

Summer 2014
Volume 1

CMC Recommends

About the “CMC Recommends” Project

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The CMC Libraries’ staff agreed that it would be great fun to gather reading and watching recommendations from our CMC colleagues, students, and community members as a way to share common interests and learn something about each other.

After a long academic year, and with summer vacations rolling around, April seemed to be the perfect time to launch this project.

We hope that you enjoy seeing the list of suggestions. It’s time to kick back and “elevate your feet” this summer with these book and movie recommendations!



"Paratiisaaari - bottom up view" by Candida.Performa
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Did You Know?

The CMC Libraries
**ARE OPEN
ALL
SUMMER!**

CMC Libraries provide access to books in multiple formats (print, electronic, audio). Films are also available—as DVDs and streaming online (with some access restrictions).

The CMC Libraries also offer courier service to CMC sites and campuses, so we can get materials for and to our patrons with ease!

We'll be happy to look up and request items on your behalf—please ask us!



Books



eBook



Audio Books



Music



Movies

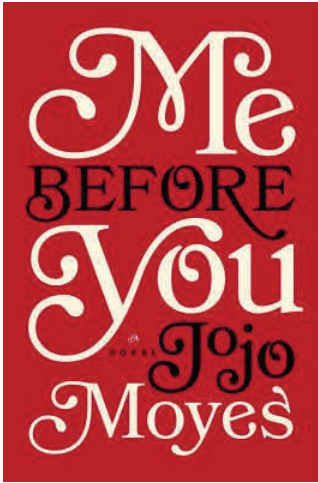
Find information here:

library.coloradomtn.edu

Search the catalog to find:

- ◆ DVDs, CDs, E-Books, Audio Books, Print Books, and More!
- ◆ Other libraries' holdings from Marmot and Prospector

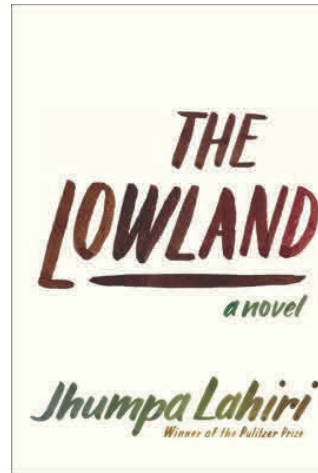
Current Book Recommendations: Fiction



Me Before You by Jojo Moyes

Recommended by **Kristen Green**, Marketing Associate, Edwards

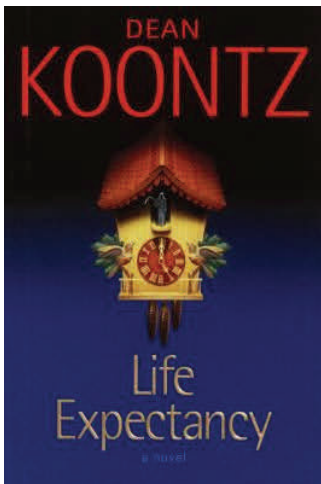
Per Kristen, "It is a beautiful little exploration of quality of life...both self-imposed and circumstance-driven. It is ultimately inspirational...but, in the process of inspiring, it is both very sad and very uplifting."



The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri

Recommended by **Susie W. Leeson**, English Instructor, Steamboat

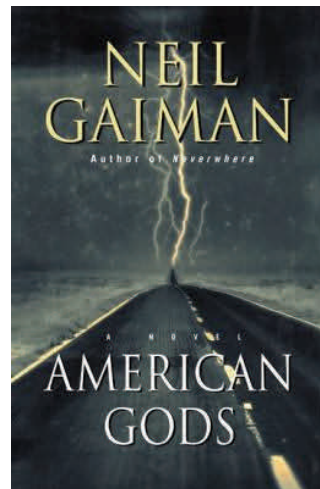
Per Susie, "The story of how two brothers relate to each other growing up in India is compelling and beautifully-written. Lahiri explores fundamental human relationships, and the plot twists and turns in unexpected ways."



