WHAT’S ON YOUR NIGHTSTAND
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS
MAY 2015

FICTION

Boys in the Boat (audio) Daniel James - improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from Washington state showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant. (Elizabeth)

Island: the Complete Stories – Alistair MacLeod - a powerful collection of short stories set on Canada’s Eastern shore- (Ann)

My Sunshine Away – M.O. Walsh - the meaning of family, power of memory and our ability to forgive- (Ann)

Nowhere Else on Earth – Josephine Humphries - North Carolina at the close of the Civil War dealing with suffering and revenge- (Charlet)

Orphan Train – Christina Baker Kline – young immigrant orphans taken by trains to adoptive (sometimes abusive) families in Minnesota - (Shelli)

Rich in Love – Josephine Humphries - coming of age during a family’s upheaval and reconfiguration - (Charlet)

Sweetland – Michael Crummy – epic tale of an endangered Newfoundland community and the struggle of one man to resist its extinction - (Carol)

NONFICTION

Inconvenient Indian – Thomas King – an eye opening overview of Native peoples in North America - (Katie)
Missoula – Jon Krakauer – a series of sexual assaults at the University of Montana highlight the rape culture in America - (Sarah)

Orange is the New Black – Piper Kerman – having been convicted of involvement in a drug deal, a Smith college alumna does time in a federal prison (Charlet)

Remarkable Huntingtons Archer and Anna: Chronicle of a Marriage – Mary Mitchell – lives of a pair of multimillionaires, artists and philanthropists - (Charlet)

Romany and Tom – Ben Watt – a musician’s honest, sometimes painful, often funny portrait of his parents - (Elizabeth)

The Swerve: How the World Became Modern – Stephen Greenblatt – birth of philosophical modernity - (Sarah)

OTHER....

Kathy participated in a “mini-bookstock” in Manchester VT which consisted of 2 full days of conversations with 7 authors and 90 bookophiles. The authors talked about writing, inspiration, curiosity, and the importance of listening.....Kathy was MOST taken with three:

Megan Mayhew Bergman – short stories – Birds of Lesser Paradise and Almost Famous Women

Mary Doria Russell – her latest books destroy the Wyatt Earp myth: Doc and Epitaph

Michael Crummey - Sweetland, this latest joins his other work centering around Newfoundland

Charlet recommends a trip to Bookgreen Gardens http://www.brookgreen.org/ - especially for the sculptures by artist Anna Huntington