

## Library Corner

— Jennifer McQuade  
Owasso Branch Manager

# The Top 10 books of 2015

10. *H is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald (non-fiction)

Helen Macdonald was devastated when her father died suddenly. Helen had been captivated by hawks since childhood and was an experienced falconer. She channels her grief into training one of the most vicious predators, the goshawk. She adopts Mabel and sees herself mirrored in the goshawk's temperament. The extraordinary journey through her grief while she trains the magnificent bird changes her life.

9. *Purity* by Jonathan Franzen

This novel has inspired some spirited discussion among reviewers, but still appears on many of the top ten lists. Pip Tyler is struggling with her identity. She knows that her real name is Purity, but she doesn't know who her father is, and her relationship with her mother is

tenuous. She goes to South America to intern with The Sunlight Project, an organization that buys and sells secrets. She is drawn to the creator of the project, Andreas Wolf and begins to question her ideas about right and wrong. The author of *The Corrections* has created a world of original characters in this story of youthful idealism, intense fidelity, and murder.

8. *The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World*, By Andrea Wulf (non-fiction)

Alexander von Humboldt (1769–1859) lived an adventurous life and was the most famous scientist of his age. Andrea Wulf brings von Humboldt to life, describing his expeditions, discoveries and his prediction of human-induced climate change. Her novel shines a light on a revolutionary man who changed ideas about science and nature

and inspired writers like Darwin, Wordsworth and Thoreau.

7. *The Book of Aron* by Jim Shephard

*The Book of Aron* is a novel that will join the list of classics about children caught up in the Holocaust. Aron, the narrator, and a handful of boys and girls risk their lives in a Warsaw ghetto to trade contraband through the quarantine walls in hopes of keeping their families alive. Aron is eventually left with nothing and rescued by Dr. Janusz Korczak, a children's rights advocate. The emotional impact of this novel and Aron's voice is not one you will soon forget.

6. *The Sellout* by Paul Beatty

Paul Beatty emerges as a comic genius in this satire about a young man's isolated upbringing and the race trial that sends him to the Supreme Court. The protagonist

discovers his dilapidated town has been removed from the map of California. He decides to right this wrong by initiating the return of slavery and segregation to the town. Not for the faint of heart, this satirical novel reads like a monologue delivered by Chris Rock or Dave Chappelle.

5. *A Manual for Cleaning Women* by Lucia Berlin (short stories)

*A Manual for Cleaning Women* is a posthumous publication that compiles the best work of writer Lucia Berlin. Berlin writes about the beauty of the everyday, uncovering moments of grace in laundromats and halfway houses, among switchboard operators and struggling mothers. A remarkable collection that will make you laugh, cry and treasure this collection.

4. *Fates and Furies* by Lauren Groff

This is a story about a marriage, spanning 24 years. Groff draws on Greek Tragedy to create a literary masterpiece. An examination of both sides of the marriage between Lotto and Mathilde, the novel reveals the key to a great marriage may not be honesty, but keeping secrets.

3. *The Story of the Lost Child* by Elena Ferrante

This book is the fourth and final book in a series, and most reviewers praised not only this volume but the entire series. It's the conclusion of the Neapolitan saga about two women, Elena and Lila, and the friendship that has endured since childhood. The series reveals every aspect of their friendship as they fight to escape their violent Naples neighborhood, grow up, and become successful in their own ways. The final novel finds the



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## OBITUARIES

### Mary McKinney

Funeral services for Mary Louise (North) McKinney, 72, of Owasso, were held Wednesday, December 30, 2015 at Collinsville Christian Church in Collinsville, OK. Patrick M. Prodger and Reverend Bob Haywood officiated and burial was in Ridgelawn Cemetery in Collinsville, OK. Casket bearers were Travis Stoddard, Randall Cooper, Sam Ramirez-Trejo, Joseph Paul Ramirez, James Hargis and Shane W. Knight. Honorary casket bearers were Trevor Hensley, Kyler Ryan, Kysen McKinney and Trey D. Hargis.

Mary was born December 1, 1943 in Picher, OK to Joe Lyle and Nina Rose (Brewer) North. She passed away December 26, 2015 in Tulsa, OK.

Mary worked for the Owasso Public Schools systems in the cafeteria where she worked her way up from dishwasher to manager. She used to crochet and she made lots of beautiful Afghans that are enjoyed by her family to this day. She used to have a lot of beautiful plants in her home, some of which even traveled from North Carolina to Oklahoma in 1978 when her husband retired from the military. Mary also used to plant flowers in her flower beds in the front yard and even around the back of her house. She raised four grandchildren and helped with her other grandchildren and with her two great-grandsons. Her family is very important to her. She would do



anything she could for them; always there to help them, guide them, and listen to their problems. Mary enjoyed doing genealogical research on our family in the last 15 years.

She is survived by her daughters, Nancy J. Hargis and husband James of Owasso, Tracey Prodger and husband Jeff of Collinsville, and Barbary McKinney of Tulsa; grandchildren, Ciera McKinney-Cooper and husband Randall of Owasso, Trevor Hensley of Owasso, Sam Ramirez-Trejo of Owasso, Cherokee Ramirez-Trejo of Owasso, Trey Hargis of Owasso, Joseph Ramirez-Trejo of Owasso, Patrick Prodger of Collinsville, Rhonda and Logan Rae of Oologah and Anna Prodger of Collinsville; great-grandchildren, Kyler, Kysen, Annalee, and Emmalyn; brother, Everett North and wife Lonnie; sister, Linda Musselman; numerous nieces and nephews; and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul G. McKinney; grandsons, Brett Young, Matthew Young, Kevin Prodger and Daniel Ramirez-Trejo; sisters, Joan Leon, Pat Jobski, and Roselee Garcia; brother, Bill North; and parents, Joe and Nina North.

