



224 N. 4TH STREET
STILLWATER, MN 55082

APRIL 24
KEVIN WILSON
Hear from the author himself during his visit to the Valley!

Non-Profit Org.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Stillwater, MN
PERMIT NO. 621

Find out more at
ArtReachStCroix.org/BigRead
or call (651) 439-1465

Look for *Nothing to See Here* book club kits and FREE Read & Release copies. Or, receive 15% off a copy at Valley Bookseller or Chapter2Books.



Managed by Arts Midwest
arts.gov/neabigread

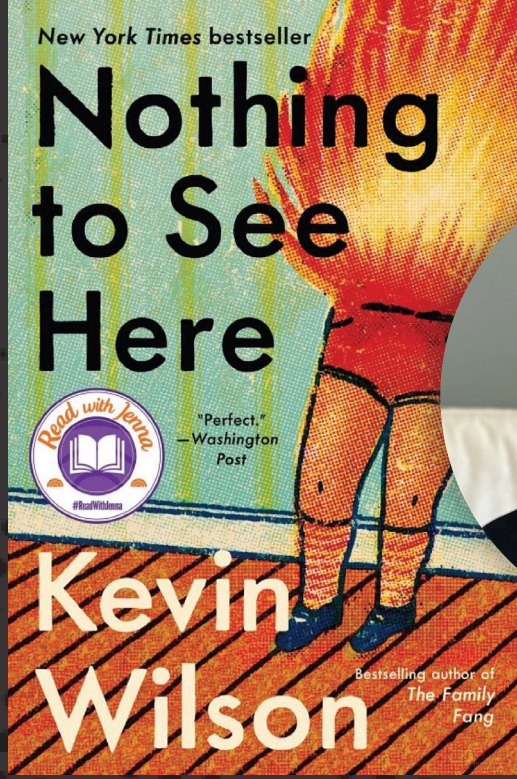
NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

NEA Big Read in the St. Croix Valley is presented by ArtReach St. Croix in conjunction with core program partners including Valley Bookseller, Hazelden Betty Ford, Franconia Sculpture Park, Stillwater Public Library and other libraries located between St. Croix Falls, WI and Hastings, MN.

Cover photo by Leigh Anne Couch

NEA BIG READ

In the St. Croix Valley



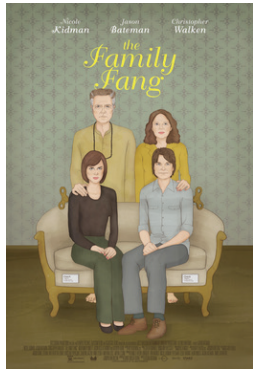
They didn't want to set the world on fire.
They just wanted to be **less alone in it.**

APRIL 2025

The children are literally fiery in Kevin Wilson's unpredictable novel. Thanks to his tender and imaginative approach, Wilson's far-fetched tale is grounded in truth and relatability. This year's NEA Big Read in the St. Croix Valley will spark conversations about neurodiversity, self-control, caring for each other and finding community.



Spring Fever by Surelle Strike



MENTAL HEALTH, FINDING CREATIVE SOLACE encourages artists and viewers to consider the emotions, stigma, struggles and healing that surround mental health and how individuals impacted personally or tangentially find solace and strength. Visit both locations to see work contributed by area artists.

EXHIBITION OPENING **APRIL 3** / 6-8pm / ArtReach St. Croix
ON VIEW THRU MAY 10 / ArtReach St. Croix
 Wed-Fri, 10am-4pm; Sat, 12-4pm
ON VIEW THRU MAY 11 / Washington Co. Historic Courthouse
 Mon-Fri, 9am-4:30pm; Sat & Sun, 10am-4:30pm

RELAX & RELEASE Enjoy guided breath-work during a Sound Bath with crystal sound bowls, chimes and steel drum. Bring a yoga mat and pillow.

+ **APRIL 2** / 6pm / Bayport Public Library

FILM SCREENINGS: THE FAMILY FANG The adaptation of Wilson's provocative and bizarre story about a family of performance artists, "The Family Fang," stars Jason Bateman, Nicole Kidman and Christopher Walken. Popcorn will be served!

APRIL 5 / 1pm / Bayport Public Library

APRIL 9 / 6pm / River Falls Public Library

Post-film discussion with UW-RF Film professor Erik Johnson.

APRIL 18 / 7pm / St. Croix Falls Library

SPARKING CIRCLES OF SUPPORT: HAZELDEN BETTY FORD

Join Dr. Christine Wilder to learn about restoring hope, healing, and health to those affected by substance use and their families. Hazelden Betty Ford is a national leader, with national reach, based in our backyard.

+ **APRIL 17** / 6pm / The Phipps, Black Box, Hudson

ANXIOUS GENERATION BOOK STUDY Dive into Jonathan Haidt's groundbreaking exploration of the youth mental health crisis in this engaging 3-part group study hosted by Stillwater Community Ed. Together, unpack societal shifts, including smartphones and social media, and explore practical strategies for fostering resilience.

+ **APRIL 21, MAY 5, MAY 19** / 6pm / Bayport Public Library

+ **APRIL 22, MAY 8, MAY 22** / 6pm / Stillwater Public Library

BOOK DISCUSSIONS Everyone is welcome to join in conversation. Let's talk about Kevin Wilson's, "ability to craft an everyday family drama and inject it with one odd element that turns the story on its head." *Nothing to See Here* sparks conversations about chosen families, finding one's power and caring for one another.

APRIL 10 / 11:30am / Bayport Public Library

APRIL 16 / 1pm / Somerset Public Library

APRIL 16 / 6:30pm / St. Croix Falls Library

APRIL 23 / 6pm / Wilberg Memorial Public Library of Osceola

APRIL 25 / 3pm / Stillwater Public Library

NARRATIVE HEALING Explore writing as a healing art. An instructor from the Loft Literary Center will lead the workshop on writing for healing, writing to remember, and writing to connect.

+ **APRIL 23** / 6:30-8pm / River Falls Public Library

+ **APRIL 29** / 6-7:30pm / Stillwater Public Library

ART ON TOUR: REVEALING THE ART OF COVER DESIGN

This interactive display will give you insight into choices and decisions that are made when designing book covers. The touring exhibit will be at each location for one week.

MARCH 17-MAY 11 / Visit ArtReachStCroix.org/BigRead for library locations and schedules.

FEELINGS & FLAMES Rachel Coyne's paintings are described with a shockingly short artist statement: "my work focuses on women and taboo emotions—particularly anger."

APRIL 1-30 / Wilberg Memorial Public Library of Osceola

VALBORG Short for Valborgsmässoafton, the last of April, this Swedish tradition welcomes spring and a brighter future. Gather around a bonfire to document what you want to leave behind (we'll provide the paper) and let it go up in flames!

APRIL 30 / 6:30pm / Franconia Sculpture Park



I think I am angry 2 by Rachel Coyne



AN EVENING WITH KEVIN WILSON Visiting the Upper Midwest from Middle Tennessee, Kevin Wilson will speak to how he uses remarkable, escapist plots to introduce longed-for conversations about caring for kids, caring for oneself and caring for community. Wilson will talk about his inspiration, writing process, and his own anxiety and unpredictability.

+ **APRIL 24** / 6:30pm / Trinity Lutheran Church, Stillwater

More workshops and resources at ArtReachStCroix.org/BigRead

+ Registration required at ArtReachStCroix.org/Register

+ Online or livestream option bit.ly/bigreadscv

+ ASL interpreter All events are **FREE**. Donations Requested.

