



## 2023 marks the ninth 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 *A Lost Lady* by Willa Cather. We have multiple copies at our library.



Please check our One Book One Cozad tab on our website under Programs & Services at [www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org) or our Facebook Events page at Wilson Public Library for additional programs and events scheduled after this brochure printed in January 2023.

## One Book One Cozad Events in 2023

**Monday, February 13** 5:30pm  
Peter Osborne presents: Willa Cather & Robert Henri  
Wilson Public Library in Cozad

**Monday, March 13** 10:00am  
The Library Book Club discusses *A Lost Lady* at the Wilson Public Library in Cozad.  
The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Thursday, April 13** 1:00pm  
Open Book Discussion off *A Lost Lady* at the Wilson Public Library in Cozad.  
The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Tuesday, May 2:** 10:30am  
Watch & Discuss: The Wilson Public Library in Cozad will show the PBS home video *Willa Cather: The Road Is All* followed by discussion.  
The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Thursday, September 14:** 12:00pm  
Public Potluck: Recipes from *At Willa Cather's Tables: The Cather Foundation Cookbook*.  
The public is welcome and encourage to attend.

**Saturday, December 9** Tentative: TBA  
*Willa Cather and Quilts* : Humanities Nebraska

- A FEW OTHER BOOKS BY  
WILLA CATHER:**
- O Pioneers!* (1913)
  - The Song of the Lark* (1915)
  - My Antonia* (1918)
  - Not Under Forty* (1922)
  - One of Ours* (1922)
  - The Professor's House* (1925)
  - My Mortal Enemy* (1926)
  - Death Comes for the Archbishop* (1927)
  - Lucy Gayheart* (1934)

# One Book One Cozad 2023

## *A Lost Lady* by Willa Cather



Cover by Read & Co. Books



**150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

*John G. Cozad*

COZAD, NE | 1873-2023

## A Lost Lady ~ About This Year's Selection:

In January 2023, the Wilson Public Library in Cozad, NE, launches their ninth One Book One Cozad program with the selection of *A Lost Lady* by Willa Cather. 2023 happens to be Cozad's sesquicentennial as well as Cather's 150th birthday. *A Lost Lady* also celebrates its 100th publishing anniversary in 2023. This year's selection marks a way to celebrate Nebraska's early homesteaders like those who founded Cozad and pay homage to the enduring legacy of Cather's life and works.

*A Lost Lady* tells the story by way of Neil Herbert, himself coming of age throughout the story, and chronicles Captain Daniel Forrester and his wife Marian's lives in the fictional railroad town of Sweet Water, Nebraska. The novella mirrors the financial and social decline of the Forresters and that of the town (and ultimately the pioneer era). The book is said to have influenced F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, which was published in 1925, and many have noted similarities between Mrs. Forrester and Daisy Bu-

"Hardly a novel and yet too full and good for a short story, simply a work of art."  
— *The New York Times*

chanan. Even Fitzgerald wrote to Cather to assure her that he did not plagiarize her work.

Cather herself modeled Captain Daniel Forrester and his wife on two people she knew well growing up in Red Cloud: Silas and Lyra Garber. Silas was the founder of Red Cloud and the third governor of Nebraska. Lyra came to Nebraska as Garber's much younger second wife in 1875 and was known for her beauty, fashion, and grace. Indeed, to read Cather's story is to see a parallel version of the Garbers' lives.

Scheduled discussions and events will be held throughout 2023 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 those wishing to check out the book. Additionally, our website at [www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org) has information regarding events on a special tab. Wilson Public Library encourages all local book clubs to thoughtfully consider adding *A Lost Lady* by Willa Cather to their selection lists for 2023.

### WILSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

910 Meridian Avenue  
Cozad, NE 69130

Phone: 308-784-2019  
Website: [www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.wilsonpubliclibrary.org)  
E-mail: [wpublib@cozadtel.net](mailto:wpublib@cozadtel.net)  
Facebook: Wilson Public Library  
Twitter: @WilsonPubLib

## The Author: Willa Cather

It's hard to believe that in 2023, Willa Cather was born 150 years earlier; her literature legacy endures to this day.



Willa was born in Virginia on December 7, 1873. Her family moved to Nebraska when Willa was eight years old, ultimately landing in Red Cloud. By the age of 19, Willa had graduated

from the University of Nebraska and began as a magazine editor in Pittsburgh. Cather moved to New York City in 1905, where she lived until her death in 1947.

However, Cather regularly returned to Nebraska to visit family, and those themes and descriptions of place featured prominently in Cather's writing. Some of Cather's odes to the prairie are listed on the back of this brochure; we hope you enjoy them all in 2023.

Her novel *One of Ours* won the Pulitzer Prize in 1923 and was followed later that year by the publication of *A Lost Lady*.