

FRIENDS OF THE ENCINO-TARZANA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 24 November 2010 18231 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356 <http://www.ETLibraryFriends.org>

OUR GIGANTIC USED BOOK SALE

Friday & Saturday -- November 12 & 13, 2010 -- 10:00-5:00

Thousands of items - most for 50¢ to \$1.00 - many "like new"

**Yes - we are still accepting donations of books, dvd's, cd's
in good condition**

Info and to volunteer: Contact *Margaret Talvin*
mtalvin@mac.com OR 818.343.7105

Can't get to our Book Sale - then stop by the Library and shop in our
Bookstore (open daily), same prices as our Book Sale - but varying inventory.

**THANK YOU to our Book Sale Committee: Margaret Talvin, Norma Lamken,
and Joyce Propper; to Board Liaison Mark Lamken, 2nd Vice President;
and to all of our dedicated and tireless volunteers -- teens and adults.**

**COME TO OUR
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER. 17, 2010 - 1:00 PM
Meet other "Friends" while enjoying coffee and dessert**

AGENDA

Presentation of our 2009 Friend of Year Award to Adele Druck

**Brief Reports about our Library and our Community (2010 and 2011)
from those in the know...**

**Friends' Board Members focusing on our book sales, membership,
and our many gifts to the Library; PLUS**

- David Hagopian, our new Acting Branch Manager of LAPL
- Laurie Kelson, Vice President, Encino Neighborhood Council
- Leonard J. Shaffer, President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN...

We are very proud of Adele Druck, recipient of our 2009 Friend of the Year Award. She is our 1st Vice President, leads our publicity, designs our great-looking posters, volunteers at our bookstore and book sales, is a GAB volunteer, and just fills in wherever and whenever needed. We really appreciate her!

On October 28, ten of our volunteers had the pleasure of attending a Friends of Library Reception for the Western Area of the Valley, hosted by the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL), at the Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library.

-- LAPL awarded Certificates of Appreciation to each Friends' group. (see page 4)

-- Martin Gomez, City Librarian, spoke about the Library system, the problems created by the reduced City Budget, and thoughts about the future. LAPL priority is for the children -- pre-school and promoting reading with youngsters, and homework help and other programs for kids and teens. They are also continuing to advance information technology for everyone. Q&A produced questions on privatization of libraries (per news reports from Santa Clarita and Camarillo), not likely for LAPL. Websites for Friends on the LAPL website is not feasible but LAPL may start a "wiki" (website that allows the easy creation and editing of any number of interlinked web pages) to promote communication and sharing among Friends groups. Adele Druck, our 1st VP, offered to help. Mr. Gomez said that Friends and patron calls/mail to City Council members have been a tremendous help to LAPL.

--Barbara Y. Leff, M.L.S. - 818.981.6920

President@ETLibraryFriends.org

HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS BOOKS (HOTP)

The Friends subscribe to this HOTP service for \$6000/ann. so that the newest books that are "hot-off-the-press" will be in your hands quickly. As new arrivals are placed on the Library's New Book Shelves, we announce titles immediately on our website - and post a printed list every week or so on our Library display board. HOTP may be borrowed for **seven days, but no reserves, no renewals, and two books maximum.** (FYI - duplicate copies are available via the Library's usual reserve/hold system - to await your turn.) Below is a list of books received in October 2010. For previous HOTP books, see our website - <http://www.etlibraryfriends.org>.

Michael Caine - [The Elephant to Hollywood](#)

John Grisham - [The Confession](#)

Howard Sounes - [Fab: an Intimate Life of Paul McCartney](#)

Lee Child- [Worth Dying For](#)

Emma Donoghue -[Room](#)

Iris Johansen - [Chasing the Night](#)

Hoda Kotb - [Hoda: How I Survived War Zones, Bad Hair, Cancer, and Katie Lee](#)

M.C. Beaton - [Busy Body](#)

Barbara Taylor Bradford - [Playing the Game](#)

Stephen Cannell - [Prostitutes' Ball](#)

Vince Flynn - [American Assassin](#)

Whoopi Goldberg - [Is It Just me? Or Is It Nuts Out There?](#)

Jan Karon - [In the Company of Others](#)

Alexander McCall Smith - [Charming Quirks of Others](#)

Condoleezza Rice - [Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family](#)

Jules Witcover - [Joe Biden: A Life of Trial and Redemption](#)

Nicholas Evans - [The Brave](#)

Christine Feehan - [Dark Peril](#)

Ian Halperin - [Governator: From Muscle Beach to His Quest for the White House, the Improbable Rise of Arnold Schwarzenegger](#)

