

"If you have integrity, nothing else matters. If you don't have integrity, nothing else matters."

"Make gentle the life of this world." Robert F. Kennedy

Who needs a Christmas tree if you can have a shelf tree

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removed for security
reasons.**

Don't feel like having a christmas tree?

Holiday 2007 Family Book Shop Newsletter

This is apparently not an interactive newsletter. No one took me up on my 7% discount on 07/07/07 or the Valentine Day discounts and only 2 people recited a poem on National Poetry Month in April for a purchase discount and no one shared their favorite Thanksgiving which would have been part of this letter. So, I guess I have to share mine. It's undoubtedly very much like yours. Lots of family and lots of food. The one I remember and cherish the most was one when all my daughters were home. The dishes were done and we were sitting on our front porch reminiscing about the times it was just the three of them and me. We never felt poor then but we sure were broke. One would start a memory and mid sentence another would finish and another would make an addition and one word would start us laughing and it seemed no one but us knew what we were talking about or how we could possibly follow the conversation. I'd laugh so much my face hurt. I was, and am, so proud of my daughters and I don't think I have ever been quite as happy as I was on that day.

I know I have never laughed so much or so hard since then. It wasn't all that long ago but seems like a simpler time.

Our hurricane season is over and we have had two years without one. Having suffered hot days with no electricity along with many of you in 2005, I bought a generator. Nature is capricious. But I suspect it was my purchase that was partly the reason we haven't had one in 2 years...sort of like it not raining the day you remember your umbrella.

Now to books.

Kelli is reading **Twilight** by Stephanie Meyer, a book supposed to be for teens but enjoyed by many of us uber-teens, **The Power of One**, by Bryce Courtenay and Fern Michaels **Weekend Warriors**. She's liking all three. With a husband

and two teens it's unusual for her to get even one book read.

Nikki and Amanda are reading the new Nora Roberts book. **Blood Brothers** is the first of a trilogy called **Sign of Seven**.

Amanda is trying to forget it so she can read it again for the first time! It's the best she ever read, she said. She also continues to read about autism and recommends **George and Sam** by Charlotte Moore along with **Louder Than Words** by Jenny McCarthy. Amanda is a very bright and intuitive woman and her step sons are bound to thrive under her care.

I am reading several books. David Baldacci has a new Oliver Stone thriller called **Stone Cold**. It's the third one with these same unusual characters. I'm also reading **The Memoir Club** by Laura Kalpakian for our book club. It's one I can highly recommend and I feel certain It will be spark some interesting conversations.

I'm suffering through **Woman In White** by Wilkie Collins for our next book club meeting. My own fault as I wanted to read some classics. He apparently got paid by the word and, oh my, did he ever use a lot of unnecessary ones.

Lori is reading a book on the fourth crusade. She couldn't remember the name...no wonder...with all those brains there's scant room for memory. (That's meant to be funny, Lori.)

We have a new employee, Jennifer...prefers to be called Jen. Come by and say "Hi". She reads fantasy and her favorite book of all time is **Azure Bonds** by Kate Novak and Jeff Grubb. She is also a fan of the sequel to **Gone With the Wind, Scarlett** by Alexandra Ripley and Laurell K Hamilton's Anita Blake Vampire Hunter books.

Below are three great websites

<http://www.yourgeekfriend.com/GrinchName/GrinchName.php>

This one is a hoot and the real reason I'm sending this before Christmas so you can share with friends.

My grinch name is Dismalgloom Heartlessnoodle. I'm thinking of making up new business cards.

Kelli's is Miserlygrump Snippyfoot.

Amanda is Crabbywhiner Rascalfoot

Nikki is Woefulscrooge Jerkysshorts

Joe is Grumpyfrown Heartlessnoodle (see...we are really married!)

Lori is Peevishgrinch Wicketfoot

Jen is Bleakgrinch Snottybottom

This is art.

<http://centripetalnotion.com/2007/09/13/13:26:26>

This is fun!

<http://www.ferryhalim.com/orisinal/g2/applegame.htm>

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Not having a particularly profound original thought myself, I am sharing some quotes from **Parnassus on Wheels** by Christopher Morley written in 1917, and still in print. This is a weird story of a travelling bookseller that calls his store Parnassus and the horse that pulls the wagon it is housed in, Pegasus.

"I am not a dealer in merchandise but a specialist in adjusting the book to the human need. Between ourselves, there is no such thing, abstractly, as a 'good' book. A book is 'good' only when it meets some human hunger or refutes some human error. A book that is good for me would very likely be punk for you. My pleasure is to prescribe books for such patients as drop in here and are willing to tell me their symptoms. Some people have let their reading faculties decay so that all I can do is hold a post mortem on them. But most are still open to treatment. There is no one so grateful as the man to whom you have given just the book his soul needed and he never knew it."

And

*We have what you want, though you may not know you want it.
Malnutrition of the reading faculty is a serious thing.
Let us prescribe for you.*

And

Living in a bookshop is like living in a warehouse of explosives. Those shelves are ranked with the most furious combustibles in the world--the brains of men. I can spend a rainy afternoon reading, and my mind works itself up to such a passion and anxiety over mortal problems as almost unmans me. It is terribly nerve-racking. Surround a man with Carlyle, Emerson, Thoreau, Chesterton, Shaw, Nietzsche, and George Ade--would you wonder at his getting excited? What would happen to a cat if she had to live in a room tapestried with catnip? She would go crazy!

My husband, a non reader, will wonder why I share this...ah...but you know.

Happy Holiday
Judy

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