

THE GALLEY: A REVIEW OF MANY THINGS

Issue 1

Late Fall

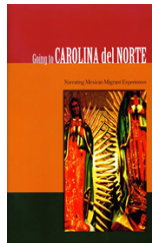
A publication of SILS @ UNC-CH

SILS Reads: *Going to Carolina del Norte* by Biff Hollingsworth

Going to Carolina del Norte is a collaborative project by anthropologist Hannah Gill, artist Todd Drake, and the migrant communities of Orange County, North Carolina and Guanajuato, Mexico. The book is the end product of *The Celaya Project*, a year-long endeavor of the University of North Carolina's University Center for International Studies, which was created in order to foster strong cultural and civic relationships between organizations in North Carolina and in the Mexican city of Celaya.

Why Celaya? Most immigrants in Orange County have moved from the city of Celaya in the state of Guanajuato, Mexico to work and join their families here in Central North Carolina. In fact, a great number of these families reside in the town of Carrboro. According to the U.S. Census, Carrboro has seen incredible growth in its Mexican community: from a mere 64 persons recorded in 1990 to an amazing 1,530 just ten years later in 2000 (of a total town of Carrboro population of 16,782 recorded in 2000). Yet, although the

Mexican community is now such an integral part of our current local landscape, the accounts of their lives are seldom told in books and traditional media either because of a lack of assimilation or due to language barriers. Hannah Gill and Todd Drake take direct aim at this silence with *Going to Carolina del Norte*.



Through personal narratives, the book elucidates the marginal and often invisible place in society that this growing population holds in our community. It is these first-person accounts that give this book its power. It is relentlessly 'local' - you

keep having the feeling that you may have met these folks on the lawn at Weaver Street Market or shared in a game of pool at OCSC. Seldom does a book achieve such an in depth and respectful study of the trials and the joys visited on your neighbor.



About Biff

Hometown: Atlanta, GA

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '08

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Start ALA-accredited MLS programs at historically black colleges

What you're reading right this minute:

<i>Going to Carolina del Norte</i>	1	<i>The Fog of War</i>	5
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WHAT IS SILS WATCHING AT HOME THESE DAYS? VARIOUS FOLKS' NETFLIX QUEUES WILL RUN THROUGHOUT THE GALLEY!

SILS Listens: **Alejandro Escovedo** reviewed by Mary Katherine Barnes

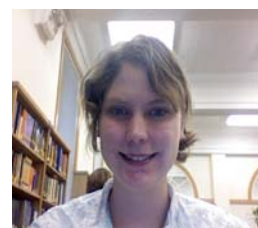
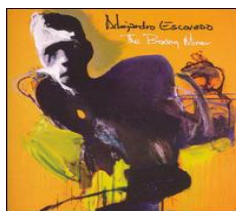
In April 2003, Alejandro Escovedo collapsed after a performance in Phoenix Arizona and was subsequently diagnosed with Hepatitis C. *Por Vida: A Tribute to the Songs of Alejandro Escovedo* was released in 2004 as a double disc tribute, which helped pay for Escovedo's medical bills. In May of 2006, Escovedo released *The Boxing Mirror* produced by the Velvet Underground's John Cale who also contributed on keyboard and guitars. *The Boxing Mirror* stands out in comparison to the rest of Escovedo's

recordings, which is due to both Cale's style as well as Escovedo's incredible and energetic backing band.

The album begins with "Arizona" shooting a brief glimpse into the eyes of the artist who almost died in Phoenix. Escovedo's life revolves around bars and alcohol, but the artist doesn't seem fazed, instead he says, "have another drink on me, I've been empty since Arizona."

The song segues into "Dear Head on the Wall" with

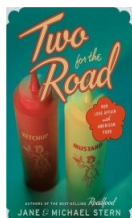
almost electrifying cello and violin, which accentuate his sad rhymes and alliteration. Throughout the album, Escovedo intermittently juxtaposes fast beat, poetic songs in between slower melodic lullabies and ballads, such as the title track, "The Boxing Mirror." Overall, on the album, Alejandro Escovedo depicts the frailty and vulnerability in life, yet leaves us with an optimistic outlook.



