About the Author

Ann Weisgarber

Ann is the author of three historical novels. Her third novel, *The Glovemaker*, published in February 2019, is set in Utah’s deep canyon country during the winter of 1888.

Ann’s second novel, *The Promise*, takes place in 1900 on Galveston Island at the time of America’s worst natural disaster. It was shortlisted for the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction, was the finalist for the Spur Award for Best Western Historical Fiction, and was a finalist for the Ohioana Book Award for Fiction.

Her first novel, *The Personal History of Rachel DuPree*, is set in the South Dakota Badlands in 1917. It was nominated for England’s 2009 Orange Prize and for the 2009 Orange Award for New Writers. In the United States, *The Personal History of Rachel DuPree* won the Stephen Turner Award for New Fiction and the Langum Prize for American Historical Fiction. It was shortlisted for the Ohioana Book Award for Fiction and was a Barnes and Noble Discover New Writer.

Ann was born and raised in Kettering, Ohio, a suburb of Dayton. She graduated from Wright State University in Dayton with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and earned a Master of Arts in Sociology from the University of Houston. She has been a social worker in psychiatric and nursing home facilities and taught sociology at Wharton County Junior College in Texas. She was inducted into the Texas Institute of Letters.

In addition to Ohio and Texas, Ann has lived in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Des Moines, Iowa. She currently lives in Galveston, Texas. She and her husband, Rob, are fans of America’s national parks and visit at least one park a year. Ann is also an Astros baseball fan and keeps score when she attends games.

PROJECT AGENDA

Winter 2020

Presented by Rosenberg Library

12:00 p.m. Welcome & Introductions
12:05-1:00 Author Talk / Q & A
1:00 p.m. Book Signing

Rosenberg Library’s Museum Book Club provides a forum for discovery and discussion, linking literary selections with artworks and historical objects from the permanent collection.
1. The story has two narrators. Is this Deborah’s story? Or Nels’s? Or is this a story about a community?

2. Deborah, Samuel, and Nels were raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) but as adults they are not devout. They do not believe in polygamy, yet they help LDS men who are accused of committing this felony. What would you do if you found yourself in a similar legal and moral situation? Could you turn your back on one of your own? Or would you help even though it means breaking the law?

3. The marshal’s desire to capture Braden leads him to break the law. Is his motive a good excuse? Or should he have abided by the law? What would you do if you were in a similar situation?

4. Nels and Braden make a critical decision about the marshal’s fate. What is the chain of events that follow that decision?

5. What were some truths that Deborah and Nels are eventually forced to face?

6. What do you think happens next to the characters?