David Sedaris - [Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk: A Modest Bestiary](#)

John Le Carre - [Our Kind of Traitor](#)

Nelson Mandela - [Conversations With Myself](#)

Philip Roth - [Nemesis](#)

Ann Rule - [In the Still of the Night: The Strange Death of Ronda Reynolds and Her Mother's Unceasing Quest for the Truth](#)

Marlo Thomas - [Growing Up Laughing: My Story and the Story of Funny](#)

Richard Paul Evans - [Promise Me](#)

Debbie Macomber - [Call Me Mrs. Miracle](#)

Michael F. Roizen & Mehmet Oz - [You: Raising Your Child: The Owner's Manual from First Breath to First Grade](#)

Danielle Steel - [Legacy](#)

Peter Straub - [Pork Pie Hat](#)

Catherine Coulter - [The Valcourt Heiress](#)

Robert B. Parker - [Painted Ladies](#)

Michael Cunningham - [By Nightfall](#)

Bernard Cornwell - [The Fort: A Novel of the Revolutionary War](#)

Jenny McCarthy - [Love, Lust & Faking It: The Naked Truth about Sex, Lies, and True Romance](#)

James Patterson & Howard Roughan- [Don't Blink](#)

Elmore Leonard - [Djibouti](#)

BOOKSTORE NEWS

The Friends of the Library Used Bookstore is open later now, until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The extra time helps, but doesn't really make up for the mandated weekly Monday closings.

The Library needs the money the Friends' Bookstore raises more than ever, since all libraries' budgets citywide were cut. Among other things, these funds are used to buy more of the very popular hot-off-the-press books. So, come and buy books at the store and keep those donations of used books coming in! We particularly have a need right now of children's books, travel books as well as fiction and non-fiction.

Be a true Friend; we'll all benefit.
-- by Jane Gebers

Mark your calendars!
Friends of Encino-Tarzana Library
USED BOOK SALES - FOR THE YEAR 2011
Friday and Saturday, 10am to 5pm
February 11 and 12, 2011 August 19 and 20, 2011
May 20 and 21, 2011 December 2 and 3, 2011

OUR BOOK CLUBS

Our two Book Clubs continue to grow. **New members are always welcome** - contact Book Club Chair Carol Fox at bookclubs@ETLibraryFriends.org. For previous readings, check our Book Club webpage:

<http://www.etlibraryfriends.org/3bookclubs.html>

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB -- Recently, we've read two great books: [Zeitoun](#) by Dave Eggers and [Finding Nouf](#) by Zoe Ferraris; current read on Nov. 4 is [Pearl of China](#) by Anchee Min (fictional biography of Pearl Buck). We select fiction and nonfiction books of interest, take turns serving as discussion leaders, and share interesting insights. **We meet the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at an Encino home.**

HISTORY AND POLITICS BOOK CLUB -- Recently, we've been discussing Presidents Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover, and next is Franklin D. Roosevelt. We are learning American history through the study of the presidencies; we started with President George Washington, and are continuing in order. Each member selects his/her own book on the current topic and shares the reading with the others. This provides for a lively discussion coming from various authors' viewpoints. Bruce Keswick, an attorney and history buff, is our discussion leader. **We meet in the Library on the 4th Wednesday of the month - 4:00-5:30 pm (except Nov. & Dec. we meet the 3rd Wed.). DROP BY AND LISTEN IN... .**

FRIENDS RECOMMEND

Our Board members share titles of media they've enjoyed. Here's our recent recommended list. For more authors/titles previously recommended, see: <http://www.etlibraryfriends.org/3recommend.html>

Stieg Larsson - [Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest](#)
Jeffrey Archer - [Paths of Glory](#)
PBS original documentary - [Inventing L.A.: The Chandlers and Their Times](#)
Bill Boyarsky, Mark Catalena, Brian Tessier, and Peter Jones - [Inventing L.A.: The Chandlers and Their Times](#) (book)
Isabel Allende - [Island Beneath the Sea](#)
Rita Williams-Garcia - [One Crazy Summer](#) (ages 9-12, or adult)

Stieg Larsson - [Girl Who Played with Fire](#) (and film)
Stieg Larsson - [Girl with Dragon Tattoo](#) (and film)
David Sax - [Save the Deli: In Search of Perfect Pastrami, Crusty Rye, and the Heart of Jewish Delicatessen](#)
Alice Schroeder - [The Snowball: Warren Buffett and the Business of Life](#)
Zoe Ferraris - [City of Veils](#)
[Opera in Cinema Series](#): Live Performances shown at the movies: Laemmle Theaters in the Southland

This is the text of the certificate that our Friends received from Martin Gomez, City Librarian, at the Reception for Friends of the Library, on Oct. 28, 2010 (see p. 2)

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

[city seal]

Certificate of Appreciation

presented to

Friends of Encino-Tarzana

Branch Library

on the occasion of

National Friends of Libraries Week 2010.

