

RTC LIBRARY E-NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2015



Welcome to the October Issue of *RTC LIBRARY E-NEWS*

In this issue: Recommended Reads

Google vs. Google Scholar + tips for searching Google Scholar

Quotes from His Majesty, the 4th Druk Gyalpo, Jigme Singye Wangchuck

“Read the Book-Watch the Movie”

Recommended Reads from the RTC community

***Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger**

If you really want to get inside the head of a troubled, nearly forlorn 1950's American well-to-do teenager as he struggles to make sense of his life, his family, and his world, then J.D. Salinger's seminal *The Catcher in the Rye* is the book for you.

Published in 1951, and quickly regarded as a classic, this first-person novel relays the story of Holden Caulfield, a seventeen-year-old of privilege from New York City's Upper East Side, who has been kicked out of a prestigious prep school “on account flunking four subjects and not applying myself and all.”

And, sure, Holden is insolent, and disparaging -- who isn't a “phony” in his view? -- and likes to swear a lot over the course of the three days of events, or “madman stuff” as he puts it, that he relays to the reader.

But for a kid at the end of his rope and who has suffered a nervous breakdown, Holden's also insightful -- there are a lot of phonies out there, after all -- and even endearing; just find out why he wants to be “the catcher in the rye and all”.

Moreover, when Holden sneaks home to spend time with his ten-year-old sister, Phoebe, we realize not only how much he cares for her, but how much we care for him.

What's most impressive about *Catcher in the Rye* is how quickly we become unaware of Salinger, the author. Reading the book really does feel like we are hearing directly from a disaffected, confused teen searching for answers, one who doesn't want to relay “all that David Copperfield kind of crap”.

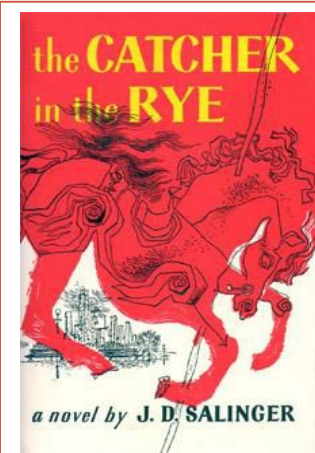
A not so subtle contrast with Charles Dickens' classic story of a boy's life -- as Copperfield puts it at the book's outset: “Whether I shall turn out to be the hero of my own life, or whether that station will be held by anybody else, these pages must show” -- Salinger's anti-hero just wants to tell us what he wants to tell us. And yet he has regrets for just doing just that.

“It's funny,” Holden says at one point, at the close of the book, “Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody.”

Well, fortunately, Holden has told us his funny, heartfelt, if not heartbreaking, tale, and by its finish, I start missing him. For every time I reach the last page of *Catcher in the Rye*, I truly don't want it to end. But then, being a book, I can re-read it. **Ivor Hanson, Orientation to College Instructor**

Location: MAIN

Call No.: 813.54 S1653c 1991



Quotes:

“The mark of the immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one.”

“The part that got me was, there was a lady sitting next to me that cried all through the goddam picture. The phonier it got, the more she cried. You'd have thought she did it because she was kindhearted as hell, but I was sitting right next to her, and she wasn't. She had this little kid with her that was bored as hell and had to go to the bathroom, but she wouldn't take him. She kept telling him to sit still and behave himself. She was about as kindhearted as a goddam wolf.”

Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo

Behind the Beautiful Forevers is a testament to the human spirit, which is able to survive, and occasionally thrive, in even the most depraved and impoverished circumstances. The author, Katherine Boo spent over three years reporting on the lives of the residents of Annawadi, a makeshift slum a short distance from Mumbai's airport and luxury hotels. Yet, the residents might as well be a million miles away, for they lack the resources and opportunities to crossover into that sanitized world.