About Mary Katherine
Hometown: Union Point, GA
LS or IS: LS
Graduation date: May '07
If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: get my hands on as many of those celebrity reads posters as I could!

SILS Reads: **Two for the Road** reviewed by Marian Fragola

When I first started reading *Two for the Road: Our Love Affair with American Food* by Jane and Michael Stern I was convinced I had missed my calling. What was I doing as a graduate student (for an eventual future in libraries no less)



when I could be traveling around the country eating fabulous food for a living? Seriously, the wind whipping through my hair while scouring the country in search of the perfect fried pie – who's with me? But then, after about Chapter Two, I came out of my reverie and remembered I hate being in a car for more than 45 minutes

and that being a professional eater means you have to eat a lot. A lot. A twelve-meals-a-day lot. I'm pretty fond of a good meal, but that's hard core. This sense of being willing to go the distance for road food – the name the Sterns give to their vocation – permeates *Two for the Road*. Covering all regions of the US, their evocative writing will make you want to jump in the car and drive to Iowa's state fair to sample the "fathomless succulence" of the state's iconic pork chop, or search out the lowly Copsey's in Mechanicsville, Maryland, where the Sterns "swooned over the sensational soft-shells" and the "gorgeously plump crab

cakes." Aspiring roadfoodies will appreciate the Stern's dos and don'ts (e.g. don't eat in a place that smells like Pine-Sol, do seek out places that have old ladies with hairnets working in the kitchen). For readers who have no reason or inclination to travel to Dorset, Vermont, for example, the book contains recipes so that home cooks can try their hand at replicating roadfood delicacies. The two-author style gets a little getting used to, and, for the picky, the Stern's we-love-real-folk attitude can border on condescension. Still, *Two for the Road* is a fun, quick read that, like Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential*, would make a great gift for the foodie in your life.



About Marian
Hometown: Greensboro, NC
LS or IS: LS
Graduation date: May '08
If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Figure out how to extend my term.

Betsy's Netflix Queue: 1-*Ghostbusters* 2-*Seven Samurai* 3-*The Squid and the Whale* 4-*Prairie Home Companion* 5-*Crash*



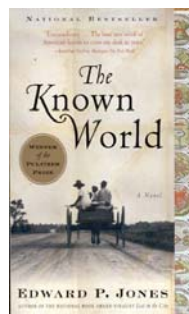
See
Anne's bio
on page 7
with her
recipe for
Snazzy
Spicy
Corn!

SILS Reads: *The Known World* reviewed by Anne Fleming

I love learning about history, but have a hard time with non-fiction, probably because I use reading as a form of entertainment. Most historical works try their best to inform rather than entertain. They can just go right ahead and continue doing that; however I will continue to resort to fiction to get the "facts." Cringe if you must, but the truth is that I consider the mood of an era and its effect on people's lives and relationships to be the real facts. For me, *The Known World* was a lesson on the establishment of slavery in the American South.

Jones examines a world that may seem different from our own, yet operates under many of the same assumptions that humanity is so preoccupied with today. The characters and the reader

discover together that categorizations like "black," "white," "known" and "unknown" only limit our understanding. Jones writes in a manner that is unassuming and incredibly insightful. His language passes no judgment on any of the characters in the story he tells of the relationships between masters and slaves on a fictional Virginia plantation.



I love when a book humbles me by pointing out my own ignorance while still affirming the continuity of our experiences as people. Jones' Pulitzer Prize-winning novel easily accomplished these conditions.

SILS Reads: *Special Topics in Calamity Physics* reviewed by Bonnie Brzozowski



About Bonnie

Hometown: Austin, TX

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '07

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Find myself a great job...or provide leisure & school books to every poor child in the world.

