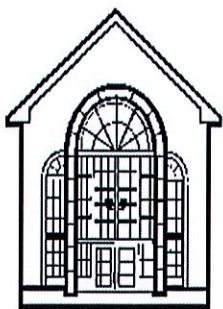


“In a very real sense, people who have read good literature have lived more than people who cannot or will not read. It is not true that we can have only one life to live. If we can read, we can live as many kinds of lives as we wish.”

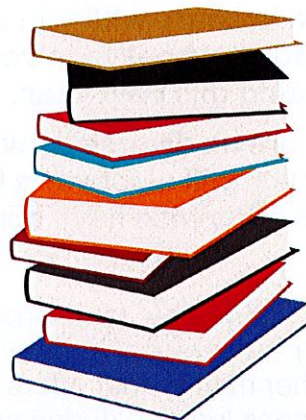
-- S. I. Hayakawa

“There’s something special about people who are interested in the printed word. They are a species all their own - learned, kind, knowledgeable, and human.”

-- Nathan Pine



Hershey Public Library
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Staff Picks

A gift from us to you!

Compiled May 2012

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One sure window into a person’s soul
is his reading list.

Mary B.W. Tabor

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.

Our picks are as diverse as we are, but we hope you will discover a treasure you might otherwise have missed.
Enjoy!

A Bittersweet Season by Jane Gross (306.874 GRO) - A personal journey of a caregiver and her mother that offers options, advice and lessons learned during such a "bittersweet" time in their lives. It is an account that many of us will be faced with during our lifetime.

A Grown Up Kind of Pretty by Joshlyn Jackson (FIC JAC, LP) - Jackson returns with more feisty southern women, this time three generations sharing a home and an issue. Great characters and a fascinating story.

The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Jan Phillip Sendrick (FIC SEN, LP) - A brilliant and magical story that takes place in Burma. The main character, Julia, travels there to find out about her father's disappearance and discovers more than she imagined. Jan Phillip Sendrick draws you into this story from the very first page.

Back Home Again by Melody Carlson (FIC CAR) - Once you visit the charming village of Acorn Hill, you will never want to leave. It is there where the three Howard sisters rekindle old memories, rediscover bonds of sisterhood and revel in the blessings of friendship while meeting fascinating guests along the way. This is the first book in a series called "Tales from Grace Chapel Inn."

The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother by Amy Chua (306.874 CHU, cd 306.74 CHU) - An awe-inspiring and unerringly honest story of one mother's exercise in extreme parenting, revealing the rewards-and the costs of raising her children the Chinese way.

Betrayal of Trust by J.A. Jance (MYS JAN, cd FIC JAN) - Seattle investigator J.P. Beaumont uncovers a dark and deadly conspiracy that reaches into the halls of state government.

What the Dead Know by Laura Lippman (MYS LIP, LP FIC LIP, PB M 2279) - Thirty years ago, the Bethany girls ages eleven and fifteen disappeared from a Baltimore shopping mall. Now in the aftermath of a hit-and-run accident, a disoriented woman is claiming to be Heather, the younger Bethany sister. Lippman, one of the most acclaimed and honored writers in the field of crime fiction offers a tale of deception and delusion of family wounds and betrayals.

Revelations: Visions, Prophecy and Politics in the Book of Revelations by Elaine Pagels (228 PAG) - This book is a secular academic analysis of the historical interpretations of the book of Revelation. It explores the question of why John of Patmos' book was included in the biblical canon and why it retains a powerful hold on the Christian imagination today despite the controversy that surrounded it historically.

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay (FIC ROS, LP FIC ROS, cd FIC ROS, DVD SAR) - This is the story of the 1942 Vel'd' Hiv' roundup of the Jews in Paris as seen through the eyes of eleven year old Sarah, a French Jew. It is a compelling portrait of France under occupation.

Save Me by Lisa Scottoline (FIC SCO, LP FIC SCO, cd FIC SCO) - Scottoline fans will find this novel a departure from her usual cast of characters and plots. The main character, Rose McKenna, living in a Philadelphia suburb, faces her past, clearly linked to a nightmarish present. A gripping novel about bullying, life/death decisions, and forgiveness.

Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson (B JOB, LP B JOB, cd 920 JOB) - A riveting story of the roller-coaster life and searing intense personality of a creative entrepreneur whose passion for perfection and ferocious drive revolutionized six industries: personal computers, animated movies, music, phones, tablet computing, and digital publishing. Based on more than forty interviews with Jobs and well over a hundred interviews with family members, friends, adversaries, competitors, and colleagues.

Stuck: Why We Can't Move on or Won't by Anneli Rufus (158.10 RUF) - Rufus investigates why in a time when no population anywhere has ever been so free, do we feel "stuck."

The Swerve: How the World became Modern by Stephen Greenblatt (940.21 GRE) - An innovative work of history and a thrilling story of discovery in which one manuscript, picked from a thousand years of neglect, changed the course of human thought and made possible the world as we know it. Winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Non-Fiction and of the 2011 National Book Award for Non-Fiction.

the witness-and participate in-events that have rarely been described in print.

The Geography of Bliss by Eric Weiner (910.4 WEI, LP 910.4 WEI) - Part humor and part twisted self-help, the book takes the reader from America to Iceland to India in search of happiness or moments of "un-happiness."

The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck (FIC STE, PB C 1262, dvd FIC GRA, cas STE) - A powerful narrative of a collision course with hardship, Steinbeck's compelling novel is a story of struggle and endurance. *Grapes of Wrath* shows us with dignity and honesty what is the best in us along with the worst.

House Rules by Jodi Picoult (FIC PIC, LP PIC, cd FIC PIC) - Emotionally powerful from beginning to end. *House Rules* looks at what it means to be different in our society, how autism affects a family, and how our legal system works well for people who communicate a certain way—and fails those who don't.

How to Disappear by Frank Ahearn (613.6 AHE) - An authoritative and comprehensive guide for people who seek to protect their privacy as well as for anyone who's ever entered the fantasy of disappearing—whether actually dropping out of sight or by eliminating the traceable evidence of their existence.

I Still Dream About You by Fannie Flagg (FIC FLA, cd FIC FLA) - This is a book about dreams—dreams lost and dreams found. A heart-warming story about a woman who rejected love in pursuit of a dream—becoming Miss America. It is a passionate tender tale that we are all rich in our own ways if we take the time to learn how.

Lady in Gold: The Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece by Anne Marie O'Connor (759.36 OCO) - Spellbinding story, part fairy tale, part suspense, of one of the most emblematic portraits of its time and the strange twisted fate that befell it.

The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh (FIC DIF, LP FIC DIF) - The Victorian language of flowers was used to convey romantic expressions. But for Victoria Jones, it's been more useful in communicating mistrust and solitude. After a childhood spent

convey romantic expressions. But for Victoria Jones, it's been more useful in communicating mistrust and solitude. After a childhood spent in the foster-care system, she cannot get close to anyone and her only connection to the world is through flowers and their meaning. When Victoria is forced to confront a painful secret from her past, she must decide whether its worth risking everything for a second chance at happiness.

The Lotus Eaters by Tatjana Soli (FIC SOL) - A unique and sweeping **debut** novel that revolves around three characters whose lives are affected by the Vietnam War. The strength of this novel is its vivid depiction of war-torn Vietnam from the dangers of the field where death can be a single step away, to the emptiness of the Saigon streets in the final days of the American evacuation.

Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson (J PAT) - Patterson cleverly weaves a deeper and thought provoking tale of childhood coping mechanisms and everyday school and family realities. The dynamic artwork and message that "normal is boring" helps assure kids who don't fit the mold that there is a place for them too.

Miracle for Jen by Linda Barrick (248.8 BAR) - A remarkable true story of a family's journey toward understanding God's will for their lives, letting go of their former plans, and embracing the new future God has prepared for them.

My Life in France by Julia Child (B CHI, LP B CHI) - This memoir of Julia Child's years in France speaks to the heart about discovering your passion and sharing it with others. Her marvelously distinctive voice is present on every page.

Nice Girls Don't Have Fangs by Molly Harper (FIC HAR) - When children's librarian and nice girl Jane Jameson is fired by her beastly boss and handed twenty-five dollars in potato skins instead of a severance check, she goes on a bender that is sure to become Half Moon Hollow legend.

