

The Bookworm ... For Kids

‘Trap’ A Spooky Summer Tale

“The Trap” by Steven Arntson; © 2015, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; 247 pages

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

The summer stretches for miles, and you’ve got plans.

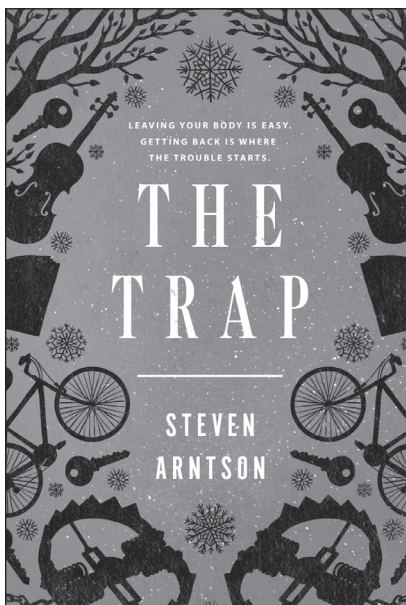
You’re going to pack each day with as much fun as you can. It’s gonna be great — although, admit it: by the time summer ends, you’ll be a little bit glad to go back to school, won’t you? That’s the way four young friends feel, but in the new book “The Trap” by Steven Arntson, they have to make a few things right first.

Carl Dunn didn’t seem to be a diary-keeping kind of kid.

There was once a time when he didn’t seem to be the bullying type, either, and almost-seventh-grader Henry Nilsson remembered those days. Now, Carl “was the worst bully” in their corner of Iowa.

Henry would’ve totally avoided Carl if possible, but Carl was big brother to Henry’s best friend, Alan, and in that late summer of 1967, Alan was worried. Carl had been skipping baseball practice and there were nights when he didn’t come home. That wasn’t at all like Carl; stranger still, he was journaling and what he wrote sounded dangerous.

And that was why Henry, his twin sister Helen, Alan, and Helen’s best friend Nikki were on their bikes in the woods at a campsite where Carl had been. They were looking for clues to his odd behavior



when Henry found a book buried in a box beneath a pile of moldy old science fiction novels. “Subtle Travel and the Subtle Self” had a plain cover. Henry put it in his rucksack because he liked to read.

That night, cracking the book open, he discovered something amazing.

At first, it didn’t make sense: the book instructed readers to recite some

numbers, then “using your eyes, rock yourself” to step out of the physical body. When it worked, and Henry met Carl while walking around in a parallel world, he couldn’t wait to tell Helen and their friends so they could do it, too. Meeting with the author’s widow made the trick even cooler — until she invited the kids to a graveyard and Henry’s other body got ensnared in a ghostly Trap.

That’s when Henry knew that getting out wouldn’t be easy...

No, your eyes aren’t deceiving you: “The Trap” has a very definite Stand by Me vibe. It’s also reminiscent of old ‘50s sci-fi novels and every other middle-grade four-kids-bored-with-summer story you’ve ever read — only a little bit sharper.

There is, in fact, a big creep factor inside this book that will appeal to kids with good imaginations, and a thread of sweetly awkward romance to soften the story. Author Steven Arntson then further sets his book apart with parents that are more than just caricatures and a kid-centric ending that also feels very grown-up (hint: it’s not necessarily a happy one).

I think that if your child enjoys science fiction but wants something a little more solid, or if you’re looking for a quick, decent read yourself, you can feel good choosing this one. For fourth-through-seventh-grade readers and adults alike, “The Trap” is a book to get caught in.



ABOVE: The J. Adolph Rahn Family: front row, August, Augusta Rahn (mother), Eugene, J. Adolph Rahn (father), Hulda; back row, Minnie, Carolina, J. Adolph, Jr. (Margaret’s father), Bertha, Alvinia, Annie. RIGHT: Margaret Rahn examines metal name plates which identify four family members. The homestead stood at distant left in the grove of trees pictured. (Photos: Maxine Kinsley)



A Resurrection Of Love

Rahn Family Restores Abandoned Cemetery

Descendants of German immigrants John Adolph Rahn and his wife Augusta, who settled in Yankton County before statehood, have succeeded in restoring a family burial ground established as early as 1877.

