

Book 'Em



Books and Publishing News for the Hiram College Library Community

February 2013

New and improved: now includes bonus film review action!

Any comments, questions, or requests can be sent to [David Everett](#).

Fiction:			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Oates, Joyce Carol	<i>Mudwoman</i>	F Oa8m 2012	The story of the high price of success in the life of the first female president of a lauded ivy league institution and her hold upon her self-identity.
Livesey, Margot	<i>The Flight of Gemma Hardy</i>	F L758f	Gemma Hardy accepts a position as an au pair on the remote Orkney Islands.
Wouk, Herman	<i>The Lawgiver</i>	F W915L	A young writer-director rejects her strict Jewish background and ends up competing for the job of writing and directing a script about Moses.
Munro, Alice	<i>Dear Life</i>	F M9265d	The latest collection of short stories from Munro features stories set around Lake Huron.
Roberts, Les	<i>Whiskey Island</i>	E R5429w	The latest mystery featuring Cleveland-based private detective Milan Jacovich. Author Les Roberts is a member of the Resource Council for the Lindsay-Crane Center for Writing and Literature.

Juvenile:			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Myracle, Lauren	<i>L8r,g8r</i>	JF M996L	Three high school girls share their lives via instant messaging. The book is a sequel to ttyl and tfn .

Applegate, Katherine	<i>One and Only Ivan</i>	JF Ap828o	The 2013 Newbery Award winner is the story of Ivan, a gorilla in a circus-themed mall who seeks a better life for a new arrival, Ruby, a baby elephant.
McLaughlin, Timothy P., ed.	<i>Walking on Earth and Touching the Sky: Poetry and Prose by Lakota Youth at Red Cloud Indian School</i>	J 810.80897 Wal	The subtitle says it all. The Red Cloud Indian School is on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.
Hoose, Phillip	<i>Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95</i>	J 598.87234 Hoo	A year in the life of a shorebird who migrates between the Canadian Arctic and Argentina.
Gravett, Emily	<i>Wolf Won't Bite</i>	JF G788w	Three pigs capture a wild wolf and make him do tricks, all while believing the wolf will never bite them.

Memoir & Biography:

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Unger, Harlow Giles	<i>John Quincy Adams</i>	976.55 Ada-U	The life of the sixth president of the United States, who also served in Congress after his presidency.
DeVito, Chris, ed.	<i>Coltrane on Coltrane: The John Coltrane Interviews</i>	781.65092 Col-C	The jazz great in his own words, including every known interview with Coltrane.
Souder, William	<i>On a Farther Shore: The Life and Legacy of Rachel Carson</i>	570.92 Car-S	The latest biography of the woman generally credited with starting the environmental movement.

Nonfiction:

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Greenberg, Amy s.	<i>A Wicked War: Polk, Clay, Lincoln, and the 1846 U.S. Invasion of Mexico</i>	973.62 Gre	Looks at the U.S. invasion of Mexico, as well as the politics leading to the invasion.
Choe, Jae	<i>Secret Lives of Ants</i>	595.796 Cho	An in-depth look at ants and ant society.
Nielsen, Kim E.	<i>A Disability History of the United States</i>	362.40973 Nie	A history of people with disabilities, and their place in society, from pre-1492 to the present.
Ryan, Alan	<i>On Politics: A History of Political Thought from Herodotus to the Present</i>	320.01 Rya	The subtitle tells you all you need to know about this two volume set .

Schoening, Benjamin S. and Kasper, Eric T.	<i>Don't Stop Thinking About the Music: The Politics of Songs and Musicians in Presidential Campaigns</i>	781.5990973 Sch	A look at how presidential candidates have used music from Washington to the present.
Christensen, Julia	<i>Big Box Reuse</i>	725.21 Chr	A look at how ten communities have repurposed abandoned big box stores.

Feature Films:			
Title	Director	Call #	Comments
<i>A Day without a Mexican</i>	Sergio Arau	Feature Film D334 2004 DVD	A look at what happens when citizens of California wake up to discover that some 14 million people of Hispanic heritage, one-third of the state's population, has disappeared.
<i>Hunger Games</i>	Gary Ross	Feature Film H8949 2012 DVD	Film version of the novel by Suzanne Collins, in which sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test in the annual televised survival competition.

