

# Book Reviews

## The Bookseller of Kabul



by Åsne Seierstad  
Non-fiction

This story is a memoir by a Norwegian journalist who lived with an Afghan family during the tumultuous months following 9/11. She weaves a history lesson of modern Afghanistan, while telling the stories of a real family trying to live everyday life with their country collapsing around them. It is an eye opening account that reveals the vast cultural differences between a fundamentalist Islam society and the West.

I love fiction or non-fiction that is set in another culture. A good tale that

is set with foreign customs, religion and food not only entertains, but informs. No need for me to tell the story; if this genre appeals to you—I recommend that you read it!

—Reviewed by ML Dunn

## About Alice

by Calvin Trillin  
Non-fiction



Although a quick read, humorist Calvin Trillin's latest book, *About Alice*, is funny, moving and deeply personal. In it, Trillin remembers his late wife, who passed away in 2001 from cancer, through stories of their meeting, subsequent marriage and life together.

In general, this is a memorable

story because of Trillin's way of making Alice seem like the most wonderful person he's ever met. He admires so much about her, including the way she edited his writing; if she laughed, he knew it was good enough. Everything he wrote, he claims, he wrote with her in mind. Alice's quirksiness is special to him, too; he recalls a time when, as he introduces her to a crowd, she takes off a shoe and waves it at them.

Like Trillin, the reader admires Alice. Through a first bout with cancer (in 1976) and a determination to make it to her daughter's wedding, Alice was strong and practical. While a story of this nature has the ability to depress, *About Alice* does the opposite. Instead, Alice is inspiring and funny, and Trillin leaves the reader with the impression that hers was a life lived well.

—Reviewed by Paulina Auclair 🏠



# NEWS FROM THE BAKERVILLE LIBRARY

Spring 2007

## More CDN

You may remember last year's standing-room-only concert at the firehouse next door to the library. A **Completely Different Note**, the premier *a capella* group from UConn, held our audience of more than 60 people spellbound.

On **Sunday, April 29th, at 3 pm**, CDN will be back for another concert. This time we'll give them more room and better acoustics at the **Bakerville Methodist Church**, just east of the library on Route 202. Tickets are **\$10** (12 and under free), and all proceeds benefit the Bakerville Library. You may buy tickets at the library or at the door. Refreshments will be served after the concert.



Patrick Reardon sings behind his mother in "Kiss the Girl," at last year's concert.

This all-male group includes Bakerville's own Patrick Reardon, one of last year's Northwest Idol

winners. They sing an eclectic mix of traditional and current songs, including classical and cartoon themes. You can find out more about them at [cdnuconn.com](http://cdnuconn.com). They will hang out with us after the concert, having refreshments and chatting—you'll like them! 🏠

## Bakerville Holiday Festival 2006

This year the silent auction began on Tuesday, November 28th, with bidding during the library's open hours. The auction ended on Friday, December 1st, at 9 pm, in spite of the threatened tornado, and we made more than \$3,000 to benefit the library.

Kids and their parents gathered in the old firehouse to visit Mrs. Claus, sing and dance with Patty Cerruto, make holiday crafts, drink cider, and eat goodies. Because of the unpleasant weather outside, it turned into quite a party inside.

Thanks to the Friends of the Library for all their hard work setting up, cleaning up, organizing, telephoning, note-writing, baking, meeting, cleaning, and hauling: Milissa Woodward, Kathy White, Nell Roberts, Deb Reardon, Nancy Pretak, Debi Garfield, Andrea Garfield, Pam FitzGerald, Patty Cerruto, and Joan Auclair. And thanks also to everyone else who baked, donated, bid, and otherwise participated!

