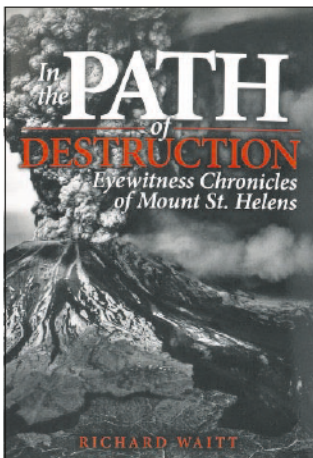


BOOKSHELF

By RYAN HUME

Just finished

"In the Path of Destruction: Eyewitness Chronicles of Mount St. Helens" by Richard Waitt
Washington State University Press, 2014



culminated in an unprecedented explosion that triggered historic landslides and an inland tsunami, throwing tree and rock and leveling 234 square miles of forest. Ash carried as far as Missoula, Montana. The volcano bloomed a mushroom larger than the one that crested above Hiroshima in 1945. Scores of people lost their lives; others had a harrowing experience seared into their brains in vivid detail. Geologist Richard Waitt was one of the first on the scene. Waitt's comprehensive, exhaustive — some might say obsessive — chronicle of the Mount St. Helens' eruption dips into many different disciplines and combs through hundreds of interviews he has conducted over the last three decades to recreate the vastness of this destructive, natural event that began unexpectedly on a distant May morning.

Take Away: By blending hard scientific journalism with oral history, Waitt has managed to construct a linear model of the geological phenomena as it sailed and spilled in real time, edited from multiple perspectives (air,

ground, distance), and told in a choir of eyewitness' voices. Peppered with breathtaking photography, the result of Waitt's compilation is at once maximalist and intimate. Here are the stories of the journalists, photographers, loggers, campers, scientists, law enforcement officers, onlookers and first responders that, when taken as a whole, transcribe the totality of a historical calamity much larger than any single human eye could absorb — which allows the reader to see the forest through the trees, then watch that forest be blown to smithereens from a variety of angles. Occasionally the momentum slumps under the heft of its own weight. With so many players involved, it can be a challenge to remember who is with which specific agency or outfit, and when the book shifts near the halfway mark to anecdotal evidence of that fateful day provided by eyewitness recollection, the narrative becomes dependant on the storytelling skills of each individual. Overall, it is a neat trick: to see a solid scientific portrait emerge from the memories of those who watched a clear blue morning fall into violent night.

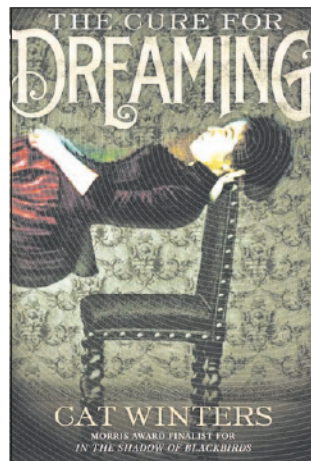
Recommended For: Northwest History buffs

Bonus: May is Volcano Preparedness Month in Washington state. The

Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, which was recently voted the No. 1 national monument to visit in a USA Today poll, begins its season on Saturday, May 16, and has a full week-end of events planned to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the eruption.

Other books

"The Cure for Dreaming" by Cat Winters
Harry N. Abrams, 2014



Recommended by: Lisa Reid of Lucy's Books in Astoria

YA pick: Set in Portland in 1900, against the backdrop of the women's

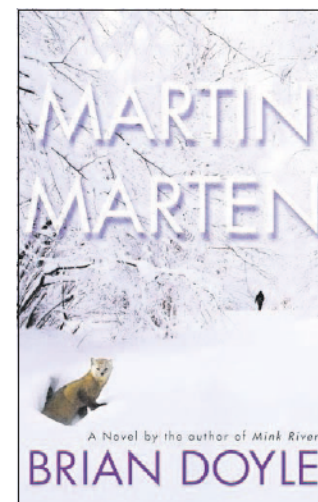
suffrage movement, this fantastical, historical young adult novel concerns Olivia Mead, who is granted the gift of seeing the world as it really is by the young hypnotist Henri Reverie, who was hired by her controlling father to make her "more pleasant to be around." With Henri, Olivia will have to learn to cope with seeing people's true selves as she carves out her own destiny. "Great book for YA women, fans of independent thinking and history buffs interested in woman's suffrage," Reid said.

"Martin Marten" by Brian Doyle

Thomas Dunne Books, 2015
Recommended by: Deb Mersereau of Cannon Beach Book Company in Cannon Beach

Human / nature insight: Two coming-of-age stories in one, each set amid the forests of Mount Hood. Dave, a 14-year-old human boy is about to begin high school. Martin, a pine marten, a cat-sized critter, is about to leave home for the first

time. Doyle, the Oregon author of the acclaimed "Mink River," crafts unforgettable characters and landscapes in his lush, quirky prose. "I love Doyle's unique writing style and his insightfulness into human nature and the natural world. A true sign of a good book is not wanting it to end, and that is how I felt about 'Martin Marten,'" Mersereau said.



word nerd

By RYAN HUME

Cullaby

[kʌl·ə·bi]

noun

1. **Cullaby Lake:** the largest lake on the Clatsop Plains at 220 long and narrow acres that sit just east of U.S. 101 in Warrenton. Groundwater-fed, the lake serves as the headwaters to the Skipanon River and is home to a 165-acre county park, with a boat ramp, barbecue and horse-shoe pits and the Lindgren Cabin, a Finnish-American heritage site. With an average depth of less than 12 feet, the lake is full of



Submitted photo

Clatsop-Nehalem tribal members show off their canoe, Dragonfly, in Cullaby Lake.

crappie, bullhead catfish and largemouth bass; rainbow trout are stocked annually

Origin:

Probably around the mid-1800s. According to Silas B. Smith, the original native name for this lake was *Ya-se-ya-ma-na-la-tslas-tie*. The current name is in honor of Cullaby, a popular Indian gunsmith of the Clatsop Plains.

"In their Journal Lewis and Clark

write of the Tillamook Indian with a fair skin and blue eyes; and John Minto, in 1846, at Morrison's, near the Tillamook coast, saw a fair Indian girl, so pale that he thought she was sick. She was the daughter of Cullaby, the friendly native for whom the lake east of Clatsop is named, and when Minto talked with Cullaby about the fair-haired Indian of Clark's acquaintance, Cullaby smote his breast and cried: 'Nika Papa'—'He was my father.'"

—"Legend of the Lost Galleons: Some Truth and Some Speculation About Spanish Treasure Buried on Clatsop Beach," *The Sunday Oregonian*, Dec. 8, 1907, Magazine Section, P. 4

"Cullaby Lake, named for a local Indian celebrity, is on the northern part of Clatsop plains and formerly made its outlet through Necoxie Creek, first north and then south to the estuary of the Nacanicum River. Cattle grazing along the lower Necoxie cut the nearby sands which were shifted by winds, thus damming the creek and forming Necoxie Lake. A short section of Necoxie Creek still flows into the estuary, but the lake drains to the north back toward Cullaby

Lake, which now outlets through Skipanon River. Here is a curious example of a complete change of direction of stream flow and lake outlet."

—Lewis A. McArthur, "The Lakes of Oregon," *The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*, Vol. 26, No. 1, March 1925, P. 6

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