

# BiblioBites

Friends of DeSoto County Library Association

December 2022

Volume 11, Issue 12

## Director's note

Wishing  
You the  
Peace of  
the  
Season!

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Dear Folks,

It is December and time to enjoy some of the festivities of the season while not forgetting its origin.

Every year we work to offer you fun activities, a Santa visit and as magical a Christmas place as we can make for your enjoyment. Our staff has a vision to create a very special place for you this year. Give us a few days and come check it out. We hope you will visit and stay a while to enjoy our gift for you of a special place for Christmas.

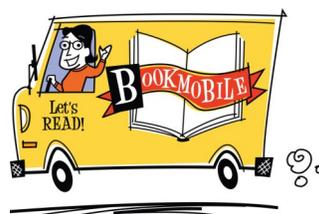
We want to add a little "merry and bright" to your Christmas this year.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Come see us and share a little Christmas joy with us. —Linda

**P.S.** Let me share what a patron did for our children here at the DeSoto Library. He came to see if we had this particular edition of the classic, *Yes, Virginia*. We did not own a copy. He had shared this book with his own children and grandchildren and wanted to make certain that our children in his home library had the same opportunity. This dear patron took it upon himself to find, purchase and present this particular edition of the well-loved book so that our children and their parents and grandparents would have the same opportunity he cherished.

In 1897 New York City, a young girl who knows that Santa Claus exists sets out to prove her case to unbelievers by writing a letter to the editor of the New York Sun. Yes, DeSoto, not only is there a Santa Claus, but he has a very considerate and kind helper right here in our community.



DeSoto County Library Association is extremely grateful that the Selby Foundation awarded us a fall cycle grant to purchase a vehicle to be used as a mobile library just in DeSoto County. We have seen how the shared once-a-month Heartland van has made an impact on our community; with our own van we will be able to expand our library services with weekly stops throughout the community that will be invaluable in fostering literacy freedom for all. We are so grateful that this generous foundation understands the impact this piece of equipment will have on our community. DeSoto County BOCC has committed to providing additional funds for the purchase and outfitting of the van and operating costs. Library staff will take our collections on the road and offer full services to patrons on a regular route.

The Selby Foundation is truly an asset to non profits in our community and their impact is seen nearly everywhere. We cannot express enough what an absolute game changer this is for us and we are deeply grateful.

DeSoto County Library Association is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that supports the library. All library patrons are free members of the organization. Donations of any amount are always welcome. Our annual book sale to benefit the library will begin January 28, 2023.

## Publishers Weekly Bestseller Lists November 25, 2022

### FICTION

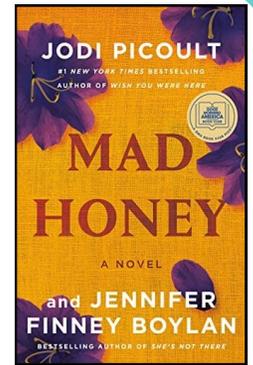
1. *Desert Star*, by Michael Connelly, Author
2. *The Boys from Biloxi: A Legal Thriller*, by John Grisham, Author
3. *The Silmarillion [Illustrated Edition]: Illustrated by J.R.R. Tolkien*, by J R R Tolkien, Author
4. *No Plan B: A Jack Reacher Novel*, by Lee Child & Andrew Child
5. *Fairy Tale*, by Stephen King
6. *Going Rogue: Rise and Shine Twenty-Nine*, by Janet Evanovich
7. *Triple Cross*, by James Patterson
8. *Dreamland*, by Nicholas Sparks
9. *Mad Honey*, by Jodi Picoult & Jennifer Finney Boylan
10. *Long Shadows*, by David Baldacci

### NONFICTION

1. *The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times*, by Michelle Obama
2. *Faith Still Moves Mountains: Miraculous Stories of the Healing Power of Prayer*, by Harris Faulkner
3. *So Help Me God*, by Mike Pence
4. *Go-To Dinners: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook*, by Ina Garten
5. *Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing: A Memoir*, by Matthew Perry
6. *Smitten Kitchen Keepers: New Classics for Your Forever Files: A Cookbook*, by Deb Perelman
7. *Surrender: 40 Songs, One Story*, by Bono
8. *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, by Jennette McCurdy
9. *The Stories We Tell: Every Piece of Your Story Matters*, by Joanna Gaines
10. *Guinness World Records 2023*, by Guinness World Records

## Liz likes—Liz Coronado

*Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan is one of the few co-written novels I have read. Typically, I steer away from them because they often seem disjointed, like a puzzle put together poorly. That is definitely not the case here. Though I have never read anything by Jennifer Finney Boylan before, I have read a few Jodi Picoult books and this one flowed just as well as her others have. I loved the way she portrays all the issues that affect everyone involved. The happiness, the heartache; plus you get an education. Olivia McAfee has been living in her childhood home and running her family's beekeeping business ever since running from her abusive ex over a decade ago. Business is booming and her son is thriving as captain of the hockey team, has college prospects, and a new girlfriend he is very much in love with. Everything comes crashing down when the girlfriend is found dead, and he is charged with her murder. When it is revealed that she is transgender, it's not looking good for his defense. Was this a hate crime? Does he possess the same capacity for anger and violence as the father his mother saved him from? Olivia wonders if her son is really who she thought he was. A breathtaking novel, that explores young love, parental love, and all the things you will do to protect those you love. I absolutely loved this novel and learned so many things about life, love and bees.

