

“One Book Whonnock”

Open to those who live, work, go to school or go to church in Whonnock, Ruskin or Thornhill

The Eternal Forest

by George Godwin




The time is just before World War I. George and Dorothy Godwin homestead in Whonnock. Take yourself back a century and see how people carved out our community in a time before chain saws, big pickups and internet. It is easy to recognize our neighbourhood as the setting in George Godwin's stories.

Surround yourself with dripping wet cedars; picture steep climbs up hills from the river carrying a sack of flour; envision the community hub of the local store/post office, the whistle of transcontinental trains, sawmills and fish—and meet the people who lived in the “fictional” communities of Ferguson's Landing and Carlyle.

We'll meet in January 2014 to discuss the book with your neighbours

In the meantime:

- Submit a photo of the forest on your property to webmaster@whonnock.ca.
- Gather any stories you can about the settlement of the property where you live from the era when the book was written.
- Let us know that you want to participate in a tour of historic Whonnock (Ferguson's Lading) and Ruskin (Carlyle).
- Check out onebookwhonnock.blogspot.ca
- Check out www.facebook.com/OneBookWhonnock 

Let us know you are participating!

You can send your name, e-mail address and phone number to webmaster@whonnock.ca or call Jean 604.462.7341 or fill out the form below, detach and give to Jean.

✂ -----

- ☐ Yes! I will read *The Eternal Forest* by George Godwin.
- ☐ Yes! I will attend the **One Book Whonnock** gathering to discuss the book with my neighbours
- ☐ Yes! I am interested in participating in a tour of historic Whonnock and Ruskin.

(Please check the boxes that apply)

Name

E-mail Address

Phone Number

See Reverse

“One Book Whonnock”

Endorsed by the Whonnock and Ruskin Community Associations

The Eternal Forest

by George Godwin

“George Godwin (1889–1974) and his wife Dorothy immigrated to Whonnock in 1911. They stayed four years, and then returned to England. Godwin’s novel deals with his own struggle, the lives of his fellow villagers (his “Ferguson’s Landing” is a B.C. village in microcosm), and the political/economic scene in British Columbia ... As well as being an accurate portrait of B.C. in its adolescence, this novel has many depths: sociological, psychological and philosophical.”

(Quoted from the Godwin Books Web site)

The original 1929 American and British issues of *The Eternal Forest* are rare and expensive.

The 1994 re-issue of the book can be purchased from the editor R.S. Thomson. Softcover \$20 or hardcover \$25. Add \$7 to cover postage.

Order from <godwinbooks.com/howtoorder.html>

The Maple Ridge branch of the Fraser Valley Regional Library will assure they have a sufficient number of the book on hand.

Used copies of the book can be obtained from second-hand bookstores or on the Internet.



Think About...

- your favourite description of a landscape in the book.
- your favourite description of a person in the book.
- the story that had the most impact on you.
- the character with whom you most identify.



Suggest other related activities to us:

See Reverse