

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.

Adjustment Day by Chuck Palahniuk (FIC PAL, LP FIC PAL) - Palahniuk's novel toys with our cultural dividing lines (race, class, sexuality) and all the fears, myths, and conspiracies that come along with them.

All Systems Red: The Murderbot Diaries by Martha Wells (FIC WEL) - This is not only a fun, fast-paced space-thriller, but also a sharp, sometimes moving character study that will resonate with introverts even if they're not lethal AI machines.

American Princess: A Novel of First Daughter Alice Roosevelt by Stephanie Marie Thornton (FIC THO, LP FIC THO) - Thornton skillfully brings to life the incomparable and unapologetic Alice Roosevelt, whose scandalous life was at the center of American politics for nearly a century. *

An Anonymous Girl: A Novel by Greer Hendricks (FIC HEN, LP FIC HEN) - For those who relished the creepy stalking in Hendricks and Pekkanen's *The Wife Between Us*, this unnerving tale will have them rethinking what secrets are safe to share and if moral and ethics really matter when protecting the ones you love.

Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World by Max Lucado (248.8 LUC) - When it comes to anxiety, depression, and stress-related illnesses, America is the frontrunner. Thankfully, there's a practical prescription for dealing with these issues. *Anxious for Nothing*, from *New York*

What If It 's Us? by Becky Albertalli and Adam Silvera (Y ALB) - Critically acclaimed and best-selling authors Becky Albertalli and Adam Silvera combine their talents in this smart, funny, heartfelt collaboration about two very different boys who can't decide if the universe is pushing them together or pulling them apart.

Where the Crawdads Sing - by Delia Owens (FIC OWE, LP FIC OWE, cd FIC OWE) -

Steeped in the rhythms and shadows of the coastal marshes of North Carolina's Outer Banks, this fierce and hauntingly beautiful novel centers on Kya's heartbreaking story of learning to trust human connections, intertwined with a gripping murder mystery, revealing savage truths. (5) ☺*



William Wakes Up by Linda Ashman (JP ASHMAN) - This is the story of how William and his animal friends have had the whole winter to nap. But now it's time for them to wake up and welcome a very special guest. There's lots to do to get ready, from scrubbing the floors to decorating the house to baking a tasty treat. But it's so hard to leave a cozy bed. Will everyone get up in time to do their part?

William's Winter Nap by Linda Ashman (JP ASHMAN) - Kids will delight at each new guest's arrival and enjoy counting along as the animals keep scooching over to fit in William's bed. Linda Ashman's clever rhymes set up each page turn with suspense and humor, and the expressions on Chuck Groenink's characters are perfect. This is must reading for the dark time of year when everyone wants to hibernate!

The Woman in the Window: A Novel by A. J. Finn (FIC FIN, LP FIC FIN, cd FIC FIN) - One of the decade's most anticipated debuts, published in forty-one languages around the world and in development as a major film from Fox; a twisty, powerful Hitchcockian thriller about an agoraphobic woman who believes she witnessed a crime in a neighboring house. ☺*

institutions and the people they purportedly serve. ☺

The Travelling Cat Chronicles by Hiro Arikawa (FIC ARI, LP FIC ARI) - With wisdom, humor and compassion, *The Traveling Cat Chronicles* is the story of how a wise and witty cat and his gentle master share an indomitable spirit that helps them survive and thrive in any situation. *

The Very Impatient Caterpillar by Ross Burach (JP BURACH) - Ross Burach's hilarious, tongue-in-cheek exploration of metamorphosis will make you flutter with glee, while also providing real facts about how caterpillars transform into butterflies.

They are Trying to Break Your Heart by David Savill (FIC SAV) -The book is most memorable for its depiction of war-torn Bosnia and its message that the love and friendship between Marko, Kemal, Vesna and their friends and families, can transcend the senselessness of civil war. ☺

Unplanned: The Dramatic True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's Eye-Opening Journey Across the Life Line by Abby Johnson (363.46 JOH, LP 363.46 JOH) - *Unplanned* is a heart-stopping personal drama of life-and-death encounters, a courtroom battle, and spiritual transformation that speaks hope and compassion into the political controversy that surrounds this issue. Telling Abby's story from both sides of the abortion clinic property line, this book is a must-read for anyone who cares about the life versus rights debate and helping women who face crisis pregnancies.

