

The Bounty Trilogy

In the 1930's Charles Nordhoff and James Norman Hall teamed up to compile three of the finest sea adventures ever written. Their first novel, *Mutiny on the Bounty*, narrates the ill-starred voyage of the armed transport, HMS *Bounty*, as seen through the eyes of midshipman Roger Byam. The *Bounty* departed England in late 1788 to take aboard breadfruit trees in Polynesia and deposit them in the West Indies. Shortly after leaving Tahiti with a full cargo, however, the ship sustained a mutiny (in late April of 1789). When Byam couldn't be placed aboard *Bounty's* fully loaded launch, he remained with the vessel before settling in Tahiti. When HMS *Pandora* arrived there in March of 1791, its officers believed Byam to be one of the mutineers and placed him in chains. Enroute to England, the *Pandora* struck a reef off northern Australia. Her crew and prisoners traveled in three small craft for ten months before reaching the island of Timor—and England (in June of 1792). Although Byam's court-martial found him guilty, he received a last-minute reprieve when another *Bounty* midshipman—believed to have drowned—is found safe and testifies on his behalf. Forsaking a return to Tahiti (and his lovely wife and daughter), Byam chooses instead to stay in the British navy (achieving the rank of captain).

William Bligh, the *Bounty's* commanding officer, served as Master under Captain James Cook. He was a lieutenant when the mutiny occurred; in time he became an admiral. You read *Mutiny on the Bounty* and wonder how come; you read *Men Against the Sea* and know. Narrated by acting surgeon Thomas Ledward, the novel tells of the greatest open-boat voyage in history. Eighteen men (originally nineteen) under Bligh's exacting leadership—and stubborn will—journeyed 3,600 miles in the *Bounty's* twenty-three-foot launch across a vast uncharted ocean to reach the island of Timor.

Pitcairn's Island (a rocky islet to the east of French Polynesia) chronicles the fate of the nine whites and seventeen Maoris (including twelve women) who sought refuge there. Upon the group's arrival in late December of 1789, the *Bounty* is beached, dismantled, and burned to the waterline. Led by Master's Mate Fletcher Christian, the mutineers construct a settlement in a protected glade. A series of misadventures begins at once. In late September of 1793 the males from both parties nearly annihilate each other after the whites meet to plan how they'll divvy up the island and enslave the Polynesians. In February of 1808, the American sealing vessel *Topaz* arrives off Pitcairn. Its mate, a Mister Webber, comes ashore to supervise the procurement of fresh water. He learns the fate of the *Bounty's* crew from the only surviving mutineer, seaman Alexander Smith, who's restored peace on the island through the precepts of the *Bounty's* worn, silver-clasped bible.

— essay by Bill Lounsbury

KRL has two copies of the Bounty trilogy.

e-reader 101 Classes at Manchester:

Monday July 15th 7-8 pm

Wanted: Vintage photographs and stories of Manchester!

Do you have archives of old photographs or vintage postcards? Are you knowledgeable about your local history? Would you like to help preserve your community's fascinating history?

The Friends of Manchester Library are currently compiling a photographic history of **Manchester** and are looking for your help! **The Friends** are assembling historic images of **Manchester** and the stories that go with them to include in an upcoming book to be published by Arcadia Publishing, the nation's leading publisher of local and regional history. To share your photographs and stories or to join the Community Publication Committee, please contact **Ron Rada** at **871-5439** or **rjrada@wavecable.com** as soon as possible.

Help keep local history alive!

Especially needed are photos of Manchester in the 50s through the present.

A New Video Game Collection – Available Now!

- 1. Systems KRL is collecting games for: Wii and Xbox Kinect**
- 2. Where are the game located?**
At the Silverdale Library for this year. The empty cases will be on the shelves and the discs will be kept behind the Circ counter. In 2014 we hope to expand the collection to all branches.
- 3. Can you place games “on hold” for delivery to Manchester?**
Yes, the games can be placed on hold
- 4. When the games come in for holds will we do anything special?**
No, for now they will be placed on the holds shelf like any other item.
- 5. Can you search the games in the catalog?**
Yes- the best way to search for Xbox games is to type *Kinect* in the search box and press enter. To search for Wii games, type *Wii games* in the search box and press enter.
- 6. How long will they checkout, and can they be renewed?**
7 days, like DVDs, and they can be renewed like any other item without holds and up to 3 times
- 7. Why don't we have games for teens or adults?**
This year we are starting the collection with children's games, rated E to E-10. In 2014 we hope to expand system wide to all branches and include games for children and teens. We are gradually building up the collection. After a couple of years we may collect adult games, however, our focus is on kids and eventually teens for the first years of this new collection. Also, the games we are collecting will have a broad appeal for all ages.

BOOK WORMS July Book

Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M.: Audrey Hepburn, Breakfast at Tiffany's, and the Dawn of the Modern Woman (P.S.) by Sam Wasson.

Book Worms meets 7 pm the third Tuesday of each month.