We meet Asha, who works and connives to become a "slumlord", Fatima, an unhappy one legged woman who cheats on her abusive, drunken husband, and Zehrunisa, who must learn to navigate an unsavory legal system to free her jailed family members. We watch as their pettiness and jealousy cause havoc on themselves and others. Greed and corruption run rampant in the slum. A family is unjustly accused of murder, which destroys their business and livelihood; a young man is found brutally murdered, yet the police write his death off as a case of prolonged tuberculosis; two young residents eat rat poison to escape their circumstances. We cheer for Abdul, a garbage buyer and Sunil, a stunted orphan garbage picker, who seek to rise above their environment, hopeful for a better future.

As I read Boo's account, it made me question how would I survive under such hardships and harsh realities? Would I resort to jealousy, to theft, to political corruption, or worse in order to eat and feed my family, to get by in a world where it matters little if you live or die? It made me think too about the words Ruchira Gupta spoke during her presentation recently at RTC, "Culture does not make people, people make culture."

While I agree with that statement, I also acknowledge and have empathy for those, as Boo says, who live in a world "where government priorities and market imperatives create a world so capricious that to help a neighbor is to risk your ability to feed your family, and sometimes even your own liberty."

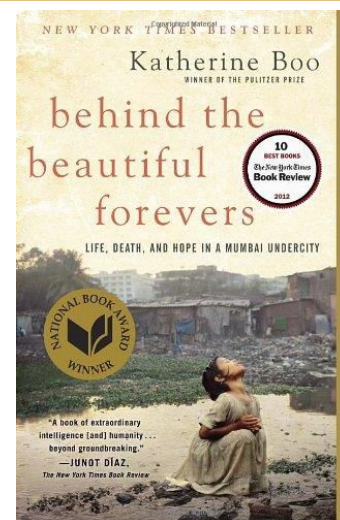
For those who live under such conditions, who are barely able to survive and make ends meet, whose chances of climbing out of their mired existence are slim to nothing, it can be extremely difficult to care about others, to have the energy and the incentive to create a mutually supportive community. It may be more surprising that (m)any do.

The subtitle of the book is: *Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity*. I must confess, I often did not feel hopeful for the Annawadi residents as I read this book. But then I remember the saying: "Hope springs eternal" and for them, I am glad it does.

Behind the Beautiful Forevers is an engaging, well written firsthand account of a slice of life in Annawadi. It is an important, necessary book for all to read so we may compassionately look at the harsh realities of a life too many people in the world live in today. **Amrita McKinney, Librarian**

Location: Main

Call No.: 305.5 B7241b 2012



Quotes:

"He wanted to be better than what he was made of. In Mumbai's dirty water, he wanted to be ice. He wanted to have ideals. For self-interested reasons, one of the ideals he most wanted to have was a belief in the possibility of justice."

"The slum dwellers rarely got mad together...Instead, powerless individuals blamed other powerless individuals for what they lacked. Sometimes they tried to destroy one another. Sometimes, like Fatima, they destroyed themselves in the process. When they were fortunate, like Asha, they improved their lots by begging the life chances of other poor people."

"It seemed to him that in Annawadi, fortunes derived not just from what people did, or how well they did it, but also from the accidents and catastrophes they dodged. A decent life was the train that hadn't hit you, the slumlord you hadn't offended, the malaria you hadn't caught."

"Here, in the thriving western suburbs of the Indian financial capital, three thousand people had packed into, or on top of, 335 huts. It was a continual coming-and-going of migrants from all over India..."

Darkness at Noon, by Arthur Koestler

Darkness at Noon, by Hungarian author Arthur Koestler, begins with the arrest of Rubashov, a high ranking party member who is imprisoned for treason against the government – a government he helped create and to which he has dedicated his life in serving.

Darkness at Noon, like Orwell's later written *Animal Farm*, is a critique of Stalin's rule although the book never mentions Stalin nor the Soviet Union. Instead, Stalin is simply referred to as Number 1.

