For additional web resources, please visit:

http://billbrysonbooks.com/

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Bill Bryson was born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1951. At age 22, Bryson travelled abroad to England where he eventually settled. He worked as a writer for English newspapers and penned travel articles.

Bryson moved back to the United States in the mid 1990s and wrote his first full-length travel book, The Lost Continent, which chronicles his journey through small-town America. Since then, he has written several more books about the U. S. and the U. K. Currently he is the Chancellor of Durham University in Norfolk.

OTHER WORKS by BILL BRYSON
The Lost Continent
Bill Bryson’s Dictionary of Troublesome Words
Neither Here nor There: Travels in Europe
Notes from a Strange Island
Made in America
The Mother Tongue
Bill Bryson’s African Diary
A Short History of Nearly Everything.
A Walk in the Woods
I'm A Stranger Here Myself
In a Sunburned Country
The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid

Additional Resources:
This program and links below can be found at www.rosenberg-library.org

PROGRAM AGENDA

March 12
12 noon - 1 pm

April 17
12 noon - 1 pm

May 17
11 am - 12:30 pm

Welcome & Introductions
Art & Artifact Presentation
Open Discussion

Rosenberg Library’s Museum Book Club provides a forum for discovery and discussion, linking literary selections with art and artifacts from our permanent collection.
**Discussion...Objectivity**

Did you feel confident in the accuracy of Bryson's historical accounts?

Do you think he may have been biased in some ways?

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**Discussion...Technology in the Domestic Sphere**

Was there one innovation described in Bryson’s book that stood out to you as the most influential on daily life?

What modern conveniences did you feel had the most interesting histories?

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“The fact is that people put up with dim evenings because they knew no other kind.”

*(Chapter VI, p. 113)*

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**Discussion...Bryson’s Style**

Why do you think Bryson chose to arrange the book with chapters devoted to single rooms in his house?

Did this make the book more or less enjoyable to read?

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“For centuries spices were not just the world’s most valued foodstuffs, they were the most treasured commodities of any type.”

*(Chapter 2, p. 27)*

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**Discussion...Objectivity**

Did you feel confident in the accuracy of Bryson’s historical accounts?

Do you think he may have been biased in some ways?

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“The masters of mourning were of course the Victorians. Never have a people become morbidly attached to death or found more complicated ways to mark it.”

*(Chapter XV, p. 337)*