
Inside PHC: Interview with Amish mystery series writer, Tamar Myers!



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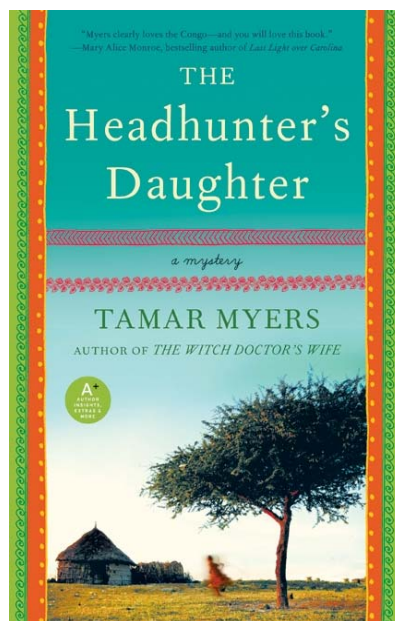
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Read Across the Valley continues in Susquehanna Valley!



James V. Brown Library in Williamsport is partnering with 13 other libraries in the Susquehanna Valley region for a PHC-funded program called [Read Across the Valley: Living Simple, Living Plain](#) which celebrates reading by highlighting local authors and exploring Amish culture. **Amish mystery series writer [Tamar Myers](#) will speak at the library on September 14 at 7 pm.** Recently, PHC spoke with Tamar about her background and her most recent book, *The Headhunter's Daughter*.

Pennsylvania residents love you for your Amish mystery series.

What is your connection to the Pennsylvania Dutch?

My ancestors were Amish for hundreds of years. You would not believe my mother's family tree! I am descended from the great Amish patriarch Jacob Hochstetler, who immigrated to America on the Charming Nancy in the 1730s along with the first great wave of Amish from Switzerland.

Can you tell us about your new book, *The Headhunter's Daughter*?

[*The Headhunter's Daughter*](#) is about a kidnapping plan gone wrong. The end result is that a lad from the tribe of headhunters who is out to "collect" his skull, discovers a white baby lying in her buggy in a jungle clearing, and he takes her home to his mother. This white baby grows up amongst the headhunters for thirteen years until the Belgians learn of her existence at which point they forcibly remove her from the tribe and try to repatriate her. The story idea came from the fact that my 8 times great-grandfather, Joseph Hochstetler, was captured by the Delaware Indians in 1750 and adopted by a loving Indian family. He was eleven years old at the time.

Your background is fascinating. Can you tell our readers where you grew up and what your childhood was like?

I was born in 1948, in the Belgian Congo, which was a Belgian-owned colony smack in the middle of Africa. In 1950 my parents accepted the challenge to be the first missionaries to establish a mission station amongst a tribe that was known for practicing headhunting. I had two sisters who soon went off to boarding school, so I played with the local children and became quite fluent in the regional trade language. My parents spent many hours working, teaching school to the children of these headhunters, while I played amongst the great trees of the forest.

Humanities on the Road* explores Amish culture with *Rosana of the Amish



For more exploration of Amish culture, tune into *Rosana of the Amish* on PCN-TV! Part of PHC's award-winning television series *Humanities on the Road*, this episode explores the life of writer **Joseph W. Yoder** (pictured at left) and the controversy surrounding the book he penned about his Amish mother. Yoder's book, *Rosana of the Amish*, became an enduring regional classic and

remains in print **even though we know now that some of the events rendered as "fact" could not have happened.** Using old photographs, Penn State's Associate Professor of English and women's studies, Julia Kasdorf, introduces us to Yoder and opens the conversation about fact and truth in memoirs.

Watch the premiere of *Rosana of the Amish* on PCN-TV on October 14 at 6pm. To find PCN-TV in your area, visit PCN-TV's [website](#).

Rosana of the Amish is just one of 13 episodes filmed for *Humanities on the Road*. Season 2 premieres this September on PCN-TV. Visit the series [blog](#) for a list of upcoming episodes, show times and behind-the-scenes extras.



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