



2022 marks the eighth year of One Book One Cozad

The notion of a one book/one city started with an idea by Seattle librarian Nancy Pearl. First initiated in 1998 by the Washington Center for the Book, the Library of Congress reports that such programs are abundant around the world.

Wilson Public Library agrees with the Nebraska Center for the Book's philosophy that "reading great literature provokes us to think about ourselves, our environment and our relationships," and that "talking about great literature with friends, families and neighbors often adds richness and depth to the experience of reading."

We encourage you to read *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story* by Nellie Snyder Yost. We have multiple copies at our library.

WILSON
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



COZAD, NEBRASKA

One Book One Cozad Events in 2022

Thursday, February 17 1:00pm

Virtual Event: *Evil Obsession* by Ruby Coleman, author of *The Wild Years 1868-1951: North Platte and Lincoln County Nebraska*
Public welcome or attend virtually; info TBA
Wilson Public Library in Cozad

Monday, March 14 10:00am

The Library Book Club discusses *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story* for its March meeting.
Public welcome
Wilson Public Library in Cozad

Wednesday, April 13 1:00pm

Book Discussion: *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story*
Public welcome
Wilson Public Library in Cozad

Tuesday, May 3: 1:00pm

Meadowlark Book Club discusses *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story* for its May meeting.
Public welcome
The Daily Scoop, located at 137 E. 8th Street in

Please check our One Book One Cozad tab on our website under Programs & Services at www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org or our Facebook Events page at Wilson Public Library for additional programs and events scheduled after this brochure printed in January 2022. TBA

OTHER BOOKS BY NELLIE SNYDER YOST:

Pinnacle Jake (1951)
No Time on My Hands (1963)
Boss Cowman: The Recollections of Ed Lemmon, 1857-1946 (1969)
Buffalo Bill: His Family, Friends, Fame, Failures and Fortunes (1979)
A Man as Big as the West (1979)

One Book One Cozad 2022

Evil Obsession The Annie Cook Story

by Nellie
Snyder Yost

EVIL
Obsession

The Annie Cook Story

Nellie Snyder Yost

Evil Obsession ~ About This Year's Selection:

In January 2022, the Wilson Public Library in Cozad, NE, launches their eighth One Book One Cozad program with the selection of *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story* by Nellie Snyder Yost.

It is well regarded that authors should write what they know, and Nellie did just that, but took her time about it. Although she was both a rural school teacher and a writer for the *North Platte Telegraph*, Nellie didn't publish her first book until she was 46. That book was an account of her father's stories about life in the early West: *Pinnacle Jake*. Her mother, Grace Snyder, was a renowned quilter and *No Time on My Hands* not only captured Grace's life, it stirred a revival in quilt making in the second half of the twentieth century. Nellie published 20 books in her lifetime: *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story* was her last.

The book is about greed, power, and a woman named Annie Cook. Annie was an evil woman, abusive both physically and mentally to everyone

"But it took me days to recover from the horror of what I heard that afternoon. It was as if I had listened to a ghastly tale about medieval England or France. I could not believe that such things had actually happened in western Nebraska, in my own Lincoln County, in the twentieth century in which I live." —Nellie Snyder Yost, author

she knew. Annie was accused of murder while she was in charge of the Lincoln County Poor Farm near Hershey, Nebraska. This was during the same time North Platte was called "Little Chicago" due to widespread county and local political corruption. Nellie spent many years doing research for the book, interviewing people who knew Annie and sifting through information to find the truth. She ultimately changed locations, directions, and characters' names in the final edition to protect the identity of those who were still living in the area. After the book was published, lists surfaced with real names matched to the fictional ones; no list was ever verified by the Yost family.

Scheduled discussions and events will be held through September in a variety of formats for all interested persons beginning in February. A special set of books will be set aside near the library's circulation desk for all of 2022 for those wishing to check out the book. Additionally, check www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org for information regarding events on a special tab. Wilson Public Library is en-

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Facebook: Wilson Public Library

Twitter: @WilsonPubLib

couraging all local book clubs to thoughtfully consider adding *Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story* to their selection lists for 2022.

The Author:

Nellie Snyder Yost



Nebraska author Nellie Snyder Yost was born in a sod house in 1905. She grew up on a McPherson County ranch in the Sandhills. Nellie graduated as valedictorian from Maxwell High School in 1923. She was an award-winning author as well as an active historian. A brief look at her biography lists membership in the Nebraska Writers Guild, the Lincoln County Historical Society, and the first woman board member of the Nebraska State Historical Society, where she served for twenty years after being appointed in 1966. Yost was also inducted into the National Cowgirl Museum Hall of Fame in 1992. She is known as one of Nebraska's pioneer storytellers.