

Brookfield Public Library

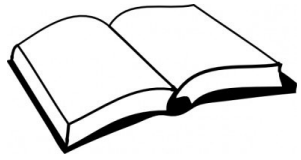
1900 N. Calhoun Road
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005
(262) 782-4140
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Hours

Monday – Thursday	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday (School Year)	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.





**THESE BOOKS
CAN NOT BE
BEAT!**



NOTES

FICTION

The Boy at the Top of the Mountain Young Adult

Boyne, John

A WWII novel about Pierrot Fischer, a Parisian of German heritage whose best friend, Anshel, is Jewish and deaf. Orphaned at age seven, Pierrot goes to live with his Aunt Beatrix, a housekeeper at a mountaintop estate near Salzburg. Unlike the staff, Pierrot is not terrified but charmed by the owner of the estate, Herr Hitler, who makes him his pet. A small boy once bullied at school, Pierrot turns into a bully himself once he falls under the spell of Nazi pageantry and propaganda, eventually instigating a horrifying betrayal. Boyne crafts an unexpected ending that packs a tremendous emotional wallop. (*Publishers Weekly*) Recommended by Kathy

The Bookshop on the Corner

Colgan, Jenny

When she's downsized from her job as a librarian in England, Nina decides to open her own bookshop, a move that changes her whole life. She converts an old bakery van she finds in a small Scottish village to a bookstore on wheels. She then moves into a converted barn on a Highlands farm and begins selling at local market days, getting to know the villagers through their reading tastes. She even finds romantic options, with both a charismatic train conductor who passes through

town and a gruff but caring farmer. This cheering tale celebrates the many ways books bring people together. (*Booklist*)

"A wonderful story about a woman who reinvents her life and finds herself and love in the process." - Marnie



WHO WOULDN'T LOVE THESE BOOKS?



TAKE ANOTHER LITTLE PIECE OF THE LIBRARY NOW, BABY.

FICTION

Last Bus to Wisdom

Doig, Ivan

In the summer of 1951, 11-year-old Donal Cameron's grandmother develops "female trouble" and must submit to an operation. Donal is dispatched by Greyhound to Wisconsin, where he is to live with his Aunt Kate until his grandmother recovers. Packing his treasured "memory book," in which he asks any and all to inscribe a few meaningful words, Donal makes the lengthy trek only to discover that Aunt Kate is a tyrant who soon tires of the boy and sends him packing back to Montana. This time, though, Donal has a companion, Kate's browbeaten, glass-eyed, sort-of husband, Herman the German, who sets the second half of the book on fire with a combination of wide-eyed innocence and sly resourcefulness. (*Booklist*)

"A nostalgic trip to America's past." - Joey

The Stand

King, Stephen

The Stand is a truly terrifying reading experience, with its apocalyptic vision of the world when a deadly virus runs amok around the globe. But that lethal virus is almost benign compared to the satanic force gathering minions from those still alive to destroy humanity and create a world populated by evil. Stephen King is a brilliant storyteller who has the uncanny gift of putting ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances, giving readers an experience that chills and thrills on every page. (book jacket)
Recommended by Kathy



NONFICTION

Zeitoun

Eggers, Dave

976.335 E29

Eggers chronicles the tribulations of Abdulrahman Zeitoun, a Syrian American painting contractor who decides to ride out Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Although his wife, Kathy, leaves town with their four children, Abdulrahman stays behind, hoping to protect their home, their job sites, and their rental properties. After the storm, he paddles the flooded streets in a canoe, rescuing stranded people, feeding trapped dogs, and marveling at the sometimes surreal beauty of the devastation. Then people in uniforms take him at gunpoint and incarcerate him. There are no charges, only the guards' insistence that he is "al Qaeda" and "Taliban." Zeitoun's odyssey—23 days of grueling imprisonment, held incommunicado and deprived of all due process—is but one nightmare of many lived after Katrina. Heartbreaking and haunting. (*Booklist*) Recommended by Reñee