Life Expectancy: A Novel by Dean Koontz

Recommended by **Loretta Driskel**, Instructional Designer, Rifle

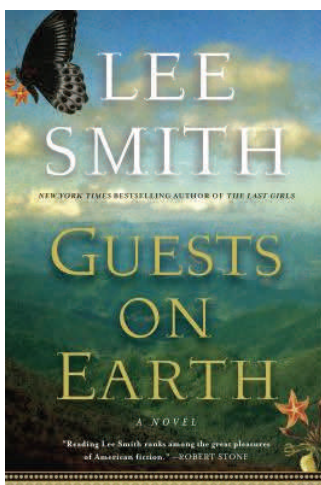
Per Loretta, "Not your typical Dean Koontz, although there is a scary clown, this book is more about love and family, and how far we would go to protect our loved ones. Perfect beach reading as it's an attention grabber from the start and it never quits."



American Gods: A Novel by Neil Gaiman

Recommended by **Erin Grantham**, Student Affairs, Leadville

Per Erin, "*American Gods* is a book that was recommended to me by a friend and I am so glad I took him up on it. It takes you all over the United States and travels the road less traveled on a whirlwind journey for a man who realistically has no idea what is happening in his life. Gods have taken over and are about to battle it out with Shadow (our confused man) as a pawn. Fantastic read that I could not put down! It is an 800 page book that I read in five days!!



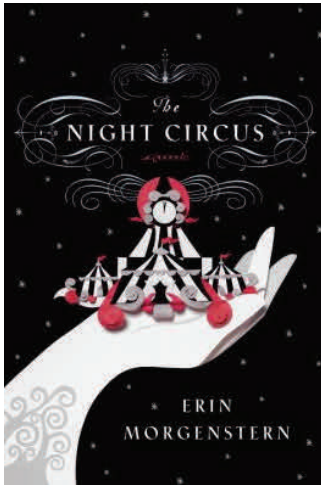
Guests on Earth by Lee Smith

Recommended by **Annie Livingston-Garrett**, Leadville Student and Community Member

Per Annie, "Lee Smith's *Guests on Earth* is my favorite book I've read this year with Doctorow's *Andrew's Brain* coming a close second. [I recommend it] because I

like Lee Smith's writing—she takes you there. I thought it was an excellent example of what mental institutions were like in the early part of last century. The narrator is a remarkable character. Also, it has Zelda Fitzgerald as a character in it!"

Current Book Recommendations: Fiction



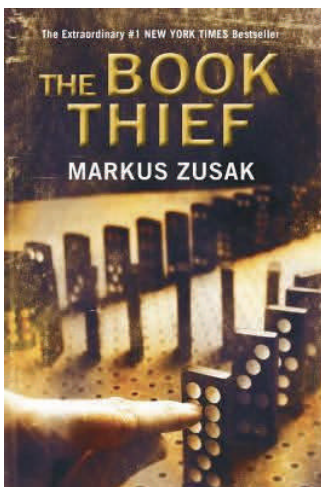
The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern

Recommended by **Katy Walker**, Reference/Instruction Librarian, Edwards

Per Katy, "Every now and again a book comes along that delights and surprises me. When that happens, I rush out and buy copies for all my favorite people and thrust the book into their hands, in hopes they will like it as much as I did. This is

that kind of book for me. Part love story, part mystery, part adventure, with a dash of magical feats, *The Night Circus* will enthrall you, intrigue you and maybe even bewitch you. The story is centered around the Night Circus--a magical place--and the curious performers in the circus. This isn't an ordinary circus and these aren't the usual circus performers. So, it goes without saying, this isn't the

usual summer novel. Recommended for those who seek mysterious experiences and are comfortable with the unexplained and bizarre."

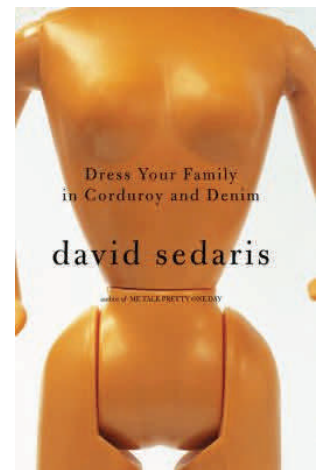


The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Recommended by **Mike Wadyko**, Library Aide, Spring Valley

Per Mike, "The Book Thief is a heartwarming human interest story from World War II about an orphaned girl who survived various trials and tribulations to become a prize winning Pulitzer prize author.

