

Summer Readers' Picks 2019

written and compiled by Christopher Poché, Ekstrom Library

The boy had heard once that some people had so many books they only read each book once. But the boy was sure there were not that many books in the world.

These two sentences made me put down the book containing them as though they had knocked the wind out of me. They come from William H. Armstrong's **Sounder** and report the thoughts of the unnamed main character of this 1969 young adult classic. The boy is the son of a poor sharecropper somewhere in the South, and his two greatest wishes are to hunt with his father and to learn to read. The first wish is frustrated when his father is imprisoned for stealing a ham to feed his family, making the second all the more urgent as the boy confronts a deep loneliness without his father.

The boy's inability to imagine a world of books touched me because it contrasts so sharply with my own experience. I am all too aware of how many books there are in the world and often despair of my ability to get to all the ones I particularly want to read. Working in a library emphasizes and complicates these matters. I read *Sounder* not because I was scrupulously keeping to my list but because I just happened to notice our copy sitting on a table and got interested. Generally, I cherish these little accidents of the reading life, but I felt a little guilty about it in the light of the boy's limited resources and desire just to learn to read. In the end, I felt grateful for having the opportunity to read this book. It is a deceptively simple and emotionally resonant novel.

The only named character in the novel is the boy's dog, a hunting dog called Sounder. When the boy's father is arrested, Sounder is shot as he tries to protect him. The dog disappears into the forest surrounding the family's cabin, presumably to die. But the boy refuses to accept that and searches for him. Sounder eventually returns, crippled from his injuries and his bark silenced. The boy turns his attention to looking for his father. Though the family learns that the father has been sentenced to hard labor, they do not know where. The boy searches his county, looking for prisons and chain gangs, hoping to catch a glimpse of his father. Like Sounder, the father eventually returns, also crippled by his experience.

The main action of the novel, however, is inside the mind of the boy. As he searches, the boy tells himself stories to stave off loneliness and picks up discarded newspapers to teach himself to read. He also finds a discarded copy of Montaigne's essays. At first he is frustrated that he cannot penetrate the words of this book, which are stranger than anything he has encountered

in newspapers. But by the end of the story, the boy finds a school that he can attend and, with the help of a kind teacher, begins to understand. He fulfills his greatest wish and in so doing transforms his understanding of his own experiences. He becomes a storyteller himself.

Reading Sounder pushed me to read a book I had been thinking about from time to time: Wilson Rawls' Where the Red Fern Grows. My third grade teacher read the whole novel aloud to my class, and I remember the experience fondly even if the details of the story were lost to me. The book follows the adventures of a teenage boy, Billy Colman, and his two Redbone Coonhound dogs, Old Dan and Little Ann. Most of the book is about hunting raccoons, which did not interest me very much. Still, the deep relationship between the trio is well drawn and affecting. Billy's devotion to his dogs begins with the two years of doing odd jobs it takes for him to earn the money to buy them and continues with his training and unending care for them. The two dogs have distinct but complementary personalities. Old Dan is all earnestness and just a little dumb. But Little Ann is clever and patient and keeps Old Dan from getting in to too much trouble. The one part



of the story that I did remember is the climactic ending in which a night out hunting turns into an epic confrontation with a mountain lion. Old Dan is mortally wounded protecting Billy, and Little Ann dies of grief shortly thereafter.

I wanted to continue with classic stories about animals but hoped to find one that does not end with the animal dying. This is not so easy actually. I discussed this with my sister-in-law, who is a librarian in JCPS. She related that a student had recently read *Old Yeller* for a class and wanted her to recommend another book about dogs but emphatically said "Don't give me one where the dog dies." She had to think about it for a while before coming up with a good suggestion. I have since learned that there is even a website called "Does the Dog Die?" to guide you when choosing books or movies about animals.