Even Silence Has an End: My Six Years of Captivity in the Colombian Jungle

Betancourt, Ingrid

986.106 B562

Betancourt tells the story of her captivity in the Colombian jungle, sharing teachings of resilience, resistance, and faith. At the age of 32, she gave up a life of comfort and safety to return to birth place of Colombia to become a political leader in a country that was slowly being destroyed by terrorism, violence, fear, and hopelessness. While running for president in 2002, she was abducted by the FARC and spent the next six and a half years a prisoner. The facts of her story are astounding, but it is Betancourt's indomitable spirit that drives this very special account. (Penguin Press) Recommended by Reñee

NONFICTION

Truevine: Two Brothers, A Kidnapping, and a Mother's Quest: A True Story of the Jim Crow South

Macy, Beth

973.8 M177

In Truevine, VA, circa 1899, a circus agent gathered up two brothers both African American and albino. For decades, George and Willie Muse performed with carnival freak shows around the country. This objectification typified an era in which lynchings were rampant, Southern blacks were trapped in poverty and illiteracy, and disabilities and deformities were treated as opportunities for commodification and entertainment. Conversely, Macy points out that carnivals offered a haven for marginalized members of society, and that the Muse brothers' mother may have tried to give her children a better life. This solid popular history has much to offer regarding issues of race, family, disability, and spectacle. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Edell



FICTION

Northwest Angle: A Novel

Krueger, William Kent

PI Cork O'Connor reunites with his daughter, Jenny, for a houseboat vacation on the Lake of the Woods, where a violent windstorm forces them to seek shelter on an island. Emerging from the devastation, they discover a murdered woman and a wailing infant, and, in the distance, they hear someone in pursuit. With baby in tow, they seek a secure haven—somewhere they know someone trustworthy. Finding little help from local inhabitants, Cork turns to family members and, ultimately, his Ojibwa ancestors for a lasting resolution. Mystery readers will appreciate this fascinating adventure interwoven with folklore. Book 12 in the Cork O'Connor mystery series. (*Library Journal*)

"A mystery with a sympathetic portrayal of human frailty." - Joey

The Couple Next Door

Lapena, Shari

At the start of Lapena's suspenseful debut, Anne and Marco Conti come home from a party to find their infant daughter Cora's crib empty. They left Cora alone after the sitter cancelled at the last minute. Not a shred of evidence indicates that anyone entered the house after the Contis left for the party, though the police detectives on the case discover that the motion detector on the back door was disabled, the Contis' garage door was left open, and tire tracks in the garage. Could the couple be covering up a kidnapping? After numerous twists and turns, just when everything appears to be resolved, Lapena delivers one final, deftly crafted surprise. (*Publishers Weekly*) Recommended by Cathy

FICTION

Stolen Beauty: A Novel

Lico, Laurie Albanese

Albanese draws readers into a world of glamour, art, intrigue, power and fear. Maria and opera singer husband Fritz soon learn their money and talent are of little use to the Third Reich, especially with Jewish blood in the family. Even more compelling is the interwoven story of Maria's aunt, Adele Bloch-Bauer, muse to artist Gustav Klimt. Klimt's commissioned gold-leaf portrait of Adele is of high interest to the Nazis and will inspire Maria to find inner strength to survive the war and save her family's legacy. In this complex yet utterly readable novel, historical characters are brought to life against the setting of a city on the verge of artistic greatness and societal collapse. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Stephanie

Twenty Wishes

Macomber, Debbie

This tale begins on Valentine's Day at Anne Marie Roche's bookstore when four widows—Anne Marie, Elise, Lillie, and her daughter, Barbie, members of one of her book groups—decide to celebrate friendship together. One of them brings up the idea of making a list of wishes: things they've secretly wanted to accomplish but never did. However hesitant they might be at first, as the women complete their lists, they begin to embrace the idea of making each wish a fact. Even the most hard-hearted readers will find themselves rooting for the women in this hopeful story while surreptitiously wiping away tears and making their own lists of wishes. (*Booklist*) Recommended by Lori

NONFICTION

My Holiday in North Korea: The Funniest/ Worst Place on Earth

Simmons, Wendy E.