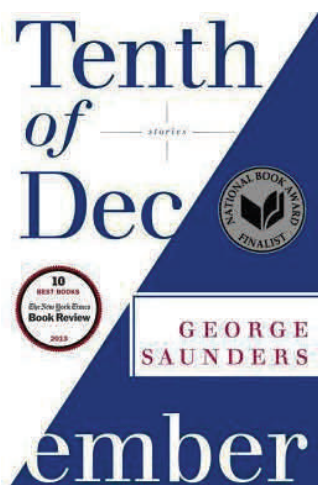
The book was turned into a movie that recently showed in Carbondale. I highly recommend it."



David Sedaris (any work by the author)

Recommended by **Karen Armitano**, Director of Developmental Education, ESL, GED, Central Services

Per Karen, "For summer reading, I would highly recommend any David Sedaris book (beyond hysterical/delightful)..."



Tenth of December: Stories by George Saunders

Recommended by **Jan Krueger**, Director of Campus Operations, Leadville

Per Jan, "The short stories included in this compelling collection are well written, thought-provoking, often funny, and sometimes disturbing. With George Saunders you never know where the story is going next. I enjoy how he

explores different facets of human experiences and thought processes."

Current Book Recommendations: Fiction

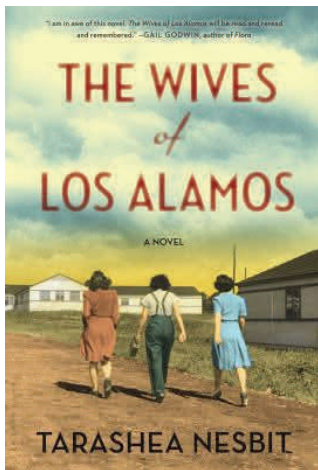


The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt

Recommended by **Terrie Drake**, Library Aide, Spring Valley

Per Terrie, “Donna Tartt has just won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for *The Goldfinch*. It’s one of those oh-my-gosh-I-can’t-believe-this-is-happening books, written with depth, compassion, and transcendence. She well deserves

the honor. Even more telling, however, is the fact that the book became a best-seller immediately. Plot turn after plot turn, we are held captive through this story about a young boy who is convinced he is the reason his mother has died.”

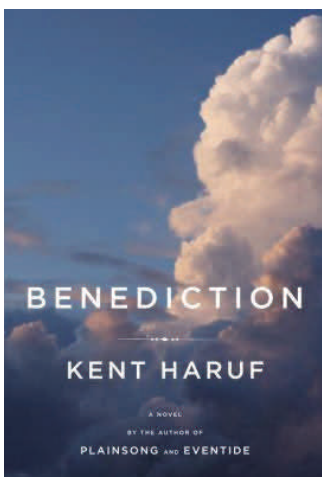


The Wives of Los Alamos: A Novel by Tarashea Nesbit

Recommended by **Ivy Crymble**, Library Aide, Spring Valley

Per Ivy, “Fascinating, historical fiction about the entwined lives of the wives and their families living a secluded existence in a military compound near Los Alamos, New

Mexico during the early to mid 1940's. Their husbands came together as scientists from the United States and foreign countries to work on a top secret project which at its completion was destined to change the face of military power forever.”



Benediction by Kent Haruf

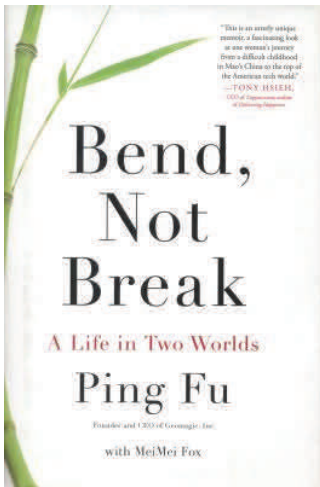
Recommended by **Sarah Smith**, Library Director, Leadville

Per Sarah, “Kent Haruf, a National Book Award finalist, lives in Salida, Colo. He honored CMC by visiting the Leadville campus last fall to discuss his work. The graciousness of the man himself

is reflected in his writing and how he portrays his characters. They are full of human frailties and, too, many kindnesses. In *Benediction*, his latest novel, he writes of a man on his deathbed and of his past regrets and hopes for his family's future. Haruf lovingly and accurately portrays the way different generations support and comfort one another. *Benediction*, like all of

Haruf's novels, is beautifully written and a compelling read.”