Koestler, himself, was at one time an enthusiastic member of the Communist Party until he became disillusioned and renounced the party in 1938. Koestler tells us that Rubashov, "is a synthesis of the lives of a number of men who were victims of the so-called Moscow Trials. Several of whom were personally known to the author."

This is a dark tale and Koestler uses imagery throughout the book to portray the darkness – beginning with Rubashov's arrest in the middle of the night. Koestler's images arouse one's senses. I could hear Rubashov pacing his cell, counting his steps, tapping on the walls as he communicates with cell No. 402 and No. 406, to each side of him. As a fellow prisoner (a one-time friend and comrade) is dragged through to be executed, the message of his coming has been communicated in code from cell to cell and then we see Rubashov peering into the hallway, watching through the limited opening of his cell door. We feel Rubashov's anguish and uncertainty.

While pacing in his cell, Rubashov attempts to "follow his thoughts to their logical conclusion" and finds himself coming into contact with his "silent partner", what he calls the "grammatical fiction"; what we would call the first person, the "I" - his individuality, which the Party has encouraged its members to suppress and avoid. He even begins to question his own innocence, as if he may actually be guilty of the charges against him.

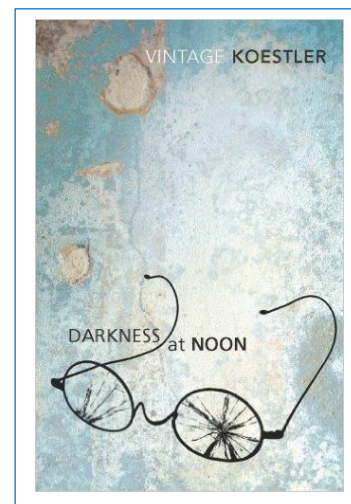
As Rubashov awaits trial, as he begins to listen to his "grammatical fiction", he is haunted by the memories when he had sacrificed others for the sake of the Party, such as his lover, Arlova. A central theme in *Darkness at Noon* addresses the ethics of violence. And we - as is Rubashov - are confronted with the question: "Does a noble end justify ignoble means?"

We are also introduced to a number of interesting characters, some through present circumstances and others through flashbacks. There is Bogrov, who taught Rubashov to read and write while imprisoned in Siberia, who he now watches dragged to his execution, Ivanov, his first interrogator, who he once had convinced to not commit suicide after losing a leg, and the ruthless Gletkin, who represents the new Party, with no sentimentalities to the Old Guard, who replaces Ivanov and continues the interrogation.

Darkness at Noon is a searing tale and while Stalin and the Soviet Union are of the past, too often in the world today, we continue to see men and women arrested, without benefit of fair trial. While not an easy read (it helps to have some knowledge of the Russian Revolution) it's a book well worth reading. In its pages we experience the effects of an ideology gone wrong. **Amrita McKinney, Librarian**

Location: FIC

Call no: FIC K785d



Quotes:

"Had not history always been an inhumane, unscrupulous builder, mixing its mortar of lies, blood and mud?"

"Never in history has so much power over the future of humanity been concentrated in so few hands as is our case. Each wrong idea we follow is a crime committed against future generations. Therefore we have to punish wrong ideas as others punish crimes: with death."

"The Party can never be mistaken... You and I can make a mistake, not the Party. The Party, comrade, is more than you and I and a thousand others like you and I. The Party is the embodiment of the revolutionary idea in history... History knows her way. She makes no mistakes. He who has not absolute faith in History does not belong in the Party's ranks."

"When he has thought out everything to its logical conclusion, he will capitulate," said Ivanov. "When Rubashov capitulates, it won't be out of cowardice, but by logic."

This month: Google vs. Google Scholar

Google Scholar focuses on scholarly literature. It retrieves information from academic publishers, professional societies, university repositories, and professional websites. It includes: articles, theses, books, abstracts, and patents.

Google has a much broader scope. It searches for resources regardless of where they originate. These resources do not have to be scholarly, nor do they have to be based on research. Google is a good place to start your research in order to get ideas about and understand your topic, to learn the terminology, as well as gather background and anecdotal information. It is an excellent source for statistics and publications produced by organizations and ministries, and for images, videos, and maps.