The carol sing, tree lighting, and bonfire across Maple Hollow Road from the library ended up happening the next week, in the cold but without any rain. A small but cheery crowd gathered. Thanks to Neal Yates and Kathy Beyer for the use of their yard and for Neal's efforts in getting enough lights on his tree and cleaning out his barn. Thanks also to John Wishart and Charter Cable for their annual help with the tree lights. And thanks to the Library Board for handling publicity and refreshments for the rescheduled carol sing. 🏠

### Mark Your Calendar

**Sunday, April 29** – CDN

Concert at the Bakerville Methodist Church, 3 pm

**Saturday, August 4** – Bakerville

Marketplace (9 am–1 pm) and Used Book Sale (9 am–3 pm, early bird 8:30 am)

**Sunday, September 16** – Watch

for our booth at New Hartford Day

**Fall** – Watch for our booth at the New Hartford Arts Festival

Interested in reviewing a book for the newsletter (or the blog! [www.bakervillelibrary.blogspot.com](http://www.bakervillelibrary.blogspot.com))? E-mail [jauclair@snet.net](mailto:jauclair@snet.net), or call 482-2830.

### Library Hours (open every day except Sunday!):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2–6	2–8	2–6	2–6	2–6	9–2*

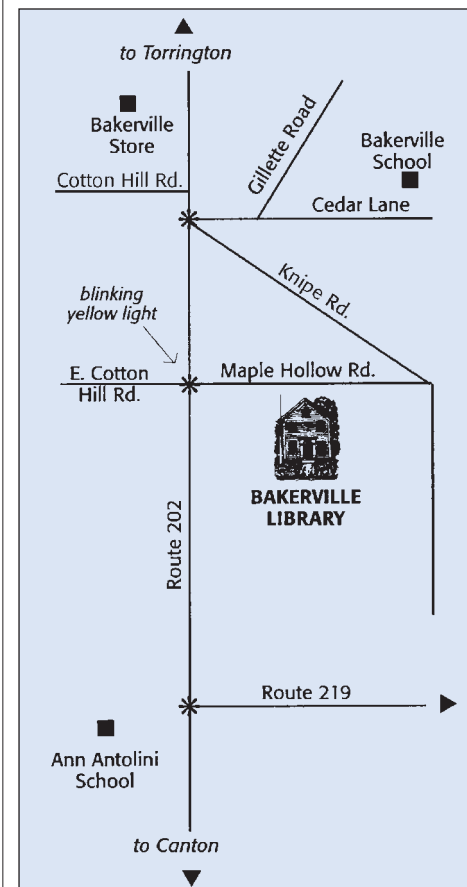
\*On Saturdays in July and August, the library closes at noon.

## THE BAKERVILLE LIBRARY

6 Maple Hollow Rd.  
New Hartford CT 06057

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## Next Up at Book Club

We will read *Devil in the White City*, by Erik Larson, for the April 27th meeting. This is nonfiction, about a serial killer at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. Librarian Julie LaSata has copies of the book at the front desk.

Everyone is welcome. We meet on Friday nights at 7:30, approximately once a month (except July), at different members' houses. For more information, ask at the library desk, or call Carmen Neale at 482-1428. 🏠



## Summer Reading Program



It all comes back to you now...

- Come to either the Bakerville or the Beekley Library and pick up a reading journal.
- Use it to write down the books you read, or listen to.
- Read at least 10 books.
- Come into either library at least three times this summer and get your journal stamped.
- Bring your journal in at the end of the summer, by Thursday, September 1st, or before—you don't have to wait until then!
- Win a paperback book of your choice, to be

awarded at a Summer Reading Club party at your school in the fall—or if you're home-schooled, come pick up your book at the library.

- Have your picture taken for the appealing annual poster. 🏠

## New for You on Our Shelves

### Fiction

*Daddy's Girl* by Lisa Scottoline  
*Deep Storm* by Lincoln Child  
*Dry Ice* by Stephen White  
*The Edge of Winter* by Luanne Rice  
*Family Tree* by Barbara Delinsky  
*A Far Country* by Daniel Mason  
*Innocent in Death* by J.D. Robb  
*Storm Runners* by T. Jefferson Parker  
*Suite Française* by Irène Némirovsky  
*Ten Days in the Hills* by Jane Smiley  
*Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen

### Nonfiction

*About Alice* by Calvin Trillin  
*The Audacity of Hope*  
 by Barack Obama

*Heat* by Bill Buford  
*I Feel Bad About My Neck*  
 by Nora Ephron  
*The Innocent Man* by John Grisham  
*Keep Climbing* by Sean Swarner

### Sequels, Characters, Authors You've Been Waiting For

*Whitethorn Woods* by Maeve Binchy  
*Plum Lovin'* by Janet Evanovich  
*High Profile* by Robert B. Parker  
*Step on a Crack* by James Patterson  
*Cross* by James Patterson  
*Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult  
*Sisters* by Danielle Steel

### Bestsellers Club

Do you enjoy reading new hardcover books, but hate having them hang around the house afterwards? Here's a deal!

