Davis Grubb Table of Contents

Use in combination with the program script

This table of contents works best as a guide for people who have listened to the CD and want to find favorite parts. Teachers may want to print it out and make notes on it as they listen to the program, choosing tracks for classroom use.

Classroom content: Davis Grubb believed every novel should be like no other. His first book - Night of the Hunter - has become a classic. Afterward, he not only varied the content, he varied his writing style. Teachers can contrast various readings in this program to contrast the impact of varying sentence length, amount of description, etc. Grubb also uses detail masterfully to fully flesh out a single moment or character. See Fool's Parade and Night of the Hunter readings, for instance.

* The program is most suitable for college and high school students. Tracks suitable for older elementary students are starred.

Key: Italics: Exerpts from interviews with the author / Readings of the author's work

W: Advice or conversation about writing

F/H: Fictionalizing history: turning actual events into fiction or poetry

CM: Childhood memories

AM: Adult memories CH: Cultural heritage

IWV: Identity as a West Virginian

CNW: Connection with the natural world: attachment to land and animals

CCF: Connection with community and/or family

J: Justice as a theme

- 1. (1:43) Introduction to Davis Grubb, his influence on West Virginia writers who followed him.
- 2. (1:10) Quick review of Grubb's early life and early success as a writer
- 3. (1:13) Tom Douglass, his biographer: Talks about him in general: "Davis Grubb had some kind of energy that, when he started writing, he just couldn't stop" > "He was flamboyant and gregarious."
- 4. (2:16) Grubb's voice, recorded by the Library Commission: "A young writer came to me years ago and said, 'Why write anything? It's all been said.'" > His answer > Douglass: "Every day, you don't create something is a sin" > Grubb: wrote for people in West Virginia
- 5. (4:08) Reading from Night of the Hunter: Preacher tries to get Ben to tell him what he did with the \$10,000 > L-O-V-E and H-A-T-E on his knuckles.
- 6. (1:03) Grubb tells the seed of the L-O-V-E and H-A-T-E: a scene in a Clarksburg poolroom
- 7. (2:02) Night of the Hunter 2: Ben's decision not to tell where the money is. A fine example of a narrative unfolding while a character reflects.
- 8. (1:03) Douglass: Grubb loved Dickens. Like Dickens, he wrote broad moral truths.
- 9. (4:02) Night of the Hunter 3: Preacher chases John and Pearl through the night. Ann Pancake delivers a chilling rendition.
- 10. (1:06) Grubb's belief in good and evil and redemptive love.

- 11. (3:58) Night of the Hunter 4: "Rachel reflected about children..." Read by Denise Giardina > followed by moving comments about Davis Grubb
- 12. (1:54) Douglass: "That is a pattern in Davis Grubb's fiction: his children, defenseless children ... being pursued ..." > Grubb's mother moved the family to Clarksburg to take a job as a protective service worker > met Rachel Cutcher > went to New York and success
- 13. (1:26) Douglass: Grubb knew famous writers in New York in the '50s, told them about West Virginia
- * 14. (1:59) Grubb's voice, standing in front of his Moundsville childhood home: eloquent words about his attachment to the place
- * 15. (1:39) He made terrible grades in school > He remembers when he first thought he was a writer > talks about his family in the Depression
- * 16. (1:45) The influence of the Moundsville penitentiary on Grubb
- 17. (5:13) Reading from The Voices of Glory with prior comments. Reading by John Morris: "Talley Vengeance."
- * 18. (3:40) The Voices of Glory 2: Reading by Kirk Judd: Anton Jakob Heller > after-comments about Grubb's ability to put himself in another's place
- * 19. (2:15) Reading from A Dream of Kings with after-comments about his varying style and content

20. (3:11) Reading from Fool's Parade: convicts standing on the train platform with Doc Council.

- 21. (2:21) Fools Parade 2 Description of Doc Council as he gives them instructions.
- * 22. (:56) Strong description of the way Doc Council moved
- 23. (1:53) About Fools Parade, the movie and about Rowdy Charlie, the dog
- 24. (1:03) Invited back to West Virginia to help dedicate the new Clarksburg library.
- 25. (2:13) Grubb had fun in West Virginia during the last two years of his life > Merle Moore's memories
- 26. (3:00) Merle Moore talks about Grubb's last days, reads one of his last writings.