The Owl is published six times a year as an online PDF publication by the University of Louisville Libraries, Louisville, KY 40292. There is a combined June-August "summer" issue and a December-January "winter" issue. Co-Editors: Robin Harris (robin.harris@louisville.edu, 852-6083) and Amy Purcell (apurcell@louisville.edu, 852-1861). Editorial Board: Matt Goldberg, Jessie Roth. Book Editor: Chris Poché. Layout: Amy Purcell. © **2019, University of Louisville Libraries.** *The Owl on the Web*: http://owl.library.louisville.edu *The Owl's* purpose is to promote communication among the various libraries in the UofL system. Deadline for publication is the 21st of each month preceding publication. Opinions expressed in *The Owl* are not necessarily those of the University Libraries or the University of Louisville. I ended up reading Sheila Burnford's *The Incredible Journey*, the story of two dogs and a cat who travel two hundred miles across Canada to find their owners. This is a

who travel two hundred miles across Canada to find fun book, and it is impressive for its creation of three charming animal characters and for telling their story from their perspectives without too much sentimental anthropomorphic projection. Luath, a Labrador Retriever, is the leader of the group and maintains a steady, stoic disposition throughout, even when he suffers from a run-in with a porcupine. The most lovable character, to me, is the elderly English Bull Terrier, Bodger. The journey's pace is set necessarily by Bodger, who simply does not have the stamina of Luath. However, he never complains, maintains his happy-go-lucky disposition, and keeps going until he simply cannot go further. Finally, the cat is a Siamese by the name of Tao with whom Bodger has a particularly strong bond. Tao is a fine hunter and provides food for the two dogs. The story is a series of set-piece adventures (confrontations with other animals, such as a bear and its cub, a lynx, the aforementioned porcupine; the crossing of a river that separates the two dogs from the cat for a time; and meetings with humans, some helpful and some not) until the journey reaches its happy end with the reunion of the animals and their stunned owners.



After *The Incredible Journey*, I considered reading *Old Yeller*. Of course, I know how that one ends even though I have never read it and have not seen the movie adaptation. (Don't we all know?) But I reread *Sounder* instead.

Many thanks to those who contributed to this column and best wishes to all for a fun and safe summer.

Scott Campbell, Law Library

I have a large (and ever growing) list of books that I'm going to read "someday." The renovation of the third floor of Ekstrom spurred me into grabbing many items from there before they were locked away in book jail. So far, most of the books I have read could have been stored away forever without any great loss, but two of them have been the most entertaining books I have read in a long time.

As a fan of Martin Scorsese's movie *Gangs of New York*, I had been meaning to read *Low Life: Lures and Snares of Old New York* by Luc Sante ever since the movie came out. It is hard to believe that it did not get credit for being the basis of the movie. (The author was hired by Scorsese, however, to be an advisor for the film.) The book is a history of New York City but with a very narrow focus: from the early days of the city to WWI and primarily about the neighborhoods of the Bowery and the Five Points. As a result, the emphasis is on people who usually are not featured in history books: immigrants, orphans, beggars, prostitutes, thieves, gang members, and drunkards. Add to them a series of corrupt administrations and a police force that was more



interested in profiting from crime than squelching it, and it is a miracle that everyone in the city wasn't murdered in their sleep. My favorite parts of the book are when Sante just rattles off names of criminals, like Skinner Meehan, Dutch Hen, Sweeney the Boy, Pugsey Hurley, Wreck Donovan, Tom the Mick, and Piggy Noles. The fact that criminals don't have such colorful names now is just another indication of how impoverished our world has become.

I have only recently discovered the joy of travel books, and the best one I have read so far is Paul Theroux's **Dark Star Safari**. (When I got this book home, I realized that it came out in 2003 and thus was not slated to be put in storage. Still, I am glad I didn't put off getting it.) Theroux decided to take a cross-continent tour of Africa. But instead of going on safaris and other tourist destinations, he wanted to see the side of Africa that travelers usually don't see. So he attempted to go overland from Cairo to Cape Town by train, bus, and boat. He mostly succeeded—he

had to fly over southern Sudan because of the

civil war there. Theroux is one of those travelers who seems to enjoy things more the more uncomfortable he is, so by the end of the book—after he has been stuffed in dangerously overcrowded buses, stayed in filthy hotels, and been shot at by marauding soldiers—he seems to be deliriously happy. And while I enjoyed the book as much as he seemed to enjoy his trip, this is one journey I would never want to go on myself.

