

# Seaport Books

## Newsletter and Coming Events

October 2020

### Wishing You an Inspiring October

Often a reader is inspired by a particularly poignant biography. They go on to read other stories of other lives and learn how challenges of the past have been dealt with or overcome. These literary role models find us when our time is right for hearing their story and stay with us for a lifetime.

We have updated our Biography area to bring you many truly inspiring life stories.



### Inspiring Biographies

***The Answer is...: Reflections on My Life, Alex Trebek.*** Alex Trebek is almost like a family member who has visited us, entertained and educated us since 1984. He is a good man to know. This is our opportunity to know him better.

***West with the Night, Beryl Markham.*** If you have read *Out of Africa* by Isak Dineson, now you can learn how it was to be a woman of courage and ambition during those days of the British Empire. Markham is a master of the written word and tells us exactly and beautifully how it was.

***Dear Genius: The Letters of Ursula Nordstrom, edited by Leonard Marcus.*** Can you imagine a world without *Charlotte's Web*, or *Goodnight Moon*, or *Where the Wild Things Are*? You will thank Ursula Nordstrom, the creative force in our children's book publishing for over thirty years. Her candid letters of friend to friend encouragement made all the difference. Joy and enthusiasm abound in her letters and are a delight to read knowing the difference they made in our world.

***My Soul is Filled with Joy: A Holocaust Story*, Karen Treiger.** Sam and Esther Goldberg both evaded the Nazis, lived through Treblinka, and managed to settle in the United States in 1945. Their daughter-in-law shares their terrifying and emotional survival story with us and tells us also how they put it behind them. It is a story filled with determination and hope.

***The Fire Next Time: A Biography of James Baldwin*, David Leeming.** James Baldwin was one of the great writers of the last century. He explored all the issues of race, racism, class distinction, and sexual differences. His gift for compassion, courage, and love, shine through every aspect of this fine story of his life.

***Two Gold Coins and a Prayer*, James H. Keeffe III.** Only the son of the man featured in this story could have done the research and told it so well. “This is by far and away, one of the best 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force evasion and POW accounts that has ever been written,” says Mark Copeland, Air Force News historian. Jim is a local author who visited our store and told us even more about the life of his remarkable father.

***Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World*, Tracy Kidder.** In medical school Paul Farmer found his life’s calling: to cure infectious diseases and to bring lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. Kidder’s luminous and powerful book may change the way you see the world, too.

### **Sometimes Historical Fiction Tells the Story Best**

***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, Betty Smith,** is a capsule in time that we will carry with us for the rest of our lives. Just one girl in just one family, but so much more.

***A Town Called Alice*, Neville Shute.** A British woman tells her story of being trapped behind Japanese enemy lines throughout World War II and what gave her hope for the future.

***The Forest Lover*, Susan Vreeland.** Artist and writer **Emily Carr** (1871-1945) threw aside the restrictions of Victorian life to explore firsthand the art and culture of the native tribes of British Columbia. She was a trailblazer in every way.

***The Only Woman in the Room*, Marie Benedict.** Did you know that the technology that makes your cell phone work was patented in 1942 by **Hedy Lamarr**? Lots of women and their contributions go unrecognized but not this time.

## Inspiring Books for Kids

*The Spirit of Springer: The Real-Life Rescue of an Orphaned Orca*, Amanda Abler, Levi Hastings. Springer's rescue is a heart-warming true story from 2002 which will resonate with anyone who knows about orcas. (Ages 7-10)

*The Phantom Tollbooth*, Norton Juster. Milo took his first trip through the tollbooth 50 years ago. Today's kids will still be amazed at all he finds when he takes the risk to explore and look around. He decides life is good and even exciting. (Ages 8-12)

*The Little Engine that Could*. Watty Piper wrote this book 90 years ago but it still inspires children today with self-reliance and confidence. (Ages 3-6)

*The World Needs More Purple People*, Kristen Bell, Ben Hart. Purple people are superheroes with confidence and kindness. (Ages 4-7)

## Book Group

The **Second Monday Book Group** will meet in the open air of Gilkey Square at **10 AM on Monday, October 12**, to discuss *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion. Wear a mask. Maybe we'll move into the breezeway.

## Holiday Book Shopping

The first week of November we will be sending out the Holiday Catalog of new books through the Skagit Valley Herald. While we can't stock all 110 titles we will have many of them. Please do call ahead or place your order by phone so we can order your choices, if necessary. We continue to offer free shipping as well.

**We also know there's nothing better than browsing!**  
**We hope to see you soon!**

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