Presented with gratitude for the valuable support

that the Friends group provides to

the Los Angeles Public Library through

volunteer, fundraising, and advocacy efforts.

The Friends' enthusiasm, dedication, and commitment play

an essential role in helping the Library meet

the needs of all people in the City of Los Angeles.

Martin J. Gomez, City Librarian /signed/ October 28, 2010

NEWS FROM LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

EXHIBITS

“Forty Years of Sesame Street Illustration:

Selections from the Publishing Archive of Sesame Workshop”

Central Library’s First Floor Galleries, September 4, 2010 through April 30, 2011.

ALoud SPEAKERS' SERIES

(See website for full calendar and to register -- <http://www.LFLA.org/calendar/>)

ALoud at the Mark Taper Auditorium-Central Library

Monday, November 29, 2010 - 7:00 PM

HAZEL ROWLEY

author of Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage

Los Angeles Central Library's Mark Taper Auditorium, 630 W. Fifth St., L.A. 90071.

ALoud at the Aratani/Japan America Theatre

co-presented with the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center

Tuesday, November 30, 2010 - 8:00 PM

AN EVENING WITH SALMAN RUSHDIE

in conversation with Reza Aslan

Aratani/Japan America Theatre • 244 So. San Pedro Street, Suite 505 • L.A. 90012

Source: New York Times -- Sunday Book Review -- Essay

The Plot Escapes Me

By James Collins

Published: September 17, 2010

Excerpt:

. . . I have just realized something terrible about myself: I don't remember the books I read. . . . all I associate with them is an atmosphere and a stray image or two, like memories of trips I took as a child.

Nor do I think I am the only one with this problem. Certainly, there are those who can read a book once and retain everything that was in it, but anecdotal evidence suggests that is not the case with most people. Anecdotal evidence suggests that most people cannot recall the title or author or even the existence of a book they read a month ago, much less its contents.

So we in the forgetful majority must, I think, confront the following question: Why read books if we can't remember what's in them?

One answer is that we read for the aesthetic and literary pleasure we experience while reading. The pleasure — or intended pleasure — of novels is obvious, but it is no less true that we read nonfiction for the immediate satisfaction it provides. The acquisition of knowledge, while you are acquiring it, can be intensely engrossing and stimulating, and a well-constructed argument is a beautiful thing. But that kind of pleasure is transient. When we read a serious book, we want to learn something, we want it to change us, and it hardly seems possible for that to happen if its fugitive content passes through us like light through glass.

Now, with a terrible sense of foreboding, I slowly turn to look again at my bookshelf. There they all are, "Perjury" and "Kavalier & Clay" and those other books that I have read and of which I remember so little. And I have to ask myself, Would it have made no difference if I had never read any of them? Could I just as well have spent my time watching golf?

But this cannot be. Those books must have reshaped my brain in ways that affect how I think, and they must have left deposits of information with some sort of property — a kind of mental radiation — that continues to affect me even if I can't detect it. Mustn't they have?

To help answer this question I called Maryanne Wolf, a professor of child development at Tufts University and the author of "Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain." I described my ... problem — I was interested in a subject and engrossed in a book for days, but now remember nothing about it — and asked her if reading it had ultimately had any effect on me.

"I totally believe that you are a different person for having read that book," Wolf replied. "I say that as a neuroscientist and an old literature major." She went on to describe how reading creates pathways in the brain, strengthening different mental processes. Then she talked about content.

"There is a difference," she said, "between immediate recall of facts and an ability to recall a gestalt of knowledge. We can't retrieve the specifics, but to adapt a phrase of William James's, there is a wraith of memory. The information you get from a book is stored in networks. We have an extraordinary capacity for storage, and much more is there than you realize. It is in some way working on you even though you aren't thinking about it."

Did this mean that it hadn't been a waste of time to read all those books, even if I seemingly couldn't remember what was in them? "It's there," Wolf said. "You are the sum of it all."

