

Executive producer and host Mike Rowe presents a delightfully, entertaining, seriously fascinating collection of his favorite episodes from America's #1 short-form podcast, *The Way I Heard It*, along with a host of personal memories, ruminations, and insights. It's a captivating must-read.

Wild Awakening by Greg Matthews (599.784 MAT, cd 599.784 MAT) - This is a story of survival after an encounter with a ferocious Grizzly that is harrowing, powerful and inspiring. Greg's storytelling is enthralling and his vulnerability is deeply moving. *Wild Awakening* is a gripping tale that every man needs to read.

The Yellow Bird Sings by Jennifer Rosner (FIC ROS, LP FIC ROS, OverDrive e-book) - Inspired by the true stories of Jewish children hidden during World War II, Jennifer Rosner's debut is a breathtaking novel about the unbreakable bond between a mother and a daughter. Beautiful and riveting, *The Yellow Bird Sings* is a testament to the triumph of hope in a whispered story and a bird's song. ☺

Staff Picks Series

The Bear and the Nightingale (Winter Night Trilogy) by Katherine Arden (FIC ARD, LP FIC ARD) - An extraordinary retelling of a very old tale, *The Bear and the Nightingale* is a wonderfully layered novel of family and the harsh wonders of deep winter magic. Arden's debut novel has the cadence of a beautiful fairy tale but is darker and more lyrical. ☺

The Poacher's Son (Mike Bowditch Series) by Paul Doiron (FIC DOI, LP FIC DOI) - Paul Doiron's *The Poacher's Son* is a sterling debut of literary suspense. Taut and engrossing, it represents the first in a series featuring Mike Bowditch. Set in the wilds of Maine, this is an explosive tale of an estranged son thrust into the hunt for a murderous fugitive who happens to be his own father. ☺

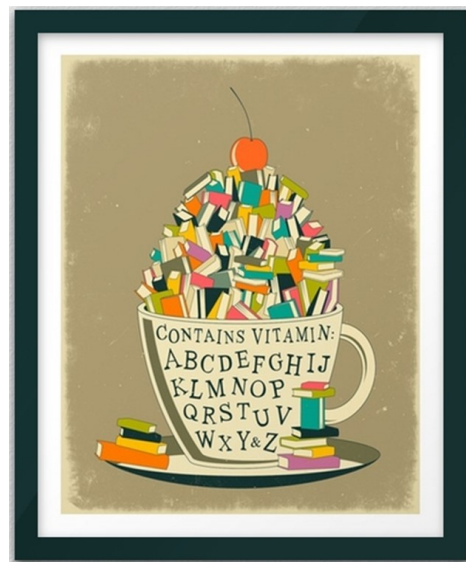


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STAFF PICKS



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May 2020

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"There are treasures in books that all
the money in the world cannot buy,
but the poorest laborer can have for
nothing."
— Robert Ingersoll

The staff at the Hershey Public Library would like to share with you some of the wonderful books we've been reading this past year.

Enjoy!

Key:

LP (Large Print) B (Biography)

cd (audio book on cd) Pb (paperback)

dmd (playaway) GN (graphic novel)

Ⓢ (Debut-new author's first book)

*Book suggested for book groups

() Numbers shown at the end of book summaries in parenthesis are the number of Staff members

who have recommended the book.

11/22/63 by Stephen King (FIC KIN, cd FIC KIN, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - High school English teacher Jake Epping travels into the past—September 9, 1958, to be exact—under the identity of George T. Amberson. He's got one goal in mind: to prevent the assassination of president John F. Kennedy five years in the future.

The Age of Witches by Louisa Morgan (FIC MOR) - In Gilded Age New York, a centuries-long clash between two magical families ignites when a young witch must choose between love and loyalty and power and ambition, in this magical novel by Louisa Morgan.

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins (FIC CUM, LP FIC CUM, cd FIC CUM) - Already being hailed as "a *Grapes of Wrath* for our times" and "a new American classic," Jeanine Cummins's *American Dirt* is a rare exploration into the inner hearts of people willing to sacrifice everything for a glimmer of hope. (3)*

Ask Again, Yes by Mary Beth Keane (FIC KEA, LP FIC KEA, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - *Ask Again, Yes* is a powerful and moving novel of family, trauma, and the defining moments in people's lives. This book is so many things: a gripping family drama; a sensitive meditation on mental illness; a referendum on the power and cost of loyalty and a ripping yarn that takes us down into the depths and back up again. *

