

October Newsletter

Fall is imminent, so we hear. But we know the truth. Our four seasons are: almost summer, summer, not summer but really hot, and Christmas. (Thanks, Bill.)

The last newsletter was almost the last newsletter. I inadvertently deleted 50 names from the list, said +&\$&(^\$@% and let Kelli fix it for me. You know that split second feeling you get as you slam your car door shut just as you realize your keys are in it? Yup, that's what it was like. But, no harm. We're back at it....except for the residual frustration that accompanies anything I do that requires a computer. How did I get sucked in to that thing? I'm constantly having a love/hate relationship with it.

I'm sending this early as Nikki, Savannah (granddaughter) and I will be driving to Atlanta for a book convention. I'll tell you who we met and what we did, well...maybe not *everything*... in the next letter.

Thanks to all the people that brought used childrens' clothes to Dobbie at our Harry Potter party. The clothes will be going to McInnes Elementary School.

October 1st is World Vegetarian Day. Anyone out there a vegetarian besides me and Angela?

Six of us met for our first Book Club meeting. We read and discussed **Maisie Dobbs** by Jacqueline Winspear. We all agreed that we loved it and I have ordered the rest of the series for me to read. It was really that good.

Did you ever wonder what a day behind our counter was like? I know, you think we get to read all day, don't you? In a way you're right. We get to read the titles of books and sometimes the blurbs so we know where to shelve them. We get to read the dozens (and dozens) of catalogues that arrive **every** week. Mostly the catalogues go home with me, thus becoming homework that I can't get done at the store. Also at home is the discontinued title report that is online every month. This month it is 102 pages long and is only on line. At one time we would receive a hardcopy, which I could take with me on grocery lines, in the car when Joe drove, on the couch at home, in the bathroom. (How *does* one use the restroom without reading material in their hand?)

Back to behind the counter. We buy books, sell and trade books, we pay bills and order new books. We check on the special order you might have placed to be certain it comes in on time. We write to teachers to understand required reading that sometimes is impossible to get. We do payroll, advertising and sign making. We worry, do the bookkeeping, go to the bank, the post office, worry, meet with sales reps and other vendors, talk with customers, suggest books, worry, explain our trading system, shelve the books, sort and process the used ones, empty the litter box, clean the

bathroom and occasionally dust. We change the lightbulbs and air conditioner filter, and get ready for the book clubs. And worry.

And we wouldn't trade a minute for any other job.

Sad news for fantasy lovers. Robert Jordan (Wheel of Time) has died. No news yet on who, if anyone, will finish the series. I'll keep you posted.

R.I.P.: Robert Jordan

Robert Jordan, the author of the Wheel of Time fantasy series, died on Sunday of the rare blood disease amyloidosis. He was 58.

Tor publisher Tom Doherty called Jordan "one of the great storytellers of the 20th and early 21st centuries; Jim's Wheel of Time is a towering epic of power and scope, he was a man of courage and heart and vision but for me, first of all, he was my friend of 30 years."

Jordan, whose given name was James Oliver Rigney Jr., taught himself to read at age four and began reading Mark Twain and Jules Verne a year later. He was a graduate of the Citadel, where he studied physics, and was a Vietnam veteran. He started writing in 1977. He wrote the Michael Fallon historical romance trilogy under the nom de plume Reagan O'Neal and seven of the Conan novels. His Wheel of Time series, which includes 11 volumes and a prequel, has sold more than 30 million copies worldwide. Jordan was reportedly working on an 12th volume at the time of his death. His blog is at dragonmount.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in the name of James Rigney to:

Mayo Clinic Department of Hematology -- Amyloidosis Research
200 First Street SW
Rochester, MN 55905

On a happier note:

Come by and guess how many candy corns are in our jar. Whoever is the closest wins a \$15.00 gift certificate. Guessing is free and someone's got to win...might as well be you.

Part 2 of the history of the bookstore.

