

Inspiration for Roseburg Library's Summer Reading Program  
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The News-Review

Roseburg Public Library's Summer Reading Program is underway, and I am delighted to recommend these books that fit the adult reading log prompts.

"Tilt" by Portland's Emma Pattee is a captivating "book written by an Oregon author."

The novel opens at IKEA in Portland, where Annie, a 35-year-old woman who is 37 weeks pregnant with her first child, is shopping for a crib. Suddenly, the ground begins to shake - it's the Cascadia earthquake.

Annie gets out of IKEA, begins walking toward the cafe where her husband, Dom, works, and serves as an eyewitness, even a participant, in the pandemonium that ensues over the rest of the day.

Alternating chapters provide context to Annie's life, beginning 17 years ago when she was a college freshman studying to be a playwright in New York. She narrates her story to her unborn child, Bean, and lays bare her conflicted feelings that life didn't turn out the way she expected.

Annie's authenticity and the realistic portrayal of a Portland in chaos - Pattee is a journalist who has written about climate change for The Atlantic, The New York Times, The Guardian and more - make for a dynamic reading experience.

Another option for "book written by an Oregon author" is "Floreana" by Midge Raymond of Ashland.

"Floreana" is a dual-timeline historical novel set in the Galápagos Islands for fans of "State of Wonder" by Ann Patchett and "Euphoria" by Lily King.

It's 1929, and Dore Strauch leaves her husband in Germany to travel to the Eastern Pacific with her lover in a quest for freedom from societal constraints. Instead, she discovers a new kind of misery.

The contemporary storyline features Mallory, who flees her life in New England to get back to researching penguins on Floreana. There she discovers Dore's diary, which helps her come to terms with her own struggles.

I loved learning about the history, science and culture of the Galápagos Islands. I also connected with Dore and Mallory, who, although separated by decades, share similar feelings and experiences as women searching for meaning.

For “a book set in the Midwest United States,” try “Fun for the Whole Family” by Jennifer E. Smith. I recommend this contemporary novel about four estranged siblings to fans of Anna Quindlen and Laurie Frankel.

Three years after their fallout, the siblings gather in a seemingly random town in North Dakota upon the request of the youngest sister, Jude. There is never a question that the others, Gemma, Connor and Roddy, will join Jude, if only to unload the anger and hurt that caused their silence.

It all is connected to their relationship with their mother, who left them when they were children only to swoop in every year for a memorable road trip. That bonded the siblings but also led to secrets Jude feels compelled to unveil.

I loved this family drama, especially because the alternating chapters provided a kaleidoscopic understanding of a likeable set of characters. Plus, I shed a few tears, which is my highest compliment.

Information about the Summer Reading Program is available on the library’s website at [www.roseburgpubliclibrary.org](http://www.roseburgpubliclibrary.org) and at the library’s front desk.

Happy summer reading!

#### This Week’s Library Events

Monday, June 9-Saturday, June 14, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - StoryWalk® at Eastwood Park

Tuesday, June 10 at 10 a.m. - Grab-and-go kids craft kits (while supplies last)

Tuesday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m. - Online Book Group (email [kwiley@roseburgor.gov](mailto:kwiley@roseburgor.gov) for the Zoom link)

Wednesday, June 11 at 10:30 a.m. - Storytime at Stewart Park Pavilion