

The Community Read

Book Club

June 3 to July 1, 2024

Featured Book:

In the Distance

by Hernán Díaz

Pulitzer Prize winning author Hernán Díaz's first novel *In the Distance*, is a mastery of imagery, a sad and tender coming-of-age story, set in a historical past that is both familiar and like nothing we've ever encountered before.

It is 1850s California, the United States is flourishing, and a young Swedish immigrant finds himself alone in the wild untamed land of the west. Separated from his brother, penniless and without knowing a word of English, this boy embarks on what seems to him the only possible course of action: to walk across America and find his brother. The people he meets along the way, colorful characters, from diverse backgrounds - criminals, naturalists, religious fanatics, swindlers, American Indians, and lawmen only add to his extraordinary exploits which soon turn him into a legend.

Díaz defies the conventions, offering an investigative look at the stereotypes of our past. It's a thrilling narrative, full of twists and turns, that follow this individual along the journey from young boy to "stupendously tall man", and from innocence to experience. Journalist Carys Davies says, "*The result is a singular and deeply affecting portrait of one man's life in a rapidly changing world, unlike any old-school or revisionist western I've experienced.*"

It becomes difficult not to see something of Díaz's own experiences in this wandering journey when we realize his past. Diaz and his family fled Argentinian in the 70s turning to the safety of Sweden. He later moved to the US and, eventually, went to study in London. Knowing he was both a refuge and an immigrant makes this story somehow even more personal. Multiple award-winning author, Hernán Díaz's has published three books and many short stories and essays. He now lives in New York with his wife and daughter.

Genres: Westerns, Literary, Suspense, Historical, Family Saga Fiction

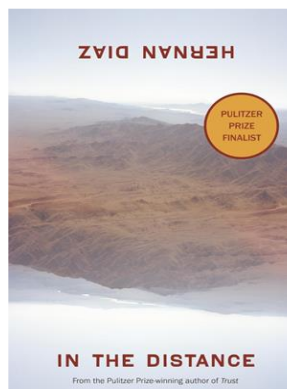
Available for Purchase as: paperback, kindle, hardback, audio CD, and Audible download

Pages: 304 / 272 **Whispersync:** Ready

Audio Length: 9 hours and 17 min. *Unabridged*

Narrator: Peter Berkrot

(Information from Amazon and Goodreads)



Book Discussion:

Monday, July 1 at 6 pm

Books Now Available at the Library

The Community Read Book Club is for adult readers interested in exploring different genres, writing styles, subjects and getting involved with community literacy. All community members are encouraged to participate!

No Library Card Required.

For information on how you can get involved, please contact the library at 541-889-6371.

This program sponsored by:

The Ontario Community Library, Friends of the Ontario Community Library and Various Community Members.



Ontario Community Library

388 SW 2nd Avenue, Ontario, Oregon 97914

1-541-889-6371

www.ontariocommunitylibrary.org