The Bad Seed by Jory John (JP JOHN) - A funny yet touching tale that reminds us of the remarkably transformative power of will, acceptance, and just being you. Perfect for readers young and old, *The Bad Seed* proves that positive change is possible for each and every one of us.

grace of the indomitable Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis. *And They Called it Camelot* is impeccably researched and richly drawn as Thornton celebrates the former First Lady's life in a sweeping account filled with poignant intimacy. Readers are instantly transported to Jackie's version of Camelot as they immerse themselves in the fascinating and tumultuous history of the times. *

The Things We Cannot Say by Kelly Rimmer (FIC RIM, LP FIC RIM, OverDrive e-book) - Rimmer creates an emotional and finely wrought narrative that weaves together two women's stories into a tapestry of perseverance, loyalty, love and honor. *The Things We Cannot Say* is an unshakable reminder of the devastation when truth is silenced and how it can take a lifetime to find our voice before we learn to trust it. *

The Third Rainbow Girl by Emma Copley Eisenberg (364.152 EIS) - Emma Copley Eisenberg spent years living in Pocahontas, West Virginia re-investigating the brutal acts described in this book. Using the past and the present, she shows how the mysterious acts of violence have loomed over all those affected for generations, shaping their fears, fates, and the stories they tell about themselves. * ☺

Three Hours in Paris by Cara Black (FIC BLA, LP FIC BLA) - In June of 1940, when Paris fell to the Nazis, Hitler spent a total of three hours in the City of Light abruptly leaving, never to return. To this day, no one knows why. Cara Black brings her masterful knowledge of the city and its people to the Second World War and an imagined failed attempt on the life of Adolf Hitler by a female American sniper that leaves her fate and that of the war effort very much hanging in the balance. *

Undomestic Goddess by Sophie Kinsella (FIC KIN, OverDrive e-book) - Workaholic attorney Samantha Sweeting has just done the unthinkable. She has made a mistake so huge, it will wreck any chance of a partnership. Going into utter meltdown, she walks out of the London law office, gets on a train, and ends up in the middle of nowhere. How she takes a deep breath and begins to cope and finds love in this story is part of its charm.

The Way I Heard It by Michael Rowe (818.6 ROW, cd 818.6 ROW, OverDrive e-book) -

The Radium Girls by Kate Moore (363.1799 MOO, LP 363.1700 MOO, OverDrive e-book) - *The Radium Girls* fully illuminates the lives of young women exposed to the "wonder" substance of radium, and their awe-inspiring strength in the face of almost impossible circumstances. Their courage and tenacity led to life-changing regulations, research into nuclear bombing, and ultimately saved hundreds of thousands of lives. *

Running with Sherman by Chris McDougall (636.182 MCD, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - From the best-selling author of *Born to Run*, a heartwarming story about training a rescue donkey to run one of the most challenging races in America, and, in the process, discovering the life-changing power of the human-animal connection. Chris will be a guest Author at the Hershey Public Library in 2020/2021.

The Secrets We Kept by Lara Prescott (FIC PRE, LP FIC PRE (OverDrive e-book) - A thrilling tale of secretaries turned spies, of love and duty, and of sacrifice inspired by the true story of the CIA plot to infiltrate the hearts and minds of Soviet Russia, not with propaganda, but with the greatest love story of the twentieth century: *Doctor Zhivago*. *

A Single Thread by Tracy Chevalier (FIC CHE, LP FIC CHE, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - Chevalier has done a masterful job of depicting the circumstances of a generation of women we seldom think about: the mothers, sisters, wives and fiancées of men lost in World War I, whose job it was to remember those lost but not forgotten. *

Some Writer: The Story of E.B. White by Melissa Sweet (J B WHI) - Caldecott Honor winner Sweet mixes White's personal letters, photos, and family ephemera with her own exquisite artwork to tell the story of this American literary icon. Readers young and old will be fascinated and inspired by the journalist, *New Yorker* contributor, and children's book author who loved words his whole life. This authorized tribute, a New York Times bestseller, includes an afterword by Martha White, his granddaughter.

And They Called it Camelot by Stephanie Marie Thornton (FIC THO, LP FIC THO, OverDrive e-book) - An extraordinary profile of courage and

Beheld by TaraShea Nesbit (FIC NES, LP FIC NES) - From the bestselling author of *The Wives of Los Alamos*, this is a riveting story of a stranger's arrival in the fledgling colony of Plymouth, Massachusetts and a crime that shakes the divided community to its core. It is also about a trial and the motivations that cause people to act in unsavory ways as well as an intimate portrait of love and motherhood. *

Best Friends Forever by Jennifer Weiner (FIC WEI, PB FIC WEI) - This is a hilarious, edge-of-your-seat adventure and a story about betrayal, loyalty, family history and small-town secrets. It's a testament of living through tragedy and finding love where you least expect it.