Unsheltered: A Novel by Barbara Kingsolver (FIC KIN, LP FIC KIN) - *Unsheltered* is the story of two families, in two centuries, who live at the corner of Sixth and Plum in Vineland, New Jersey, as they navigate the challenges of surviving a world in the throes of major cultural shifts. In this mesmerizing story told in alternating chapters, Willa and Thatcher come to realize that though the future is uncertain, even unnerving, shelter can be found in the bonds of kindred—whether family or friends—and in the strength of the human spirit. *

Times bestselling author, Max Lucado, provides a roadmap for battling with and healing from anxiety.

Becoming by Michelle Obama (B OBA, LP B OBA, cd 920 OBA) - In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address.

Becoming Mrs. Lewis: The Improbable Love Story of Joy Davidman and C.S. Lewis by Patti Callahan Henry (FIC HEN, LP FIC HEN) - In *Becoming Mrs. Lewis*, Patti Callahan Henry breathes wondrous fresh life into one of the greatest literary love stories of all time: the unlikely romance between English writer C. S. Lewis and the much younger American divorcee, Joy Davidman. *

Belgravia by Julian Fellowes (FIC FEL, LP FIC FEL) By the author of *Downton Abbey* this is a bestselling novel about scandalous secrets and star-crossed lovers of British Society.

Believe Me: The Evangelical Road to Donald Trump by John Fea (277.308 FEA) - Clear, concise, and convincing, Fea uses his training as a historian to trace a chronology of the evangelical attraction to political power and offers an alternative way (relying on hope and humility) for evangelical leaders to think about their relation to power.

Beneath a Scarlet Sky: A Novel by Mark Sullivan (FIC SUL, LP FIC SUL, cd FIC SUL) - Based on the true story of a forgotten hero, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* is the triumphant, epic tale of one young man's incredible courage and resilience during one of history's darkest hours. *



Bridge of Clay by Markus Zusak (Y ZUS, Y cd FIC ZUS) - In a complex narrative that leaps through time, place and across oceans, Zusak paints a vivid portrait of brothers trying to regain their balance by keeping their family's story alive. *

The Calculating Stars: A Lady Astronaut Novel by Mary Robinette Kowal (FIC KOW) - If you like lady scientists, lady astronauts, lovely romance, and if you read or watched *Hidden Figures* and loved it, please don't miss this one.

Carnegie's Maid: A Novel by Marie Benedict (FIC BEN, LP FIC BEN, cd FIC BEN) - With captivating insight and heart, *Carnegie's Maid* tells the story of one brilliant woman who may have spurred Andrew Carnegie's transformation from ruthless industrialist into the world's first true philanthropist. *

The Clockmaker's Daughter: A Novel by Kate Morton (FIC MOR, LP FIC MOR, cd FIC MOR) - Told by multiple voices across time, *The Clockmaker's Daughter* is a story of murder, mystery, and thievery, of art, love, and loss. Flowing through its pages is the voice of a woman who stands outside time, whose name has been forgotten by history, but who has watched it all unfold: Birdie Bell, the clockmaker's daughter. *

The Couple Next Door by Shari Lapena (FIC LAP, LP FIC LAP) - A domestic suspense debut about a young couple and their apparently friendly neighbors. It is a twisty, rollercoaster ride of lies, betrayal, and the secrets between husbands and wives. ☺*

Daughter of Moloka'i: A Novel by Alan Brennert (FIC BRE) - *Daughter of Moloka'i* brings to the reader the same heart-wrenching emotional engagement as its predecessor (*Moloka'i*), but also adds another dimension as we witness the differences between the cultures of Hawaiians and Japanese. *

Dear Rachel Maddow: A Novel by Adrienne Kisner (Y KIS) - In Adrienne Kisner's *Dear Rachel Maddow*, a high school girl deals with school politics and life after her brother's death by drafting emails to MSNBC host Rachel Maddow in this funny and heartfelt YA debut. ☺

Our House is a truly captivating novel of domestic suspense. ☺

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee (FIC LEE, LP FIC LEE) - Lee's latest novel is a sprawling and immersive historical work that tells the tale of one Korean family's search for belonging, exploring questions of history, legacy, and identity across four generations. *Pachinko* gives us a moving and detailed portrait about what it's like to sit at the nexus of two cultures, and what it means to forge a home in a place that doesn't always welcome you. *



The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch (JP MUNSCH) - This is the story of a princess who, although faced with adversity, saves the day and wins the prize. A charmingly-illustrated tale of strength for princesses of all ages.

