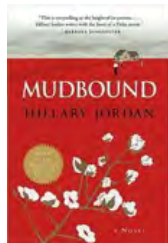


## New Book Club Kits Available



### "Mudbound" by Hillary Jordan

It is 1946, and city-bred Laura McAllan is trying to raise her children on her husband's Mississippi Delta farm--a place she finds foreign and frightening. In the midst of the family's struggles, two young men return from the war to work the land. Jamie McAllan, Laura's brother-in-law, is everything her husband is not--charming, handsome, and haunted by his memories of combat. Ronsel Jackson, eldest son of the black sharecroppers who live on the McAllan farm, has come home with the shine of a war hero. But no matter his bravery in defense of his country, he is still considered less than a man in the Jim Crow South. It is the unlikely friendship of these brothers-in-arms that drives this powerful novel to its inexorable conclusion. The men and women of each family relate their versions of events and we are drawn into their lives as they become players in a tragedy on the grandest scale.

### "Spare" by Prince Harry

It was one of the most searing images of the twentieth century: two young boys, two princes, walking behind their mother's coffin as the world watched in sorrow--and horror. As Diana, Princess of Wales, was laid to rest, billions wondered what the princes must be thinking and feeling--and how their lives would play out from that point on. For Harry, this is that story at last. With its raw, unflinching honesty, Spare is a landmark publication full of insight, revelation, self-examination, and hard-won wisdom about the eternal power of love over grief.



### "What We Leave Behind" by Barb Solberg

Martin and Asta came to America in 1913 to homestead and create a better life for themselves and a hoped-for family. Nineteen years later during the difficult years of the Great Plains Dust Bowl, they intend to improve the lives of three of their nine children by sending their eighteen-year-old daughter with her two younger sisters to Norway to live with relatives for two years. But things do not go according to plan. The oldest sister falls in love with and marries a young Norwegian man leaving the two younger sisters with no one to take them home. By 1940, when Germany invades Norway, the two younger sisters were living with the family relative who in the meantime married a Quisling, a member of the Norwegian Nazi Party. The two sisters miss the last US evacuee ship out of Petsamo, Finland, and soon German soldiers take one sister to Grini, a concentration camp north of Oslo. Eventually she and her older sister both marry men active in the Norwegian Resistance Movement of WWII. Will the entire family ever reconnect?

### "Windfall: The Prairie Woman Who Lost Her Way and the Great-Granddaughter Who Found Her" by Erika Bolstad

Author Erika Bolstad was shocked to learn she had inherited mineral rights in North Dakota in the throes of an oil bonanza. Determined to unearth the story behind her unexpected inheritance, she followed the trail to her great-grandmother, Anna, who her family had painted to be a courageous homesteader who paved her way in the unforgiving American West. But, Bolstad discovers a darker truth about Anna than her family had ever shared. With journalistic rigor, she unearths a history of environmental exploitation and genocide as well as the modern-day consequences of the Great Plains Dream: we could be rich.



Each book club kit includes ten copies of the book, a discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet.

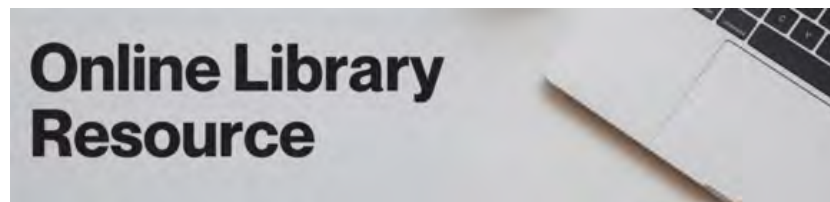
[Request a Kit Today](#)

# Upcoming NDSL Webinar

[Check Out The New North Dakota State Library Website](#)

Wednesday, July 19 (2:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

It's finally here, the new North Dakota State Library website! We're excited to unveil our new website. This webinar will orient you to our new website and show you how to navigate the various features and pages.



## Homework Help Resources

The ND State Library has many online library resources available for you and your family, including the following that may be helpful for homework and research purposes.

**Britannica School** is an online encyclopedia for K-12 students.

**Explora Kids / Explora Teens** are general research tools that include encyclopedia entries, articles, and images.

**Gale In Context: Elementary / Gale In Context: High School** are general research tools that include encyclopedia entries, articles, and images.

**PebbleGo / PebbleGo Next** are robust interactive tools for primary students that include videos, articles, and pictures with easy-to-use audio. Topics include animals, biographies, states, and American Indian history.

If you need any assistance or have any questions about these or other online library resources, contact the State Library at [statelib@nd.gov](mailto:statelib@nd.gov) or 701-328-4622.

[Start Learning Today!](#)



## French

July 14 is a French national holiday known as Bastille Day that commemorates the storming of Paris's Bastille prison by a revolutionary mob in 1789 at the start of the French Revolution. It is now a celebration of French national pride marked by fireworks, dances, festive meals, and military parades.

Learn to speak French with Mango Languages! This online library resource offers a personalized, adaptive language-learning experience that provides the tools and guidance you need in order to expand your language skills wherever and however you learn best.

Enhance your communication skills with specialty courses that cover a range of culturally significant topics, including Argot, romance, and wine and cheese. These courses were created using the same conversational methodology, native-speaker dialogue, and cultural context as Mango's world language courses.

### Reference:

Ruth, Michael. 2023. "Bastille Day." *Salem Press Encyclopedia*, April. <https://bit.ly/3D0uVVP>.



