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NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR CURTIS SITTENFELD TO HEADLINE
7TH EDITION OF THE DEEP VALLEY BOOK FESTIVAL OCT. 1

MANKATO — Curtis Sittenfeld, author of *Rodham*, *American Wife*, and *Prep*, will be the headlining author at the 7th edition of the Deep Valley Book Festival, held Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Wow!Zone in Mankato.

Rodham is an imaginative take on the life of Hillary Rodham Clinton, answering the question *what if she had not married Bill?* *Rodham*, an instant *New York Times* bestseller when it debuted in 2020, was described by *Booklist* in its starred review as “exhilaratingly trenchant, funny, and affecting... Sittenfeld orchestrates a gloriously cathartic antidote to the actual struggles women presidential candidates face in a caustically divided America.” A Hulu adaptation is in development.

American Wife, which was published in 2008, is a fictional take on the life of former first lady Laura Bush. Novelist Richard Russo writes: “Curtis Sittenfeld is an amazing writer, and *American Wife* is a brave and moving novel about the intersection of private and public life in America. Ambitious and humble at the same time, Sittenfeld refuses to trivialize or simplify people, whether real or imagined.”

Sittenfeld’s visit is supported by the Minnesota State Arts Board, which provided a grant to the Deep Valley Book Festival, a non-profit whose mission is to connect readers and writers in southern Minnesota and beyond.

The festival is free and open to the public, with dozens of authors and publishers in attendance. Sittenfeld will give a talk, answer questions and sign books at 3 p.m.

Previous keynote speakers have included Minnesota authors Faith Sullivan, Lorna Landvik, Allen Eskens, Matt Goldman and Will Weaver.

The event is the largest literary festival of its kind in southern Minnesota. For more information, go to www.deepvalleybookfestival.com. Follow Deep Valley Book Festival on Facebook for the latest news and updates.