

**Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library presents Evening Book Discussions**  
**Jodi Picoult's *My Sister's Keeper*, facilitated by Marsha Bansavage**  
**June 23, 2009 at 5:00 pm**

May 20, 2009

**CONTACT:**

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The Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library of Old Lyme will present an evening book discussion on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 5:00 pm featuring award winning author Jodi Picoult's *My Sister's Keeper*. Picoult has catapulted to popular success with timely works on family issues and moral dilemmas emblematic of our times. Winner of the Margaret Alexander Edwards Award (the Alex Award) given by the American Library Association, Winner of the 2007 Virginia Readers' Choice Award, and chosen as Best Book of the Year in 2005 by [Bookbrowse.com](http://Bookbrowse.com).

*"The author vividly evokes the physical and psychic toll a desperately sick child imposes on a family, even a close and loving one like the Fitzgeralds... there can be no easy outcomes in a tale about individual autonomy clashing with a sibling's right to life, but Picoult thwarts out expectations in unexpected ways... a telling portrait of a profoundly stressed family." Kirkus Reviews*

**Short synopsis:** Anna is not sick, but she might as well be. By age thirteen, she has undergone countless surgeries, transfusions, and shots so that her older sister, Kate, can somehow fight the leukemia that has plagued her since childhood. The product of pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, Anna was conceived as a bone marrow match for Kate - a life and a role that she has never questioned... until now. Like most teenagers, Anna is beginning to question who she truly is. But unlike most teenagers, she has always been defined in terms of her sister - and so Anna makes a decision that for most would be unthinkable... a decision that will tear her family apart and have perhaps fatal consequences for the sister she loves. *My Sister's Keeper* examines what it means to be a good parent, a good sister, a good person. Is it morally correct to do whatever it takes to save a child's life... even if that means infringing upon the rights of another? Is it worth trying to discover who you really are, if that quest makes you like yourself less?

The movie adaptation of *My Sister's Keeper* is scheduled for release on June 26, 2009, starring Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin, Alec Baldwin and Sofia Vassilieva.

**About our discussion leader:** Marsha Bansavage has been an educator for thirty-six years. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in English literature, a Masters and sixth year degree in Art and the Humanities. She is an active member of the Connecticut Humanities Council. Her passions are teaching, reading, art appreciation and antiquing.

The book discussion will take place in the Community Room of the Library on Tuesday June 23 at 5 pm. The library will provide light, refreshing summertime snacks for participants. This

program is free and open to the public. The staff encourages registration for planning purposes. Multiple copies of the book are available at the Circulation Desk.

The Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library is located at 2 Library Lane, Old Lyme, CT. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 10 am -7 pm, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am - 6 pm, Friday 10am -5 pm and Saturday 10 am – 2 pm. For more information or to register for the program call 860-434-1684.