951.93 S592

Simmons guides readers through a country that is as bizarre as we might imagine. Handlers schedule Simmons down to the minute and lecture her on Korean superiority. The deceased Great Leaders are still running the country but have come up short on providing electricity and toilet paper to the citizens. Factories and sports arenas are empty until the group stops by, and then orderly crowds of North Koreans rush in. Rainy days are declared sunny and nice. The handlers are caught in the dilemma of indoctrinating the visitor yet hearing about the outside world and perhaps questioning their own. A highly recommended and revealing glimpse into a secretive land. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Reñee



GREAT BOOKS ON MY MIND!

NONFICTION

The Hundred-Year Walk: An Armenian Odyssey

Mackeen, Dawn Anahid

92 M678M

Mackeen set out to bring her family's past into the present by translating her grandfather Stepan Miskjian's exhaustive personal journals, researching archival documents, and traveling to Turkey and Syria to retrace his steps and meet the Muslim family that saved him and other Armenians from certain death. The narrative alternates perspectives between Mackeen's quest and her grandfather's odyssey. Through his journals, Stepan came alive. He was no longer solely the victim of a holocaust, but a peddler, an entrepreneur, a soldier for the Ottoman Empire during World War I, and a highly valued servant of a powerful Sheikh. This is a tale of tracing your family roots and learning about who you are. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Sue G.

Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey: The Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle

Carnarvon, Fiona, Countess of

942.082 C288

The Countess of Carnarvon, who lives at Highclere Castle (where *Downton Abbey* is filmed), capitalizes on her home's fame as the author of biographies of notable women of Highclere. Lady Almina, the subject of her first book, is similar to Cora Crawley—the daughter of a wealthy American industrialist who makes a surprisingly successful match with an English noble and whose wealth maintains the historic home. The saga of Highclere Castle's Lady Almina reads like a full-bodied prospectus for a *Masterpiece Theatre* series. Lady Fiona Cararvon uses diaries, family letters, and photographs to illuminate the eventful life of a Rothschild daughter who rose above her class with brave and selfless action. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Edell

FICTION

All Our Wrong Today's

Mastai, Elan

Tom Barren has come from the 2016 we're supposed to be living in. He is the first chrononaut, a time traveler who has just landed in 1965 at the inception of the most amazing invention that ever (sort of) was: the engine that harnessed the velocity of earth's rotation to power the world. Unfortunately, Tom's very presence throws off the whole process, and before he boomerangs back to 2016, the world as he knew it is forever changed. Though he immediately falls in love, and he likes this version of his family better in this 2016, Tom's mishap weighs heavily on him, and he thinks he should correct it. Enjoy the ride. (*Booklist*)

"A great sci-fi book." - Marnie

In the Lake of the Woods

O'Brien, Tim

John and Kathy Wade are a young, idealistic couple living the American Dream until John's bid for the U.S. Senate is trashed by media reports of his involvement in the infamous My Lai massacre during the Vietnam War. Still very much in love but without direction, John and Kathy flee to a remote cabin. When Kathy disappears without a trace, a massive but fruitless search ensues. Did John murder her or did she simply flee? O'Brien develops several maddeningly plausible explanations, allowing readers to draw their own conclusions in this dark but wonderful novel. (*Library Journal*)



"A complex thriller that kept me intrigued." - Jean

FICTION

The Drifter

Petrie, Nicholas

Peter Ash is a 31-year-old marine vet whose PTSD prevents him from being indoors. Feeling guilty about a fellow vet's suicide, he goes to Milwaukee to help the widow out, and he finds \$400,000 in cash plus explosives under her porch. As Ash investigates his friend's death and possible involvement in some dirty dealings, his probe leads him to a gangster, a plot to blow up a bank in a financial scam, and a hedge fund manager who may have murdered his wife. Petrie's impressive debut thriller is fine tuned, the action gripping, and through Ash offers a well-drawn portrait of a vet who can't escape his combat experience. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Cathy