Night Road by Kristin Hannah (FIC HAN, LP FIC HAN, cd FIC HAN) - Vivid and emotionally complex, Night Road raises profound

Night Road by Kristin Hannah (FIC HAN, LP FIC HAN, cd FIC HAN) - Vivid and emotionally complex, Night Road raises profound questions about motherhood, identity, love and forgiveness. It examines the meaning of friendship, family, redemption and love in the face of unspeakable loss through unforgettable characters and a page-turning story.

Only Time Will Tell by Jeffrey Archer (FIC ARC, LP FIC ARC, cd FIC ARC) - A story of one family across generations and oceans, from heartbreak to triumph. It contains a cast of characters that takes us from the ravages of the Great War to the outbreak of the Second War. First in the *Clifton Chronicles*.

Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir by Azar Nafisi (820.9 NAF, LP 820.9 NAF, cd 820.9 NAF) - A work of great passion and poetic beauty that is a rare glimpse of women's lives in revolutionary Iran.

The Red Queen by Philippa Gregory (FIC GRE, LP FIC GRE, cd FIC GRE) - A dramatic book that follows the life of Margaret Beaufort, the mother of Henry VII. It tells of her determination to win the crown for the Lancaster line and presents a wonderful portrait of Margaret and her family. Written by royal chronicler, Philippa Gregory and is the second book of the "Cousins War."

Red Ruby Heart in a Cold Blue Sea by Morgan Callan Rogers (FIC ROG, LP FIC ROG, cd FIC ROG) - Roger's debut novel is a captivating coming of age story set during the 1960s in the Point, an isolated Maine fishing village. Florine is just one of the complex and likeable characters who populate The Point and who will capture your heart in the memorable tale.

Rethinking Homework by Cathy Vatterott (J Professional Collection 371.3 VAT, cd 371.3 VAT) Is homework an essential component of rigorous schooling or a harmful practice that alienates and discourages a significant number of students? This book is an educational discussion of homework and its role in the modern educational processes.

Revelations: Visions, Prophecy and Politics in the Book of Revelations by Elaine Pagels (228 PAG) - This book is a

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green (Y GRE, LP) - Despite her tumor shrinking medical miracle, Hazel has never been anything but terminal. But when a gorgeous plot twist, by the name of Augustus Waters suddenly appears in her life, her story is completely rewritten. It is John Green's most ambitious and heartbreaking novel yet that explores the thrilling and tragic business of being alive and in love.

The Filter Bubble by Eli Pariser (004.678 PAR) - Your filter bubble is this unique, personal universe of information created just for you by an array of personalizing filters. It's invisible, but becoming more and more difficult to escape. This is a must-read book about one of the central issues in contemporary culture.

First Grave on the Right by Darynda Jones (FIC JON) - Charley sees dead people and it is her job to convince them to "go into the light." However, when these dead people have died under less than ideal circumstances, sometimes they want her to bring them to justice. It is a fine mix of Mystery, Speculative Fiction, Comedy, and Action with the smallest bit of Chick Lit. thrown in.

Forgotten Country by Catherine Chung (FIC CHU) - Weaving Korean folklore within a modern narrative of immigration and identity, this book is a fierce exploration of the inevitability of loss, the conflict between obligation and freedom, and a family struggling to find its way out of silence and back to one another.

The Fry Chronicles by Stephen Fry (B FRY) - This is the second volume of Stephen Fry's autobiography covering the eight years immediately after the first. (Moab is my Washpot). We are introduced to Cambridge University, Emma Thompson, and Hugh Laurie. It is an interesting insight into the formative years of the man whom some consider the greatest of the BBC's mission which is to educate, inform, and entertain.

Gang Leader for a Day by Sudhir Venkatesh (364.1 VEN) - A fascinating full story of how Sudhir Venkatesh gained entrance into the lives of a group of drug-dealers and went on to witness and participate in events that have rarely been described in print.

the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Non-Fiction and of the 2011 National Book Award for Non-Fiction.

The Tenant of Wildfell Hall by Anne Bronte (FIC BRO) - This unrecognized classic of English literature is a powerful novel that points out that commitment is an act of the will, but it also shows the difficult decisions that need to be made when responsible for someone else. The story is filled with a great range of emotion and beautiful language as it brings to light the untouched topic of upper-class alcoholism during the mid-1800's. It was conceived in the same atmosphere as *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*.

