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DATE: 1/3/2025

SUBJECT: One Book Northland 2025 Selection: *Where Rivers Part* by Kao Kalia Yang

BY: Elizabeth Spehar

DULUTH, MN - 2025 marks the 24th year the *One Book* project has brought the Northland community together to celebrate a love of reading and to connect through stories. The One Book Northland committee is pleased to announce the selected title for 2025: *Where Rivers Part: A Story of My Mother's Life* by Kao Kalia Yang.

The memoir follows the journey of Yang's mother, Tswb (pronounced "Chew"), born in Laos during a period of civil war and genocide. After surviving starvation, isolation, refugee camps, and the pain of leaving loved ones behind, Tswb marries, becomes a mother, and eventually makes it to the United States, determined to build a better life. Unflinching and poignant, *Where Rivers Part* reminds readers of the strength and resolve demanded of refugees who leave their homes and lives in search of a better future.

This spring, participating organizations will host events for the community to learn more and connect. Copies of *Where Rivers Part* are available at local libraries and bookstores. Events will be announced in March.

Events and more information will be available at participating organizations: Duluth Public Library, Cloquet Public Library, Superior Public Library, Two Harbors Public Library, University of Minnesota Duluth's Kathryn A. Martin Library, the College of St. Scholastica, UW Superior's Jim Dan Hill Library, Fond Du Lac Tribal Community College, Barnes & Noble, Bookstore at Fitger's, and Zenith Bookstore.