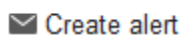
Google Scholar Tips

Did you know you can set up alerts using Google Scholar?

First: Identify the search that you wish to receive future articles about. For example, I am interested in articles on:

"national dress" "cultural identity" Bhutan OR "United Arab Emirates"

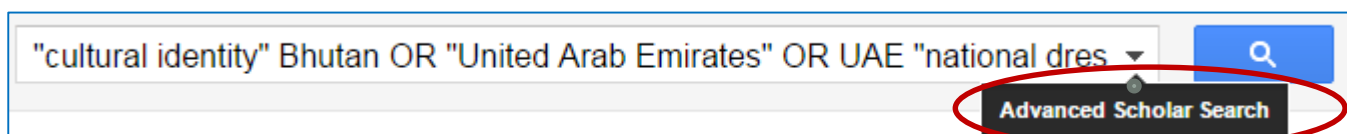
Second: Select the "Create alert" icon on the left hand side of your results page.



Third: Enter your email address, pass the I am not a Robot test (you only need to do this the first time), check your email, and confirm your request

Fourth: Automatically receive an email alert when new articles that meet your search criteria become available.

Using the Advanced Search Option



If you want a group of words to appear together, put the words in quotes or list as an exact phrase (see below)

When "United Arab Emirates" is in quotes, these words must appear in the article together. If the words are not in quotes or searched as an exact phrase, Google will search for United OR Arab OR Emirates – and many more irrelevant articles will be retrieved.



Okay, I found an article that looks interesting, now what?

If you find an article that has a link, like the one below, you are in luck. Simply click and download the PDF.

[\[PDF\] Tourism and the politics of cultural preservation: A case study of Bhutan](#)

[\[PDF\] from princeton.edu](#)

MA Reinfeld - JOURNAL OF PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL ..., 2003 - [princeton.edu](#)

... Now little figures, looking shabbily Dickensian in threadbare Western **clothing**, greet foreigners with an empty outstretched hand. ... from its goal of a unified **national** identity. ... The Nepalese have, for the most part, clung to the **traditional dress**, religion (Hinduism), ...

Cited by 14 [Related articles](#) [All 2 versions](#) [Cite](#) [Save](#) [More](#)

If there is no link (as in the article below), Click on [Cite](#) and copy all the elements of the citation. Bring you citation to the library and we may be able to get the full text article for you.

[Immodest modesty: Accommodating dissent and the'abaya-as-fashion in the Arab Gulf states](#)

N Al-Qasimi - Journal of Middle East Women's Studies, 2010 - [muse.jhu.edu](#)

... by Islamic patriarchy, namely through a parodic recontextualization of Islamic **national dress** through fashion. ... Al-Shamry, Halima 2006 Interview with the author (in **Arabic**), Riyadh, June 4 ...

United Arab Emirates, Ministry of Economy (UAE/MOE) 2007 UAE in Numbers 2007. ...

Cited by 24 [Related articles](#) [All 5 versions](#) [Cite](#) [Save](#)

Cited in APA as: Al-Qasimi, N. (2010). Immodest modesty: Accommodating dissent and the 'abaya-as-fashion in the Arab Gulf states. *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, 6(1), 46-74.

Other hints for finding more articles on your topic

[Immodest modesty: Accommodating dissent and the'abaya-as-fashion in the Arab Gulf states](#)

N Al-Qasimi - Journal of Middle East Women's Studies, 2010 - [muse.jhu.edu](#)

... by Islamic patriarchy, namely through a parodic recontextualization of Islamic **national dress** through fashion. ... Al-Shamry, Halima 2006 Interview with the author (in **Arabic**), Riyadh, June 4 ...

United Arab Emirates, Ministry of Economy (UAE/MOE) 2007 UAE in Numbers 2007. ...