Current Book Recommendations: Non-Fiction



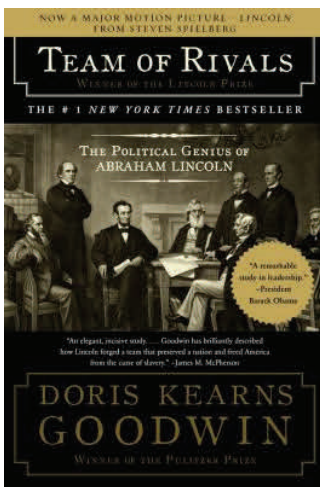
***Bend, Not Break* by Ping Fu**

Recommended by **Christine Smith**, Associate Professor of Communications/Humanities, Spring Valley

Per Christine, “Cool memoir of a girl separated from her family during the Chinese cultural revolution, who was abused by the teenage Red Guard, had to work awful jobs with long hours, managed to go to college in

China but they decided her major(!), was persona non grata in China for publishing a journal in college, came to the States with \$80 in her pocket knowing three words in English, and then proceeded to study, work, study, work, found a software business for 3-D printers, and is now a millionaire. She took all the abuse and skills she learned in the school of hard knocks in China--bit by bit,

detail by detail (like in “Slumdog Millionaire”)—helped her be the person she is today and grow and change as her world and opportunities changed.”

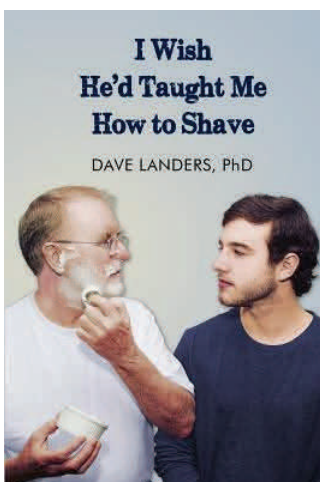


***Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin**

Recommended by **Carrie Besnette Hauser**, CMC President & CEO

Per Carrie, “It is a few years old, but I would recommend *Team of Rivals* by Doris Kearns Goodwin. It is the

account of President Lincoln (before and during his presidency) and his inclination to surround himself with those who did not think like he did. Frustrating and challenging at times; however the outcomes were more thoughtful and inclusive of diverse perspectives.”



***I Wish He'd Taught Me How to Shave* by Dave Landers**

Recommended by **Craig Farnum**, College Counselor, Carbondale

Per Craig, “I teach a Human Relations course and incorporated this book into the curriculum last semester. It's an easy read, but very, very powerful. It's fascinating to hear about the influence of fathers

from the honest and heartfelt perspective of college students. The author's comments/expertise supplement the voice of the students and act as a tour guide through issues of gender, masculinity, substance abuse, parenting, etc.”

Current Book Recommendations: Non-Fiction



***When Women Were Birds: Fifty-Four Variations on Voice* by Terry Tempest Williams**

Recommended by **Kelli McCall**, Associate Professor of Developmental Education, Leadville

Per Kelli, "Terry Tempest Williams was given her mother's journals when she died. When Terry opened the them, all of the pages were blank. Terry

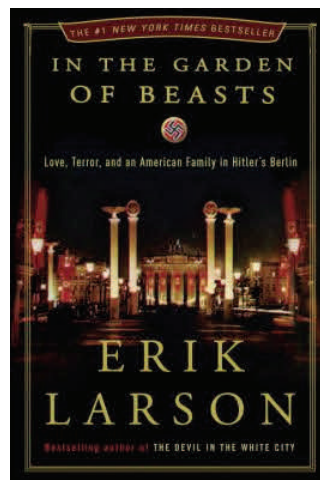
Tempest Williams unpacks the meaning of that gift and seamlessly blends the beauty of the natural world, her family's history, and her own journey to becoming a woman into a powerful memoir-esque story. Her powerful and poetic words beckon readers to stop and ponder and even scribble down quotes to bring with them up mountains and into the woods this summer. Lovely... simply, lovely."