As I told you last month we opened in 2 rooms of our home in 1976. We had no prior business experience and were using it for a store/warehouse for the books I was selling at flea markets. Actually, truth be told, I was just waiting for a teaching job to magically appear. We had just used up the last of the food stamps that we had left after the end of the welfare checks that helped my daughters and I reach this point. We were just The Shop then as I tried to sell other things besides books. When we decided to be just books we became

The Book Shop. I had heard a rumor that the owner of the house had it up for sale and I began to panic. So after just 8 months at the first location I found a store for rent where Taylor Rental is now. It was really only the south half of the building. The other half was a second hand store run by the owner of the building. I was beginning to look like a real store when, after 8 or so months, he sold the property. Another panic. A friend of my landlord helped me find the third location that was in the corner of the L shaped building next to The Potato Patch Restaurant. He also helped me move all the books, tables and shelves. And, incidentally, became my husband several years later.

More next month.

Meanwhile here is a really fun website.

If you were a book, which one would you be? Take the quiz. It's short and fun.

<http://bluepyramid.org/ia/bquiz.htm>

Amanda and Lori were **Watership Down**

Nikki was **A Prayer For Owen Meany**

Kelli was **Grapes of Wrath**

I was **Anne of Green Gables** (maybe I should find a support group!)

"Banned Books Week: Treasure Your Freedom to Read and Get Hooked on a Banned

Book," September 29 - October 6, 2007

Go figure!

2000-2005

Harry Potter tops list of most challenged books of 21st Century

(CHICAGO) In anticipation of the 25th anniversary of Banned Books Week (September 23-30), the American Library Association (ALA) today announced the top 10 most challenged books from 2000-2005, with the Harry Potter series of books leading the pack. The 10 most challenged books of the 21st Century (2000-2005) are:

1. Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling
2. "The Chocolate War" by Robert Cormier

3. Alice series by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
4. "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck
5. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou
6. "Fallen Angels" by Walter Dean Myers
7. "It's Perfectly Normal" by Robie Harris
8. Scary Stories series by Alvin Schwartz
9. Captain Underpants series by Dav Pilkey
10. "Forever" by Judy Blume

All but three of these books also were in the top 10 of the most challenged books of the 1990s:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bbwlinks/100mostfrequently.htm>

<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bbwlinks/100mostfrequently.htm>);>. The ALA reports there were more than 3,000 attempts to remove books from schools and public libraries between 2000 and 2005. Challenges are defined as formal, written complaints filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness.

And Tango Makes Three by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell, illustrated by Henry Cole (S&S) was the most challenged book in 2006, according to the American Library Association, the AP (via the *New York Times*) reported. The true story of two male penguins who raised a baby penguin was seen by some parents and educators as "advocating homosexuality." In all, 546 books were challenged last year and 30 were banned.

Not Banned Books now.

Debuts for the week:

Hardcover Fiction

#2-Tree of Smoke, by Denis Johnson (9780374279127)

#5-Songs Without Words, by Ann Packer (9780375412813)

#13-The Street of a Thousand Blossoms, by Gail Tsukiyama (9780312274825)

#14-The Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England, by Brock Clarke (9781565125513)

Hardcover Nonfiction

#1-Giving: How Each of Us Can Change the World, by Bill Clinton (9780307266743)

#6-Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light, by Brian Kolodiejchuk (Ed.) (9780385520379)

#8-Dead Certain: The Presidency of George W. Bush, by Robert Draper (9780743277280)

#10-Things I Overheard While Talking to Myself, by Alan Alda

(9781400066179)

#12-The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy, by John J. Mearsheimer, Stephen M. Walt (9780374177720)

[Paperback Fiction](#)

#12-One Good Turn, by Kate Atkinson (9780316012829)

[Mass Market](#)

#4-Hundred-Dollar Baby, by Robert B. Parker (9780425217559)

[Children's Interest](#)

#1-The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, by Sherman Alexie (9780316013680)

#3-A Wrinkle in Time, by Madeleine L'Engle (9780312367541, new edition)

[Children's Illustrated](#)

#2-Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity, by Mo Willems (9781423102991)

