

Librarian surprises herself with favorite books from 2000

Reviewing the books I had read in 2000, I made a rather shocking discovery: The books that left me with the best memories – the ones I enjoyed reading the most – were all crime novels in one form or another.

Has it come to this, I wondered? Have I become completely obsessed with mysteries? What about that terrific biography of 100-year old George Dawson called *Life Is So Good* that I enjoyed so much?

Or that book by Paul Curtis called *Bud, Not Buddy* which was actually a



JoAnne Sunderman
•Library Link

young-adult book but one I believe all age would enjoy about a young orphaned boy searching for his father – a book, by the way, that I recommended to so many people? And what about

that heart rendering romance *Carousel* by Richard Paul Evans or that fantastic historical-fiction novel called *One Thousand White Women* by Jim Fergus that I couldn't put down so I stayed up

nearly all night to finish? Well, I guess I have to admit that in spite of those books, I do remember that the majority of things I read were mysteries. The others were just great interludes.

My favorite books of 2000 may nearly all have been mysteries, but what mysteries they were! It really was one great year for the crime novel. Here is a partial list of the ones I enjoyed and some you might have missed:

The Attorney by Steve Martini and *Saving Face* by the ever-popular David Baldacci were two of my earliest reads

in 2000. They both had great courtroom drama and enough suspense thrown in to keep me guessing right up to the end. John Grisham offered *The Brethren* as his best seller in 2000 and when I first began reading it I thought this could be his best one yet. However, by the time I finished it, I was singing a different song. Did anyone else out there get the impression that Mr. Grisham just got tired of writing the thing and sort of tied up all the loose ends in a hurry – without worrying whether or not they made any sense?! That was sure my impression. The premise was great (judges behind bars running dirty little scams, a powerful presidential wanna-be trying to hide his past, etc.), but the ending really left me cold. So I can't really say this was a "favorite" but I did rush to put my name on the Library's reserve list as soon as I heard it was going to be published.

I really got into the cozie mysteries this year and highly enjoyed G. A. McKevette's *Sugar And Spite* as well as Leslie Meier's two new ones *The Christmas Cookie Murder*, and *The Valentine Murder*. The books *Permed To Death* by Nancy Cohen; and *Murder Carries A Torch* by Anne Carroll George were also favorites. Diane Mott Davidson had a winner with *Tough Cookie* this past year and as always, I look forward to the cozy she is

working on for 2001.

Mary Higgins Clark did not disappoint me in 2000 with her *Before I Say Goodbye*, nor did her ex-daughter-in-law Mary Jane Clark and her mystery *Do You Promise Not To Tell* (which I must say I enjoyed even better than her ex-mother-in-law's). But to be perfectly honest, Sidney Sheldon's *The Sky Is Falling* fell far short of the kind of novels he wrote in his early years. They were so much better then. Finally, as far as mysteries go, I don't want to forget to mention *Silent Justice* by William Bernhardt, *While I Was Gone* by Sue Miller, *Wild Justice* by Phillip Margolin, *The First Time* by Joy Fielding, and *Grave Undertakings* by Ralph McInemy. These were all good books.

Next week we will take a look at some other great (and not-so-great) books from 2000 that were not mysteries at all. There really is more to life than courtroom and murder- although the mystery trend shows no signs of being over yet.

Stop by Pioneer Memorial Library soon. We are located at 375 West 4th and are open seven days a week as follows: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. For more information contact the Library at 462-4470. We look forward to serving you.

Agriculture seminar planned next week

A three-day business seminar will be held in McCook, Neb., Jan. 9-11 entitled, Taking Control of Your Farm/Ranch Business, according to organizers of the event.

The seminar is being sponsored by Kennedy and Coe and AgriSolutions and is designed to help agricultural

producers understand, control and manage the financial side of their operations.

Information provided by officials said that farmers will learn how to analyze the financial history of their operation, identify strengths and opportunities for their business, create their

own set of financial and operational indicators to monitor performance, and prepare a financial action plan for their operation.

"The ultimate goal of these workshops is to help Ag businesses become more profitable," said Brad Palen, CPA, and lead of Kennedy and Coe's

Ag Consulting Division.

"This is in keeping with Kennedy and Coe's desire to serve as profit strategists for our clients."

Over 2,000 Ag produces across the Midwest have already benefited by attending this program developed by AgriSolutions.