The Watchmaker of Filigree Street

Pulley, Natasha

As a telegraph operator in 1880s London, Nathaniel Steepleton has a quiet life. The anonymous gift of a watch changes everything. Soon after, terrorists set off a bomb using elaborate clockworks and Steepleton's device saves him from injury. He tracks down the watchmaker, Keita Mori, despite his policeman friend's suspicions that Mori might be the bomber. Mori is a genius craftsman with an unusual talent: he remembers the future. An impressive work of historical fiction, this novel evokes details of 19th-century England on the cusp of technological and cultural revolutions. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Nina



NONFICTION

Journey into the Whirlwind

Ginzburg, Eugenia

92 G4938

1937, the year that Eugenia Ginzburg was arrested and falsely charged as a Trotskyist terrorist counterrevolutionary, was only the beginning of Stalin's purges. Nearly six million people were arrested on trumped up charges, and millions were executed or perished in prisons and camps. Ginzburg chronicles her own terrifying arrest, interrogation, and eighteen-year imprisonment. This memoir is important for those who wish to understand Russian history and for anyone who has ever wondered how they might survive in a maelstrom, facing constant betrayals, overwhelming physical hardship, agonizing loneliness, and a longing for the past. (*500 Great Books by Women*) Recommended by Joey

Lab Girl

Jahren, Hope

92 J25

Jahren's first book is a refreshing mix of memoir about her journey as a scientist and musings about plants, the central focus of her successful scientific endeavors. Over the course of 20 years her field treks with research partner Bill take them to the North Pole, the back roads of Florida, and Ireland's countryside. At times funny and at other points poignant, this work expresses Jahren's passion for paleobiology through her insights into plant life and growth. She skillfully ties this knowledge to her own life stories and successfully conveys the dedication required to build and sustain a research agenda and the requisite lab at any major U.S. research institution. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Sue G.

NONFICTION

Sleep Smarter: 21 Essential Strategies to Sleep Your Way to a Better Body, Better Health, and Bigger Success

Stevenson, Shawn

613.794 S848

Through years of research and consulting health experts, Stevenson discovered there is one overlooked aspect of health: sleep. Through better sleep, Stevenson was able to achieve fitness and business goals he never thought possible, and now he shares his secrets with the world. The book includes a 14-day plan with tips and tricks like the time of day to exercise for better sleep quality, what to wear to avoid waking up at night, and ways to fall asleep faster. *Sleep Smarter* is the ultimate guide to sleeping better, feeling refreshed, and achieving a healthier, happier life. (Baker & Taylor) Recommended by Stephanie

A Big Little Life: A Memoir of a Joyful Dog

Koontz, Dean

636.7092 K82

After years of consideration, Dean and Gerda Koontz got Trixie, a golden retriever. She was highly intelligent, good-humored, and a fit with her fastidious new owners. Besides quite regularly manifesting her extraordinariness, Trixie made Koontz ponder the nature of intelligence, interspecies communication, sympathy, intuition, love and the loyalty it engenders, and other species' degrees of consciousness. Koontz leavens his musings on such weighty themes with plenty of both self-deprecating humor and Trixie's comic élan to make this one dog book that everyone other than the most flint-hearted dog-haters will deeply enjoy. (*Booklist*) Recommended by Edell



FICTION

Lily and the Octopus

Rowley, Steven

Teddy is unhappily single in L.A. In between sessions with his therapist and dates, it is his beloved 12-year-old dachshund, Lily, who occupies his heart. Curiously, Teddy is able to communicate with Lily, with whom he debates the attractiveness of male celebrities and plays board games. Distressingly, he is also able to communicate with the "octopus" attached to the little dog's head, which is soon revealed to be a metaphor for Lily's lethal cranial tumor. The intimacy of pet ownership is sweetly suffused throughout this heartwarming autobiographical fiction. In generous helpings of bittersweet humanity, Rowley has written an immensely poignant and touchingly relatable tale that readers (particularly animal lovers) will love. (*Publishers Weekly*) Recommended by Edell