Arrangements and services were entrusted to Johnsonson Funeral Home, Sperry.

Online condolences to the family can be made at johnsonsperry.com.

### Lynda Peters

Lynda Joyce "Lynne" Peters was born July 31, 1947, in Lynn, Massachusetts, to M.L. "Perry" and Alice Arlene (Celley) Turpin. She died Sunday, December 27, 2015, in Owasso, Oklahoma, at the age of 68 years.

Lynne was reared and educated in Massachusetts and New York, and graduated with the Middleton High School Class of 1965. She later earned her associate's degree at Rogers State College in Claremore, Oklahoma. She was married October 28, 1967, to Lawrence Elvin "Pete" Peters, Jr, on the TU campus in the United Methodist Church by Reverend Bonner Teter.

They had made their home in Owasso since moving here in April of 1976. Lynne was a lifetime member of the First United Methodist Church in Owasso. She spent much of her working life as a payroll clerk with Owasso Public Schools and celebrated her retirement last year after 30 years of service. She was always very active outdoors and enjoyed biking, camping, and even motorcycle riding. Lynne had enjoyed traveling, especially to Israel. She had also spent time bowling in various leagues. In her later years, she began cross-stitching, and enjoyed working cryptoquote puzzles and crossword puzzles.



Loving family members include: Her daughter and son-in-law; Lynette and Wes Tramell, of Owasso

Son and daughter-in-law; Andrew and Kimberly Peters, of Antacortes, Washington Eight grandchildren; Elizabeth Miller, Molly Allen and husband Ty, Emily Tramell, Gage Lamb, Cody Tramell, Ali Tramell, Paige Peters and Grant Peters Three brothers; Perry Turpin, Barry Turpin and wife Toni, Brian Turpin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her husband Pete.

Visitation was held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 30, 2015, at Mowery Funeral Service in Owasso. Funeral service was held 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2015, at the Owasso First United Methodist Church with Pastor Chuck Horton officiated. Serving as casket bearers was Andrew Peters, Wes Tramell, Gage Lamb, Cody Tramell, Ty Allen, Matthew Tramell, and Grant Peters. Final resting place was Fairview Cemetery in Owasso. The family requests memorial contributions be made to APSO-ALS Patient Services Outreach, 10515 East 112th Place, Bixby, OK 74008.

Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso. [www.moweryfs.com](http://www.moweryfs.com)

### Mike Summers

Mike Allen Summers was born April 1, 1956, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Charles Billy and Geraldine (Copeland) Summers. He was reared and educated in Tulsa and graduated with the Edison High School Class of 1974.

He was married December 27, 1976, in Tulsa, to Brenda Barnes. Mike started his working career with John Zink Company and had worked his way up to Senior Sales Representative. He and Brenda had made their home in Owasso, Oklahoma, since 1989. He was a faithful member of Rejoice Church in Owasso.

Mike was the proud owner of a vintage Volkswagen bus and was a member of the Volkswagen Club of Tulsa. He enjoyed going to car shows to look at the older model vehicles. Mike had been active with the Owasso FFA Alumni Association when both his kids were showing animals and was a past president. He loved all sports and coached his kids in soccer, baseball, and football. He enjoyed attending all of his



Grandkids' events, especially their games. Loving family members include:

His wife; Brenda, of the home

Daughter and son-in-law; Melissa and Stoney Hurst, of Collinsville, OK

Son and daughter-in-law; Micah and Kacy Summers, of Collinsville, OK

Five grandchildren;

Clayton Hurst

Clint Hurst

Cassidy Hurst

Mckade Summers

Chisum Summers

Father; Charles Summers and his fiancé Jayne Smith

He was preceded in death by his mother, and brother, Neal Summers.

Memorial service will be held 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 30, 2015, at Rejoice Church in Owasso with Pastor Leonard Pirtle officiating. The family requests memorial contributions be made to the Rejoice Foundation, 13413 East 106th Street North, Owasso, Oklahoma, 74055. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.

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### TOP 10

#### FROM 7

two women facing aging together as Ferrante examines how women relate, how they grow together and apart, and how they are affected by men, motherhood and money.

2. *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara

This book was the winner of the 2015

Kirkus prize and appeared on most Top

10 lists. *A Little Life* is a story about four

classmates from a small Massachusetts college who move to New York.

Over the decades, their relationships grow stronger as they deal with addiction, success and pride. They face

their greatest challenge with Jude, who struggles with an unimaginable trauma

that occurred in his childhood. Yanagihara's beautiful prose examines brotherly

love, heartbreak, and the limits of human endurance.

1. *Between the World and Me* by Ta-

Nehisi Coates (non-fiction)

*Between the World and Me* made nearly every Top 10 list and was

described as a "must read" numerous times. Ta-Nehisi Coates writes

a powerful letter to his adolescent son exploring questions about race

throughout American history. Coates weaves together personal narrative,

reporting, and history to present powerful new ideas on understanding

our past, dealing with present problems and moving forward into

the future.



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