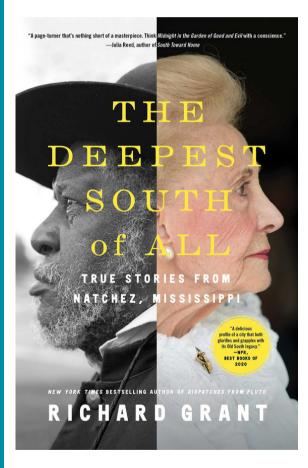


Open to everyone!

Reservations for Book Club may be booked online or made with Member Services by calling (760) 423-1512 or e-mail reservations@eldoradocc.org.

APRIL 11, 2022 | 5:00 P.M.



PRESENTED BY CANDY CLEVENGER

The Deepest South of All: True Stories from Natchez, Mississippi

by Richard Grant (288 pages)

Natchez, Mississippi, once had more millionaires per capita than anywhere else in America, and its wealth was built on slavery and cotton. Today it has the greatest concentration of antebellum mansions in the South, and a culture full of unexpected contradictions. Prominent white families dress up in hoopskirts and Confederate uniforms for ritual celebrations of the Old South, yet Natchez is also progressive enough to elect a gay black man for mayor with 91% of the vote.

With humor and insight, Richard Grant depicts a strange, eccentric town with an unforgettable cast of characters. Interwoven through these stories is the more somber and largely forgotten account of Abd al Rahman Ibrahima, a West African prince who was enslaved in Natchez and became a cause célèbre in the 1820s, eventually gaining his freedom and returning to Africa.

Part history and part travelogue, The Deepest South of All offers a gripping portrait of a complex American place, as it struggles to break free from the past and confront the legacy of slavery.