I read this book shortly after it came out as I had heard it compared to Jonathan Safran Foer's *Everything is Illuminated*, a book I loved. While it is no *Illuminated* and I don't quite understand this comparison, it was certainly an enjoyable and engrossing read. I devoured it in a little over a week; impressive for me as I am a slow and sometimes detached reader, and the book is a little over 500 pages long. The book is set up like an English literature course syllabus with each chapter named for a famous literary work and a final exam at the end. Pessl's main character, Blue van Meer, is a high school student that rarely lives in one town for more than a semester due to her father's inclination to move

from college town to college town as a visiting professor. Gareth, Blue's father, finally allows the two to stay in Stockton, North Carolina (side note: Pessl is from Asheville) for one full year, Blue's senior year. This is where the drama unfolds and Blue finds herself caught up in a murder mystery surrounding the death of a teacher Blue and her new school friends are quite close to. The plot is engaging and surprising, however, the excessive use of odd metaphors, literary allusions that often went over my head, and extensive references became obnoxious at times. Granted, this style characterizes Blue well (it is written in first person), particularly her father's enormous influence on

her, but it was easy to get lost in many of the extremely long sentences peppered with said metaphors, allusions, and references. The biggest problem with this book is the ending; it's bizarre and ambiguous. I felt as if I needed to read the whole book from the beginning again to figure it all out. The clues are incredibly subtle and I still haven't pieced them together to understand what it all means. Considering the attachment I had formed to the characters and the book itself, the ending was too strange and abrupt. Nevertheless, it's worth a read, but the stampede similar to the one I've witnessed at the libraries I work at to get a copy is unnecessary.



Meredith's Netflix Queue: 1-*Red Violin* 2-*Wedding Crashers* 3-*Arrested Development* (Season 3) 4-*The Royal Tenenbaums* 5-*The Philadelphia Story*

SILS Reads: **Three American Novels** reviewed by David Carr



About Dr. Carr

Hometown: Carrboro

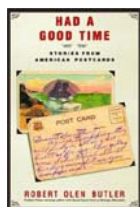
LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '73

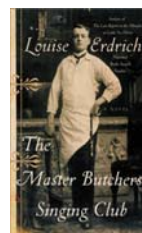
If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Advocate my new motto: *Librarianship—It's not dead, it's just digitized*

These reviews originally appeared in Dr. Carr's quarterly column in *Novelist*, accessible through Article Databases on the university's library website.

I have recently begun to lead the American Postcards Reading Group at the Regulator Bookshop in Durham, NC. Each of the books we read in this group has a strong sense of regional integrity. The group takes its name from a rich and entirely satisfying collection of stories by Robert Olen Butler, *Had a Good Time*. In this sweet collection, Butler introduces a device that would daunt lesser writers. A collector of antique postcards, he uses the real handwritten messages of a century ago to fabricate narratives, each capturing a cultural moment in everyday time. Where have we seen such stories before? In old desk drawers, yellowed scrapbooks, and tattered attic shoeboxes. The first story is titled after a hotel pictured on a card, for example, and it draws on a message that begins, "This is where the people who have more money than brains put up." Butler enters the lives of these reimagined people with such bravado that we sense a documentary quality mixed with a vivid sense of lived experiences. We read and feel as though we had visited a living history museum. I strongly encourage reading aloud the story called "The Ironworkers' Hayride," a masterpiece of voice.



The second of our American Postcards readings was Louise Erdrich's very strong and moving novel, *The Master Butchers Singing Club*, forged out of common German immigrant experiences and Erdrich's own history. As in Butler's stories, there were moments here when I thought Erdrich was channeling past voices and experiences, much as I have felt when reading Joyce Carol Oates. This book deserves a place nearer to Willa Cather's work, however; its occasionally lyrical American voice carries an unspoken tone of sorrow and American yearning. The German master butcher, Fidelis, emerges stunned from the Great War and emigrates with knives and sausages to the United States, making it as far as North Dakota, where he settles. He sends for his wife Eva, and the family finds its place in the town of Argus. The lives of Fidelis, Eva, and their sons intertwine with the lives of a young woman, Delphine Watzka. Delphine is at the center of the narrative, along with her alcoholic father Roy, and – well, many others. Time, more than place, is vividly present in this book: the narrative occurs between conflagrations, and the writer's devices assure that even small North Dakota lives are precarious, endangered by the politics and private memories of war. But it is ultimately a dreamy book, I think, woven more than written, and made of secrets and mysteries that linger to stir our own ideas. As I finished reading it, I stopped trying to explain this story to myself; instead I was drawn to list all the immigrants and first-generation children in my own family, all of them now among the unremembered dead of the last century.