The Blue Zones Kitchen: 100 to Live to 100 by Dan Buettner (641. 563 BUE, OverDrive e-book) - Best-selling author Dan Buettner debuts his first cookbook filled with 100 longevity recipes inspired by the Blue Zones locations around the world, where people live the longest.

Book Love by Debbie Tung (741.56 TUN) - Delightful comics capture exactly what it feels like to be head-over-heels for hardcovers. And paperbacks! And e-books! And bookstores! And libraries! This book can be found in the comics collection of the library.

The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate (FIC WIN, LP FIC WIN, OverDrive e-book) - From the best-selling author of *Before We Were Yours* comes a new historical novel and the dramatic story of three young women searching for family amid the destruction of the post-Civil War South and of a modern-day teacher who learns of their story and its vital connection to her students' lives. Lisa Wingate will be a guest Author at the Hershey Public Library in 2020/2021. *

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson (FIC RIC, LP FIC RIC, OverDrive e-book) - A unique story about Appalachia and the healing power of the written word, this book is a timeless and significant tale about poverty, intolerance and how books can bring hope and light to even the darkest pocket of history. *

The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy (GN FIC MAC) - Charlie Mackesy offers inspiration and hope in uncertain times in this beautiful book based on his famous quartet of characters. *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse* explores their unlikely friendship and the poignant, universal lessons they learn together. The book itself is an object of art.

Capital and Ideology by Thomas Piketty (332.041 PIK) - Piketty's bestselling *Capital in the Twenty-First Century* galvanized global debate about inequality. In this audacious follow-up, Piketty challenges us to revolutionize how we think about politics, ideology, and history. He exposes the ideas that have sustained inequality for the past millennium, reveals why the shallow politics of right and left are failing us today, and outlines the structure of a fairer economic system.

Circe by Madeline Miller (FIC MIL, LP FIC MIL, cd FIC MIL, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - With unforgettably vivid characters, mesmerizing language, and page-turning suspense, *Circe* is a triumph of storytelling and a bold and subversive retelling of the goddess's story that manages to be both epic and intimate in its scope. It recasts the most infamous female figure from the *Odyssey* as a hero in her own right and of indomitable female strength in a man's world .

The Date by Louise Jensen (FIC JEN, OverDrive e-book) - This is a gripping suspense novel where a woman's date goes horribly wrong and she wakes up beaten and unable to remember anything about the night or recognize her closest friends.

The Day the World Came to Town by Jim DeFede (971.8 DEF, cd 971.8 DEF, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - This is the true story behind the events on 9/11 that inspired Broadway's smash hit musical *Come from Away* . It recounts the inspiring story of the residents of Gander, Canada, whose acts of kindness have touched the lives of thousands of people and been an example of humanity and goodwill.

Decluttering at the Speed of Life by Dana K. White (648.8 WHI, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - In *Decluttering at the Speed of Life*, decluttering expert and author Dana White identifies the mind-sets and emotional challenges that make it difficult to declutter. In her signature humorous approach, she provides workable solutions to break through these struggles and get clutter out for good.

Failure to Launch by Mark McConville (155.659 MCC) - From an expert in adolescent psychology comes a groundbreaking, timely, and necessary guide for parents of the 2.2 million young adults in America who are struggling to find their way,

dom and beyond. It's a complete guide to all the magical characters that came from Fred's mind and it touches on the magic of Fred's show the way no other has.

Mrs. Everything by Jennifer Weiner (FIC WEI, LP FIC WEI, OverDrive e-book) - A smart, thoughtful, and timely exploration of two sisters' lives from the 1950s to the present as they struggle to find their places and be true to themselves in a rapidly evolving world.

Myth and Magic by Mae Clair (Local Author Shelf FIC CLA) - An old inn with a mysterious past, ladies in white ghosting through the trees and unexplained sobbing noises during the dead of night are just some of the happenings that are occurring at Stone Willow Lodge. The quest is to understand what or who is trying to drive guests away from Breckwood Industries Company retreat.