Through the years, tenants had removed the boundary fence and grave markers in the tiny cemetery, and crops had encroached on all sides. The only original feature remaining is an 8- x 12-foot concrete slab which was placed many years ago by J. Adolph Rahn, Jr., son of the homesteader, to protect the graves of four family members. They are identified by metal name plates which read “In Memory of Mother” (Augusta Rahn), “Emil” (son who died by drowning), Herman (son) and “Annie” (daughter who died at 16 in a farm accident).

Margaret Rahn, daughter of J. Adolph Rahn Jr., lives in Yankton. In early March this year, cooperating with her nephew Rodney Rahn from Minnesota, she arranged to have the tiny cemetery resurveyed by a Yankton firm.

The remote plat had been surveyed in 1940 for the WPA Graves Registration Survey program but it had not been officially recorded. Because of its remote inaccessible location, the tiny .17 acre plat eventually was forgotten, lying



PHOTO: MAXINE KINSLEY Margaret Rahn has prepared a sign for the newly restored Rahn Family Cemetery. It reads “Rahn Private Cemetery” John. Margaret. “No Tractors.” John (Rahn) is Margaret’s brother.

as it does far from the original homestead.

Fortunately Margaret had the original WPA survey map in her possession, and using as reference points two fence posts with dates “1914” stamped in concrete, surveyors were able to successfully complete their work, now recorded in the Yankton County Government Center.

The new map shows five adjacent rows with 18 lots in each. According to the 1941 WPA Survey, possibly as many



PHOTO: MAXINE KINSLEY Surveyor’s stakes and huge boulders mark all four corners of the cemetery plat. The closest marks the northwest corner.

as 20 are filled. Among them are the four mentioned above, one member each of the Bohlman, Klagt, and Kanudel families, eight Braunesethers, five Rahns, two Schaws and three Winters.

On March 13, 2015, Rodney Rahn obtained nearly four tons of rocks and huge boulders from a local Yankton firm, and with Margaret looking on, moved them more than a half mile across a field (no road) with a hydraulic trailer. Using a skid loader, he then placed them as protective boundary markers on the four corner of the newly surveyed cemetery.

The Rahn Family Cemetery lies on a gentle rise near the corner of a field bordered by a picturesque winding creek lined with occasional trees. The creek, which is normally dry, runs diagonally northwest to south east through family land, which remains in Margaret Rahn, et. al’s, hands. Because of her and her nephew’s concern and

perseverance, the family cemetery, which served not only the Rahn family but also relatives and neighbors, is now permanently on record and protected.

New At The Library

Here’s what’s new at the Yankton Community Library this week:

ADULT BOOKS

- **Discount** by Casey Gray; Fiction
- **Don’t Go Home** by Carolyn Hart; Fiction
- **The Fall** by John Lescroart; Fiction
- **Fire Flowers** by Ben Byrne; Fiction
- **A History of Loneliness** by John Boyne; Fiction
- **Leaving Berlin** by Joseph Kanon; Fiction
- **The Liar** by Nora Roberts; Fiction
- **Monday’s Lie** by Jamie Mason; Fiction
- **Normal** by Graeme Cameron; Fiction
- **The Sniper and the Wolf** by Scott McEwen; Fiction
- **Solitude Creek** by Jeffery Deaver; Fiction
- **Too Bad To Die** by Francine Mathews; Fiction
- **Trauma** by Michael & Daniel Palmer; Fiction
- **Water from My Heart** by Charles Martin; Fiction
- **Born with Teeth** by Kate Mulgrew; Nonfiction
- **Do Over** by Jon Acuff; Nonfiction
- **Ghettoside** by Jill Leovy; Nonfiction
- **The Great Divide** by Thomas Fleming; Nonfiction
- **Mater Thieves** by Stephen Kurkjian; Nonfiction
- **My Grandfather Would Have Shot Me** by Jennifer Teege; Nonfiction
- **Our Kids** by Robert D. Putnam; Nonfiction
- **Porches & Outdoor Spaces**; Nonfiction
- **Reagan** by H. W. Brands; Nonfiction
- **17 Carnations** by Andrew Morton; Nonfiction
- **Social Security, Medicare & Government Pensions** by Joseph Matthews; Nonfiction
- **Straw Bale Gardens Complete** by Joel Karsten; Nonfiction
- **Waterloo** by Bernard Cornwell; Nonfiction