Paradox Bound by Peter Clines (FIC CLI) - *Paradox Bound* brims with interesting characters from US history and folklore, lots of great travelogue, and plenty of action. If you like time travelling novels, don't miss this one.

The Paris Secret: A Novel by Karen Swan (FIC SWA, LP FIC SWA, cd FIC SWA) - In this glittering tale of forgotten treasures and long-held secrets, international bestseller Karen Swan explores one woman's journey to discovering the truth behind an abandoned apartment and a family whose mysteries may be better left undiscovered. *

The Simple Faith of Mr. Rogers: Spiritual Insights from the World's Most Beloved Neighbor by Amy Hollingsworth (791.45 HOL, cd 791.45 HOL) - Eight years before his death, Fred Rogers met author, educator, and speaker Amy Hollingsworth. What started as a television interview turned into a wonderful friendship spanning dozens of letters detailing the driving force behind this gentle man of extraordinary influence. Educator? Philosopher? Psychologist? Minister? This is an intimate portrait of the real Mister Rogers.

The Transcriptionist by Amy Rowland (FIC ROW) - Rowland, a former transcriptionist for the *New York Times*, has written a strange, mesmerizing novel about language, isolation, ethics, technology, and the lack of trust between

The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman (FIC HOF, LP FIC HOF, cd FIC HOF) - In this imaginative fictionalized biography, Hoffman reenvisioned the mother of Camille Pissarro, “the father of Impressionism.” It is a forbidden love story, rich with detail set on the tropical island of St. Thomas. (2) *

The Masterpiece: A Novel by Fiona Davis (FIC DAV) - In her latest captivating novel, nationally bestselling author Fiona Davis takes readers into the glamorous lost art school within Grand Central Terminal, where two very different women, fifty years apart, strive to make their mark on a world set against them. *

Menopause Confidential by Tara Allmen MD (618.175 ALL, cd 618.175 ALL) - An authoritative guide to understanding and navigating the hormonal changes and health issues women experience in midlife and beyond, from one of the leading medical experts in the field.

Montauk: A Novel by Nicola Harrison (FIC HAR) - *Montauk* captures the glamour and extravagance of a summer by the sea with the story of a woman torn between the life she chose and the life she desires. ☺*

Nine Perfect Strangers by Liane Moriarty (FIC MOR, LP FIC MOR) - Could ten days at a health resort really change you forever? In Liane Moriarty’s latest page-turner, nine perfect strangers are about to find out. *

Ordinary Grace by William Kent Kruger (FIC KRU, LP FIC KRU) - Looking back at a tragic event that occurred during his thirteenth year, Frank Drum explores how a complicated web of secrets, adultery, and betrayal shattered his Methodist family and their small 1961 Minnesota community. *

The Other Wife by Michael Robotham (FIC ROB) - Michael Robotham returns to his beloved Joe O’Loughlin series in this compelling psychological thriller that delves into the consequences of a tragedy, exposing a lifetime of shocking cover-up that is too close to home for the famous psychologist.

Our House by Louise Candlish (FIC CAN, LP FIC CAN) - British author Candlish makes her U.S. debut with an artfully plotted, affecting page-turner. Dark, timely and full of surprises,

Did You Just Eat That?: Two Scientists Explore Double-Dipping, The Five-Second Rule, and Other Food Myths in the Lab by Paul Dawson (579 DAW) - Here is a fun, entertaining, fact-filled, and scientific dive into the potentially daily disgusting and dangerous encounters we can have with food. It also comes with easy-to-follow advice to save you.

Dragonfly by Leila Meacham (FIC MEA) - From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Roses* comes a gripping new novel about five young spies embedded among the highest Nazi ranks in occupied Paris. *

Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover (B WES, LP B WES, cd 920 WES) - An unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University. *

Emory’s Gift: A Novel by W. Bruce Cameron (FIC CAM, cd FIC CAM) - Deeply moving, and interwoven with hope and joy, *Emory’s Gift* is not only a heartwarming and charming coming of age story, but also a page-turning insightful look at how faith, trust, and unconditional love can heal a broken family and bridge the gaps that divide us. *

Finding Dorothy: A Novel by Elizabeth Letts (FIC LET, LP FIC LET) - This richly imagined novel tells the story behind *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, the book that inspired the iconic film, through the eyes of author L. Frank Baum’s intrepid wife, Maud. *

Friends Stick Together by Hannah E. Harrison (JP HARRRISON) - A touching and timeless story about finding friendship in unlikely places. It is a moving tale that shares an important message of acceptance.