The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich (FIC ERD, LP FIC ERD, OverDrive e-book) - Based on the extraordinary life of National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich's grandfather who worked as a night watchman and carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C., this powerful novel explores themes of love and death with lightness and gravity and unfolds with the elegant prose, sly humor, and depth of feeling of a master craftsman.

Ninth House by Leigh Bardugo (FIC BAR, OverDrive e-book) - Leigh Bardugo made her mark writing bestselling young adult fantasy, but now she's doing something a little different with *Ninth House*, her first adult novel. Bardugo uses Yale's secret societies (their hidden rituals and the power of membership) to create the perfect setting for a story where elitism and the occult are intertwined. In *Ninth House* we meet Alex Stern, a young woman with nothing left to lose, who is given a strange second chance at a different life as a freshman at Yale.

Oil and Marble: A Novel of Leonardo and Michelangelo by Stephannie Storey (FIC STO) - Stephanie Storey's brilliant bestselling debut, brings early 16th-century Florence, Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo Buonarroti alive for art lovers and readers of historical fiction. With extraordinary empathy into the minds and souls of the two great Renaissance artists, Storey offers a stunning art history thriller. ☺

illuminates the fruitful and longstanding exchange of ideas between Britain and France.

ME : Elton John Official Autobiography by Elton John (B JOH, cd 920 JOH) - In his first and only official autobiography, music icon Elton John reveals the truth about his extraordinary life, from his rollercoaster life-style as shown in the film *Rocketman*, to becoming a living legend.

Meditation for Fidgety Skeptics by Dan Harris (158.12 HAR) - In *Meditation for Fidgety Skeptics*, Harris and Jeff Warren, a masterful teacher and "Meditation MacGyver," embark on a gonzo cross-country quest to tackle the myths, misconceptions, and self-deceptions that keep people from meditating. It is filled with game-changing and deeply practical meditation instructions all of which are also available (for free) on the *10% Happier* app.

Metropolitan Stories by Christine Coulson (FIC COU) - From a writer who worked at the Metropolitan Museum for more than twenty-five years, comes this enchanting novel that shows us the Met that the public doesn't see. The result is a novel bursting with magic, humor, and energetic detail. It is a beautiful book about introspection and an ode to lives lived for art, ultimately building a powerful collage of human experience and the world of the imagination.

Mistress of the Ritz by Melanie Benjamin (FIC BEN, LP FIC BEN, OverDrive e-book) - Based on true events, *Mistress of the Ritz* is a captivating novel based on the story of the extraordinary real-life American woman who secretly worked for the French Resistance during World War II while playing hostess to the invading Germans at the iconic Hôtel Ritz in Paris. *

The Mountains Sing by Nguyen Phan Que Mai (FIC NGU, LP FIC NGU, OverDrive e-book) - Vivid, gripping, and steeped in the language and traditions of Việt Nam, *The Mountains Sing* brings to life the human costs of this conflict from the point of view of the Vietnamese people themselves, while showing us the true power of kindness and hope. *

Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood: A Visual History by Melissa Wagner (791.4572 WAG) - *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood: A Visual History* takes readers on a journey from the show's humble beginnings in Pittsburgh to international star-

to a future. Dr. McConville takes us inside the world of young people stuck in the transition from adolescent to young adult and provides a step by step guide full of practical, effective, and compassionate strategies. *Failure to Launch* offers a way off the proverbial basement couch and is a must read for any parent whose offspring are having trouble leaving the nest .

The Fifth Risk by Michael Lewis (320.973 LEW, OverDrive e-book) - Michael Lewis's brilliant narrative of the Trump administration's botched presidential transition takes us into the engine rooms of a government under attack by its leaders through willful ignorance and greed. *The Fifth Risk* masterfully and vividly unspools the consequences when the people given control over our government have no idea how it works.

The Fountains of Silence by Ruth Sepetys (Y SEP, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - Master storyteller Ruta Sepetys once again shines light into one of history's darkest corners. This is an epic, heart-wrenching novel about identity, unforgettable love, repercussions of war, and the hidden violence of silence. This book was inspired by the true postwar struggles of Spain. *

Geekerella by Ashley Poston (Y POS, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - Part romance and part love letter, *Geekerella* is a fairy tale for anyone who believes in the magic of fandom. It is a fun, romantic comedy with coming-of-age sensibilities that hit all the YA book love buttons.

