

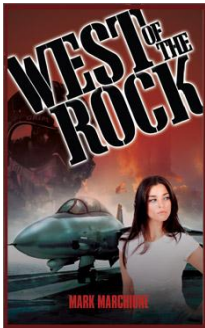
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Saturday, March 20th, 4:00pm

**Former Top Gun Navy Pilot
Mark 'Chuck' Marchione**



Mark 'Chuck' Marchione is a former Navy Top Gun pilot. He is the author of *West of the Rock*, which gives us a rare, illuminating look into the elite world of Navy pilots. In a series of powerful and often harrowing narratives, the author presents their life trajectories, from looking up in awe at the power and glory of warplanes, facing the ordeals of even routine landings at night on a pitching carrier deck, interacting with the

comparatively unremarkable world of civilians, and reaching the point where they no longer have the edge needed to be fighter pilots.

For all the camaraderie, mastery of technique, and daily contests with fear, fighter pilots must also contend with the strains on family life during long deployments, the erosion of the motivations they need to face danger, the mounting death toll of friends, and diminishing faith in the nation's mission and its seemingly endless confrontations around the world. Here is the strength of *West of the Rock* vividly describing, as only a former fighter pilot could, the rise and fall of the beliefs upon which modern warriors rely.

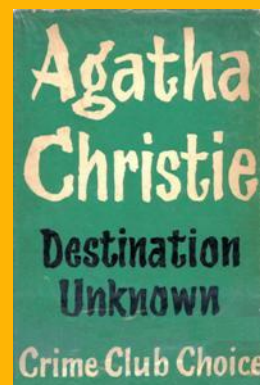
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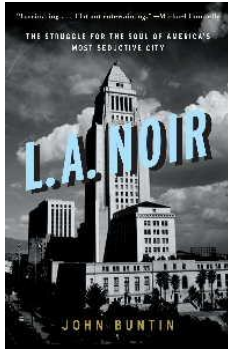
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Book Club Information



Our next Book Club meeting is on Saturday, March 20th at 3:00 pm. We will be discussing **Destination Unknown** by Agatha Christie



Saturday, April 10th, 5:30 PM John Buntin

Other cities have histories. Los Angeles has legends...

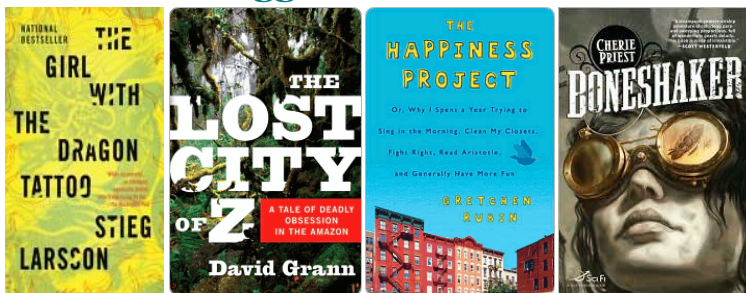
Mid-century Los Angeles. A city sold to the world as "the white spot of America," a land of sunshine and orange groves, wholesome values and Hollywood stars, protected by the world's most famous police force, the LAPD. But behind the image lies a hidden world of "pleasure girls" and crooked cops, ruthless tycoons and corrupt politicians, and Eastern gangsters on the make. Into this underworld came two men - one LA's most notorious gangster, the other its most famous police chief - each prepared to battle the other for control of the city.

Former street thug turned featherweight boxer, Mickey Cohen left the ring for the rackets, first as mobster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel's enforcer, then as his protege' A fastidious dresser and an unrepentant killer, the diminutive Cohen was Hollywood's favorite gangster - and L.A.'s preeminent underworld boss. Frank Sinatra, Robert Mitchum, and Sammy Davis, Jr. palled around with him; TV journalist Mike Wallace wanted his stories; evangelist Billy Graham sought his soul.

William H. Parker was the proud son of a pioneering law enforcement family from the fabled frontier town of Deadwood. As a rookie patrolman in the Roaring Twenties, he discovered that LA was ruled by a shadowy "Combination" a triumvirate of tycoons, politicians, and underworld figures where alliances were shifting, loyalties uncertain, and politics was practiced with shotguns and dynamite.

His life mission became to topple it - and to create a police force that would never answer to elected officials again. In the process, he created the modern LAPD and unwittingly paved the way for the city's greatest tragedy, the Watts riots.

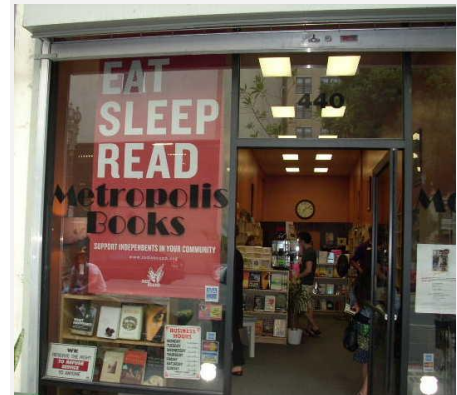
Book suggestions for March



Twitter

Of the top 10 most popular independent book stores on Twitter, four are in Los Angeles. **Metropolis Books** is one of those Top 10 book stores! Read the story from the *Los Angeles Times* and join us on Twitter!

Metropolis Books is...Indiebound!



Indiebound rallies passionate readers around a celebration of independent stores and independent thinking. It's about raising awareness, reaching out, and taking pride in your community.



Check out our new website!

For the New Year, we decided to roll out a new website (www.MetropolisBooksLA.com). We really love it and think you will, too! It was designed by Mike Smith of MP Smith Design. You can contact him at mpsmith1@prodigy.net