Rob Detmering, Ekstrom Library

I've been a fan of the Rolling Stones for many years but only recently read Keith Richards' memoir *Life*. Unsurprisingly, the book is filled with exhausting tales of drugfueled debauchery and legal troubles. However, I found it far more interesting when Keith discussed the music. The moment he bonds with Mick Jagger over a Chuck Berry record during a chance encounter on a train feels like the perfect origin story for the Glimmer Twins. And I had no idea "As Tears Go By" was perhaps the first song they wrote together, certainly not the blues rock tune one might have expected. The thing about the Stones is that they have become larger than life, more famous for who



they are than the music they created. Richards' book is the perfect reminder that, before all the rock star excess, they were musicians first, and damn good ones at that.

Sarah Drerup, Ekstrom Library

Every month I receive an email from Amazon providing me with a short list of book titles that I can read "free of charge" for being an Amazon Prime Member. Two months ago the list included the memoir *Feast: True Love in and out of the Kitchen* by Hannah Howard. I often try to read

the biographies or memoirs suggested by Amazon to broaden my horizons and walk in another's shoes for a bit. Feast provides an honest look into the struggle, anxiety, and vulnerability experienced by someone with addiction issues working in the food service industry. This was my first time reading such vivid and loving descriptions of food combined with heart-wrenching details of how an eating disorder can control your entire life. As a platoon leader in the Army National Guard, I have had soldiers struggle with addiction and eating disorders, and I have seen how it impacts their lives. I'm sure we have students, family members, and friends who are affected by similar eating disorders, and I am thankful that this book can provide some insight into their perspective.

Rebecca Pattillo, Archives & Special Collection White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo

Borne from DiAngelo's article of the same name that appeared in the 2011 issue of *International Journal of Critical Pedagogy, White Fragility* examines how white people often go on the defense when challenged by or even discussing



racism. How often have you heard someone say "I'm not racist but…" or "I can't be racist, my best friend is black…" or "I do not see color"? These dismissals and the inability to discuss implicit bias and racism are ways that white people, even progressive liberal ones, maintain the status quo and white supremacy in society. DiAngelo, who is white herself, writes in easy to understand terms and uses examples from her experience as a diversity educator and trainer. She implicates



herself and other white liberals in contributing to and participating in racist systems because of a failure to see their own complicity and their self-serving approach to allyship. DiAngelo describes the "good/bad binary" that is inherent in white peoples' understanding of racism, which posits the notion that all racists are bad and I am good, therefore, I cannot be racist. This binary is itself a racist construct and keeps white folks complicit in systems of oppression. No white person is spared! DiAngelo also shatters stereotypes and describes the historical context for why they began and continue to exist, including the fantasies of black men as violent, black women as confrontational, etc., and how these myths are useful to white people and white supremacy. Reading this book has made me more cognizant of how I function as a white, cis woman in society and my shortcomings in confronting fellow whites who commit micro- and macroaggressions. This book is a tough pill to swallow, especially for its intended audience (white folks). If you are white and truly committed to social justice and anti-racism, read this book and confront your role, advantages, and complicity in maintaining pillars of racism in society. It's not easy, but it's necessary.



ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

UofL's Cardinal Bird



Local National Public Radio affiliate WFPL recently interviewed ASC Director Carrie Daniels for a segment in its *Curious Louisville* series. Visit the WFPL link to hear Carrie talk about two mysteries surrounding Louie, UofL's Cardinal Bird. See Carolyn Dowd's blog for more: https://uofllibraries.wordpress. com/2019/06/03/something-to-chew-on-why-doeslouie-uofls-cardinal-bird-mascot-have-teeth/

UofL Strategic Planning Workgroups

Two ASC faculty participated in UofL's ongoing strategic planning process: Rebecca Pattillo served on the LEARN group, and Tom Owen served on the INVEST group.