The German Midwife by Mandy Robotham (FIC ROB, LP FIC ROB) - *The German Midwife* is a book to harrow the soul and linger long in the mind. Anke, a German midwife sent to a labor camp for aiding Jewish mothers against Third Reich law, is whisked from hell-scape to eerie luxury when she is brought to Hitler's private mountain estate to care for his pregnant mistress Eva Braun. Mandy Robotham writes movingly of the eternal human struggle to preserve reverence for life in the midst of genocide and horror. *

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes (FIC MOY, LP FIC MOY, OverDrive ebook) - Based on a true story rooted in America's past, *The Giver of Stars* is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling. Funny, heartbreaking and enthralling, it is destined to become a modern classic and a richly rewarding novel of women's friendship and true love.*

The Glass Woman by Caroline Lea (FIC LEA, LP FIC LEA) - *The Glass Woman* by Caroline Lea is billed a Gothic mystery set in 1686 Iceland that has shades of Jane Eyre to it. It is the story of a young woman who follows her new husband to his remote home on the Icelandic coast in the 1680s, where she faces dark secrets surrounding the death of his first wife amidst a foreboding landscape and the superstitions of the local villagers.

The Grace Year by Kim Liggett (Y LIG, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - This deeply suspenseful book brilliantly explores the high cost of a misogynistic world that denies women power and does it with a heart-in-your-throat, action-driven story. It is equal parts horror-laden fairy tale, survival story, romance, and resistance manifesto.

A Hat for Mrs. Goldman by Michelle Edwards (JP EDWARDS) - This heartwarming winter story is perfect for those who love to knit and parents looking to teach their children about the importance of doing good for others!

Hollow Kingdom by Kira Jane Buxton (FIC BUX) - *Hollow Kingdom* is an adventure lit by strange myths, brand-names, television and smartphone screens. It is also a fable with teeth and claws about animals making new lives amongst the ruins of humanity. It is a grown-up's *Watership Down* for our times.

How Not to Diet by Michael Greger (613.25 GRE) - *How Not to Diet* goes beyond food to identify twenty-one weight-loss accelerators available to our bodies, incorporating the latest discoveries in cutting-edge areas like chronobiology to reveal the factors that maximize our natural fat-burning capabilities. It is an encyclopedic tapestry of everything important and healthful for human nutrition.

If, Then by Kate Hope Day (FIC DAY) - Startling, deeply imagined, and compulsively readable, this debut novel is about the choices we make that shape our lives and determine our destinies. It is a literary masterpiece that asks us to imagine all the possible versions of ourselves that might exist . ☺

Last Day by Luanne Rice (FIC RIC) - The themes of love, loss, sisterly devotion, betrayals, and family ties are skillfully interwoven in this

riveting story of a New England seaside community shaken by a violent crime and a tragic loss.

The Long Flight Home by Alan Hlad (FIC HLA, LP FIC HLA, cd FIC HLA, OverDrive e-book/audio book) - Inspired by fascinating, true and yet little-known events during World War II, *The Long Flight Home* is a testament to the power of courage in our darkest hours and a moving, masterfully written story of love and sacrifice. It is Alan Hlad's dramatic, fictionalized story about the real use of pigeons during World War II. Alan Hlad will be a guest Author at the Hershey Public Library in 2021. * ☺

The Long Take by Robin Robertson (821.914 ROB) - From the award-winning British author, this narrative tells the story of a D-Day veteran in postwar America who was a good man brutalized by war, haunted by violence and apparently doomed to return to it.

The Lost Man by Jane Harper (FIC HAR, LP FIC HAR) - This stand alone novel by Jane Harper is a timely and riveting family drama set in a desolate area of Queensland that will keep you guessing until the final page. The landscape and culture of this remote Australian territory are magnificently evoked as a story of family secrets unfolds.

Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive by Stephanie Land (B LAN, LP B LAN, OverDrive e-book) - This book illuminates the struggles of poverty and single-motherhood and the ways in which our society is systemically designed to keep impoverished people mired in poverty.

Manfried the Man by Caitlin Majoe (GN FIC MAN) - In this hilarious graphic novel, the roles of cats and humans are reversed, putting humanoid felines in charge of tiny, dimwitted little man-pets. Anyone who loves their pets as much as (or more than) they do other humans will happily read it cover to cover.

The Man in the Red Coat by Julian Barnes (FIC BAR, LP FIC BAR, OverDrive e-book) - *The Man in the Red Coat* is a fresh and original portrait of the Belle Epoque with its heroes and villains, writers, artists and thinkers and a life of a man ahead of his time. Witty, surprising and deeply researched, the new book from Julian Barnes