



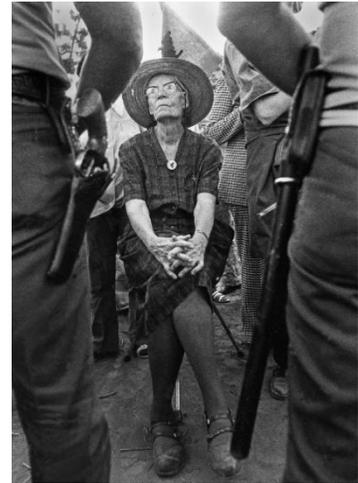
## Talbot County Free Library to Interview Local Author Casey Cep



Coming soon to *The Talbot Spy*, "Library Guy" Bill Peak's Zoom interview with local author Casey Cep about her recent *New Yorker* article "Dorothy Day's Radical Faith." In the piece, Cep writes about the life and legacy of the Catholic writer and activist, whom some hope will be made a saint. The article is available in its entirety at [newyorker.com](https://www.newyorker.com).

Dorothy Day started out as a radical in the 1910s. An admirer of Communism and an avowed socialist, she hobnobbed with the likes of Leon Trotsky and Eugene O'Neill. But a chance encounter with a nun on the streets of New York in 1926 changed everything. Day converted to Catholicism and became a devout member of what was, especially in those days, a church that demanded utter obedience from its followers. But Day saw no contradiction between the strictures of her new faith and her radical commitment to serving the poor. Indeed, she believed the one required the other. She went on to found the Catholic Workers Movement, which to this day runs over two hundred hospitality houses around the world for the poorest of the poor. Day remained a radical to the end, protesting against racial discrimination in the South, the Vietnam War, and the proliferation of nuclear arms. In her *New Yorker* article, Cep reports that Day was standing "with Cesar Chavez's farm laborers in California when she was arrested for the last time."

Dana Newman, director of the Talbot County Free Library, said, "At a time when so many people are stuck in their homes looking for something to do, the library is pleased to offer them the chance to get to know one of the Eastern Shore's most notable living authors a little better, thanks to *The Talbot Spy's* online publication. Having heard Ms. Cep speak in our Easton library last June, I can assure the readers of *The Spy* that they are in for a real treat."



A native of Talbot County, Cep is a staff writer at *The New Yorker*. She published her first book *Furious Hours: Murder, Fraud, and the Last Trial of Harper Lee* in May. *Furious Hours* debuted at No. 6 on *The New York Times* Hardcover Nonfiction Best Sellers List and was on the shortlist for the 2019 Baillie Gifford Prize. In it, Cep masterfully brings together the tales of a serial killer in 1970s Alabama and of Harper Lee, the beloved author of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, who tried to write his story.

Cep is a graduate of Harvard College, and the University of Oxford, where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, and *The New Republic*, among many other publications.