

**Prairie Book Club February-July 2011 - Meeting after the Prairie service on Sundays. Bring food.**

Sun., Feb. 13 – **The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** by Rebecca Skloot. Skloot recounts the little-known story of the origin of the “HeLa” cells, which have directly aided many advances in modern medicine. The story of Henrietta Lacks, the African-American cancer patient who was the unwitting donor of the cells, will provoke discussions on issues related to bioethics and diversity. This book is part of the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s common book program, Go Big Read. Read an excellent **New York Times Sunday Book Review** article about the book and author at <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/07/books/review/Margonelli-t.html>  
Both the Madison Public Library (160 print copies and 25 audio copies on disc) and the University have many copies of this book. It’s not out in soft cover yet, but if you have a Kindle, it’s there. 369 pages. Recommended by Mary Mullen.

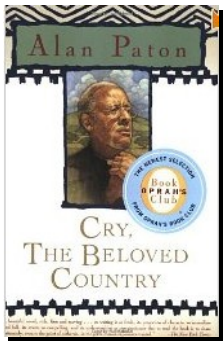
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Sun., March 20 - **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** by Swedish author Stieg Larsson. This is a Swedish mystery that has also been turned into an American movie of the same name. If you’ve seen the movie, our reader and recommender Al Nettleton says that the novel is less focused on the graphic scenes than the movies is. If you haven’t seen the movie, one reviewer’s characterizes it as “an epic tale of serial murder and corporate trickery spanning several continents...[which] takes place in complicated international financial fraud and the buried evil past of a wealthy Swedish industrial family. The NYT mentions that the book gives a “thoroughly ugly view of human nature” and gives the book a lukewarm review, but it is an international best seller. 608 pages. Suggested by Al Nettleton.

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Sun April 17 - **Canoeing with the Cree** by Eric Sevareid. From Minnesota Public Radio: “Eric Sevareid made his name as a CBS news correspondent. But at a young age, Sevareid experienced an adventure most only dream of. In 1930, as a teenager fresh out of a Minneapolis high school, he took a 2,200-mile canoe trip to Canada’s Hudson Bay with friend Walter Port. Sevareid detailed the journey in his **book Canoeing with the Cree**. If you enjoy reading first-hand accounts about outdoor adventure, this book is for you. Recommended by Galen Smith. 224 pages

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Sun. May 22? – **Cry the Beloved Country** by South African author Alan Paton. Published in 1948, this novel depicts South Africa in the throes of apartheid. The story is a heart-breaking tragedy that revolves around the families of black pastor Stephen Kumalo and the white Jarvis family. In 1949, the story was told as a Maxwell Anderson/Kurt Weill musical called *Lost in the Stars*. A semi-staged production of *Lost in the Stars* is scheduled to be presented as part of New York City Center’s Encores! series in early February 2011. Films with the novel’s name came out in 1951 and 1955. The 1951 film won awards at the Berlin International Film Festival and the 1952 Cannes Film Festival. The 1995 film starred James Earl Jones. The 1974 musical film *Lost in the Stars* (1974) received poor review. 316 pages.

Sun., June 19 - **The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands** by Margaret Regan. An all-UU read. Suggested by Mary Mullen.

Sun., July 17 - **The Help** by Kathryn Stockett, 464 pages. Suggested by Molly Plunkett.