From Here to Eternity: Traveling the World to Find the Good Death by Caitlin Doughty (363.75 DOU) - Fascinated by our pervasive fear of dead bodies, mortician Caitlin Doughty sets out to discover how other cultures care for the dead. *From Here to Eternity* is an immersive global journey that introduces compelling, powerful rituals almost entirely unknown in America.

The Girl Who Lived by Christopher Greyson (FIC GRE) - Ten years ago, four people were brutally murdered. One girl lived. Christopher Greyson has created a thriller on par with *The Girl on the Train*, only with more suspects, more danger, and more agony for the young heroine. *

Harry's Trees: A Novel by Jon Cohen (FIC COH, LP FIC COH, cd FIC COH) - *Harry's Trees* is an uplifting story about the redeeming power of friendship and love and the magic to be found in life's most surprising adventures. *

Hesse: The Wandered and His Shadow by Gunnar Decker (B HES) - A top-notch biography of the Nobel Prize-winning writer, who suffered spiritual crises and suicidal depression. It is a richly detailed and supremely sensitive portrayal of an artist obsessed with the "terrible and magnificent" act of creation.

Homegoing: A Novel by Yaa Gyasi (FIC GYA, LP FIC GYA) - One of the most powerful debut novels of 2016. Gyasi has created a marvelous work of fiction that both embraces and re-writes history. It is a stunning, unforgettable account of family, history, and racism. ☺*

I Am Princess X by Cherie Priest (Y PRI) - Fresh and contemporary, this hybrid novel/comic packs a lot of plot in a relatively short book, but its strongest suit may be Priest's keen understanding of the chasmic gap between the way teens and adults engage in the landscape of the Internet.

Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love by Dani Shapiro (B SHA, LP B SHA) - A gripping genetic detective story that raises profound questions and responsibilities engendered by our newfound ability to know what-and whom-we are made of. *

The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See (FIC SEE, LP FIC SEE) - This beautiful, thoughtful novel illuminates a world turned upside down, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous physical work, and the men take care of the children. *The Island of Sea Women* introduces readers to the fierce and unforgettable female divers of Jeju Island and the dramatic history that shaped their lives. *



Jesus is Risen: Paul and the Early Church by David Limbaugh (225.92 LIM) - *Jesus Is Risen* takes you on a wonderful tour of Paul's inspiring writings and Luke's historical masterpiece to unpack the most important event in human history—the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann (976.6 GRA, LP 976.6 GRA, cd 976.6 GRA) - *Killers of the Flower Moon* offers up the Osage killings as emblematic of America's relationship with its indigenous peoples and the 'culture of killing' that has forever marred that tie. *

The Last Year of the War by Susan Meissner (FIC MEI, LP FIC MEI) - With vividly drawn characters, Meissner highlights a dark, often-overlooked piece of American history while detailing the pain that arose for American born children of immigrants. (3) *

The Library Book by Susan Orlean (027.07 ORL, LP 027.07 ORL, cd 027.07 ORL) - Brimming with her signature wit, insight, compassion, and talent for deep research, *The Library Book* is Susan Orlean's thrilling journey through the stacks that reveals how these beloved institutions provide much more than just books and why they remain an essential part of the heart, mind, and soul of our country. *

Love and Ruin: A Novel by Paula McLain (FIC MCL, LP FIC MCL, cd FIC MCL) - In this heart-tugging follow-up to *The Paris Wife*, we meet Martha Gellhorn, a correspondent during the Spanish Civil War, who was the third and perhaps most intriguing of Hemingway's wives. *

Lyric McKerrigan, Secret Librarian by Jacob Sager Weinstein (JP WEINSTEIN) - In this book, a super-secretive operative saves the world from a diabolical threat through her ability to brandish just the right book at the right time.

The Map of Salt and Stars by Zeyn Joukhadar (FIC JOU) - This rich, moving, and lyrical debut novel is to Syria what *The Kite Runner* was to Afghanistan. It is the story of two girls living eight hundred years apart; one a modern-day Syrian refugee seeking safety and the other a medieval adventurer apprenticed to a legendary map maker. ☺*