



Timberland  
Regional  
Library

# News Release

(360)943-5001 - Fax (360)586-6838 - [www.trlib.org](http://www.trlib.org) - 415 Tumwater Blvd SW - Tumwater, WA 98501

May 24, 2010

## Visit with bard of the dispossessed, novelist Peter Rock

Join author Peter Rock for a reading, discussion and signing of his award-winning novel, "My Abandonment." The presentation will be held at the Olympia Timberland Library after regular library hours on Saturday, June 5 from 6 to 7:15 p.m.

Inspired by a true story, the novel follows 13-year-old Caroline and her father as they try to survive in the wilds around Portland, Oregon, and then the larger Northwest wilderness. Caroline, in her startling, sincere voice, tells of their secret way of life, the outside forces that try to change it, and their flight.

Rock's fiction often tells the stories of the dispossessed, the hidden, the outsiders, and for Rock, empathy with his characters is key. His stories investigate the mysteries that fascinate him. Some of these have included Mormonism, taxidermy, human subjects in medical trials, mold blooms in libraries and Edgar Allan Poe. Rock is the author of the novels *The Bewildered*, *The Ambidextrist*, *This is the Place*, and *Carnival Wolves*, and a story collection, *The Unsettling*. *My Abandonment* is his most recent book.



Rock was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. He received a BA in English from Yale University and held a Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University. The recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and other awards, he currently lives in Portland, Oregon, where he is an Associate Professor in the English Department of Reed College. A Web site with further information is [www.peterrockproject.com](http://www.peterrockproject.com).

The Olympia Timberland Library is at 313 8th Avenue SE, Olympia. For more information, call (360) 352-0595 or visit [www.TRL.org](http://www.TRL.org).

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Timberland Regional Library provides for the information, reading and lifelong learning needs of the Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston county public at 27 community public libraries and 7 library service partner locations. The library system is funded mainly by local property taxes. Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in a library's program may contact the library one week in advance.