

# BOOKMARKS

Holiday Season 2009 Newsletter ~ The Bookloft ~ Your hometown source for books & more ~ Enterprise, Oregon



**Christmas season** is here once again and the store is brimming with great gifts. From fabulous reads to beautiful calendars and journals to wonderfully illustrated children's books, we have something for everyone on your list.

We have all kinds of Wallowa County gifts, too – books, music, DVDs, screen savers. And, of course, incredible Olaf and Fireworks pottery, David Jensen photography, Russell Ford glass along with lovely jewelry by Annie Robinson and Viki Abram all to be found in the Skylight Gallery in the back of the store.

Our staff is always happy to help you with your gift choices. While we are wrapping your purchases, you can relax with a hot drink and a snack in the coffee shop or continue to browse for gifts you'd like to add to your own want list. We are happy to take note of your wishes on our "elf list".



Here are a few suggestions from the many new books this season:

## **OTIS** by Loren Long

Otis is a happy little tractor who loves to work and loves the farm where he lives. One day when he returns to his special stall in the barn, he discovers a small calf bawling in the next stall. Otis is able to calm the calf and they become friends and enjoy frolicking around the farm. But when the farmer buys a big new tractor, Otis is relegated to the weeds behind the barn. It is only when a crisis occurs that Otis comes to the rescue and is appreciated once again. Loren Long has created an old-fashioned children's story and the soft, muted colors of his illustrations are reminiscent of the children's books of our youth.

17.99 Philomel

## **THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS** by Nancy Tillman

This is my favorite Christmas book of the year. Her book, *On the Night You Were Born*, has been a favorite new baby gift at the store. This new book is as beautifully illustrated and as special. The book explores the many things that represent the spirit of Christmas, from songs and traditions to presents and the nativity. But Tillman concludes that the true spirit of Christmas is about the powerful connection between those we love. 16.99 Feiwel & Friends.

## **HANDS AT WORK: PORTRAITS AND PROFILES OF PEOPLE WHO WORK WITH THEIR HANDS**

I saw this book at the Fall regional book show and was one of the many booksellers who chose it as the "buzz book" of the show – the one we were most excited to discover there. It is a collection of portraits of all kinds of people who work with their hands. From potters and weavers to healers and bakers, this book tells the stories of 42 individuals who connect with the world through their hands. Illustrated with lovely black and white images of hands, materials, and workspaces, it would make a great gift for anyone who appreciates the value of handwork done with passion. 34.00 Heron Moon Press

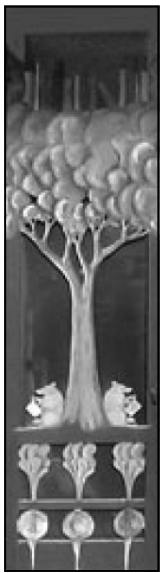
## **THE LACUNA** by Barbara Kingsolver

I've been waiting a long time for a new novel by this favorite author (*The Poisonwood Bible*, *Animal Dreams* etc). Having just finished it, I am completely satisfied and amazed again at her ability to entwine story with message. This wonderful novel is about the nebulous nature of history and people's life stories, and how they are created as much by the holes in the story as they are by the facts of the story. A lacuna is, in fact, a hole, an opening, a missing piece. Kingsolver introduces us to a lacuna first in describing an actual geologic feature, and then uses this concept to show how people, writers and journalists feel compelled to fill in the missing parts of a story even if they have to make things up. She uses the activities of J. Edgar Hoover, Joseph McCarthy and the committee on un-American activities as an example of this taken to extremes.

The main character, Harrison Shepherd, has a split national interest. He was born in the US, but lived for many years in Mexico. While growing up in Mexico in the 1930s, he worked as a cook and secretary in the household of Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo during the time they hosted Leon Trotsky, who was in exile from Russia. Later in the 1940s, he moves back to the US where he eventually settles in Asheville, North Carolina and becomes a successful novelist. At the height of his popularity his past life causes him to be swept up in the anticommunist frenzy of the time.

Throughout the book, the idea of a lacuna keeps surfacing but Kingsolver presents it in different ways and with different meanings. Near the end of the story, she comes back, cyclically, to the actual earth form of the lacuna and it becomes a path to freedom for our persecuted protagonist. 26.99 Harper





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**Looking for a very special gift for the book lover on your list?** We have an interesting collection of signed first edition books, fiction and non-fiction, in a variety of price ranges in our used book collection.

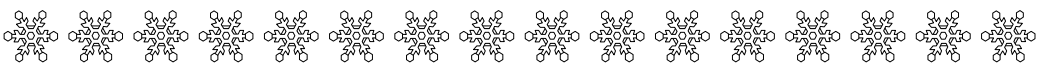
We've also had some authors in the store who were visiting the county and they graciously agreed to **autograph copies of their books**. Look for these in our Wallowa County Connections section that also has books by local authors, and books set in the county.

**Can't decide?** We have gift certificates available for any dollar amount or espresso gift certificates for lattes, mochas or treats.

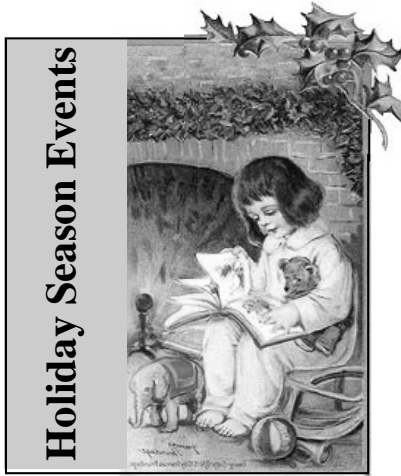
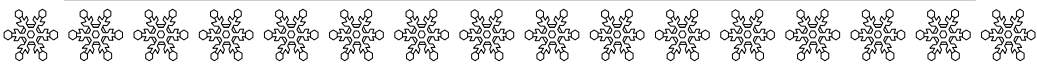
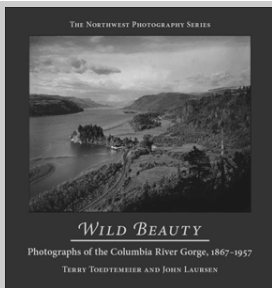
**Ideas for non-readers:**

We stock a great selection of really good **coffee beans**, caf and decaf, including our house blend, the **Book Lover's Blend**.

**Chocolate!** Check out the amazing array of bars from milk to dark, plain or with various fruits and nuts. And, of course, the gift everyone wants – the **2010 Wallowa County calendar** from the **Wallowa Valley Photo Club**.



We still have a few copies of the incredible photography book **WILD BEAUTY**, a collection of photography of the Columbia Gorge. One of the co-authors, John Larson gave an amazing presentation about the book recently. It is not only a beautiful collection of pictures but also includes rare photos from the very earliest days of photography and shows the beauty of the gorge back in the 1800s. 75.00



**Sat. Dec. 5 Enterprise Winterfest**—Lots of activities happening downtown all day, culminating in the lighted parade at 5:30PM

**Sat. Dec. 12 Kids Shopping Day**—We will have a special display of gifts for \$5.00 or less. There will also be a free gift-wrapping station for kids to beautify their purchases.

**Sat. Dec. 19 Glassblower Russell Ford** will be at the store from 1-3 PM to personalize your art glass purchases. Make your gift extra-special with an engraved name or date. Drop your kids off at the **OK Theatre** for the free matinee and come by the store for a look at all of the stunning glass pieces.