

# Books for the Bookless

Presented by the Essex Library Association



**Exciting News!**  
**Author Talk:**  
**Susan Strecker**  
**Sunday, March 20 at 2 p.m.**

*Nowhere Girl*, Susan Strecker's next novel with Thomas Dunne Books, seems destined to make her a household name for thriller readers who enjoy strongly-detailed characters and page-turning plotlines. *Kirkus Reviews* praised *Nowhere Girl* as "compulsively readable." Join John Valeri, Hartford Books Examiner, in a conversation with Strecker about her latest psychological thriller. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. Buy your copy ahead of time at the Library, beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, for \$19. Strecker's debut novel, *Night Blindness* was released in 2014 to rave reviews.



✓ **Searching** for books on cooking? Or a cozy mystery? Or staff favorites?



 **Board of the Month:**  
**Books to Flicks 2016**

✓ **Check** out **Pinterest:** an online visual pinboard for more suggestions:  
[www.pinterest.com/essexlibrary/](http://www.pinterest.com/essexlibrary/)

*Is Your Nightstand Empty?*

**Richard** enjoys contemporary fiction (particularly historical) written by American and British authors, American history, American and British "classics," and for beach/vacation light reading, books by Elmore Leonard, Carl Hiassen, Ian Rankin or Patricia Cornwell. Three of his favorite books are: *All the King's Men* by Robert Penn Warren, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain, and *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck.

Elaborating upon his favorite books and genres, **Richard** says that in college he read the works of William Dean Howells, Frank Norris, John Dos Passos, James T. Farrell, and James Jones—authors who "wrote about what their contemporary world (ranging from the late 19<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries) was like. They were neither historians or cultural anthropologists. Rather, they attempted to use fiction to describe their times as opposed to simply making up a good story out of pure imagination. Tom Wolfe and Jonathan Franzen are two authors that I feel employ the same style today."

## Staff Favorites: Every Month We Choose Only One!

 **Amy:** *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend* by Katarina Bivald. Broken Wheel, Iowa, has never seen anyone like Sara, who traveled all the way from Sweden just to meet her pen pal, Amy. When she arrives, however, she finds that Amy's funeral has just ended. Luckily, the townspeople are happy to look after their bewildered tourist--even if they don't understand her peculiar need for books.

 **Emily:** *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. When WWII strikes, sisters Viann and Isabelle will find themselves facing frightening situations and responding in ways they never thought possible as bravery and resistance take different forms in each of their actions. As the war progresses, the sisters' relationship and strength is sorely tested.

 **Jessica:** *Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon. My disease is as rare as it is famous. Basically, I'm allergic to the world. I don't leave my house, have not left my house in seventeen years. The only people I ever see are my mom and my nurse, Carla. One day, a moving truck arrives next door. I look out my window, and I see him. He's tall, lean and wearing all black. He catches me looking and stares at me.

 **Diane:** *The Guest Room* by Chris Bohjalian. As Richard Chapman hosts his brother's bachelor party, his wife Kristin takes their daughter to Manhattan for the night. She does not expect her husband to share a dangerously intimate moment in the guest room, bacchanalian drunkenness, or two women killing their Russian bodyguards.



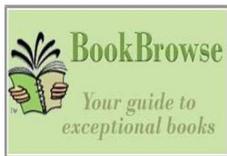
Contact Us! Have a question, comment, or suggestion?

Call us at 860-767-1560, or drop by the library at 33 West Avenue in Essex, CT.



## Which Websites Do We Browse for Book Suggestions?

Try **BookBrowse**: an online magazine for booklovers - including reviews, previews, "behind the book" back stories, author interviews, reading guides, and much more: [www.bookbrowse.com](http://www.bookbrowse.com) Other website suggestions can be found on our "Find a Book!" Pinterest page.

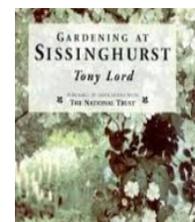


## Access Magazines, eBooks, and Audiobooks 24/7

Essex Library offers its patrons **Zinio**, "the world's largest digital library newsstand," to access a wide variety of downloadable magazines. **Overdrive**, enables users to borrow, read or listen to, and return eBooks and audiobooks. Try these services by clicking on the icons on the Essex Library's homepage: [www.youressexlibrary.org/](http://www.youressexlibrary.org/)



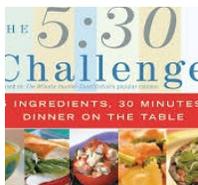
**Valerie:** *Staked* by Kevin Hearn. When a Druid has lived 2000 years like Atticus, he's bound to run afoul of a few vampires. Make that legions of them. Even his former friend and legal counsel turned out to be a bloodsucking backstabber. Now the troublemakers—led by power-mad Theophilus—have become a huge problem requiring a solution. It's time to make a stand.



**Norma:** *The Children's Home* by Charles Lambert. In a sprawling estate, willfully secluded, lives Morgan Fletcher, the disfigured heir to a fortune of mysterious origins. Morgan spends his days in quiet study, avoiding his reflection in mirrors. One day, two children, Moira and David, appear. Morgan takes them in, giving them free reign of the mansion. Then more children begin to show up.



**Ann:** *Gardening at Sissinghurst* by Tony Lord. Created by Vita Sackville-West and Sir Harold Nicolson, Sissinghurst represents romantic gardening at its most successful. It is one of the most visited gardens in Britain. This book relates the garden's outstanding features to the distinctive styles of Sir Harold and Vita, and examines the design, development, planting and maintenance of each part of the garden throughout the year.



**Anna:** *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell. Set over the course of one school year in 1986, this is the story of two star-crossed misfits-smart enough to know that first love almost never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try. When Eleanor meets Park, you'll remember your own first love-and just how hard it pulled you under.



**Heather:** *The 5:30 Challenge* by Jeanne Besser and Susan Puckett. Long commutes and busy schedules leave us all wondering the same thing. But don't worry, this is the perfect solution to creating healthy and delicious meals in a snap!

## Upcoming Book Discussions

### Essex Library Association Book Groups:

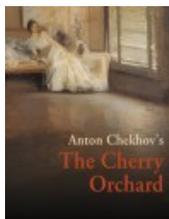
Are you always looking for a good book or author? Do you like a lively discussion with other book enthusiasts? Then join one of our book groups!

Men and women of all ages are invited to join our book groups at any time. We have copies of the books available to borrow.

**Third Wednesday**  
Wednesday,  
March 16  
10:30 AM



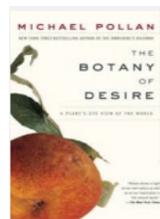
**Great Plays**  
Thursday,  
March 17  
5:30 PM



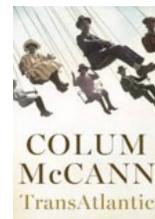
**American History**  
Thursday,  
March 24  
5:00 PM



**First Thursday**  
Thursday,  
April 7  
4:00 PM



**Historical Fiction**  
Tuesday,  
April 12  
10:30 AM



**Classics**  
Thursday,  
April 14  
5:30 PM



Check our website for more information or reading suggestions! Read our "What to Read Next?" webpage to learn more about the services Essex Library offers as well as what our librarians are reading. [www.youressexlibrary.org/what-to-read-next/](http://www.youressexlibrary.org/what-to-read-next/)



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