

redwood city public library

BOOK GROUP—LET'S TALK BOOKS

Mar–Aug
2009



Join us every third Thursday of the month at noon in the Small Meeting Room at the Main Library - 1044 Middlefield Road - to discuss a good book or two! You can come to all or any meeting you wish. See you there!

Free and open to the public

March 19 — Toni Morrison's *A Mercy*

April 16 — Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*

May 21— Tracy Kidder's *Mountains Beyond Mountains*

**June 18 — Calvin Trillin's *Deciding the Next Decider* &
Selected Poems of John Updike**

July 16 — David Wroblewski's *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*

August 20 — Harold Pinter's *Ashes to Ashes*

For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 780-70276
or e-mail Gene Suarez at gsuarez@redwoodcity.org.

And Coming in October...
One Book, One Community 2009
Author to be Announced Soon!



Sponsored by Friends of the Redwood City Public Library
1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City | www.rcpl.info | (650) 780 7026

March 19th — Toni Morrison's *A Mercy*

"A *Mercy* deserves to be counted alongside some of her most acclaimed novels, such as *Sula* and *Beloved*...Set in the 1680s, when this country's reliance on slavery as an economic engine was just beginning, *A Mercy* explores the repercussions of an enslaved mother's desperate act: She offers her small daughter to a stranger in payment for her master's debt." - Neda Ulaby, *National Public Radio*

April 16th — Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*

"A funny and imaginative tour of... a side of India not often highlighted in fiction...In refusing to wallow in superficial exoticism or South Asian family tensions, *The White Tiger* finds its own path to multifaceted success: it's both a riveting existential crime story and an exposé of social injustice." - Scott Indrisek, *Time Out New York*

May 21 — Tracy Kidder's *Mountains Beyond Mountains*

"Tracy Kidder is a winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the author of the bestsellers *The Soul of a New Machine*, *House*, *Among Schoolchildren*, and *Home Town*. He has been described by the *Baltimore Sun* as the 'master of the non-fiction narrative.' This powerful and inspiring new book shows how one person can make a difference, as Kidder tells the true story of a gifted man who is in love with the world and has set out to do all he can to cure it." - Random House

June 18 — Calvin Trillin's *Deciding the Next Decider & Selected Poems of John Updike* (the library will provide photocopies of the poems)

"Trillin praised the country's choice to reboot
In verse that was witty, quick and acute.
What had begun two books back as a wry chronicle of woe
Became a tribute to the nation's ability to grow." - Michiko Kakutani, *New York Times*

We remember John Updike, who died January 27, 2009, by reading selected poems. "An acclaimed and award-winning writer of fiction, essays, and reviews, John Updike has also been writing poetry for most of his life... In an interview Updike stated, 'I began as a writer of light verse, and have tried to carry over into my serious or lyric verse something of the strictness and liveliness of the lesser form.' In his teens, he was already publishing poems in magazines." – The Poetry Foundation

July 16 — David Wroblewski's *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*

"...A big-hearted novel you can fall into, get lost in and finally emerge from reluctantly, a little surprised that the real world went on spinning while you were absorbed... Wroblewski is a 48-year-old software developer in Colorado, and this is his first novel. It's being released with the kind of hoopla once reserved for the publishing world's most established authors...an enormous but effortless read, trimmed down to the elements of a captivating story about a mute boy and his dogs...Inspired improbably by the plot of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, this Midwestern tale manages to be both tender and suspenseful." - *Washington Post Book World*

August 20 — Harold Pinter's *Ashes to Ashes*

"*Ashes to Ashes* takes us on a mysterious, sinister and hypnotic journey. More and more emerges, without our ever being able to latch on to something that would count as a journalistic fact. Unusually, as you watch it, you get the sense of the characters revealing themselves to us at exactly the same point as they revealed themselves to the author." - *Independent on Sunday*, 22 September 1996 (reprinted www.haroldpinter.org)