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. A Thousand Splendid Suns

Khaled Hosseini, Riverhead, \$25.95, 9781594489501

2. Tree of Smoke - **Debut**

Denis Johnson, FSG, \$27, 9780374279127

3. Away

Amy Bloom, Random House, \$23.95, 9781400063567

4. Loving Frank

Nancy Horan, Ballantine, \$23.95, 9780345494993

5. Songs Without Words - **Debut**

Ann Packer, Knopf, \$24.95, 9780375412813

6. Spook Country

William Gibson, Putnam, \$25.95, 9780399154300

7. Lord John and the Brotherhood of the Blade

Diana Gabaldon, Delacorte, \$25, 9780385337496

8. On Chesil Beach

Ian McEwan, Nan Talese, \$22, 9780385522403

9. The Wheel of Darkness

Douglas J. Preston, Lincoln Child, Grand Central, \$25.99,
9780446580281

10. The Tin Roof Blowdown

James Lee Burke, S&S, \$26, 9781416548485

11. On the Road: The Original Scroll

Jack Kerouac, Viking, \$25.95, 9780670063550

12. Bones to Ashes

Kathy Reichs, Scribner, \$25.95, 9780743294379

13. The Street of a Thousand Blossoms - **Debut**

Gail Tsukiyama, St. Martin's, \$24.95, 9780312274825

14. The Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England - **Debut**

Brock Clarke, Algonquin, \$23.95, 9781565125513

15. The Yiddish Policemen's Union

Michael Chabon, HarperCollins, \$26.95, 9780007149827

[ON THE RISE:](#)

18. HeartSick

Chelsea Cain, St. Martin's, \$23.95, 9780312368463

A lovely mystery, and Book Sense Pick, set in Portland, OR.

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. Giving: How Each of Us Can Change the World - **Debut**

Bill Clinton, Knopf, \$24.95, 9780307266743
 2. The Dangerous Book for Boys
 Conn Iggulden, Hal Iggulden, Collins, \$24.95, 9780061243585
 3. The World Without Us
 Alan Weisman, Thomas Dunne, \$24.95, 9780312347291
 4. Animal, Vegetable, Miracle
 Barbara and Camille Kingsolver, Steven Hopp, HarperCollins,
 \$26.95, 9780060852559
 5. The Secret
 Rhonda Byrne (Ed.), Atria/Beyond Words, \$23.95, 9781582701707
 6. Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light - **Debut**
 Brian Kolodiejchuk (Ed.), Doubleday, \$22.95, 9780385520379
 7. God Is Not Great
 Christopher Hitchens, Twelve, \$24.99, 9780446579803
 8. Dead Certain: The Presidency of George W. Bush - **Debut**
 Robert Draper, Free Press, \$28, 9780743277280
 9. Lone Survivor
 Marcus Luttrell, Patrick Robinson, Little Brown, \$24.99,
 9780316067591
 10. Things I Overheard While Talking to Myself - **Debut**
 Alan Alda, Random House, \$24.95, 9781400066179
 11. Plato and a Platypus Walk Into a Bar
 Thomas Cathcart, Daniel Klein, Abrams, \$18.95, 9780810914933
 12. The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy - **Debut**
 John J. Mearsheimer, Stephen M. Walt, FSG, \$26, 9780374177720
 13. A Long Way Gone
 Ishmael Beah, Sarah Crichton/FSG, \$22, 9780374105235
 14. Here If You Need Me
 Kate Braestrup, Little Brown, \$23.99, 9780316066303
 15. Guinness World Records 2008
 Guinness (Eds.), Guinness, \$28.95, 9781904994190
ON THE RISE:
 16. The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story
 Diane Ackerman, Norton, \$24.95, 9780393061727
 The true story of the zookeepers who hid hundreds of Polish Jews
 during WWII.

TRADE PAPERBACK FICTION

1. Water for Elephants
 Sara Gruen, Algonquin, \$13.95, 9781565125605
 2. Suite Francaise
 Irene Nemirovsky, Vintage, \$14.95, 9781400096275
 3. The Kite Runner
 Khaled Hosseini, Riverhead, \$14, 9781594480003
 4. The Road
 Cormac McCarthy, Vintage, \$14.95, 9780307387899
 5. The Emperor's Children
 Claire Messud, Vintage, \$14.95, 9780307276667
 6. The Memory Keeper's Daughter
 Kim Edwards, Penguin, \$14, 9780143037149
 7. Snow Flower and the Secret Fan
 Lisa See, Random House, \$13.95, 9780812968064
 8. Digging to America
 Anne Tyler, Ballantine, \$14.95, 9780345492340
 9. The Inheritance of Loss
 Kiran Desai, Grove, \$14, 9780802142818

