



## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

...VOLUME 3: NUMBER 9.....SEPTEMBER 2008

### From the Headlines

How often have we read the newspaper article or perused the magazine feature or seen the *60 Minutes* report and wondered at the people whose lives have become a public story? Jodi Picoult gives an insight in many works of fiction to personal stories that might well lie behind national controversies.

### Featured This Month:

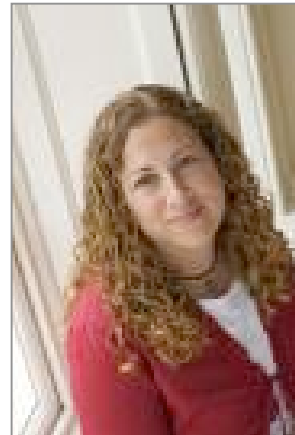
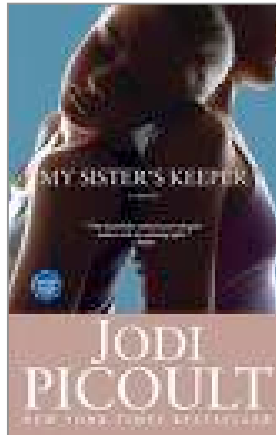
#### *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult

Jodi Picoult may begin with the headlines, but with the freedom of a novelist, she takes her readers where a journalist cannot go, deep into the hearts and minds of people who struggle in situations like the real life crises read and heard about in the news.

*My Sister's Keeper* begins narrated by Anna Fitzgerald, a thirteen year-old with a loving family, a tragic problem, and a backstory with a chilling question of medical and personal ethics. Sara and Brian, Anna parents, have another older daughter who suffers from a rare leukemia, and they conceived Anna through genetic selection to be a tissue match for her sister Kate, so that her cord blood could be used to save her sister. But Kate's leukemia is aggressive and chronic. Anna has become a regular donor of blood and bone marrow throughout her short life, and now Kate's kidneys have failed. Assumed to be donating a kidney, Anna, who clearly loves and is loved by her sister, suddenly and shockingly files suit against her parents to become medically emancipated—to be given the right to say no.

The narration moves from character to character exploring the excruciating dilemma of the family: Sara, who is desperate to save Kate; Brian, who, though conflicted, supports Anna; their son, Jesse, the oldest child, who is slipping further and further out of control under his parents' radar; and Anna, who has always been so compliant and so dedicated to her sister and who now avoids explaining her actions.

The story becomes a courtroom drama with a different feel as Sara, a former lawyer, decides to defend the case against her own daughter, and Anna's appointed guardian, Julia, finds herself working with an old beau in Anna's lawyer Campbell, who like Anna, harbors a devastating secret.



Though the ending seems a little pat—a surprise that feels a bit too convenient, the story poses an engrossing problem and delivers fine character portraits throughout.

*Reviewed by Mary Anne Ciancia*

### New at the Library:

FFF stands for Free Friday Flicks –a new program sponsored by the Library at the Hillsboro Community Center. Come and join the fun Friday evenings at 7:30 pm in the auditorium for a big screen presentation complete with popcorn and cokes! Watch for the flier announcing this weeks feature presentation!

### Notes from the Board:

Please be considerate of other library patrons. Check your home for overdue library books and videos and return them on your next visit.

#### Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: CLOSED    Tuesday: 6:30 – 8:30pm  
Wednesday: 1:00 – 4:00pm    Thursday: 6:30–8:30pm  
Friday: 10:00am – 1:00pm    Saturday 10:00am–2:00pm

#### Bookmobile:

Hillsboro, Wed. September 24 --1:45pm –3:45pm  
Kingston, September 24 –4:15pm - 5:15pm

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit our website:  
<http://www.zianet.com/hbolib>

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