[Learn a New Language](#)

# Talking Book Update

## New USPS Policy: Additional Options in Mail Pickup of NLS Materials

Since the pandemic, the United States Postal Service (USPS) has instituted new policies for picking up packages, such as Braille and digital books. When you want to return materials to the library by postage-free mail, you may need to schedule a pickup. You can do so by completing the short online form at <https://tools.usps.com/schedule-pickup-steps.htm>. You might be able to streamline the process by speaking with your mail carrier directly. Thank you for taking this step to ensure the timely return of Braille and digital books to the library!

[Learn More About the ND Talking Book Program](#)

## New Items Added to Digital Horizons

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.



### [Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection](#)

Anderson boys by Fort McKeen blockhouse, N.D., 1956  
Andersons at Plymouth Rock, M.A., 1944  
Bunker Hill Monument, 1944  
F. Lyle Neshem home on furlough, 1944  
Melvin Berg at train station, Berthold, N.D., circa 1942



Milton and Johnnye Landers in San Diego, circa 1944  
Niagara Falls, 1944  
Plymouth Rock memorial, M.A., 1944  
Sign for Fort Lincoln State Park and Fort McKeen, N.D., 1956

### [North Dakota Memories](#)

Struck photo album of CCC and Turtle River State Park, 1930s



### [Political Prairie Fire](#)

Gives Decision in Case of Wallace Home, 1923 [newspaper article]  
IVA tank running over boss rule, 1919 [political cartoon]  
L.L. Stair, Speaker of the N.D. House, circa 1919  
List of Organizers and Leaders of the Non-Partisan League, 1922  
New Administration Fires Wallace, 1922 [newspaper article]  
North Dakota Referendum Election Results, 1919  
Portrait of A. E. Bowen, circa 1917

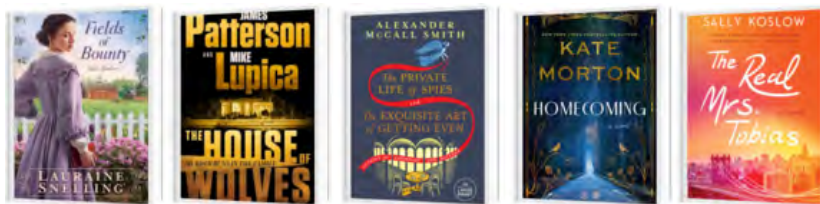


Portrait of Laureas J. Wehe, circa 1919  
Portrait of Usher L. Burdick, circa 1917  
Suits Started Against Hagan and Wallace, 1922 [newspaper article]  
The New Cincinnatus, 1916 [political cartoon]  
The Non-partisan League vs. the Home  
U.S. Representatives Burdick and Lemke review documents, 1936

[Visit Digital Horizons](#)

# New Items At The ND State Library

## Fiction Books



## Nonfiction Books



## Fiction E-Books



## Nonfiction E-Books



## Fiction E-Audiobooks



## Nonfiction E-Audiobooks





# Book Review



## "Blood Song" by Anthony Ryan Reviewed by Trevor Martinson

Anthony Ryan's debut fantasy novel "Blood Song" is riveting. It's reminiscent of "The Name of the Wind" and "Game of Thrones," with some elements of history thrown in (such as Rome and Sparta). I was reminded of Steven Pressfield's superb "Gates of Fire." There is also a touch of the Crusades, but in this case, it's those who are essentially atheists (ironically called the "faithful") against the heathen god-worshippers.



Is this to say the story isn't original? Absolutely not! The story is told through the eyes of Vaelin Al Sorna, the Hope Killer. In the beginning, he is perceived to be a defeated warlord who has decided to share his story with a scholar.

At the age of 10, his father, the Battle Lord (think the king's top general), unexpectedly dumps him on the doorstep of the Sixth Order, a religious group that trains and beats children into elite warriors. They're taught to forget their past. The Brotherhood is their only family now. They dedicate their lives to the Faith and the sword, and war is coming.

At first, there is a lot going on behind the scenes. As Vaelin is sheltered for many years within the Order, we learn along with him. We get snippets of the rich and complex world, and the politics swirling around. Eventually, Vaelin "graduates" and becomes more directly involved.

Although it's fantasy, there are only small hints of magic, but Ryan makes it work. The pace is slow, as it encompasses many years, but it's a magnificent tale that keeps the pages turning and makes you eager for the next installment.

"Blood Song" is available as an e-book and e-audiobook on Overdrive / the Libby app.

[Check It Out Today!](#)



Submitted by Al Peterson

The Fourth of July is widely known as the birth date of the United States of America, but what do you really know about the American Revolutionary War? If your memories of school social studies class are fuzzy and you want to brush up on the historical facts and events of one of the most important events in world history, Universal Class offers an American Revolutionary War course.

This course will describe many of the key aspects of the war: the precipitous events that led up to the war, the shot heard around the world, the Battles of Lexington and Concord, portraits of American patriots and loyalists, the Battle of Long Island, portraits of Redcoat (British) generals and leaders, Valley Forge, the Battle of Yorktown, the Treaty of Paris, and more. Each lesson will focus on particular aspects of the conflict, drawing to light key facts and other information relevant to the events at hand. This course is ideal for those seeking a review of this topic, extra tutoring, test prep, or non-academic hobbyists and lifelong learners.

[Start Learning Today!](#)

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Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent  
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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