ADULT BOOK BAG

- **Invention of Wings** by Sue Monk Kidd; Fiction

YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

- **A Court of Thorns and Roses** by Sarah J. Maas; Fiction
- **The Rise & Fall of the Gullivanders** by M. J. Beaufrand; Fiction
- **The Great Good Summer** by Liz Garton Scanlon; Fiction
- **The Isle of the Lost** by Melissa De La Cruz; Fiction
- **Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer** by Kelly Jones; Fiction

‘Young Frankenstein’ Auditions Set

The Lewis and Clark Theatre Company will be holding auditions for its production of “Young Frankenstein” at 7 p.m. Friday, May 22, and 1 p.m. Saturday, May 23, at the Dakota Theatre in downtown Yankton.

The production opens July 30 at the Dakota Theatre. For more information, call 605-665-4711.

Green Room Dance Recital May 23

The Green Room Dance Studio of Yankton invites the public to its annual Spring Recital, “Dance to the Movies” under the direction of Rob and Timera Massey, on Saturday, May 23, at the YHS/Summit Activities Center Theater. Performances are at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Students who will perform ballet, jazz, tap, pointe, musical theatre, modern, lyrical and acro-gymnastics — all to your favorite music to the movies.

Seniors who will be performing solos are: Marley Hansen, Morgyn Jaquith, Shelby Kleinschmidt, Jessica Kotschegarow and Story Leshner.

Tickets can be purchased at the theater doors on the day of the show.

Yankton Library Closed For Holiday

The Yankton Community Library will be closed on Sunday, May 24, and Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.

Summer hours begin on Tuesday, May 26. The Library will be open the following hours from May 26-Sept. 7:

- Sunday: closed
- Monday and Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Wednesday and Thursday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For further information, call the library at 668-5275.

World War II Speech Presented May 26

A speech commemorating the actions of local troops in World War II will be given by David Hosmer of Yankton. The speech, titled “A Short History of the European and African Theaters of Action in World War II Through the Eyes of the Yankton County Men Who Perished,” will be on Tuesday, May 26, at 7 p.m. at Yankton College Theater at the Yankton High School. There is no admission fee.

Hay Country Jamboree Set For May 30

GAYVILLE — Gayville Hall presents its monthly musical variety show, “The Hay Country Jamboree,” at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 30, in Gayville.

Jamboree regulars, including country music hosts John and Susan McNeill, banjo player and funnyman Dan Kilbride, fiddler Owen DeJong, and guitarist and singer Nick Schwabach, will lead a lively two-hour show.

Jamborees always feature three-or-more musical acts on stage together trading old-time tunes, country, bluegrass, and humor by turn. The fast-paced shows include a short intermission midway and are presented in an alcohol-free, family-friendly setting.

Gayville Hall is at 502 Washington Street in Gayville. Call (605) 267-2859 for ticket information.

Materials Needed For YCL Teen Program

Preparations are under way for the teen summer reading program at the Yankton Community Library. We have a fun and interesting craft day project scheduled for July 6.

However, to complete the project, we need donations of framed landscape paintings that will be repurposed by participants. Rolling hillsides, lakeshore scenes, even people gathering for a picnic would all be wonderful launching points for the teens to create a new painting.

Bring your donations to the library by Friday, June 18.

If you have questions, don’t hesitate to call the library at 668-5275.

Memorial Day Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Monday, May 25th, for the Memorial Day holiday.

The following deadlines will apply:

- Out On The Town - 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 20
- Tuesday, May 26 newspaper - 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 20
- Wednesday, May 27 newspaper - 5 p.m., Thursday, May 21
- Thursday, May 28 newspaper - 5 p.m., Friday, May 22

There will be no newspaper on Monday, May 25, 2015

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