***Still Life with Oysters and Lemon* by Mark Doty**

Recommended by **Erin Beaver**, Associate Professor of English, Spring Valley and Online

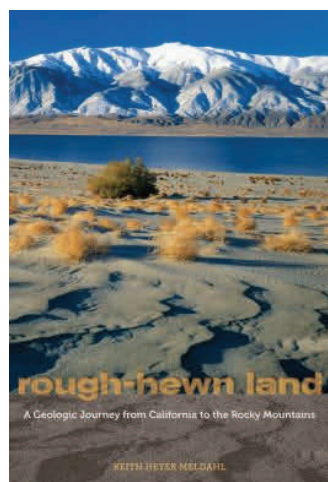
Per Erin, "This is a short but powerful meditation on the things that fill our lives."



***In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin* by Erik Larson**

Recommended by **Julie Lingle**, Admin Tech/Front Desk, Edwards

Per Julie, "Biography on William Dodds who was the ambassador to Germany, stationed in Berlin right before World War II. Interesting insight into the politics and world view of Hitler before the outbreak of war."



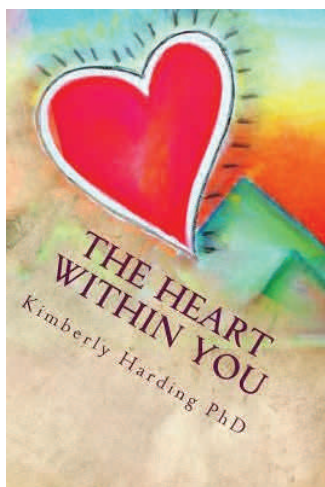
***Rough-Hewn Land: A Geologic Journey from California to the Rocky Mountains* by Keith Heyer Meldahl**

Recommended by **Gabrielle Orsi**, LMS Administrator & Faculty Trainer, Office of Innovations, Central Services

Per Gabrielle, "Voyage from the coast of California to the Rockies with a geologist who

explains how North America's spectacular West came to be over many eons...and why there's gold in them thar hills. Fun and interesting. Not a science lecture, a real adventure!"

Current Book Recommendations: Non-Fiction

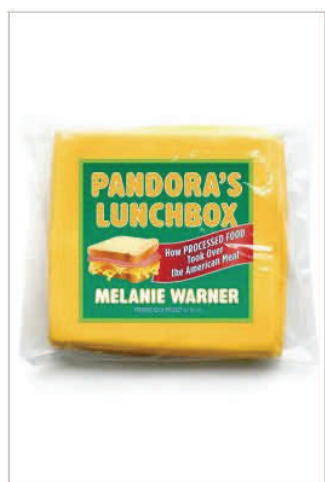


***The Heart Within You* by Kimberly Harding**

Recommended by **Ruth Sante**, Administrative Assistant, Spring Valley

Per Ruth, "This book is by our own Dr. Kimberly Harding, Professor of Biology, Roaring Fork Campus. It contains her art and poetry, and is a book you can pick up and read one page and be inspired and uplifted. Sample poem: 'Because she led

with her heart, she was like an Angel walking upon the face of the world. Heavens cheered - such bravery, such warmth - all because she led with her heart.' I wish I could include the art that goes with it. The back cover - 'Learning to Love Yourself. Within you is the greatest teacher you will encounter on your journey of learning to love yourself...Your Own Beautiful Heart.'"

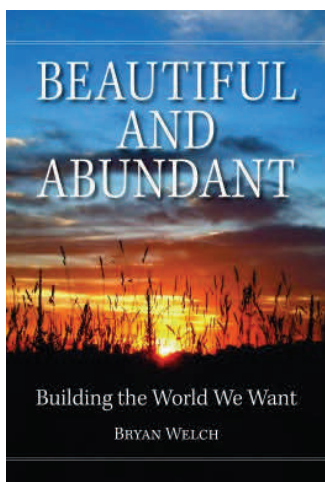


***Pandora's Lunchbox: How Processed Food Took Over the American Meal* by Melanie Warner**

Recommended by **B. Jackie Dees**, Upscale Security Officer, Spring Valley

Per Jackie, "The author explores by going to top food producers and top science food departments and investi-

gates what really goes into the processed foods that we eat. It opens our eyes as to how our foods are addictive and inferior in the taxonomy of nutrition."