This was very encouraging, and it makes intuitive sense: we have been formed by an accretion of experiences, only a small number of which we can readily recall. You may remember the specifics of only a few conversations with your best friend, but you would never ask if talking to him or her was a waste of time. As for the arts, I can remember in detail only a tiny fraction of the music I have listened to, or the movies I have watched, or the paintings I have looked at, but it would be absurd to claim that experiencing those works had no influence on me. The same could be said of reading.

Still, reading is different from life, and writing is different from those other art forms. Indeed, reading's great distinction may be that it is not an experience to be experienced only as an experience (otherwise, poets wouldn't have to sweat so hard to make their poems a performance rather than discourse). A book, even a novel, contains information, in the strictest sense, and the most obvious purpose of reading a book is to acquire that information for oneself. And unlike a catch-and-release fisherman, when I acquire that information, I want to keep it. I enjoyed reading "Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case," by Allen Weinstein, and am relieved and happy that I retain its gestalt, but I didn't actually read it for pleasure or for its gestalt. I read it so that I would know, consciously, a lot about the Hiss case. Well, guess what? I don't.

I suppose one solution would be to use the techniques recommended in study guides for retaining reading assignments. Do not recline! First review the table of contents and index. Read actively, underlining and making notations in the text. Review what you have read, making notes (three to five pages for every hundred pages of text).

Some good ideas, surely. But "Do not recline"? Impossible.

James Collins is the author of the novel "Beginner's Greek."
Source: ALA's American Libraries Direct

Will There Be Contemplation In Future Libraries?

September 22, 2010

Excerpt:

When I'm not occupied with urgent matters..., my preoccupation is the future of libraries.

Here, this topic is known as "America's Libraries for the 21st Century," a formal OITP Program—though obviously this theme cuts across all of the office's work. Of course, the digital revolution currently taking place challenges the services, content, physical organization, staffing, funding, and every other facet of libraries. Indeed, the investigation of these topics is addressed in recent OITP policy briefs.

Some of our inquiry depends on seemingly direct lines of thought, such as the rise of high-speed broadband, mobile technology, or e-books, and the consequences for libraries and public policy. But there are also less obvious implications. I've been contemplating one of these implications for the past months—which is, well, "contemplation." But reading Nicholas Carr's latest book, The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains, has re-energized my thinking about this topic.

The advent of widespread networking, digital content, and the Web is causing a shift towards a fundamentally different way of information access, which may be characterized as unpredictable, dynamic, abbreviated, and frenetic. Of course, this is not news to us folks in the library community, steeped in e-mails, text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, Web surfing, and so on. These new capabilities have great benefits and many of us couldn't imagine living without them. Among other things, people can now integrate and link diverse people, places, and pieces of information in ways that could not have been even imagined before—and enable us to think in new ways—or, alternatively, to rewire our brains to compel us to think in new ways.

But there is a potential downside to this rewiring. Some—or many of us—have increasingly short attention spans and difficulty in concentrating on longer-term tasks such as reading a book (much less writing a book). This phenomenon resonates with my personal experience—indeed just trying to read Carr's book took some effort—it isn't conducive to reading a book when checking e-mail every 10 minutes... I can even get impatient with e-mails of multiple paragraphs.

And what of libraries? Contemplation is central to traditional library services and uses: Reading books, newspapers, and magazines; doing homework (offline); participating in storytelling hour; playing a board game; or daydreaming (uninterrupted by electronic gadgetry). How will future libraries support contemplative activity of this kind when the technology encourages the opposite? Or does it even matter?

Will contemplation become mostly the province of an elite few as it was centuries ago? Broad access to intellectual works to facilitate thinking beyond society's elites is a recent phenomenon in historical terms, enabled by the widespread creation of public libraries in the 20th century—thanks again, Mr. Carnegie.

Might “contemplation” become the new digital divide? Can future libraries be shaped as a venue to promote contemplation? Should they? If so, who will become the Andrew Carnegie of the 21st century?

Alan Inouye, Ph.D.

Director, Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP)

American Library Association - [American Libraries Direct](#) 9/22/2010, an ALA e-newsletter

Source: <http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=5283>

LIBRARY EVENTS

Reported by Librarians to Friends of Encino-Tarzana Library
For UPDATES and DETAILS, go to <http://www.ETLibraryFriends.org>

LIBRARY HOURS: TuTh 12:30-8:00; WFSa 10:00-5:30; Su&M closed

GAB PROGRAM - Grandparents & Books --GAB volunteers for children Tu.&Th.3-5pm; Wed.1-3, 3-5 pm; Sat.10:30 am-12:30pm

NOVEMBER 2010

Thu., 11/4/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- Fashion in Miniature with Marsha Greenberg

Thu., 11/4/10, 7:00 pm -- Friends of Library Page Turners Book Club - discussing *Pearl of China* by Anthee Min (offsite)

Fri., 11/5/10, 4:00 pm -- **(TEENS)** Student Smart SAT Follow-up Session - Pick up your results & tips on improving score!