Erdrich's book helped me to dive deeply into a set of books I think of as my "Plains Novels" shelf – fiction from the middle to far west of America. I began this immersion with Leif Enger's *Peace Like a River*, set in Minnesota, the choice of book groups far and wide.



Though it has an annoying sister among its family characters, the book is a strong story of fathers and sons, brotherhood and faith, goodness and trust, and the solid grounding of love in a family. On these qualities the novel is full and satisfying. The protagonist Reuben is a sickly boy who admires his elder brother Davy deeply. He is somewhat awed by his father, a religious visionary who appears to be capable of miracles. Davy defends the family against two mean boys, killing them, and then goes on the run to avoid prison. The remaining family picks up and travels after him, eventually finding a place with a warm woman and a deep heart. In addition to the many fictive categories this book occupies, like "Eleven Year Old Boys" and "Mother-Separated Children," I would add another: "Sisters Who Write Annoying Cowboy Doggerel." Without the precocious sister, for some reason named Swede, I would have embraced this coming-of-age story more readily. Ignoring her, this is a really fine book, in part because the other characters bear truths that surround them almost like auras. We accept the purity of these characters because Enger's prose is beautifully wrought, imbued with the qualities of clarity and authenticity derived from a snowy landscape. He makes readers want to read on, a great beginning to my own journey across the Plains.

Bonnie's Netflix Queue: 1- *Weeds* (Season 1) 2- *Trainspotting* 3- *The Seventh Seal* 4- *The Last Zaptistas, Forgotten Heroes* 5- *City of God*

SILS Sees: **Little Miss Sunshine** reviewed by Grant Dickie

Family trips should be a re-creation of the Donner party coming together not just as a loving family, but also as a team, a unit with a common goal; that is, before they all eat each other. *Little Miss Sunshine*, disappointingly, does not involve cannibals. It instead depicts a family on the road to the daughter's big debut on the children's beauty pageant stage. The director makes it quite clear from the beginning that this family is quite the rag-tag bunch of Dickens-worthy proportions. They are also, like Dickens', stock characters. Nothing in this film surprised me: plot or otherwise. There is the stock crazy Grandpa getting his kicks before he has his last, the overly

ambitious middle-aged father, the harried mother, the rational skeptic son, the depressed (But so polite!) gay brother, and the token cute, adorable, Little Miss God Bless Her Sunshine. These are the makings of a dysfunctional family, one that, of course, has to come together despite their differences and learn something about each other and life in the process, something done already in countless films which I can't recount here. But wait. Isn't this formula exactly why I loved this film and why I thrust my fist into the air and screamed - "yeah - AMERICA!" - at the glori-

ous finale? Perhaps in a country where we are so worried about the future and what, both economically and socially, it might bring, having an entire family, that symbol of Americana, pile into a retro-VW bus and make their way tooth-and-nail across the American Midwest can give us hope. The young daughter's innocent ambition surely dwarfs the monstrosity of her family's collective ego, and thus also the film's. What I mean is, you'll be rooting for this little darlin', and her family, by the end of the film. Plus, you'll feel great doing it.



About Grant

Hometown: Richmond, VA

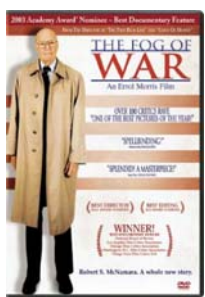
LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '08

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Each day would be made of homemade fudge and joy.

SIL Sees: **The Fog of War** reviewed by Megan Perez

Directed by Errol Morris, *The Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara* is an Oscar winning documentary film presenting McNamara's 'lessons' learned from his time as Secretary of Defense during the administrations of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Using archival video footage and audio recordings of private telephone conversations between McNamara and the Presidents, Morris crafts the unfolding of a life transformed by the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Viet-



nam War, and leadership of the World Bank. The media used in the film is raw, unfiltered, and often-times brow-raising, but it is humanized by the presence of McNamara himself who, at 85 years of age, explains the context, value, and meaning of the messages presented.