***Beautiful and Abundant: Building the World We Want* by Bryan Welch**

Recommended by **Matt Lit**, Adjunct Faculty, Breckenridge and Distance Learning

Per Matt, "Wonderful book from the publisher of *Mother Earth News* and *Utne Reader*, Bryan Welch. The book approaches sustainability by inviting readers to envision a 'verdant and prosperous' future."

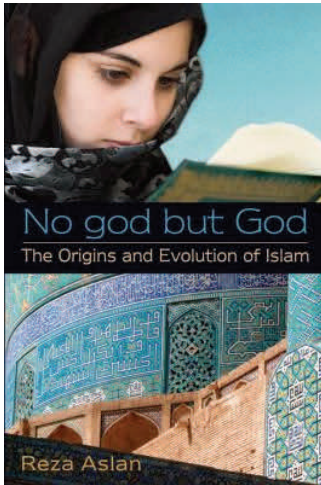


***Love with a Chance of Drowning: A Memoir* by Torre DeRoche**

Recommended by **Virginia Nicolai**, Professor of English as a Second Language, Carbondale

Per Virginia, "In this enjoyable book, the author shares her fascinating story of joining her brand new boyfriend on a sailing trip to explore exotic destinations despite her fear of the ocean. It's the perfect summer combination of adventure and romance. It made me want to hop on a boat to the South Pacific, even though I'm scared of water too!"

Current Book Recommendations: Non-Fiction

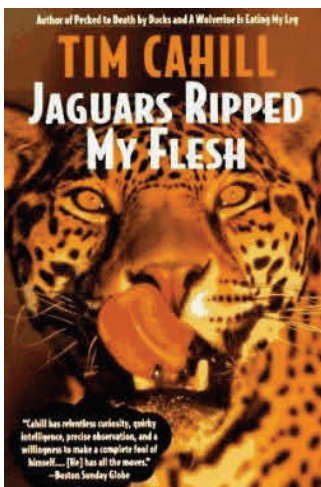


No god but God: The Origins and Evolution of Islam by Reza Aslan

Recommended by **John Goodwin**, Library Volunteer, Spring Valley

Per John, "Aslan provides a well researched and well balanced investigation into the origins of Islam and its evolving political, cultural, religious, and economic influence over time. The reader will get deep

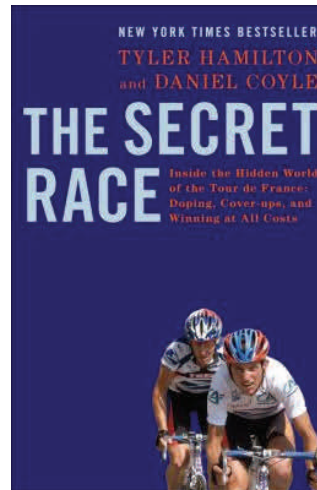
insight into how today's Islamic unrest has grown out of this evolution."



Jaguars Ripped My Flesh by Tim Cahill

Recommended by **Seth Andersen**, Photo and New Media Lab Technician, Spring Valley

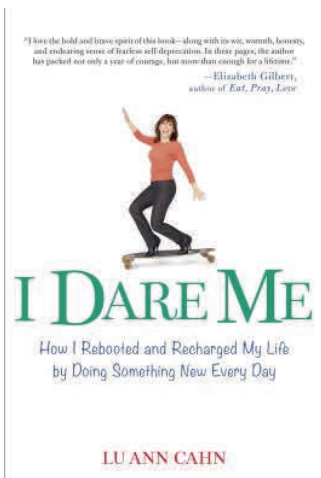
Per Seth, "One of the best collections of short stories out there. Travel, danger, adventure, humor, you name it. A great book for those 5 minute escapes during a busy day that will have you coming back with a smile on your face."



The Secret Race by Tyler Hamilton and Daniel Coyle

Recommended by **Julie Lingle**, Admin Tech I, Edwards

Per Julie, "Tyler Hamilton was a pro-cyclist riding the Tour De France with Lance Armstrong. A look into the intense world of pro cycling and doping. Giving insight into the lure of the drugs and how it happens. Very interesting and adds to the understanding of this pro sport."