Buy that latest book through the library, at the library rate (40% off). Be the first to read it, and then feel good when you donate it to the library so everybody else can read it, too. If you'd like, we can stick in a "Given by" bookplate with your name on it. Ask at the library desk. 🏠



### DVDs

24: Seasons 1, 2, & 3	<i>Little Miss Sunshine</i>
<i>Borat</i>	<i>My Super Ex-Girlfriend</i>
<i>The Break-Up</i>	<i>Ex-Girlfriend</i>
<i>Departed</i>	<i>Prestige</i>
<i>Failure to Launch</i>	<i>Scoop</i>
<i>Gridiron Gang</i>	<i>Superman Returns</i>
<i>Invincible</i>	<i>United 93</i>
<i>The Lake House</i>	<i>World Trade Center</i>

### Children's DVDs

<i>Alex Rider: Operation Stormbreaker</i>	<i>Curious George Flicka</i>
<i>Cars</i>	<i>Little Mermaid</i>
<i>Cinderella III</i>	<i>Over the Hedge</i>
	<i>Soccer Dog</i>

And of course, don't forget to put your name on the reserve list for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* (the last one!), coming in July. 🏠

NEWS FROM THE BAKERVILLE LIBRARY, April 2007. Published by the Friends of the Bakerville Library, 6 Maple Hollow Rd., New Hartford CT 06057. (860) 482-8806.



## THE FRIENDS OF THE BAKERVILLE LIBRARY

Join a group that knows how to work hard and have fun!

The Friends sponsor fundraising activities for the library, among them:

- The **Bakerville Marketplace and Used Book Sale** (August).
- The **Bakerville Holiday Festival**, including a silent auction (December).
- **Booths** at New Hartford Day and the New Hartford Arts Festival.

We also provide the prize books for the Summer Reading Program (see opposite page).

...and we welcome new members!

We meet once a month at the library, more often when necessary.



For more information, call Milissa Woodward at 482-7561.

### online @ your library™

### New on the Web

Our website, [www.bakervillelibrary.org](http://www.bakervillelibrary.org), has a new look, and has been updated. Please bookmark it and check in every so often for current information, including book club selections and meeting dates, and Friends' meeting dates.



Check out another new feature—our blog! Find the link to it in the lefthand column of the library website, or go directly to [bakervillelibrary.blogspot.com](http://bakervillelibrary.blogspot.com). "Blog" is short for "weblog," which is an online journal about a specific topic,



usually with a way for readers to leave comments. Ours is an online place to discuss the books you're reading. Easy instructions are posted at the site. We're hoping that it will become like running into your friends at the library. 🏠

### Application Deadline

New Hartford Community Connections, Inc., will be distributing part of the proceeds from the publication of the recently published New Hartford Telephone Directory. Applications for assistance will be considered for non-profit organizations within or benefiting the Town of New Hartford.

Applications are due May 1, 2007, and are available at both libraries, the Town Hall, New Hartford Junction, and at [www.town.new-hartford.ct.us](http://www.town.new-hartford.ct.us) and at [www.nhcommunityconnections.org](http://www.nhcommunityconnections.org). 🏠

### Help Wanted

Every year, the **Nutmeg Children's Book Award** encourages children in grades 4–6 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Educational Media Association (CEMA), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists and teachers.

Right now we have no one to lead the **Nutmeg Critics' Corner**. If you have one afternoon a month that you could give to meet with children in grades 4–6, to lead a discussion about the Nutmeg Books and help them with a relevant activity, please contact the library at 482-8806.

Thanks! 🏠

**BOOKS NEEDED**  
 for the Bakerville Library's  
 Used Book Sale, Saturday,  
 August 4th.

**Please drop off books\*  
 at the library.**

**Call 482-8806**

**for more information.**

\*Books must be in good condition. Please, no text books, computer books, condensed books, or magazines—they don't sell.