The Social Documentary Photography of Milton Rogovin

The University of Louisville Photographic Archives within Archives and Special Collections received a generous gift of over 600 original photographs by Milton Rogovin from a group of donors over the course of three years. Milton Rogovin, 1909-2011, devoted his photography to chronicling poor and workingclass subjects such as coal miners from around the world, including Appalachia. In recognition of this acquisition, UofL fine arts faculty member Christopher Fulton gathered a group of UofL faculty from various departments to write essays about Rogovin and his photographs within the framework of their respective disciplines. The result is endeavor is the book The Social Documentary Photography of Milton Rogovin published by University Press of Kentucky and available for purchase, beginning on July 12. Elizabeth Reilly, curator of the Photographic Archives, contributed a short essay discussing Rogovin's place among relevant collections within the Photographic Archives, as well as provided the majority of Rogovin photographs featured in the book.



ART LIBRARY

Longtime Art Librarian Co-Authors Book Gail Gilbert, former Bridwell Art Librarian and a former Hite Director, co-authored the recently published *Louisville Modern: An Era in Art.* The 112-page full-color book is available from PFA Press and at the Speed Art Museum, Carmichael's Books, and B. Deemer Gallery.

EKSTROM LIBRARY Office of the Dean

Promotions!

Congratulations to Tiffney Gipson and Rebecca Pattillo on their promotions to Assistant Professor, and to Bruce Keisling on his promotion to Associate Professor with tenure.



Publishers of The Blood-Horse Donate Volumes to UofL

The Blood-Horse, a weekly news magazine, has donated 332 volumes to UofL's Equine Program; Ekstrom will house these items.



Photo by Ashley Triplett

The UofL Sinfonietta went to Costa Rica May 18 – 30 to perform with the Instituto Costarricense Pro Musica Coral (Choral groups) at the Costa Rican National Theater for the Institute's 25th anniversary. Jessica Jopek's husband works for the School of Music and was able to go on the trip as staff, and Jessica was able to tag along for the fun. She took a lot of pictures on the trip; a number of them are on the School of Music's Facebook page.

Ice Cream!

Dean Fox and the Staff Development Group hosted an Ice Cream Sundae Afternoon for all Libraries personnel on Thursday, June 13. Flavors included vanilla, chocolate, and special flavors Raspberry Chocolate Chip and Chunky Chunky Hippo.

Hummingbird Babies



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Research Assistance & Instruction

Delphi U

On May 13, Amber Willenborg and Jason Friedman were among the instructors for "Research Assistance and Instruction," Day 1: Introduction to Teaching Online, Delphi U.

Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

In Fall 2019, Rob Detmering, Amber Willenborg, and Lidiya Grote will serve as class librarians for ECPY 302: Personal and Academic Inquiry (Find Your Fit), a three-credit small QEP seminar for second-year students.

LOEX

Rob Detmering and Amber Willenborg, along with former UofL librarian Sam McClellan, presented

"Do I Know Enough to Have a Voice in This?': Overcoming Professional Roadblocks on the Assessment Journey" at the 2019 LOEX Conference in Minneapolis in May. (LOEX is a self-supporting, nonprofit educational clearinghouse for library instruction and information literacy information founded in 1971.)

Strategic Planning Moves Ahead

Rob, Latisha, and Fannie participated in the University of Louisville's strategic planning forum. Rob served on the LEARN workgroup and Fannie served on the INVEST workgroup.

KORNHAUSER LIBRARY

Pick Your Poison!

Supplemented with items from its collections, Kornhauser hosted the traveling exhibit, "Pick Your Poison," from the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health and the National Museum of American History. The exhibit focused on the history of mind-altering drugs like tobacco, alcohol and opium and explored cultural norms that affect the shifting legal landscape It ran through June 29.





LAW LIBRARY

Webinar Recording

On June 6, Online Services Librarian Erin Gow participated in an American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) webinar on working with Non-English Materials for the English Speaker. The recording is available at: https://www.aallnet.org/recording/non-english-materials-for-the-english-speaker/.

