

## Galesburg Public Library Book Club Kits Fall 2011

***The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger.** Classic fiction covering a few days in the life of teenager Holden Caulfield, who has run away from his prep school at the start of Christmas break. Related DVD: *Catching Salinger: The Search for the Reclusive Writer J. D. Salinger*.

***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett.** Fiction set in Mississippi in the 1960s, when a southern society girl causes a stir by interviewing the black women who have spent their lives taking care of prominent southern families. Movie in theaters in 2011, out on DVD in late 2011 or early 2012.

***The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova.** Fiction blending the history and folklore of Vlad the Impaler and Dracula and a quest for Vlad's tomb by a professor and his daughter. Related DVD: several movie versions of *Dracula*.

***The Hour I First Believed* by Wally Lamb.** Fiction about a school nurse trapped in the Columbine library during the shootings, how she copes, and her husband's quest for meaning and faith. Related DVD: *Bowling for Columbine*, Michael Moore's documentary about gun control.

***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins.** Fiction set in a future North America where teenagers are forced to fight to death on a television show; one 16-year-old girl volunteers to take her younger sister's place in the Hunger Games. Movie scheduled to be released in March 2012.

***King, Kaiser, Tsar: Three Royal Cousins Who Led the World to War* by Catrine Clay.** Nonfiction about King George V (Britain), Kaiser Wilhelm II (Germany) and Czar Nicholas II (Russia), cousins who together ruled more than half the world. Related DVD: *The Christmas Truce*.

***Little Heathens* by Mildred Armstrong Kalish.** Nonfiction detailing one woman's memories of growing up in Iowa during the Great Depression. Related DVD: *The People in the Pictures: Stories from the Wettach Farm Photos*.

***A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck.** Warm and humorous fiction about two young siblings from Chicago spending summers from 1929-1942 with their unforgettable grandmother in central Illinois.

***Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson.** Fiction about Major Ernest Pettigrew, honor-bound Englishman and widower, who falls for Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper in the small village in which they live.

***My Ántonia* by Willa Cather.** Classic novel about a young Bohemian girl who immigrates to Nebraska with her family in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

***Of Men and Their Mothers* by Memeve Medwed.** Comic fiction in which Maisie clashes with her former mother-in-law while trying to raise her own son and get her organizing business off the ground.

***Mendel's Dwarf* by Simon Mawer.** Fiction about Benedict Lambert, geneticist, great-great-great nephew of Gregor Mendel, and a dwarf. Related DVD: *Human Family Tree*.

***The Messenger* by Lois Lowry.** Children's fiction about a young member of a utopian community that values honesty who conceals an emerging healing power that he cannot explain or understand.

***Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* by John Berendt.** Nonfiction about a murder trial in Savannah, Georgia in the 1980s. Related DVD: *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*.

***The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith.** Mystery set in Botswana about Mma Precious Ramotswe and her No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency. Related DVD: first episode from the HBO television series of the same name.

***Penelopiad* by Margaret Atwood.** Shrewd, funny, and insightful retelling of the myth of Odysseus from the point of view of Penelope. Related DVD: *Odysseus: Curse of the Sea* episode from the History Channel's *Clash of the Gods*.

***The Places in Between* by Rory Stewart.** Nonfiction in which the author recounts his walk across Afghanistan in 2002. Related DVD: *National Geographic's Afghanistan Revealed*.

***Rasputin's Daughter* by Robert Alexander.** Fiction about Rasputin, his daughter, and the collapse of the Russian dynasty in 1916. Related DVD: *Biography's Rasputin: The Mad Monk*.

***Reservation Blues* by Sherman Alexie.** Fiction about a bluesman's gift of a guitar to a Native American on a reservation. Related DVD: *Chiefs*.

***Shutter Island* by Dennis Lehane.** Mystery set in 1954, when two U.S. Marshals visit Shutter Island to find a mass murderer who has escaped from a fortress-like federal institution for the criminally insane. Related DVD: *Shutter Island* movie version.

***The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger.** Fiction about a man with a genetic disorder that causes him to time travel and the wife who has to cope with his frequent absences and dangerous experiences. Related DVD: movie version of *The Time Traveler's Wife*.

***An Unsuitable Job for a Woman* by P.D. James.** 1972 English mystery featuring private detective Cordelia Gray. Related DVD: *Mystery: An Unsuitable Job for a Woman*.

***Washington Square* by Henry James.** Classic fiction about the shy daughter of a wealthy man courted for her money. Related DVDs: two movie versions, *Washington Square* and *The Heiress*.

***We Were Soldiers Once... and Young* by Lt. General Harold Moore.** Nonfiction about a dangerous and significant battle during the Vietnam War and how the men persevered when facing the ultimate challenge. Related DVD: movie version *We Were Soldiers Once*.

***The World Without Us* by Alan Weisman.** Nonfiction look at what would happen to the natural and built environment on Earth if humans suddenly disappeared. Related DVD: *Life After People*.