

THE GRAPES OF WRATH

by John Steinbeck

ABOUT THE BOOK

Widely considered Steinbeck's finest and most ambitious novel, *The Grapes of Wrath* traces the journey of the Joad family from Oklahoma to California, where they find not the fabled land of their dreams but a place with few jobs, low wages, and inadequate worker housing. Capturing the mood and angst of the nation during the Great Depression, *The Grapes of Wrath* was one of three books Steinbeck wrote on labor issues in the 1930s, with *In Dubious Battle* and *Of Mice and Men* rounding out the trio.

The New York Times listed *The Grapes of Wrath* as the best-selling book of 1939, and by February 1940, 430,000 copies had been printed. That same month, the novel won The National Book Award, and later that year it won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. At the height of its popularity, *The Grapes of Wrath* sold an astonishing 10,000 copies per week.



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JOHN STEINBECK The Grapes of Wrath



Kelsey Patterson Reader Services Specialist Sioux City Public Library

WELCOME TO ONE BOOK ONE SIOUXLAND

As the Reader Services Specialist for the Sioux City Public Library, I'd like to welcome you to the fourteenth season of One Book One Siouxland. I invite you to explore our 2019 title, *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck, an American classic telling the tale of migrant workers displaced during the dust bowl of the Great Depression in a desperate search for work. Don't fret nonfiction readers, we've got a book for you too! *Harvest Gypsies* provides insight into the factual foundation of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Gathered in this important volume are seven newspaper articles on migrant farm workers that Steinbeck wrote three years prior to the publication of *The Grapes of Wrath*.

We've partnered with amazing people and groups from our community to once again build fun and educational events that expand the reading experience. I'm confident you will agree. So grab a copy of either book and let's dive into a season inspired by *The Grapes of Wrath*.

In addition to a full list of upcoming Book Discussions and Featured Events on the back, check out these extra opportunities to explore themes found in the book:

Tune in to Morning Edition on KWIT 90.3/KOJI 90.7 on Fridays at 8:44 AM from March 29 - April 19 and hear actor, director, and playwright Lorenzo Sandoval reading stories from the Iowa Writing Project's Hispanic Story project (https://iwp.uni.edu/hsp). Segments will be available online at www.kwit.org. **Visit the Sioux City Art Center** to view Grant Wood's Corn Room Mural and take a walk through the Depression-era artworks on display. Did you know the Sioux City Art Center has WPA ties? Check out www.siouxcityartcenter.org for more information.

www.onebookonesiouxland.org

All programs are free and open to the public unless noted otherwise.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Lifelong Learning Book Club Monday, March 18 | 11:45 am

Monday, March 18 | 11:45 am WITCC • Advanced Sciences Bldg Wells Fargo Room L110 • Entrance 14 4647 Stone Ave • Sioux City, IA Book: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck WITCC Fee: \$10 (includes lunch)

Barnes & Noble Book Club Thursday, March 21 | 7:00 pm

Barnes & Noble • Southern Hills Mall 4400 Sergeant Rd #550 • Sioux City, IA Book: Death of a Rainmaker by Laurie Loewenstein

Open Book Club

Monday, April 1 | 10:00 am Sioux City Public Library (Perry Creek Branch) 2912 Hamilton Blvd • Sioux City, IA Book: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Open Book Club

Monday, April 1 | 5:30 pm Sioux City Public Library (Aalfs Downtown) 529 Pierce St • Sioux City, IA Book: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Book Discussion

Thursday, April 4 | 10:00 am

Siouxland Center for Active Generations 313 Cook St • Sioux City, IA (Members only) Book: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Cover to Cover Book Club

Monday, April 8 | 3:00 pm South Sioux City Public Library 2121 Dakota Ave • South Sioux City, NE Book: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Book Discussion

Thursday, April 11 | 6:00 pm Caribou Coffee • 2939 Hamilton Blvd • Sioux City, IA Book: Harvest Gypsies and The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Book Discussion

Tuesday, April 16 | 1:00 pm

Brookdale Senior Living 2562 Pierce St • Sioux City, IA Book: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Barnes & Noble Book Club

Thursday, April 18 | 7:00 pm Barnes & Noble • Southern Hills Mall 4400 Sergeant Rd #550 • Sioux City, IA Book: The Truth According to Us by Annie Barrows

Book Discussion

Tuesday, April 30 | 5:30 pm Jackson Street Brewing • 607 5th St • Sioux City, IA Book: Harvest Gypsies and The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

FIND READ-ALIKES AND DISCUSSION Starters on our Website! WWW.onebookonesiouxland.org

FEATURED EVENTS

Listening Cafè

Mondays at 10:30 am & Thursdays at 5:30 pm Whispering Creek Senior Living 2609 Nicklaus Blvd, Sioux City, IA

Join us for coffee and treats as we listen to and progress each session through *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck.