I Dare Me: How I Rebooted and Recharged My Life by Doing Something New Every Day by Lu Ann Cahn

Recommended by **Mindy White**, Library Director, Spring Valley

Per Mindy, "A lighthearted but interesting read about a woman who finds herself in a rut with her daily life rou-

tines. Small changes and some risk taking brought her a fresh perspective on life. Definitely intriguing and an idea to consider doing!"

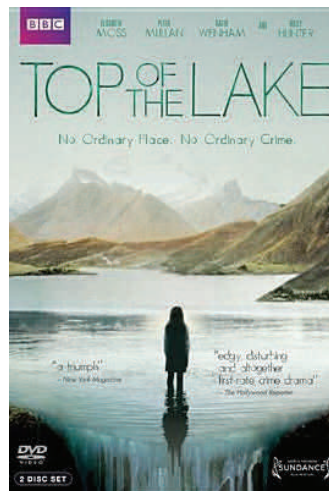
Current Movie Recommendations



The East (2013) Directed by Zal Batmanglij

Recommended by **Rebecca Arrington Jones**, Executive Administrative Assistant, Aspen

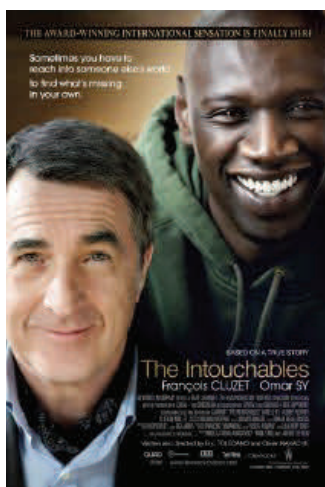
Per Rebecca, "The film brings to light a philosophical question about fighting for the environment and how far is too far and what crosses the line into Eco-terrorism. It is very relevant to questions that we face with the gas and oil industry in Colorado."



Top of the Lake (2013) Directed by Jane Campion & Garth Davis

Recommended by **Kristen Weber**, Library Technician, Steamboat

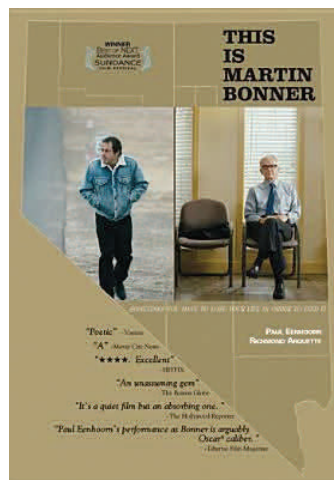
Per Kristen, "I'm not a big fan of mysteries, but I loved this program so much that I watched it twice. Elizabeth Moss won an Emmy for her portrayal of a detective with a social services background who investigates the disappearance of a young pregnant girl. The cast was terrific, and the New Zealand scenery deserved an award as well! It's available on DVD or Netflix streaming."



The Intouchables (2011) Directed by Olivier Nakache & Erik Tole-dano

Recommended by **Laura Jensson**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Spring Valley

Per Laura, "*The Intouchables* is an inspiring story about an unlikely friendship. This film follows two men during their journey and shows what it is to truly care for someone."



This Is Martin Bonner (2013) Directed by Chad Hartigan

Recommended by **Sarah Smith**, Library Director, Leadville

Per Sarah, "ACTION! SEX! ADVENTURE! If that's what you're seeking, then *This Is Martin Bonner* is not the film for you. Perhaps my favorite movie of the past year, this is a quiet film that lingers with you as much as with its characters. It's a movie that doesn't mind taking its time to tell a story, including long, extended camera shots that add to its ambience. Truly an indie gem that I highly recommend."



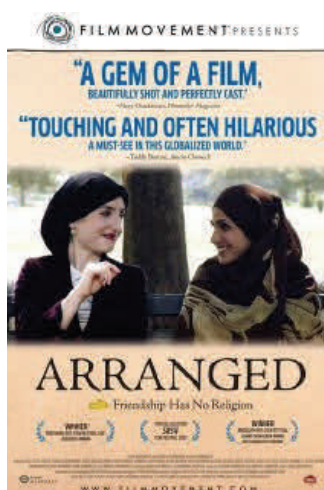
Bread and Tulips (2000) Directed by Silvio Soldini

Recommended by **Gabrielle Orsi**, LMS Administrator & Faculty Trainer, Office of Innovations, Central Services

Per Gabrielle, "Funny, sweet, this Italian movie has a lot to say about life's twists and turns. Rosalba is an Italian housewife whose misadventure--being left behind in a highway café during a bus trip

-- leads to a new life in Venice..."

