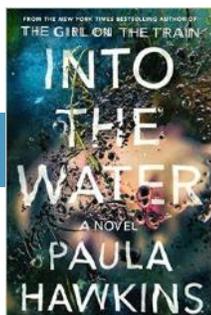
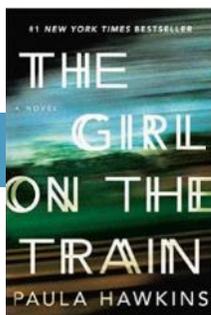
Being a librarian, surrounded by books all day, can lead to some interesting conversations. Recently, a fellow coworker recommended the book *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins. We started discussing what it was about and then she told me it was similar to *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn. As soon as she told me that piece of information, I was no longer interested. The thing is that *Gone Girl* and I didn't quite get along. Now, don't get me wrong. I have read other books by Gillian Flynn and absolutely loved them, but *Gone Girl* just didn't do it for me. A couple of chapters in I had already figured out the plot line and I absolutely did not like the ending. So, hearing that *The Girl on the Train* was similar, well I just wasn't interested. But, my coworker convinced me to give it a shot anyway. So I did.

Now, I wouldn't say I absolutely loved *The Girl on the Train*, but I did enjoy it. It took me a little while to get into it, but after the storyline's pace picked up, it was easy for me to follow along. For those who haven't read the book, let me give you a brief summary. Rachel, the girl on the train, has still not gotten over her painful divorce. Instead, she has reached to alcohol for support. Everyday, Rachel takes the same train she has always taken, that goes right past her old home. Everyday, she sees the same young couple, who she names Jess and Jason, and begins to wish for the perfect life that they seem to have. Then one day she sees something she wishes she wouldn't have. Soon after, the young woman goes missing, and Rachel decides to get involved in solving the mystery. It took me a while to figure out what happened and the ending did catch me off guard. So, in the end it did what it was supposed to do: keep me in suspense. I would say that, for me personally, it was a better version of *Gone Girl*.

Then I decided to watch the movie. Now I have said this before, but I will not watch a movie until I've read the book. I can't do it in reverse order. What usually happens is that I don't like the movie because it wasn't the way I envisioned it. That was exactly the case here. My problem wasn't the plot line, which usually gets drastically changed when going from book to movie, which I understand. If everything was included, then the movie would be extremely long. My issue was the casting. I love Emily Blunt, and think she is a terrific actress but she wasn't who I envisioned to play Rachel. Haley Bennet, who played Megan, was the same case. It wasn't who I had envisioned for the part. These are simply minor, even silly, details that either make me like or dislike a movie. Of course, these are my personal opinions.

For those who enjoyed *The Girl on the Train*, whether book or movie, I have some exciting news. Paula Hawkins has a new book that will release May 2, 2017. Her new book *Into the Water* begins with a young mother found in the bottom of the river. A 15 year old girl, who has now been orphaned, is sent to live with her mother's sister, who has secrets she's hiding. So, if you enjoy psychological thrillers, then keep an eye out for this book to hit our shelves.

If you're like me and need a new suspense novel that keeps your attention and love endings with a twist, then check out one of my favorite authors, Lars Kepler. This husband and wife writing duo is amazing. Each one of their books keeps me guessing until the end. I would also recommend Stieg Larsson's Millennium series and if you've read those, then check out *The Girl in the Spider's Web* by David Lagercrantz, who decided to continue the series after Larsson's death.



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# Read Aloud Month

by Susan Church

A favorite time of the day when my boys were young was the time I spent reading aloud to them. From wonderful picture books we moved to short chapter books (*Encyclopedia Brown*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *Ramona Quimby*), and from there to wonderful classics like the Narnia series, *By the Great Horn Spoon*, and *The Wind in the Willows*. I never felt that the time we spent in another world via our current book was time wasted. As it turns out, statistics prove that that was indeed the case.

Take a look at these stats: A child not reading at grade level by the end of first grade has an 88% chance of not reading at grade level by the end of fourth grade. Those not reading proficiently by third grade are **four** times more likely to drop out of school, and that those who fall behind are likely to stay that way. The number of words a child knows when entering kindergarten is predictive of future learning success.

So with the hectic lives we live today (how does that happen when we have so many “conveniences?”), how do you give your child that great start that they need? [Read Aloud 15 Minutes](#) is a national initiative that encourages parents to, well, read aloud to their children 15 minutes a day. Reading aloud 15 minutes every day for 5 years would add up to 27,375 minutes! Putting that into other numbers, it adds to 456.25 hours, or 19 days. That's 19 days out of 1,825 days in 5 years. Put into that perspective, it's a relatively short amount of time! But what a difference it makes!