Tue., 11/9/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(CHILDREN)** Arts and Crafts with Shokoufeh

Thu., 11/11/10 - LIBRARY IS CLOSED (Veteran's Day)

Fri., 11/12/10, 10:00-5:00 AND) _ Friends of Library B-I-G USED BOOK SALE - Don't miss this!

Sat., 11/13/10, 10:00-5:00 -----) MORE SALE: Lots of bargains - surprises - most items 50 cents and one dollar.

Tue., 11/16/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(CHILDREN)** Children's American Heritage Harvest Festival

Tue., 11/16/10, 6:00 pm -- **(TEENS)** Student Smart Financial Aid Workshop – Free college financial aid basics workshop for teens & parents. Spaces are limited, call NOW to reserve your seat!

Wed., 11/17/10, 1:00-2:30 pm -- Friends of Library Annual Meeting -- Guest Speakers -- Refreshments!

Wed., 11/17/10, 4:00-5:30 pm -- Friends of Library History & Politics Book Club - Select & read any book on President Franklin D. Roosevelt; come prepared for a lively discussion.

Thu., 11/18/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(TEENS)** Teen Council Meeting & Elections - Hear candidates for President, Vice-President and Secretary/Historian speak and vote for who represents you best!

Thu., 11/18/10, 5:30 pm -- Book Lover's Book Club discusses *Bee Season* by Myla Goldberg.

Tue., 11/23/10, 4:00-5:00 -- **(PRE-SCHOOL)** Storytime for parents and pre-schoolers, join our circle and share stories.

Wed., 11/24/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(TEENS)** Teen Holiday Origami – Join us to learn how to make festive holiday origami!

Thu. 11/25/10 --LIBRARY IS CLOSED (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Fri., 11/26/10 --LIBRARY IS CLOSED (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Tue., 11/30/10, 5:30-8:00 pm – Growing Smart Kids...It Makes Perfect Cents! Help kids learn how to wisely manage money

DECEMBER 2010

Thu., 12/2/10, 7:00 pm -- Friends of Library Page Turners Book Club - discussing *Shanghai Girls* by Lisa See (offsite)

Tue., 12/7/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(CHILDREN)** Arts and Crafts with Shokoufeh

Tue., 12/14/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(PRE-SCHOOL)** Storytime - Parents and pre-schoolers, join our circle and share stories.

Tue., 12/14/10, 6:30-8:00 pm -- Dante Rochetti - Opera for Beginners - songs, discussion, and fun!

Wed., 12/15/10, 4:00-5:30 pm -- Friends of Library History & Politics Book Club - Select & read any book on President Franklin D. Roosevelt or Harry Truman; come prepared for a lively discussion.

Thu., 12/16/10, 5:00-6:00 pm -- **(TEENS)** Teen Volunteer Orientation - Find out how you can help the library and earn community service hours for your classes, graduation and college applications. For ages 13-17 only.

Tue., 12/21/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(CHILDREN)** - Holidays Around the World

Thu., 12/23/10, 5:30 pm -- Book Lover's Book Club

Fri., 12/24/10 -- LIBRARY IS CLOSED (Christmas Holiday)

Sat., 12/25/10 -- LIBRARY IS CLOSED (Christmas Holiday)

Thu., 12/30/10, 4:00-5:00 pm -- **(TEENS)** Teen Council Meeting & New Year's Party!

Fri., 12/31/10 -- LIBRARY IS CLOSED (New Year's Weekend)

RECENT BOOK DISPLAYS IN OUR BRANCH LIBRARY

**BANNED BOOKS WEEK
(BOOKS BANNED -- ESPECIALLY THE CLASSICS -- IN SOME SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES.
IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE THE FREEDOM TO READ...)**

**TAKE ACTION AGAINST BULLYING
TOLERANCE - STAND UP FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS
BE PROUD OF WHO YOU ARE !**

HISTORIC EXHIBIT

David Hagopian, our Acting Branch Manager, is planning an
historic exhibit of the Encino-Tarzana Library

He is looking for photos of the previous library building - indoors and outdoors. If you have some photos that you would be willing to allow him to copy, please contact David at 818.343.1983. Thank you.

**Friends of the Encino-Tarzana Library
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(818) 343-1983
<http://www.ETLibraryFriends.org>**