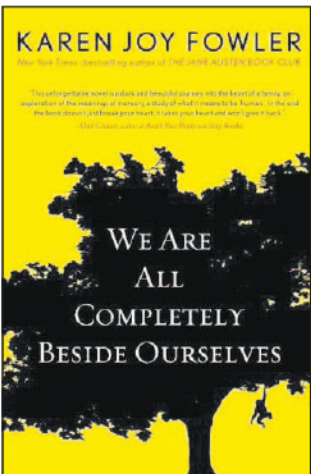


# BOOKSHELF

By RYAN HUME

## Just finished

**"We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves"**  
by Karen Joy Fowler  
G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2013



Davis in 1996, Rosemary has grown quiet at the world's insistence. It is through this quiet that she learns to avoid picking at her family's distant but gaping wounds. Though, when her brother arrives unexpectedly, Rosemary is forced to find a voice that will allow her to examine her past, her own culpability in it and to trace the conclusions of those far-away actions into the present.

**Take Away:** As Leo Tolstoy wrote in the oft-quoted opening to "Anna Karenina": "All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." Thus, literature is obsessed with unhappy families. Though it is important to remember there is no rule stating that just because the family as subject is unhappy that the reader should be too. Fowler's sixth novel exemplifies this paradox. While the unraveled Cooke clan is certainly unique in its unhappiness, there's no better companion into the fold than Fowler's narrator, Rosemary Cooke, whose voice is crisp, witty, whimsical and often very funny. Recounted from the viewpoint of 2012, the narrative effortlessly dips into the pivotal years of 1979 and 1996 to concoct a buried and bruised love story that will widen your definition of family and

**Plot Notes:** By the time she was 11 years old, Rosemary Cooke had essentially become the only child of her psychically stunted parents after her two older siblings have disappeared — one by choice, the other by force. Her brother, Lowell, an activist, is wanted by the FBI and her unusual adopted sister, Fern, has been banished from the home. By the time she is a student at UC

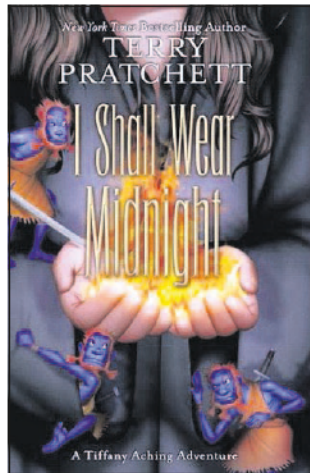
pluck on your heart strings.

**Recommended For:** This book is the rare creature that would be just as welcome at the beach as it would be on a rainy day.

**Bonus:** Karen Joy Fowler will read and sign her books at the annual Get Lit at the Beach event in Cannon Beach this upcoming week-end of April 10 to 12. Other featured guests include Gail Tsukiyama, Nancy Pearl, Jim Lynch and Terry Brooks.

## Other books

**"I Shall Wear Midnight: A Tiffany Aching Adventure"** by Terry Pratchett  
HarperCollins, 2010

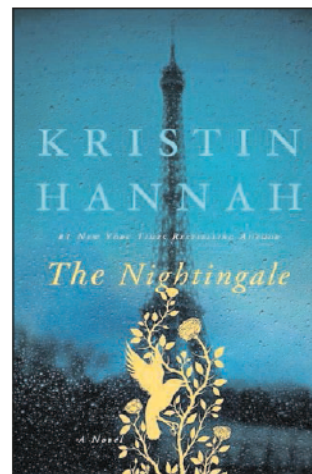


**Recommended by:** Watt Childress of Jupiter's Books in Cannon Beach:

**A great series:** Childress arrived at this magical and comic novel — the

fourth in the Tiffany Aching Adventure series — just two weeks before Pratchett died earlier this month. Expounding an absurd wit in a fantasy setting, along with plenty of heart and wisdom, Childress says, "My whole family loves these books."

**"The Nightingale"**  
by Kristin Hannah  
St. Martin's, 2015



**Recommended by:** Beach Books in Seaside:

**In your downtime:** Primarily set during the Nazi occupation of France, the new Kristin Hannah novel has her legions of fans claiming that this may be her best book yet. By focusing on a pair of sisters separated by the war, Hannah examines women's roles in a torn and oppressed land. Pick this one up for your next vacation.

# word nerd

By RYAN HUME

## Sunset [san•set]

noun

1. The act, event or time of day when the sun slips behind the horizon. *Syn:* *sundown, nightfall*

2. *Sunset Highway:* a segment of U.S. Highway 26 that winds through the Coast Range; officially between the Vista Ridge Tunnels in Port-

land on the east and the interchange terminus with U.S. 101 on the west several miles south of Seaside

3. *Sunset Empire:* An informal nickname for the North Coast of Oregon that originated in the mid-20th century

**Origin:**

*Sun:* Current spelling developed from the Old English *sunne* around 1325, rising from multiple Germanic roots.

*Set:* Mutated from the Old English *settan*, meaning "to sit or fix firmly," by 1121. *Sunset* is first noted in use before 1393, some

47 years prior to the first known use of *sunrise* in 1440.

*Sunset Highway:* Upon the beginning of construction in 1933, the road was named the Wolf Creek highway, but was changed in 1946 — prior to the highway's official completion in 1949 — to Sunset to honor the 41st Infantry Division, a Portland-based National Guard unit known as the "Sunsetters" who had this image illustrated on their sleeve insignia. The 41st were the first unit deployed to protect the West Coast from a Jap-

anese attack following Pearl Harbor and later saw combat in the Pacific Theater of WWII.

"Clatsop County, which prides itself as title of 'Pacific Playground of the Oregon Beach areas participating in the Portland Hollywood Boosters 'Vacation in Oregon' campaign July 28-Aug. 1."

—"Clatsop beach areas magnet for sightseers," *The Oregonian*, Tuesday, July 28, 1964, p. 18 HW

"The Sunset highway is a fast and pleasant road for those who can reach it readily, but planning is necessary to avoid a long wait for the ferry at Astoria."

—Mervin G. Shoemaker, "Motorlog: From Willapa to Tillamook the hammers pound," *The Sunday Oregonian*, May 19, 1946, p. 5

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- CLAM CLEANING DEMO
- DISPLAY VENDORS
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- AMATEUR CHOWDER COMPETITION
- LIVE MUSIC
- CLAM CHOWDER TASTE-OFF
- CLAM CONTESTS
- BEER GARDEN
- CLAM FRITTER COOK-OFF

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