The Homesman

Swarthout, Glendon

The Homesman is a devastating story of early pioneers in 1850s American West. It celebrates the ones we hear nothing of: the brave women whose hearts and minds were broken by a life of bitter hardship. A "homesman" must be found to escort a handful of them back East to a sanitarium. When none of the county's men steps up, the job falls to Mary Bee Cuddy—ex-teacher, spinster, indomitable and resourceful. Brave as she is, Mary Bee knows she cannot succeed alone. The only companion she can find is the low-life claim jumper George Briggs. Thus begins a trek east, against the tide of colonization, against hardship, Indian attacks, ice storms, and loneliness—a timeless classic told in a series of tough, fast-paced adventures. (Simon & Schuster) Recommended by Stephanie

FICTION

The Book of Speculation

Swyler, Erika

When a mysterious book detailing the history of a traveling circus arrives on the doorstep of newly unemployed librarian Simon Watson, he discovers his family's lineage includes tarot readers, professional mermaids, and misfortune. Simon soon grows obsessed with the show and its characters, but tragedy lurks behind the costumes and tricks. Generations of women in the Watson family have committed suicide by drowning on July 24, and Simon fears that his card-reading sister, Enola, will be next. Debut author Swyler creates a melancholy world with hints of magic at the edges. (*Library Journal*)

"It will leave you breathless and amazed." - Nina

The Secret Life of Violet Grant

Williams, Beatriz

Separated by 50 years but joined together in spirit and ambition, Vivian Schuyler and Violet Schuyler Grant share equal parts of the narrative flow as the story leapfrogs back and forth between 1964 New York and 1914 Berlin. When Vivian accepts delivery of a musty parcel from the past, she is compelled to unlock the secrets that have shrouded the memory of her Great Aunt Violet. Though the blue-blooded Schuyler family has done its best to bury and ignore Violet's disgraceful past, the deeper Vivian digs, the more invested she becomes in Violet's story. Readers will love wallowing in the twists and turns of this irresistibly luxurious tale. (*Booklist*) Recommended by Cathy

NONFICTION

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption

Stevenson, Bryan

345.01 S847

In 1983, Stevenson was doing an internship that involved assisting inmates on Alabama's death row. His memoir relates his experiences with several of his cases, including Walter McMillian, who was sentenced to death for a murder that he insisted he did not commit. This book is a passionate rallying cry for people, especially those in law enforcement, to employ more mercy in dealing with offenders. Stevenson provides readers with numerous examples of how circumstances could have been handled in a more humane way and expresses hope for change. Finally, he hits capital punishment head-on, questioning whether we deserve to kill. A must-read for fans of true crime. (*Library Journal*) Recommended by Reñee

H is for Hawk

Macdonald, Helen

598.944 M135

In this elegant memoir, an English academic finds that training a young goshawk helps her through her grief over the death of her father. Macdonald rediscovers a favorite book of her childhood, T.H. White's *The Goshawk*, in which White recounts his attempts at training a goshawk, one of the most magnificent and deadly raptors. Macdonald secures her own goshawk and the fierce wildness of the young bird

soothes her sense of being broken by her father's untimely death. Macdonald describes in beautiful, thoughtful prose how she comes to terms with death in new and startling ways as a result of her experiences with the goshawk. (*Publishers Weekly*) Recommended by Sue G.



C'MON BABY, THESE BOOKS WILL LIGHT YOUR FIRE.

NONFICTION

Predictably Irrational: The Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions

Ariely, Dan

330 A698

Drawing on psychology and economics, behavioral economics can show us why patients get greater relief from a more expensive drug over its cheaper counterpart and why honest people may steal office supplies or communal food, but not money. Ariely argues that greater understanding of the emotions, relativity and social norms that influence our economic behavior brings a variety of opportunities for reexamining individual motivation, as well as economic and educational policy. Ariely's intelligent, exuberant style and thought-provoking arguments make for a fascinating, eye-opening read. (*Publishers Weekly*)