The runtime of the original film is 95 minutes, but the DVD includes an additional 10 lessons as a Special Feature.



About Megan

Hometown: San Antonio, TX

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '07

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Re-make the image of librarianship.

Kate's Netflix Queue: 1-*Entourage* (Season 3) 2-*Niagra* 3-*The Seven Year Itch* 4-*Freaks* 5-*Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*

SILS Eats: Milltown Cheese by Kate Murphy

There we were, sitting at Carrboro's Milltown, three ladies who'd just completed a long hard week of SILS classes. Who could've guessed that each of us would order the exact same thing? I would like to argue in favor of naming the grilled cheese sandwich at Milltown as the Best Grilled Cheese Sandwich Ever for the following reasons:



1. We've all probably seen "super grilled cheese" sandwiches that have bacon, onion, and/or tomato in addition to the essential cheese, bread, and grease. Sometimes fancy cheeses are added in the hopes of adding some interest and flavor to this classic comfort food. Where else, however, does the menu present you with a grilled cheese sandwich featuring (drum roll please)...avocados? Thank you Milltown. Their sandwich has not only avocados, but tomatoes, onion and a white cheese, possibly Swiss.

2. Focaccia. This bread stays crunchy, crisp, and delicious despite the butter/

grease on one side and the melted cheese inside. Some (Emily) would say that it is too crunchy, causing pain to the mouth. I say it is worth it.

3. No skimping on the cheese, in spite of the addition of veggies. Lots of cheese.

4. You can get it with a side of fries! Or, opt for one of three varieties of fries as an appetizer and go w/a side salad (as we did). Or, the ultimate option: fries as an app, fries as a side. How much more fries madness can you handle?

5. The flavor of the grilled cheese is greatly enhanced by pairing it with one of the many fine beers available at Milltown. Additionally, if you have already consumed one or two of these fine beers before ordering, you will appreciate the grilled cheese sandwich so much more. In summary, the grilled cheese sandwich at Milltown is the Best Grilled Cheese Sandwich Ever because of the plentitude of cheese, the presence of avocados, the use of focaccia, the imbibing of beer, and don't forget the fries.



About Kate

Hometown: Spooner, WI

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: December '07

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Give myself a scholarship and work on improving the ALA website.

SILS Eats: It's OK! by Betsy Herzog

You know that the triangle has shopping centers, but did you know that those shopping centers are full of hearty international restaurants? Indian, Korean, Japanese, and Turkish are available in Cary, Apex, Fuquay Varina, and Morrisville. A recent trip to Apex ended in an exhilarating meal at Chosun OK, a Korean restaurant where they spoke English to us, but not to anyone else in the place. (This is presumably a good sign in an international restaurant.) As for the food, it's rich and full of the spices that can be found in the street markets of Seoul. A bar-

becue entrée comes with the requisite spread: large portions of fatty sliced beef (often painfully tough), a basket of lettuce leaves (in which you wrap the meat), plus ten small plates of extras to add to the wrap. These include sliced garlic, steamed mung bean sprouts, a pickled cabbage *kimchi* mixture, and a thick spicy red sauce that stays on the tongue and lips for a while. This causes a problem if you also order the *kimchi* tofu soup. The pot is hot (Don't touch that bowl!) and hot (Ah



my lips!) The tofu is silky and a pleasing contrast to the coarse heat of the broth. A serving of fried dumplings was freshly and lightly fried; a

crisp crust dissolved into the plump ground beef inside. As good as they were, we had ordered them steamed. Still, when the hasty waitress bumped by and said, "Food, okay?" we grinned and nodded as we continued our international meal. Sometimes, it takes going to Apex to forget where you are.



About Betsy

Hometown: Cullowhee, NC

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '08

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?: Make librarianship cool.