If you have not been in the habit of reading aloud to your child, it's not too late to start. Here are some tips to help you out: Don't rush your time. Give all of yourself to those 15 minutes. Read with expression; make a fool of yourself. Trust me, your kids will love it! Allow your child to participate by turning pages, talking about the pictures. Board books are great for babies; short with few words and lots of color. Make books an accessible part of your child's environment. Ask what happens next before turning the page.

Even a squirmy worm may be listening. Hungry baby? It's ok and even advisable to offer a snack while reading aloud. Incorporate reading into your daily routine. Provide variety, but be prepared for repetition. My boys and I read *Hop on Pop* by Dr. Seuss so many times, they had the words memorized. And yet they asked for it again. That's

ok. And last but certainly not least: practice makes perfect, for the listener and the reader! The more you do it, the easier it will be.

Want more information? Go to the Read Aloud website at [www.readaloud.org](http://www.readaloud.org). One of their slogans is: If you wait, it's too late. I don't think it's ever too late to start. Better to start than think you've waited too long and give up. Our children are worth every bit of effort we put into them. And then some.

There will be reading trackers and bookmarks available here to remind you of this important task. Reward your child (and yourself) when you fill your child's reading tracker. Of course, we know that the reward IS the reading!



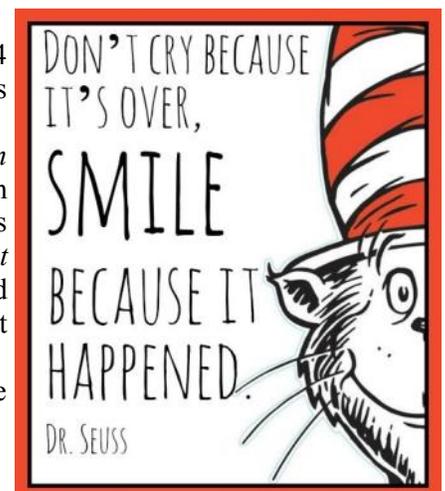
# Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss

by Connie Higginson

Theodor Seuss Geisel better known as Dr. Seuss was born on March 2, 1904 and died on September 24, 1991 at age 87. This month we celebrate Dr. Seuss's 113th birthday.

Dr. Seuss's first book published was titled, "*And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*." This book was rejected 27 times before it was published in 1937. Dr. Seuss never gave up and went on to publish over 60 books in his lifetime. Some of his best known books are: *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Cat in The Hat* and *Green Eggs and Ham*. One of his latest books was just published in February 2015. It is entitled *What Pet Should I Get*. The Crete Library just purchased this book, so come on in and check it out.

One of my favorite quotes of Dr. Seuss is: "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."



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## This 'n That

by Susan Church

Spring is nearly here which means it's time to think about the spring cleaning plan of attack. But no, this is NOT an article about spring cleaning. However, if it was, we do have numerous materials that will help you clean better, organize better, and even live better!

No, this is general...housekeeping stuff. You know. Various and sundry tidbits that aren't enough for a full article, but still useful information. So. Here goes.

**Blind Date With A Book.** What can I say. In the second time implementing this program, ya'll have knocked it outta the park! Drum roll, please. Thirty books were taken on blind dates! This year we added **Blind Playdate With A Book** using picture books and chapter books for the kids. The numbers break down like this: 19 adult books and 11 kids books checked out. Know what that means? There are still a LOT of lonely books here. And they would like you to know that they are still willing to go on dates. Although they have given up on the whole blind date thing. Too stressful sitting here waiting to be chosen.

Winners in the Rate Your Date contest are: Marcia Glenn and Bunny Dudley for the adults, Emilie and Luke and Tyler for the children. Congratulations! Be sure to stop in to pick up your prizes.

With the arrival of March, April can't be far behind. And with April comes the library's annual program. It will be held Friday, April 21, 11:00 am at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 805 Hawthorne. The speaker will be Charlotte Endorf, who is with Humanities Nebraska. Her presentation is titled "Nebraska Spirit: The North Platte Canteen." We've heard great things about Charlotte's presentations and look forward to this event. Mark your calendar!

You most likely have noticed a new face behind the circulation desk. We are excited to have Carolina (the i is pronounced as a long e) join our staff. She brings much enthusiasm and lots of smiles...two commodities we like having around! Welcome, Carolina!

And so ends this month's This 'n That. So...anyone care to volunteer to come spring clean? At my house?

*This & That...*  
...a little of everything