Cited by 24 [Related articles](#) [All 5 versions](#) [Cite](#) [Save](#)

Click on [Cited by 24](#) to retrieve recent authored works that have cited Al-Qasimi's article. Here is one of interest.

[Cultural collision: The branded abaya](#)

C Lindholm - Fashion, Style & Popular Culture, 2013 - [ingentaconnect.com](#)

Conservative Muslim women from the Arabian Gulf region typically wear an all-covering black robe and headscarf, the abaya and shayla. These garments adhere to the Qura'nic directive to dress modestly and to avoid attracting attention from male strangers. With the ...

Cited by 1 [Related articles](#) [Cite](#) [Save](#)

Click [Related articles](#) to see even more additional sources. Here is another title of interest. This one is a dissertation.
NOTE: Neither of these two articles appeared in my original search results.

[Local Interpretations of Global Trends: Body Concerns and Self-Projects Enacted by Young Emirati Women](#) [\[PDF\] from openrepository.com](#)

SS Trainer - 2013 - [arizona.openrepository.com](#)

In this dissertation, I use the ethnographic case study of the United Arab Emirates to illustrate a much larger phenomenon that involves young women worldwide in the throes of identity negotiation at a time of accelerated global flows of information, foods, fashion, media ...

[Related articles](#) [All 3 versions](#) [Cite](#) [Save](#)

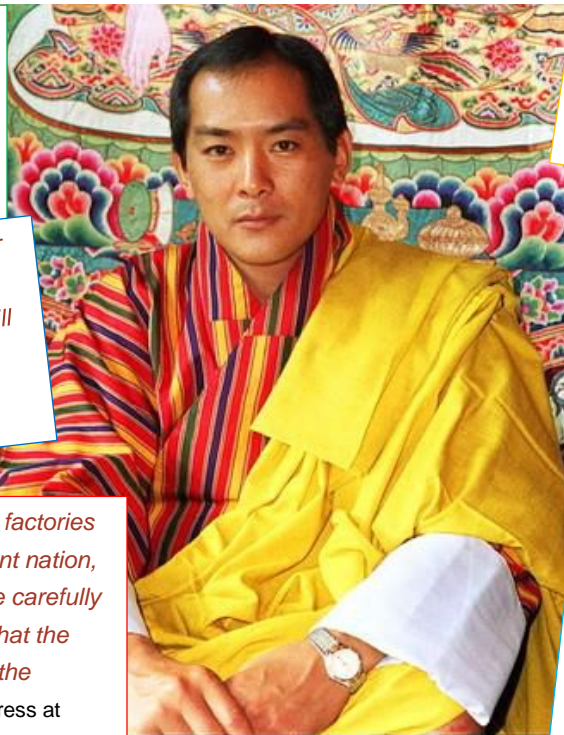
HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Nov 11, 2015

Quotes from His Majesty, the 4th Druk Gyalpo, Jigme Singye Wangchuck

“Our greatest strength lies in our people. United as one, there is no goal that cannot be achieved and no problem that cannot be overcome.” Address to the Nation, December 17, 1980

“I am confident that a very bright and great future lies ahead for Bhutan with leadership of a new king and a democratic system of government that is best suited for our country, as enshrined in the Constitution. I have every confidence that there will be unprecedented progress and prosperity for our nation during the reign of our Fifth King.” The Royal Kasho, Abdication of the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, December 9, 2006

“All of us are aware of the integrated nature of the world economy. Its stability and growth cannot be based on the affluence of the few and the impoverishment of the many.” Inaugural Address at the Third Meeting of the SAARC Foreign Ministers, May 13, 1985



“I have always made it clear that the people are more important than the King. We cannot leave the future of the country in the hands of one person who is chosen by birth and not by merit.”