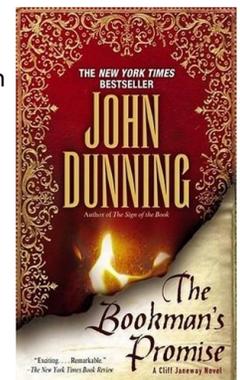
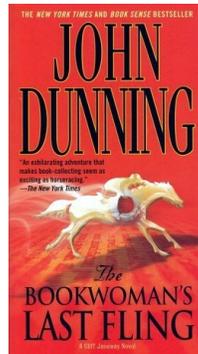
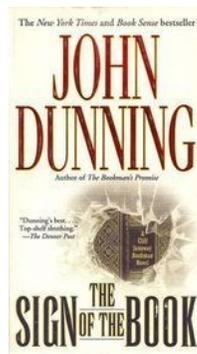
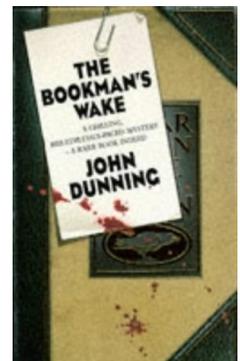
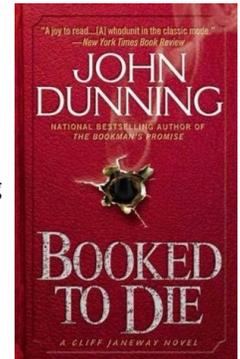


## Bookmarked—Jolaine Konstantinidis

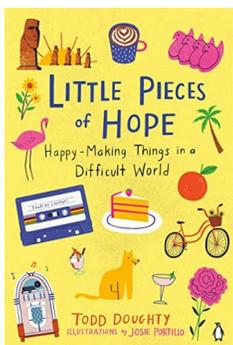
I've been hooked on detective series by Louise Penny and Ann Cleeves. I was ready to study another author when I happened upon one beckoning "pick me" from the library's free table; *The Bookman's Wake* by John Dunning. It is the second in a series of five novels featuring the detective/bookman, Cliff Janeway, so I put it aside to read the first book, *Booked To Die*. I am currently reading the third entitled *The Bookman's Promise* and am certain to complete the series with the fourth, *The Sign of the Book*, and fifth, *The Bookwoman's Last Fling* I am enjoying the author's style, his characters, plots, and most of all learning about the market for rare books and the world of bookpeople including bookscouts, bookmen and women, appraisers, printers and publishers, bookbinders, and yes, librarians!

These bibliomysteries are set in the USA, predominantly Colorado, where Janeway, an ex-Denver Police detective and longtime lover of books, opens a bookstore. So far, there is always a mystery to solve regarding the theft, provenance, or authenticity of a "rare" find. The author, a former police reporter and radio host, is the owner of "The Old Algonquin Bookstore" in Denver (now online sales only) giving him first-hand experience in rare book dealings. I gained insight into the identification and handling of rare books and in researching further,

found some of his first edition, signed copies of *Booked To Die* on sale for more than a thousand dollars! Dunning also has several standalone novels and ebooks, one entitled *Bookscout*, and non-fiction books including *Tune in Yesterday: The Ultimate Encyclopedia of Old-Time Radio: 1925-1976*.



## Robert recommends—Robert Andres



Usually this sort of book is, at best, a disappointment. It's a book of lists, incomplete sentences, single words...and these are supposed to be happy-making? But then I started looking into it and I found I enjoyed it substantially more than I thought. Maybe you have to be of a certain age to get a reference to Lincoln Logs. Some of the song references are still older. Yes, there is a mixtape. But despite some inevitable misses there are some hits, more than I expected.

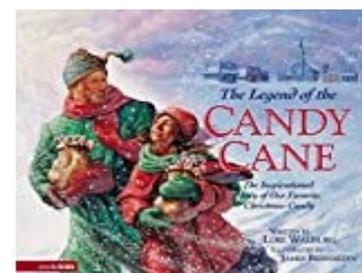
They say that if you throw enough spaghetti at a wall some of it is likely to stick. And that is the hope and maybe triumph of this book: there are a lot of ideas. A lot a lot. Give ***Little Pieces of Hope*** by **Todd Doughy** a read and see if it does not start you thinking about possible happy-making alternatives you had not considered.

## Choice for children—Tonya Bordner

We all have family **holiday traditions** – whether it's hanging **stockings**, going to a **Christmas Eve service** or participating in **Las Posadas**. One of my favorite was opening one gift on **Christmas Eve**, and as we got older, we'd wait until **mid-night** and convince our parents to let us open them all.

I want to encourage you to **incorporate reading** in your **traditions** year round. ***The Legend of the Candy Cane*** by **Lori Walburg** lends itself to be an easy one to share, and the bonus is passing out candy canes! I read this book to my girls this time of year. As they became readers, they read it themselves at children's church and shared candy canes with their peers. A friend who we had shared it with asked if he could take it to his preschool and share it there.