Films:			
Title	Director	Call #	Comments
<i>Empty Oceans, Empty Nets</i>	Steve Cowan	Film 639.22 Em76 2003 DVD	Looks at the changes threatening marine fisheries around the world.
<i>Farming the Seas</i>	Steve Cowan	Film 639.3 F2299 2004 DVD	The sequel to <i>Empty Oceans, Empty Nets</i> .
<i>Macbeth</i>	Orson Welles	Film 822.33 T5 1948 2012 DVD	Orson Welles directs and stars, along with Jeanette Nolan and Roddy McDowell, in this film version of the Shakespeare play.
<i>Hamlet</i>	Laurence Olivier	Film 822.33 S7 1948 2000 DVD	The Sir Laurence Olivier film version of the Shakespeare play.

Awards:		
Award	Details	Comments
American Journal of Nursing Book of the	<i>Smoke: Poems</i> by Jeanne Bryner	Our copy is on order. The author is a Resource Council member for the Center

Year Award		for Literature and Medicine.
John Newbery Medal	<i>The One and Only Ivan</i> by Katherine Applegate	We have this one. See the brief entry above.
The Randolph Caldecott Medal	<i>This is Not My Hat</i> by Jon Klassen	Our copy is on order, but there are lots of copies on OhioLINK .
The Michael L. Printz Award	<i>In Darkness</i> by Nick Lake	Our copy is on order, but in the meantime you can try OhioLINK .
The Theodore Seuss Geisel	<i>Up, Tall and High</i> by Ethan Long	Once again, our copy is on order, but that is true for all libraries in OhioLINK.

Featured Review:

***The Event of Literature*, written by Terry Eagleton, published in 2012 by Yale University Press.**

In his latest book, *The Event of Literature*, Terry Eagleton pursues the answer to a classically Socratic question: What is literature? In an interpretive community that has largely shrugged off the philosophy of literature in favor of cultural studies, Eagleton's question seems like a strange one to ask nowadays. Yet, as Eagleton shows, the question is far from being settled. Beginning with the question of the question itself, that is, of whether or not it is even possible to diagnose the "essence" of literature, Eagleton draws from a wide range of thinkers including philosophers, literary critics and historians, in order to ground his project. Despite the diversity and difficulty of these sources, Eagleton manages to navigate them with an admirable facility of style and clarity.

Eagleton classifies approaches to the question into two basic categories: nominalist and realist. Nominalist approaches maintain that there are no universal defining features of literature—that what we call "literature" cannot be contained within any given conceptual framework. In contrast to this, realist approaches maintain that there *are* universal features that constitute literature as such. Critics in the nominalist camp, however, often point to works recognized as literature that are excluded from such professedly universal features. The point in doing so is to show how the attempt to settle the issue of what literature is always leaves out certain works of literature that transcend realist prescriptions. At best, nominalists accuse realists of mere naïveté. At worst, they see the realist project as a grossly imperialistic one that attempts to reinforce a conception of literature that privileges already favored forms of production, while forbidding certain literary works, especially those of a more experimental nature, from the dignified title of "literature." As one might expect, then, it is the nominalist approach that has become the dogmatic one.

Shirking this kind of traditional categorical thinking, Eagleton theorizes literature as an "event," a term meant to focus the question on literature as activity rather than as object. For Eagleton, any adequate definition of literature must account for the primary relationship between an author's work and its reader. Along these lines, Eagleton understands literature as a space of self-realization. In other words, Eagleton conceives literature as a space in which we are able to achieve a distance from our material and psychological world and have it thereby returned to us in a regenerated light. Broadly speaking, Eagleton's main contribution is to define literature in terms of the act of reading and the meaning generated in that process.

In terms of readership, Eagleton's book is unlikely to appeal to those uninitiated in the philosophy of literature. That being said, his work should appeal to serious readers curious about what it is, exactly, that they are doing when they sit down with a book.

—Joseph Randolph

Unless it has been checked out, you will find this title in the main collection, with the rest of the books about the philosophy of literature, under [801.9 Eag.](#)