“We should keep in mind that since most of our countries have porous borders, the impact of a population explosion in any of our countries will also be felt by its neighbours through cross-border migration.” Address at the Ninth SAARC Summit, May 12, 1997

“It is an important responsibility of the Royal Government to ensure that a time does not come when Bhutanese people cannot find employment in their own country. Such a situation must never be allowed to arise.”
Address to the Nation, National Day, Mongar, December 17, 2004

“While hydro-electric projects, highways and factories may constitute the new temples of a resurgent nation, we believe that the roots of a people must be carefully nurtured and traditional values fostered, so that the trauma of material change does not destroy the cultural identity of a people.” Convocation Address at Nagarjuna Sagen University, India, March 16, 1982

“Bhutan must move with the time to ensure that the nation not only overcomes all internal and external threats, but continues to prosper in an atmosphere of peace and stability.” November 30, 2001. Drafting of the Constitution.

“The future of our nation lies in the hands of the Bhutanese children.”

“Gross National Happiness is far more important than Gross National Product.”

“I would like to remind our youth that the television and the Internet provide a whole range of possibilities, which can be both beneficial as well as negative for the individual and the society. I trust that you will exercise your good sense and judgment in using the Internet and television.” Address to the Nation Silver Jubilee Celebration, Thimphu, June 2, 1999

“We consider the struggle of the Palestinian people for justice and freedom, not a cause only dear and sacred to the Palestinian people, but to the entire human race, for all human beings value and treasure these ideals which give meaning and dignity to our lives.”
Address at the Banquet in Honour of Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, April 21, 1985

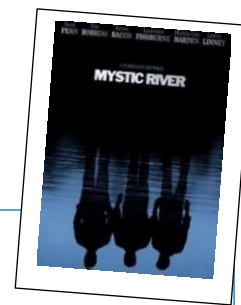
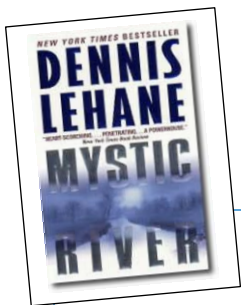
“Water is to us what oil is to the Arabs.” Meeting in New Delhi, India, Sept. 2003

Bhutan Times. (2001.). *Immortal Lines: Speeches of the 4th Druk Gyalpo Jigme Singye*. Thimphu, Bhutan: Author. (Call No.: 954.98092 K521i 2007)

Druk Yoedzer. (2013). *Reminiscences: A king and his times, 1972-2006*. 2013. Thimphu, Bhutan: Author. (Call No.: 954.98092 K521r 2013)

Pek-Dorji, S. (Ed.). (2007). *The legacy of a king: The fourth Druk Gyalpo Jigme Singye Wangchuck*. Thimphu, Bhutan: Dept. of Tourism. (Call No.: 954.98092 W2469L 2007)

Sharma, P. (2003, September 18). Bhutan waters economic ties. In *The Telegraph*. Retrieved September 30, 2015, from http://www.telegraphindia.com/1030918/asp/nation/story_2376959.asp



Read the book, watch the movie!

Clint Eastwood has masterfully directed Dennis Lehane's New York Times bestseller, *Mystic River*. A stellar cast, including Sean Penn (who won an Academy Award for Best Actor), Tim Robbins (who won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor), Kevin Bacon, Laura Linney and Marcia Gay Harden give riveting performances in this mystery drama set in Boston, Massachusetts.

As one critic has noted: "If you've read the book, you'll not be disappointed by the movie; if you haven't read the book, don't be misled into thinking that because you know "what happened", the novel will hold no surprises. Eastwood made a terrific movie using only a part of Lehane's book; there's far more substance left to savor by reading the whole story."

So... Read the Book, Watch the Movie. Or Watch the Movie, Read the Book. Seems like you can't go wrong either way.

News from the Reading Club:

Are you busy, but interested in reading and discussing short stories, poems, essays and speeches with others? Even watching an occasional documentary? Come join the Reading Club every Tuesday, from 4:30-5:30 in the Librarian's office.

Book recommendations:

Have you read a good book recently? Want to share your recommendation with others? Send it to amckinney@rtc.bt or come by the library and see me. Thanks!