Current Movie Recommendations



***Arranged* (2007) Directed by Diane Crespo & Stefan C. Schaefer**

Recommended by **Marcie Beard**, Library Technician, Spring Valley

Per Marcie, “*Arranged* is a film about a Jewish woman and a Muslim woman who find friendship and commonality in their differences. Both are going through the process of having arranged marriages, and

both have to figure out how to live in a modern world while still remaining true to their beliefs.”



***Downton Abbey, Season 4* (2013) Created by Julian Fellowes**

Recommended by **Annie Stephens**, Executive Administrative Assistant, Spring Valley

Per Annie, “A continuation of the wonderful story following the Crawley family and their English estate and servants. Superb acting, filmed partly on location in SE England with vehicles, costumes and hair-styles from the 1920s. 125 million people around the world can't be wrong!”



***Doc Martin Series* (2004-2013) Starring Martin Clunes**

Recommended by **Becky Kramer**, Instructional/Reference Librarian, Spring Valley

Per Becky, “This series set in a small town represents British humor at its best: dry, quirky and full of surprises. The summer scenery in Cornwall is worth the watch. Enjoy!”

CLASSIC Book Recommendations



***Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe**

***Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston**

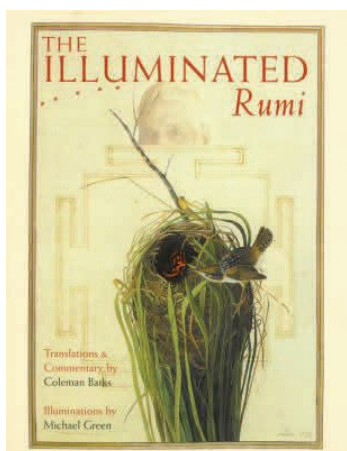
Recommended by **Karen Armitano**, Director of Developmental Education, ESL, GED, Central Services

Per Karen on *Things Fall Apart*, “The more times I read this book, the better it gets—it is also a great book on tape.”

Per Karen on *Their Eyes...*, “Wonderful to read and listen to on books on tape (get the one with narration by Ruby Dee).”



Classic Book + Movie Recommendations



The Illustrated Rumi: A Treasury of Wisdom from the Poet of the Soul by Jalaluddin Rumi

Recommended by **Kimberly Carmitchel**, Psychology Instructor, Distance Learning

Per Kimberly, "Rumi's words are poetic, striking straight to the heart. The illustrations are lovely and it is a book you will read and return to over and over."



Coal Miner's Daughter (1980) Directed by Michael Apted

Recommended by **B. Jackie Dees**, Upscale Security Officer, Spring Valley

Per Jackie, "My favorite movie that I have recently watched is called *Coal Miner's Daughter* about Loretta Lynn's life. It is about how true America once was and how she portrayed her life through music. A well done film indeed."



Downhill Racer (1969) Directed by Michael Ritchie

Recommended by **Gabrielle Orsi**, LMS Administrator & Faculty Trainer, Office of Innovations, Central Services

Per Gabrielle, "OK, so if you want to see classic 60s ski gear and apparel, and locations in Boulder and Idaho Springs in Colorado, and Robert Redford in a campy

movie, this one's for you! Fast-forward through the 'drama' and watch the downhill ski races for fun."



Lonely Are the Brave (1962) Directed by David Miller

Recommended by **Chris Mecham**, Instructional Support Technician, Spring Valley

Per Chris, "This Western movie, based on Edward Abbey's novel, *The Brave Cowboy*, is one of my favorite Western movies. Kirk Douglas plays the protagonist role. Jack Burns is a rogue cowhand distressed by his discontentment for the disappearing wide open spaces of the American Southwest. He's not afraid to take risks, be stopped by changing times or deceived by authorities. He is a true antihero. Great barroom brawl scene!"