Turn of Mind by Alice LaPlante (FIC LAP, LP FIC LAP) - A compelling read on two levels. The first is the portrait of a physician's heartbreaking progression through Alzheimer's disease and the second is the murder mystery involved. It is a startling portrait of a disintegrating mind clinging to reality through anger, frustration, shame and unspeakable loss.

Walter Benjamin at the Dairy Queen: Reflections of Sixty and Beyond by Larry McMurtry (B MCM) - If you know of Larry McMurtry from *Lonesome Dove* and some television screenplays, you are in for a real treat. McMurtry writes frankly and with deep feeling about his own experiences as a writer, parent, and a heart patient. He leaves his readers with constant reminders of his all-encompassing boundless love of literature and books.

The Wave: In Pursuit of the Rogues, Freaks, and Giants of the Ocean by Susan Casey (551.46 CAS, LP 551.46 CAS) - Part science lesson and part thrill, *The Wave* is an intense thrill ride that manages to take a broad look at oversized, potentially devastating waves. Casey's entertaining and enlightening exploration of the world's giant waves will leave readers with a healthy respect for their power and a

enlightening exploration of the world's giant waves will leave readers with a healthy respect for their power and a chilling sense of how little we really know about the oceans that surround us.

West with the Night by Beryl Markham (629.13 MAR, cd 920 MAR) - In this story, Beryl Markham's lyrical style of writing brings events, people, and the land of Kenya into sharp focus for the reader as she tells about growing up on a farm in Kenya. Her crowning accomplishment was the first east-west solo crossing of the Atlantic Ocean by a woman pilot. It is a wonderful book to be enjoyed by anyone who likes adventure, airplanes, horses or Africa.

What Alice Forgot by Liane Moriarty (FIC MOR) - Alice is an amazing character with real emotions and insecurities. It is a gripping story as we see her go through the motions of amnesia and remembering and reliving the past 10 years of her life that she's seemed to have forgotten.

What I Talk About When I Talk About Running by Haruki Murakami (796.4 MUR) - While simply training for the New York City Marathon, Murakami decided to write about his experiences. It is a story full of vivid memories and insights including the eureka moment when he decided to become a writer.

conspiracy that reaches into the halls of state government. Jance effectively weaves a story of political influence, wealth, and privileged kids wielding their own power.

Bossypants by Tina Fey ((B FEY, cd 920 FEY) - From her youthful days as a vicious nerd to her tour of duty on Saturday Night Live, Tina Fey reveals all and proves what we all have suspected: you're no one until someone call you "bossy."

Cheap, Fast, Good! By Beverly Mills (641.4 MIL) - 275 recipes for great, family-pleasing dishes, most which take over 25 minutes to prepare and cost usually less than \$2 a serving.

Damned by Chuck Palahniuk(FIC PAL) - His matter-of-fact, underworld is the charming setting of this Chuck Palahniuk funny and coming of age novel. His descriptions of hell are crafted with great comic flair and brilliant satire.

Dearly Departed by Lia Habel (FIC HAB, cd FIC HAB) - The year is 2195. The place is New Victoria-a high-tech nation modeled on the manners, mores, and fashions of an antique era. The say that "love conquers all," but can a proper young Victorian lady find true love in the arms of a dashing zombie?

Death Comes to Pemberely by P.D. James (MYS JAM, LP, cd FIC JAM) - The year is 1803. Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* picks up six years after Elizabeth and Darcy have married and moved to Pemberely. In the midst of preparations for the annual autumn ball, Elizabeth's disgraced sister announces that her husband has been murdered. Keeping her mystery writing skills intact, P.D. James successfully captures Austen's style.

Every Day a Friday : How to Be Happy 7 Days a Week by Joel Osteen (241.4 OST, cd 241.4 OST) - "How you live your life is to you," According to Osteen's new book. It's not dependent on your circumstances, but on your choices and he places the weight and balance of happiness in your hands alone. It is an excellent and well-written book.

The Filter Bubble by Eli Pariser (004.678 PAR) - Your filter bubble is this unique, per-