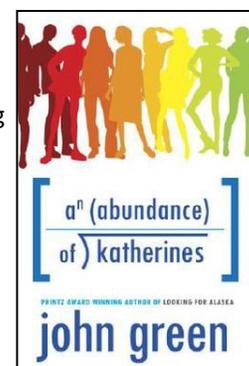
This story starts with a stranger riding into a small prairie town and preparing an abandoned storefront for business. Everyone is watching his progress with great interest. As we would read the book, the children we read it to would lean in almost mimicking the anticipation of the children in the story. Everyone wanted to know what kind of shop it would be. Along the way, readers hear the story of the first **Christmas**.



## YA perspective—Reagan Bordner

***An Abundance of Katherines***, is one of **John Green's** classic books. Colin Singleton, a child prodigy living in Chicago, fears he will not maintain his genius as an adult. Over the span of his life, Colin has dated nineteen girls named Katherine, all spelled in that manner. After being dumped by his girlfriend, Katherine XIX, Colin is longing to feel whole, and longing to matter.

This is the first John Green book that I have read and I really enjoyed his unique writing style. With multiple authors notes, full of humor, it feels as if you are talking to John Green himself, getting a more in depth look at the characters' personalities. Although some may find this book to be a bit unexciting at first, I personally thought that it was really nice to see such relatable and down to earth characters. It felt as if you were growing and changing with them as the book went on. If you are a fan of other John Green books or like a "weird" sense of humor, then I would give this book a chance.



## Library Friends BOOK SALE

DeSoto County Library Association will hold a week long BOOK SALE event starting **Saturday, January 28, 2023** that will run through Sat. Feb 4.

Donations for the sale may be brought in the week prior—starting on **Sat., Jan 21.**

Books will be priced \$1 hardbacks, 50¢ paperbacks, and 25¢ children's books.

**Friends of DeSoto  
County Library  
Association**  
P O Box 444  
Arcadia, FL 34265

**DeSoto County Library**  
125 N Hillsborough Ave  
Arcadia FL 34266  
www.myhlc.org/des  
Phone: 863-993-4851

Linda Waters, Library  
Director  
E-mail:  
LindaW@myhlc.org

Karen Smoke, Newsletter  
Editor  
aandksmoke@gmail.com

Friends email:  
deslibassoc@gmail.com



DeSoto County Public  
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of State.

**LIBRARY HOURS**

Tuesday & Thursday:

9:00—6:00

Wednesday & Friday

8:30—6:00

Saturday:

9:00-2:30

Closed Sunday and Monday




			Thu	Fri	Sat	
			<b>1</b> 9:00 @ ARC 3:15 Storytime	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:30 Family Christmas Trivia	
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:15 STEAM Activity	<b>7</b> 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Storytime 11:00 Book Group 3:00 iPads & ebooks 3:15 Art for kids 	<b>8</b> 9:00 @ ARC 3:15 Storytime	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:30 Legos
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:15 Art for kids	<b>14</b> 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Storytime 11:00 Book Group 3:00 iPads & ebooks 3:15 STEAM Activity	<b>15</b> 9:00 @ ARC 3:15 Storytime	<b>16</b> 3:30 Photography Group	<b>17</b> 10:30 Santa's Creation Station 
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:15 STEAM Activity	<b>21</b> 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Storytime 11:00 Book Group 3:00 iPads & ebooks 3:15 Art for kids 	<b>22</b> 9:00 @ ARC 3:15 Storytime	<b>23</b>  Closing at 2:30	<b>24</b> 
<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:15 STEAM Activity	<b>28</b> 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Storytime 11:00 Book Group 3:00 iPads & ebooks 3:15 Art for kids	<b>29</b> 9:00 @ ARC 3:15 Storytime	<b>30</b> 1:30 Movie for adults 	<b>31</b> 10:30 Kids' movie

**Nonfiction choice—by Karen Smoke**

Set in 1860's Montana and California, Mollie Sheehan tries to honor her father's wishes and helps support her stepfamily, but also longs for a life of her own. When romance blooms between Mollie and Peter, a close friend of her father, he moves the family to California. Mollie endures the separation—but never forgets Peter, just as her father has not forgotten her deceased mother. Yes, there is a reunion, and Mollie and Peter build a good life together, but still her father nags at her.

I always like to start **Jane Kirkpatrick's** books by reading her author notes at the back. She acquired a copy of *Girl from the Gulches: The Story of Mary Ronan* as told to Margaret Ronan, edited by Ellen Baumler, published by the Montana Historical Society. She said once she read the book Mollie's story stayed with her—and she knew she had to tell us the story of Mollie's life. The memoir left many spaces to speculate about Mollie's life. Although the author invented a few characters, most of the events in the story are true. She also drew heavily on another volume that detailed the Native Americans transitioning from a hunting-gathering economy to farming, as well as many other books on Montana history. ***Beneath the Bending Skies*** moves along at an easy pace; the unfolding of relationships and lives well lived.