Jennifer's Netflix Queue: 1-My Summer of Love 2-I'm Not There 3-Science of Sleep 4-Sullivan's Travels 5-The Marx Brothers' At the Circus

SILS Eats: **Coconut Lentil Curry** (submitted by Jennifer Solomon)

- 2 cups red lentils
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 1/2 bunch cilantro, chopped
- 1 can chopped tomatoes
- 1 can coconut milk
- 1 can tomato sauce
- 1 tsp. fresh ginger, grated
- 1-3 tblsp. garam masala
- 2 teaspoons turmeric
- 1 tsp. cayenne
- 1/2 tsp. cloves
- 1/2 tsp. salt



Cover bottom of frying pan or large pot with oil.
Fry onions on medium heat for about 5 minutes, or until they smell lovely.
Add cilantro until it wilts.
Stir in all other spices for 1 or 2 minutes.
Add tomatoes and stir for 1 or 2 minutes.
Add lentils, tomato sauce, and coconut milk.
Cover and simmer for about 30 minutes.

Serve with rice.

This recipe makes a lot, so you can easily halve the recipe or freeze the leftovers. To freeze, put one serving into each zip lock bag and freeze flat.



About Jennifer

Hometown: Wilmington, NC

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '08

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?:
Ask Google to redesign the ALA website

SILS Eats: **Snazzy Spicy Corn** (submitted by Anne Fleming)

- 1 T. lemon juice
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 1 fresh hot green chile, finely chopped
- 1 1/2 T. sesame seeds
- 1 smallish onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 red pepper, diced
- 1 can corn, drained
- 1 t. salt
- 1/2 t. garam masala
- 1/8 t. turmeric
- 1/2 t. cumin
- 1/2 t. coriander
- 1 t. paprika



Heat oil in saucepan and add mustard and cumin.

Stir until the seeds **pop**.

Add lemon juice, garlic, chile, and sesame seeds and stir until the sesame seeds turn golden.

Add onion and red pepper and stir fry for 5 minutes.

Add corn, plus all the spices to the pan and cook for one minute.

Pour tomatoes into pan, turn heat to low, and cook for 10 minutes.



About Anne

Hometown: Naperville, IL

LS or IS: LS

Graduation date: May '08

If you were ALA Pres for the day, what would you do?:
Lobby.

Mary Katherine's Netflix Queue: 1-*As Time Goes By* 2-*Keeping Up Appearances* 3-*Black Adder II* 4-*Short Cuts* 5-*Be Here to Love Me*

SILS Asks: **What is your favorite book?** (submitted by your peers)

Grant Lynch: *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams

Amy Morgan: *Persuasion* by Jane Austen

Regina Guerra: *Lord of the Rings* by J.R. Tolkien

Morgan Stoddard: *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

Carrie Bertling: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Jill Robinson: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

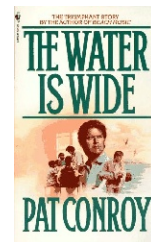
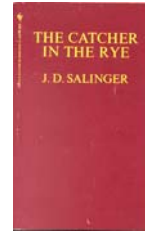
Casey Roberson: *Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gag

Alison Waldenberg: *Angel of Repose* by Wallace Stegner

Amanda Ross: *The Water is Wide* by Pat Conroy

Elizabeth Matson: *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery

Lisa Ward: *Emma* by Jane Austen



What is The Galley?

The Galley is a review of books, movies, music, food, drinks, restaurants, pamphlets, websites, television shows, and whatever else desperately needs to be reviewed. The reviews are written by anyone affiliated with UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Information and Library Science (SILS).

The Galley is sort of published by the Information and Library Science Student Association (ILSSA) of SILS.

By the way, a galley is a draft copy of a text before publication.

Do you want to write a review for The Galley, or otherwise be involved in its production?

The Galley needs lots of contributors to stay alive. You can review anything you want, as long as it is between 200 and 350 words long. Write a review of your favorite barbecue sauce, your least favorite graphic novel, a great movie, a mediocre television show...you name it!

Send questions, comments and submissions to: Betsy at silsgalley@unc.edu

Who is The Galley?

Jennifer Solomon Grant Dickie
Biff Hollingsworth Kate Murphy
Megan Perez Anne Fleming
Meredith Rendell David Carr
Mary Katherine Barnes
Bonnie Brzozowski Marian Fragola
Betsy Herzog (Editor)