

—Slug:.....COMM-0875.arts.Luskin_reading
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—Dateline..... Marlboro
—Article Number:.....43979



Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Luskin to present 'Words into Music' at Marlboro on
2 Aug. 1

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 Music is central to *Into the Wilderness*, Deborah Lee
6 Luskin's award-winning novel set at the Marlboro Music Festival
7 in 1964.

8 Luskin will speak about turning music into words at the
9 Marlboro Community Center, 524 South Rd., Saturday, Aug. 1, at
10 3 p.m.

11 In *Into the Wilderness*, we meet Rose Mayer, a 64-year-
12 old New Yorker who has just been widowed for a second time
13 and doesn't know what she's going to do with the rest of her life.
14 Percy Mendell is a 64-year-old born-and-bred Vermonter who
15 doesn't know what he's going to do when he retires at the end of
16 the year. She's a Democrat; he's a Republican. They have nothing
17 in common — except music, which becomes their common
18 language.

19 "Music is central to the novel. Luskin is convincing in
20 translating the aural, physical, and emotional power of music into
21 words on the paper. The result is a wonderful novel," wrote John
22 McCright in *The Addison Independent* when the book was first
23 published in 2010. It was recently reissued by Sibylline Press and
24 is more salient than ever.

25 Set against the 1964 presidential election, when Vermont
26 did not elect the Republican candidate for the first time in 109
27 years and was facing the end of one town, one vote districting for
28 the Vermont House, *Into the Wilderness* resonates in today's
29 fractured political landscape.

30 The story captures Vermont as it was beginning to shift
31 from a century of Republican control to a Democratic majority in
32 Montpelier. It also captures a musical moment at the Marlboro
33 Music Festival when, on August 2, 1964, the famed Guarneri
34 Quartet made its debut — and Rose and Percy are there.

35 A day before the 62nd anniversary of this debut, Luskin
36 will speak about the music in the book and read some of the
37 music of her words. Music — live, recorded, and sung — occurs
38 throughout the novel. There's even a playlist on Luskin's website,
39 deborahleeluskin.com/music-in-into-the-wilderness.

40 Books will be available for purchase and signing.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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