

the bookcliffs

161 Pembroke Ave Wabasha, MN

PEMBROKE READINGS

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Nature

Horns and wrinkles

Joseph Helgerson

Those that live on the bank of the Mississippi River have a word for the weird things that happen there (like being turned to stone, growing a horn, or going missing) - and that's *rivery*. When something *rivery* happens, adults gets quiet and children are shuffled out of the room. But when something *rivery* happens to Duke, Claire's slightly younger cousin, Claire is needed to track him down and try to bring him home.

Immortal River The Upper Mississippi in Ancient and Modern Times

Calvin Fremling

This engaging and well-illustrated primer to the Upper Mississippi River presents the basic natural and human history of this magnificent waterway. *Immortal River* is written for the educated layperson who would like to know more about the river's history and the forces that shape as well as threaten it today. It melds complex information from the fields of geology, ecology, geography, anthropology, and history into a readable, chronological story that spans some 500 million years of the earth's history.

Best Sellers

Zeitoun

Dave Eggers

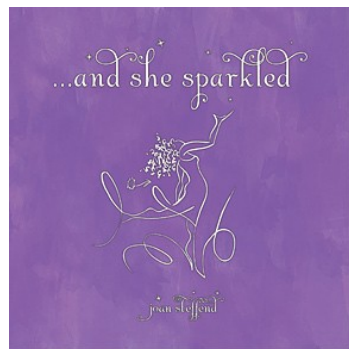
Winner of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award for Current Interest



When Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, Abdulrahman Zeitoun, a prosperous Syrian-American and father of four, chose to stay through the storm to protect his house and contracting business. In the days after, he traveled the flooded streets in a secondhand canoe, passing on supplies and helping those he could. But, on September 6, 2005, Zeitoun abruptly disappeared. Eggers's riveting nonfiction book, three years in the making, explores Zeitoun's roots in Syria, his marriage to Kathy—an American who converted to Islam—and their children, and the surreal atmosphere (in New Orleans and the United States generally) in which what happened to Abdulrahman Zeitoun became possible. Like *What Is the What*, *Zeitoun* was written in close collaboration with its subjects and involved vast research—in this case, in the U.S., Spain, and Syria.

"Eggers honors that steady spirit of the Zeitoun family and all rebuilding New Orleanians with this heartfelt book, so fierce in its fury, so beautiful in its richly nuanced, compassionate telling of an American tragedy, and finally, so sweetly, stubbornly hopeful."
— *The Times-Picayune*

"Imagine Charles Dickens, his sentimentality in check but his journalistic eyes wide open, roaming New Orleans after it was buried by Hurricane Katrina... Eggers' tone is pitch-perfect-suspense blended with just enough information to stoke reader outrage and what is likely to be a typical response: How could this happen in America?... It's the stuff of great narrative nonfiction... Fifty years from now, when people want to know what happened to this once-great city during a shameful episode of our history, they will still be talking about a family named Zeitoun."
— *The New York Times Book Review*



...and she sparkled

Joan Steffend

"... and she sparkled " is a metaphor for life. We are all born into this world with a special gift for being spectacularly, singularly us, and then we are all taught to tame those gifts to fit ourselves into the world. One day, if you're lucky, you wake up with the drive to begin the journey back to the uniqueness of you -- knowing that there's no better destination.

Ms. Steffend was a guest speaker at the bookcliffs on December 16, 2010