10. The Echo Maker
Richard Powers, Picador, \$15, 9780312426439
11. Middlesex
Jeffrey Eugenides, Picador, \$15, 9780312427733
12. One Good Turn - **Debut**
Kate Atkinson, Back Bay, \$13.99, 9780316012829
13. Ines of My Soul
Isabel Allende, Harper Perennial, \$14.95, 9780061161544
14. The Alchemist (Updated)
Paulo Coelho, HarperOne, \$13.95, 9780061122415
15. A Spot of Bother
Mark Haddon, Vintage, \$13.95, 9780307278869

ON THE RISE:

27. When Madeline Was Young
Jane Hamilton, Anchor, \$13.95, 9781400096992
A family crisis is at the center of this Book Sense (hardcover) Pick, a rich book group choice.

TRADE PAPERBACK NONFICTION

1. Eat, Pray, Love
Elizabeth Gilbert, Penguin, \$15, 9780143038412
2. Three Cups of Tea
Greg Mortenson, David Oliver Relin, Penguin, \$15, 9780143038252
3. The Omnivore's Dilemma
Michael Pollan, Penguin, \$16, 9780143038580
4. The Glass Castle
Jeannette Walls, Scribner, \$15, 9780743247542
5. This Is Your Brain on Music
Daniel J. Levitin, Plume, \$15, 9780452288522
6. This I Believe
Jay Allison (Ed.), Holt, \$14, 9780805086584
7. Blink
Malcolm Gladwell, Back Bay, \$15.99, 9780316010665
8. Mayflower
Nathaniel Philbrick, Penguin, \$16, 9780143111979
9. Into the Wild (Movie tie-in edition)
Jon Krakauer, Anchor, \$13.95, 9780307387172
10. The World Is Flat
Thomas L. Friedman, Picador, \$16, 9780312425074
11. Skinny Bitch
Rory Freedman, Kim Barnouin, Running Press, \$13.95,
9780762424931
12. The Devil in the White City
Erik Larson, Vintage, \$14.95, 9780375725609
13. Porn for Women
Cambridge Women's Pornography Co-op (Eds.), Chronicle, \$12.95,
9780811855518
14. The Looming Tower
Lawrence Wright, Vintage, \$15.95, 9781400030842
15. The Worst Hard Time
Timothy Egan, Mariner, \$14.95, 9780618773473

ON THE RISE:

20. Imperial Life in the Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone
Rajiv Chandrasekaran, Vintage, \$14.95, 9780307278838
Account of the postwar administration of Iraq, by a former Baghdad bureau chief for the *Washington Post*.

MASS MARKET

1. What Came Before He Shot Her
Elizabeth A. George, HarperCollins, \$7.99, 9780060545635
2. The Collectors
David Baldacci, Grand Central, \$9.99, 9780446615631
3. Pegasus Descending
James Lee Burke, Pocket Star, \$7.99, 9781416513452
4. Hundred-Dollar Baby - **Debut**
Robert B. Parker, Berkley, \$9.99, 9780425217559
5. Echo Park
Michael Connelly, Grand Central, \$7.99, 9780446616461
6. Act of Treason
Vince Flynn, Pocket, \$9.99, 9781416542261
7. Under Orders
Dick Francis, Berkley, \$9.99, 9780425217566
8. To Kill a Mockingbird
Harper Lee, Warner, \$6.99, 9780446310789
9. The Afghan
Frederick Forsyth, Signet, \$9.99, 9780451221834
10. Fahrenheit 451
Ray Bradbury, Ballantine, \$6.99, 9780345342966