Recommended by Maura

The Emperors of Chocolate: Inside the Secret World of Hershey and Mars

Brenner, Joël Glenn

338.766392 B838

Although both men got rich on chocolate, Forrest Mars and Milton Hershey are such markedly different characters that Brenner's book is a riot of dramatic contrasts. Mars is irascible, empire-obsessed and insanely tightfisted. Hershey was generous to a fault, a utopian dreamer who planned and built Hershey, Pa., as a home for his company and its workers. He founded an orphanage for disadvantaged children and, in 1918, almost 30 years before his death, donated his entire estate to the Hershey Trust for the benefit of the orphanage. Brenner's prodigious research reveals how the personal style of each candy patriarch continues to influence the current structure and strategy of the company he led. A stellar work of corporate history.

(*Publishers Weekly*) Recommended by Reñee

FICTION

The Sun Is Also a Star

Young Adult

Yoon, Nicola

On a summer morning in New York City, Daniel and Natasha wake up as strangers. Natasha has only hours left to prevent her family's deportation to Jamaica, after a minor legal infraction jeopardizes their stay in the U.S. Daniel dreads sealing his fate with an alumni interview that will pave his way to a career in medicine, as his Korean family expects. Despite a day packed with Natasha's desperate race against time, and Daniel's difficult tug-of-war between familial pressures and autonomy, love finds a way in and changes them both forever. The book is lyrical and sweeping, full of hope, heartbreak, fate, and free will. (*Booklist*)

"A contemporary, complicated, satisfying, single-day love story." - Nina



NONFICTION

American Ghost: A Family's Haunted Past in the Desert Southwest

Nordhaus, Hannah

133.1 N832

Julia Schuster Staab may have died in the late nineteenth century, but it seems she's not entirely gone. Numerous stories place her ghost as a frequent visitor to La Posada, the hotel that occupies her former home. In her attempts to better understand Julia's life, Nordhaus creates an extensive and fascinating history of the American Southwest and the Jewish immigrant population that helped build it. Her account seamlessly transitions from past to present, taking her readers from nineteenth-century New Mexico to modern Germany. The book's unique blend of genres and its excellent writing make it hard to put down. *(Booklist)* Recommended by Sue G.

All There Is: Love Stories from Storycorps

Isay, Dave, ed.

177.7 A416

For nearly a decade, the StoryCorps oral history project has invested countless hours in the simple act of listening, yielding more than 30,000 interviews from more than 60,000 participants. This is a collection about the enduring power of love, the perfect antidote to the cynicism and fear that pervade so much of our thinking in America today. StoryCorps founder Dave Isay has pulled together a set of interviews that head straight for the heart, as couples remember their first date, laugh and joke over each other's foibles, or express their undying love for one another. *(Booklist)* Recommended by Maura



NONFICTION

Project Animal Farm: An Accidental Journey Into the Secret World of Farming and the Truth About Our Food

Faruqi, Sonia

179.3 F247

After a stressful span of years earning a finance degree and working on Wall Street, Faruqi decided to use her layoff as an opportunity to volunteer at an organic dairy farm. Her discovery that the organic label doesn't necessarily imply humane animal care provoked a new career in exposing and ameliorating agricultural animal cruelty, everywhere from vast chicken hutches and pig farms to Mennonite pastures in Belize. Faruqi leavens her descriptions with a dry wit and an inspiring dose of crusader's zeal, resulting in a work that will compel health-conscious and environmentally aware readers as well as those concerned about animal rights. *(Booklist)* Recommended by Reñee

NurtureShock: New Thinking About Children

Bronson, Po & Ashley Merryman

305.23 B869

The central premise of this book is that many of modern society's most popular strategies for raising children are in fact backfiring because key points in the science of child development and behavior have been overlooked. Two errant assumptions are responsible for current distorted child-rearing habits: first, things work in children the same way they work in adults and, second, positive traits necessarily oppose and ward off negative behavior. These myths are addressed in chapters that cover such issues as the inverse power of praise; why insufficient sleep adversely affects kids' capacity to learn; why kids lie; and why siblings really fight. *(Publishers Weekly)* Recommended by Maura