Real Estate

Willard D. Marshall and Kukya to John W. Barton and Karen A.: All undivided interest in NE 1/4-11-6-31 and NW 1/4-2-6-31

Don F. Ostmeyer and Patsy L. to Victor L. Schwarz, trustee: SW 1/4-12 & NW 1/4-13-9-31

Dora Lee Sloan to Frances F. Kriss: S 1/2-20-6-33

Frances D. Zoberst and Louis J. Sabatka, co-executors, to Michael Sprengel and Patricia: Lot 6, Block 4,

Pleasant Valley Addition, Colby Martin Ruda to Gloria Stroud: Lot 17 and S 1/2 of Lot 18, Block 29, South Park Addition, Colby

Andrew Goossen and Sheryl A. to Henry A. Regier and Evelyn M.: Lots 5-10, Block 7, Mingo, and vacated alley; Lots 1-6, Block 10, Mingo and vacated alley.

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: Lots 5, 8, 9, A, B and 11-20, Block 31, Colby, and W 1/2 of

adjoining Mission Ridge Avenue

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: Lots 5-20, A and B, Block 31, Colby, and adjoining alley

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: E 1/2 of Mission Ridge Avenue adjoining Lots 6, 7, 10, A, 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19, Block 32, Colby

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: W 1/2 Chickamaugua Avenue adjoining Lots 5, 8, 9, B, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 20, Block 32, Colby

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: South 15 feet of Lots 15 and 16, and all Lots 17-20, Block 33, Colby

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: Part of alley in Block 33, Colby

Union Pacific Railroad to Prairie Sunflower LLP: E 1/2 of Chickamaugua Avenue adjoining Lots 7, 10, 6, A, 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19, Block 33, Colby

Linda Kay (Linden) Taylor and

Louis W. Taylor to John L. Icke and Christine C.: Tract in NW 1/4-18-7-33

Mark D. Leydig and Patricia K. Schroeder to Gary M. Sloan and Patricia L.: Lot 6 and W 1/2 of Lot 7, Block 4, Swartwood First Addition, Colby

Affidavit of Nonproduction

Lynn A. Johnson: NE 1/4-11-6-31; NW 1/4-2-6-31

Don Lee Sloan: S 1/2-20-6-33

David B. Wicks: N 1/2 SW 1/4-5-7-36

If you don't talk with your kids about sex, who will?

Be sure to start an honest, open dialogue with them at an early age. For a free booklet that can help you discuss all kinds of tough issues, call 1-800-Child-44.

Ad Council CHILDREN NOW KAISER FAMILY

From The Nursery

David Tommy Alexander Waterman

Scott and Ernestine Waterman, Colby, announce the birth of David Tommy Alexander on Dec. 29, 2000, at Citizens Medical Center, Colby. He weighed 6 lbs., 8.9 oz.

Grandparents are Chuck and Cheryl Colson, Colby; Melvin Waterman, Oberlin.

Great-grandparents are Dollieta Hunter, Hays; Anna Teel, Atwood; Edna Colson, Rexford; and Don and Jean Passman, Alexandria, La.

Brothers Tyler, Marcus, and Brady, and sisters Eugenia and Vonda welcome the baby.

Kally Mae Smith

Jarrod and Jenny Smith, Colby, announce the birth of Kally Mae on Dec. 28, 2000, at Citizens Medical Center, Colby.

She weighed 7 lbs., 11 ozs.

Grandparents are Jim and Kameo Smith of Hill City, and Terry Paxson of Penokee and Lori Paxson of Lindsberg.

Remodeling by D.J.'s Construction

Residential, Commercial & Farm • Roofs • Sky Lights • Vinyl Siding • Painting Inside & Out (all brush & roller) • Dry Wall Texture • Kitchen & Baths • Custom Decks • Basements • Door & Window Replacement

Serving All N. W. Kansas

References • Free Estimates • Insured for your Protection

OFFICE 785-462-5396 • COLBY, KANSAS

COLBY TWIN THEATRES

TICKET PRICES: \$6.00, 13 & up \$4.00, 12 & under

JAN. 4 - JAN. 11

Vertical Limit

Friday & Saturday: 7:00 & 9:15
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:30 PG-13

THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE

"One of the funniest films of the year!"

Friday & Saturday: 7:15 & 9:00
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:30 G

THIS SUBSCRIBER RECEIVES 2 FREE PASSES (must be used within 15 days).....

CHARLES RICHARDSON

Montana Mikes enjoys this time of the year. He is spreading cheer with steaks, steaks, and

Holiday Steak Specials

A Full Pound of Flavor -

16 oz. T- Bone for only \$12.99

20 oz. Porterhouse for only \$14.99

This steak features a nice fillet on one side and strip on the other

These steak specials are available at our Montana Mike's Locations in Hays, Colby & Lawrence. But hurry, the special is for a limited time only.

STEAKHOUSE

3216 Vine - Hays
1855 S Range- Colby
1015 Iowa - Lawrence

Cellular One

New Year's (Ad ran Wednesday)

100% @ GDN

6x9