Mondays:		Thursdays:	
March 4	April 15	March 7	April 18
March 11	April 22	March 14	April 25
March 18	April 29	March 21	May 2
March 25	May 6	March 28	May 9
April 1	May 13	April 4	
April 8		April 11	

Coffee and Conversation with Russ Gifford: The Great Depression and The Grapes of Wrath

Thursday, March 21 | 10:30 am WITCC • Advanced Sciences Bldg Entrance 11 • Room L416/417 4647 Stone Ave, Sioux City, IA

It is estimated at least 25% of the workforce was idle at the start of the 1930s. As banks became unstable, foreclosure due to debt became inevitable and tent cities sprung up around the country. Join Russ Gifford for pictures and stories of the Great Depression, and hear how people struggled with the worst economic event of their lives.

Marathon Read-Aloud: The Grapes of Wrath Play Sunday, March 31 | 2:00 pm

Morningside College Weikert Auditorium, Buhler-Rohlfs Hall 1501 Morningside Ave, Sioux City, IA

Join in on an informal read-aloud of the stage version of *The Grapes of Wrath* as adapted by Frank Galati, either volunteering to read or just listening to others read. Stay for the whole event or come and go as you wish. Scripts and snacks will be provided. Free parking is available in the Grace United Methodist Church parking lot.

* \$2 will be donated to the Siouxland Food Bank for every person who attends. Attendees may also contribute cash or canned goods at the site to help feed Siouxland's hungry.

Sioux City in the 1930s and 1940s Thursday, April 4 | 10:30 am

WITCC • Advanced Sciences Bldg • Ent 11 Room L416/417 • 4647 Stone Ave, Sioux City, IA

Grace Linden, retired curator for Sioux City Public Museum, presents the fascinating history of the 1930s and 1940s in Sioux City.

FILM SCREENINGS

Of Mice and Men (1992)

Sunday, March 24 | 1:30 pm Sioux City Public Library 529 Pierce St, Sioux City, IA

America's Darling: The Story of Jay N. "Ding" Darling

Tuesday, March 26 | 1:30 pm WITCC • Cargill Auditorium Entrance 14 • Lot 4 4647 Stone Ave, Sioux City, IA

Harry Hopkins: At FDR's Side

Tuesday, April 2 | 1:30 pm WITCC • Cargill Auditorium Entrance 14 • Lot 4 4647 Stone Ave, Sioux City, IA

East of Eden (1955)

Sunday, April 7 | 1:30 pm Sioux City Public Library 529 Pierce St, Sioux City, IA

She'll touch on Sioux City economy's state of disarray following the stock market crash, federal government programs like the CCC and WPA, and a new era of growth and building for Sioux City.

Dust Bowl Descent

Thursday, April 4 | 6:30 pm South Sioux City Public Library 2121 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City, NE

Speaker Bill Ganzel shares his journey locating Depression survivors using photographs taken by the Farm Security Administration, recounts their stories, and juxtaposes recent photos with 60-year-old images that tell the triumph of the human spirit over hard times.

Saturday with Steinbeck Saturday, April 6 | 2:00 pm

Barnes & Noble • Southern Hills Mall 4400 Sergeant Rd #550, Sioux City, IA

Explore the impact Steinbeck made through his fiction, journalism, and nonfiction, enjoy readings from his play, *Of Mice and Men*, and a lecture on Route 66 that will take you on a trip.

History at High Noon: The Great Depression in Sioux City Thursday, April 18 | 12:05 pm

Sioux City Public Museum 607 4th St, Sioux City, IA

Sioux City was profoundly affected by the economic catastrophe of the 1930s. Banks collapsed, farmers were forced off their land and businesses closed their doors. This presentation features images illustrating challenges local citizens faced during the Great Depression.

Tour: The Depression Era Projects that Forever Changed the Face of Sioux City Wednesday, May 15 | 9:00 am

(Bus will arrive at 8:30 for boarding) WITCC • Lot 2B • 4647 Stone Ave, Sioux City, IA

Tom Munson, Sioux City native and Sioux City Public Museum's Archives Manager, guides a tour showing the tremendous legacy of the New Deal projects still proudly gracing the Sioux City landscape. Over 25 historic site projects will be viewed and the tour will end with a catered lunch at the CCC-built Stone Park Lodge.

WITCC Fee: \$35 (includes lunch) Max: 52 / Min: 24 / WITCC Lifelong Learning membership required. (To register for Lifelong Learning, call 712-274-6404).

The Grapes of Wrath (1940)

Sunday, May 5 | 1:30 pm Sioux City Public Library 529 Pierce St, Sioux City, IA