Legal Humor in the Law Library

The Law Library has a mini-display highlighting humorous books in the collection for light summer reading. Stop by to see the display, or find more information about the humorous books and graphic novels in our collection at: <u>https://library.louisville.edu/law/blog/home/Legal-Humor-in-the-Law-Library</u>



Legal Humor exhibit Law Library Reading Room

Photo by Erin Gow



I would like to say Thank you to Adam and Troy from OLT, and Matt from AUS for helping me with my newest library partnership that UofL has with Metro United Way and the New York based organization Campaign for Black Male Achievement - Leaders In Residence Fellows Program. Thank you all for your assistance. – Fannie Cox

Thanks to Dean Fox for supporting staff development initiatives and the Ice Cream Sundae Afternoon! Big thanks to Christine Roberts, Chris Poché, Sarah Frankel, Marcy Werner, Troy Plumer and Ashley Triplett, Staff Development Group members, for helping revive the Rewards and Recognition program and supporting training sessions for staff. – Carolyn Dowd

Faculty and Staff Publications in 2018

compiled by Claudene Sproles, Research Assistance & Instruction

Ertz, Matthew. "The Grawemeyer Collection at the University of Louisville: The History of a 'Living' Special Collection." *Notes*, vol. 75, no. 2, 2018.

Fokas, G., Vaughn, Vida. M., Scarfe, W. C., & Bornstein, M. M. "Accuracy of Linear Measurements on CBCT Images Related to Presurgical Implant Treatment Planning: A Systematic Review." *Clinical Oral Implants Research*, vol. 29, issue S16, 2018.

Goldberg, Matthew. "Searching for the Past: Historians' Information-Seeking Behavior and Needs." *Kentucky Libraries*, vol.82, no.3, 2018.

Goldberg, Tyler and Sproles, Claudene. "Journal Weeding Project at the University of Louisville: A Case Study." *Codex*, vol. 5, no.1, 2018.

Hauck, Janet, Kyna Herzinger, and Rose Sliger Krause. "MPLP Ten Years Later: The Adventure of Being among the First." *Provenance*, vol. 35, no. 2, 2018.

Holtze, Terri; Howard, Rachel I.; Kuehn, Randy; Pattillo, Rebecca; and Reilly, Elizabeth E., "Overcoming Legacy Processing in Photographic Collections through Collaboration and Digital Technologies." *Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2018.

Hundley, C., Wilson, R. W., & Chenault, John. "Alternative Financial Services as a Social Determinant of Health in US Metropolitan Statistical Areas." *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, vol. 11, no. 2, 2018.

Ito, Traci; Martin, Alex; Vaughn, Vida; et.al. "Use of Topical Hemostatic Agents in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery: A Systematic Review." *Journal of the Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons*, vol. 22. No. 4, 2018.

Johnson, Anna Marie; Willenborg, Amber; Reynolds, Latisha; Drerup, Sarah; et al. "Library Instruction and Information Literacy 2017." *Reference Services Review*, vol. 46, no. 4, 2018.

Keisling, Bruce. "Blended Learning." *Library Management*, vol. 39, no. ³/₄, 2018.

Liu, Weiling. "Linked Data in a Nutshell: A Starter Kit of Selected Annotated Bibliography and Resources for Academic Librarians: Part One." *International Journal of Librarianship*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2018.

Pattillo, Rebecca. "Preserving and Integrating Conservation Photography at the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields as the 2016-2017 VRAF Intern." Visual Resources Association Bulletin vol. 45, no. 1, 2018

Petrey, Jessica. "Offbeat Reference Requests: When to Say Yes and How to Say No." *Journal of New Librarianship*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2018.

Walker, Marcus. "A Pearl of a Librarian." *Kentucky Libraries*, vol. 82, no. 3, 2018.



Staff Development Rewards and Recognition

Congratulations to John Burton, Acquisitions Specialist, Technical Services, Ekstrom Library!!



John was named the first winner in the Staff Development Rewards and Recognition program, earning a \$100 Visa card and framed certificate.

Photo by Ellen Burton



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Archives & Special Collections The UofL Student Experience

An experience of student life through time shown with photographs and artifacts. August - December Penning

August - September 25 (Photo Archives Gallery)

Pennington Gallery UofL Sports August - December

Photographic Archives Gallery & Lobby Gallery

A general view of student life







Students in the library. Georgia Powers is 4th from the left. LMC1979.59.31

Kain Rare Books Gallery Louisville Municipal College August - December

And check out the 250 images of UofL Sports on the ASC digital signage, located outside LL17. (below)



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