CHILDREN'S INTEREST

1. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian - **Debut**
Sherman Alexie, Little Brown, \$16.99, 9780316013680
 2. Love, Stargirl
Jerry Spinelli, Knopf, \$16.99, 9780375813757
 3. A Wrinkle in Time* - **Debut**
Madeleine L'Engle, Square Fish, \$6.99, 9780312367541
 4. Flush
Carl Hiaasen, Knopf, \$8.99, 9780375841859
 5. Math Doesn't Suck
Danica McKellar, Hudson Street, \$23.95, 9781594630392
 6. Soupy Saturdays With the Pain and the Great One
Judy Blume, James Stevenson (Illus.), Delacorte, \$12.99,
9780385733052
 7. Eldest
Christopher Paolini, Knopf, \$12.99, 9780375840401
 8. The Penderwicks
Jeanne Birdsall, Yearling, \$6.50, 9780440420477
 9. The Boys' Book
Dominique Enright, Scholastic, \$9.99, 9780545016285
 10. The Giver
Lois Lowry, Laurel-Leaf, \$6.50, 9780440237686
 11. The Girls' Book
Juliana Foster, Scholastic, \$9.99, 9780545016292
 12. The Invention of Hugo Cabret
Brian Selznick, Scholastic, \$22.99, 9780439813785
 13. The Tale of Despereaux
Kate DiCamillo, Candlewick, \$7.99, 9780763625290
 14. Charlotte's Web
E.B. White, HarperEntertainment, \$7.99, 9780061120268
 15. Hoot
Carl Hiaasen, Yearling, \$6.50, 9780440421702
- *new edition

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED

1. Goodnight Moon
Margaret Wise Brown, Clement Hurd (Illus.), HarperCollins, \$8.99, 9780694003617
2. Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity - **Debut**
Mo Willems, Hyperion, \$16.99, 9781423102991
3. What's Wrong, Little Pookie?
Sandra Boynton, Random House, \$5.99, 9780375845529
4. Diary of a Fly
Doreen Cronin, Harry Bliss (Illus.), Joanna Cotler, \$15.99, 9780060001568
5. Where the Wild Things Are
Maurice Sendak, HarperCollins, \$16.95, 9780060254926
6. Fancy Nancy
Jane O'Connor, Robin Preiss Glasser (Illus.), HarperCollins, \$16.99, 9780060542092
7. Fancy Nancy and the Posh Puppy
Jane O'Connor, Robin Preiss Glasser (Illus.), HarperCollins, \$16.99, 9780060542139
8. How Do Dinosaurs Go to School?
Jane Yolen, Mark Teague (Illus.), Blue Sky, \$16.99, 9780439020817
9. Good Night, Gorilla
Peggy Rathmann, Putnam, \$7.99, 9780399230035
10. Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See?
Bill Martin, Jr., Eric Carle (Illus.), Holt, \$16.95, 9780805083361
11. Pat the Bunny
Dorothy Kunhardt, Golden, \$9.99, 9780307120007
12. Puff, the Magic Dragon
Peter Yarrow, Lenny Lipton, Sterling, \$16.95, 9781402747823
13. The Kissing Hand
Audrey Penn, Ruth E. Harper & Nancy M. Leak (Illus.), Tanglewood, \$16.95, 9781933718002
14. Library Lion
Michelle Knudsen, Kevin Hawkes (Illus.), Candlewick, \$16.99, 9780763622626
15. Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?
Bill Martin, Eric Carle (Illus.), Holt, \$7.95, 9780805047905

CHILDREN'S FICTION SERIES

1. Harry Potter (hardcover and paperback)
J.K. Rowling, Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine
2. Twilight (hardcover and paperback)
Stephenie Meyer, Megan Tingley
3. Magic Tree House (hardcover and paperback)
Mary Pope Osborne, Sal Murdocca (Illus.), Random House
4. His Dark Materials (hardcover and paperback)
Philip Pullman, Laurel-Leaf
5. Percy Jackson and the Olympians (hardcover and paperback)
Rick Riordan, Miramax
6. The Clique (paperback)
Lisi Harrison, Little Brown
7. Junie B. Jones (hardcover and paperback)
Barbara Park, Denise Brunkus (Illus.), Random House
8. Warriors (hardcover and paperback)
Erin W. Hunter, Avon
9. Alex Rider Adventures (hardcover and paperback)

Anthony Horowitz, Puffin
10. The Adventures of Tintin (hardcover and paperback)
Herge, Little Brown

"CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS NOTICE": We want to be sure you *enjoy* hearing from us and are happy to hereby comply with the Congressional requirement of a "clear and conspicuous notice of the opportunity...to decline to receive further commercial electronic mail messages". Simply send us a reply with "unsubscribe" or "go away" in the subject line and we'll take you off our list.