

Information, Answers & Reviews

Wes Craven: 1939?2015



The month of October is one of the most popular months for watching films of the horror genre. It also seems a suitable time to post a tribute to the August 30th passing of director Wes Craven who did much to influence the direction of the modern horror film. His 1984 *Nightmare on Elm Street* introduced Freddy Krueger, one of the longest lasting and memorable horror characters since Boris Karloff's monster in the 1931 movie *Frankenstein*. In 1996 he introduced us to 'Ghostface' in *Scream*, a second horror creation destined to become almost legend. Yet it would be wrong of us to limit Wes Craven's talent to only the horror genre. He was also known for films such as *Music of the Heart* starring Meryl Streep as a music teacher struggling to teach violin to inner city children and as one of twenty directors of *Paris, je t'aime* a collection of stories about the city of love.

This month is a perfect time to explore the legacy of films that we have been left by this notable director. The link below will create a list of DVDs owed by the Library for your enjoyment.

[The Films of Wes Craven](#)

Posted by Keith C. on October 5, 2015

[Horror](#)

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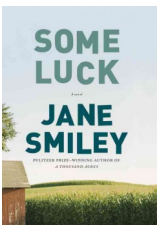
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Some Luck



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Before this century, farming was a way of life for many Americans. In the 1920s, 20% of our workforce labored on farms. Now it is less than 2%. This novel, the first of a trilogy, covers the lives of an extended agricultural family, the Langdons, from the 1920s to the 1950s.

In 1920 Walter Langdon, a young 25-year-old walks the land of his new farm. His father thought he didn't need to start on his own yet, but Walter disagreed. He had a wife after all--the beautiful and practical, Rosanna--and now a six-month-old son, the treasured Frank. As the first

grandchild in the family, he receives tons of love and praise.

The novel covers a cycle of births, deaths, marriages, and children coming of age for two generations. The pace is slow, the characterization, deep, and you feel that you are really experiencing life as it was lived on an Iowa farm. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 22, 2015

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The Wild, Wild, West ? Television Series



[view in catalog](#)

When I was young, maybe too young as I was only eight at the time, my father introduced me to a series of books by an author named Ian Fleming about an English secret agent known as James Bond. Prior to this my heroes were all from world of television. I was enthralled with the ?Adventures of Superman,? ?Roy Rogers? and ?The Lone Ranger.? As you may have noticed two of my favorite heroes were from westerns. James Bond suddenly took precedence over them all. I loved the intrigue and the action in the books. But I still loved my westerns. Then, in 1964 a television western, *The Wild, Wild West*, set in the mid 1800?s appeared about two agents of the newly established U.S. Secret Service; James West and Artemus Gordon. Each episode had the intrigue and mystery of a secret agent like James Bond as well as the special gadgets and gizmos a spy would use and best of all, it was a western. I was hooked.[Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 22, 2015

[The wild wild West. Season 1, The complete first season \[videorecording\]](#)

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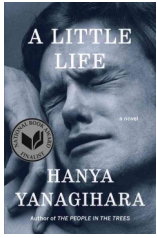
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Prestigious Man Booker Prize Announces

Short List



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It's that time of year again when the Man Booker Prize whittles its choices down to a manageable six. The Man Booker Award, begun in 1969, is one of the most prestigious literary awards.

It was formerly limited to writers from the UK and Commonwealth, the Republic of Ireland and Zimbabwe. In a move many British writers recented, last year it was opened to Americans for the first time. Many Brits felt that the Yankees would take over it. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 21, 2015

[The Man Booker Prize Announces their 2015 Short List](#)

[Fiction](#)

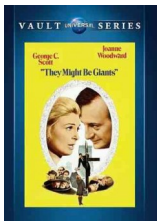
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They Might Be Giants



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George C. Scott often manages to bring a believability to even the most unbelievable role. In the dark comedy *They Might Be Giants*, Scott plays Justin, a man believing himself to be the illustrious fictional detective Sherlock Holmes, who's turned over to a psychologist, played by Joanne Woodward, for evaluation and treatment. She's a young woman whose last name just happens to be Watson? a situation that doesn't exactly help Justin's delusions? and she's soon drawn into his search for Moriarty, following ?Holmes? hither and yon through Manhattan and into dangerous situations. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 15, 2015

[They might be giants \[Motion picture : 1971\]](#)

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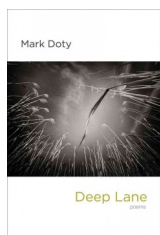
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Deep Lane



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I started this morning reading poetry, and couldn't have found a better book of contemporary American poems than Mark Doty's *Deep Lane*. He writes about memory, love, and human connections. Masterfully, he encases most of these themes in strikingly beautiful nature poems. How gifted Doty is describing things as ordinary as a deer in a backyard, when he writes "a buck in velvet at the garden rim, / bronze lightly shagged, split thumbs / of antlers budding."

He also celebrates humanity in everyday New York City: the three barbers he visited for ten years who suddenly disappeared, the one-armed man at the gym, his old friend, Dugan, who appears suddenly on 15th Street, "why shouldn't the dead / sport a little style?" [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 3, 2015

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