



# Cover to Cover

## Jefferson Township Library Book Discussion Group

Having made it through Hurricane Sandy in one piece, we were able to get together on Thursday, November 15 to talk about *A Widower's Tale* by Julia Glass. The "widower" is retired Harvard librarian Percy Darling, he of "dry wit and courtly manners." The story begins as Percy, after about 30 years of living in solitude, allows a preschool to set up shop in his barn. Our ratings were:

Anne Augustyn	8
Janet Breckenridge	8
Bev Carboy	5
Karen Carney	5
Bill Craig	4
Veronica Dawson	7
Mary Faust	7
Debbie Georgens	8
Rose Marie Lang	8

Chris O'Brien 6  
Helen Shough 8  
(average rating 6.7)

This novel was chock full of social issues—illegal immigration, eco-terrorism, health-care coverage, divorce, gay marriage, social status – as well as the emotional issues of love, guilt, and loss. Some felt the author tried to cram in too many issues, to the detriment of the story, and that it would have been a better book if it had focused on only one of two of these issues.

Some were riveted by the story, while others found it predictable. We talked about our opinions of the female characters Poppy, Clover, Trudy and Sarah; and of the differences and similarities in the characters of Percy, Robert, Arturo, Celestino and Ira.

We pondered what made Robert take part in the eco-terroristic acts; why Percy waited so long after his wife's death to become romantically involved again; why daughters Clover and Trudy were so different; and Sarah's illness and motivations. We talked about the changes we've seen in libraries over the years, and the significance of the houses in the story.

Was this book "one step above" a Danielle Steel novel, or was it "a thought-provoking, and immensely satisfying novel"? We did not agree, but that's what makes for a good discussion!

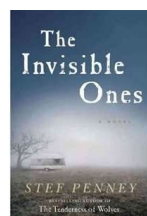


*Coming Up...*

*The Invisible Ones*

by Stef Penney

Thursday, January 24, 2013



## *Holiday Get-Together*

*Thursday, December 20 at 10:30 AM*

NO BOOK to read for December. We're taking a reading break! Instead, let's celebrate the season with some munchies and camaraderie. If you would like to, please bring something yummy to share with the group. You may also pick up January's book at that time. We will review our 2012 year in reading, look at our ratings, and talk about what we'll be reading in 2013.