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# Book Notes

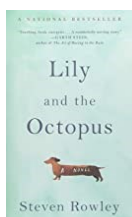
A Bi-Monthly Publication from the Hershey Public Library

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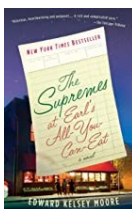
November/  
December

## Feel-Good Reads

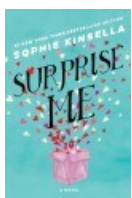
Listed here are some feel-good books, both fiction and nonfiction. That doesn't mean that the characters will skip blithely through a world of rainbows and puppy dogs. Feel-good reads do not mean they are without tragedy either, but they do mean they will leave you feeling better for having read them.



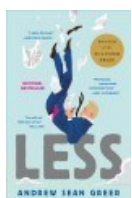
**Lily and the Octopus** (FIC ROW, LP FIC ROW) by Steven Rowley - A national bestseller combining the emotional depth of *The Art of Racing in the Rain* with the magical spirit of *The Life of Pi*, *Lily and the Octopus* is the dog book you must read.



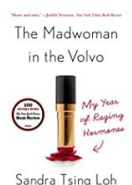
**The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat** (FIC MOO, LP FIC MOO) by Edward Kelsey Moore - A gripping novel that weaves together the lives of three remarkable women, and does so with flair, wit, and tremendous heart. Moore uses warmhearted humor and salty language to bring to life a tight-knit African-American community.



**Surprise Me** (FIC KIN, LP FIC KIN) by Sophie Kinsella - With a colorful cast of eccentric characters, razor-sharp observations, and her signature wit and charm, Sophie Kinsella presents a humorous yet moving portrait of a marriage with its intricacies, comforts, and complications.



**Less** (FIC GRE) by Andrew Sean Greer - A struggling novelist travels the world to avoid an awkward wedding in this hilarious Pulitzer Prize-winning novel full of arresting lyricism and beauty.



**The Madwoman in the Volvo: My Year of Raging Hormones** (B LOH) by Sandra Tsing Loh - In a voice that is wry, disarming, and totally candid, Sandra Tsing Loh tells the moving and laugh-out-loud tale of her roller coaster through "the change." This is not your grandmother's menopause story. Loh chronicles utterly relatable, everyday perils: raising preteen daughters, weathering hormonal changes, and the ups and downs of a career and a relationship.

## Exceptional Gift Books

Below are some suggestions for the book lovers on your list.



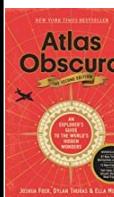
**Chicken Soup for the Soul: It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas** by Amy Newmark - These 101 real-life personal stories are filled with the cheer of the season. They'll leave you smiling and eager to share the holidays, from Thanksgiving to Hanukkah to Christmas and New Year's.



**Christmas Cocoa Murder** by Carlene O'Connor - Siobhán O'Sullivan's hopes for a quiet Irish Christmas are dashed when the local Santa turns up dead in a carnival dunk tank of hot cocoa. Now instead of hunting down holiday gifts, she's pursuing a heartless killer. Seems the dead Santa was no angel either, stealing neighborhood dogs to guide his sleigh. But was it his holiday antics or worse that led to his death by chocolate?



**Twice in a Blue Moon** by Christina Lauren - With Christina Lauren's signature beautifully written and remarkably compelling prose this book is perfect for fans of Emily Giffin and Jennifer Weiner. *Twice in a Blue Moon* is an unforgettable and moving novel of young love and second chances.



**Atlas Obscura** by Joshua Foer - Inspiring equal parts wonder and wanderlust, *Atlas Obscura* is a phenomenon of a travel book that shot to the top of bestseller lists when it was first published and changed the way we think about the world, expanding our sense of how strange and marvelous it really is.



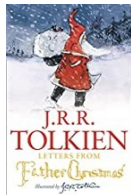
**How to Raise a Reader** by Pamela Paul and Maria Russo - An indispensable guide to welcoming children—from babies to teens—to a lifelong love of reading, written by Pamela Paul and Maria Russo, editors of *The New York Times Book Review*. Divided into four sections, from baby through teen, and each illustrated by a different artist, this book offers something useful on every page, whether it's how to develop rituals around reading or build a family library, or ways to engage a reluctant reader.

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## Adult Winter Reading Program

The 2020 Adult Winter Reading Program, "**Reading Vegetable Garden**," begins Thursday, January 2, 2020. Stop by the library any time after that date to sign-up.

Read four books according to the genre of your selected vegetables to be planted in your garden. Individuals 16 and older can participate. Sign-up incentives and gift card prizes are graciously provided by Friends of the Hershey Public Library.



### Some of the Best Holiday Books to Read (according to Good Housekeeping Magazine)

**Letters from Father Christmas** (J394.2 TOL) by J.R.R. Tolkien

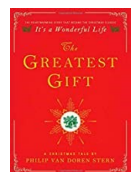
Tolkien - Letters from Father Christmas by J.R.R. Tolkien is a charming collection of the letters Mr. Tolkien wrote to his children each year for Christmas as they were growing up. Each story is told from the perspective of Father Christmas himself, but there are other characters that sometimes take the spotlight and write to the children, including most notably a polar bear who seems to find himself in a bit of trouble with Father Christmas from time to time and has his own adventures worth sharing with Tolkien's children.

#### Hercule

**Poirot's Christmas** (FIC CHR) by Agatha Christie

In *Hercule Poirot's Christmas*, the holidays are anything but merry when a family reunion is marred by murder and the notoriously fastidious investigator is quickly on the case.

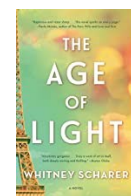
**The Greatest Gift** by Philip Van Doren Stern - The beautiful story from which the Christmas classic, *It's a Wonderful Life* was based on.



### Great Book Club Reads

**The Paris Orphan** by Natasha Lester - An emotional and sweeping tale set against the backdrop of World War II, *The Paris Orphan* honors the courage and dedication of war correspondents through the lens of captivating *Vogue* photojournalist. Rich detail, compelling characters, and an interwoven dual timeline make this an engrossing read for historical fiction fans.

**The Age of Light** by Whitney Scharer - Told in the alternating timelines of 1930s Paris and the battlefields of WWII, this "rapturous and razor sharp" debut novel brings to light the life of Lee Miller, a little known but fearlessly original artist whose legacy remains largely unexplored.



### Coming Soon to a Theater Near You

**Motherless Brooklyn** - Based on the novel by Jonathan Lethem. November

**All Rise** - Based on the novel by Walter Dean Myers. November

**Little Women** - Based on the novel by Louise May Alcott. December

## Don't miss these great programs sponsored by Friends of the Hershey Public Library

All programs are free but registration is necessary and can be done either online @ [www.hersheylibrary.org](http://www.hersheylibrary.org) or by calling the Public Services Desk @ 533-6555.

### Native American Folk Music presented by "Spirit Wing" Sunday, November 17, 2019 2:00 p.m.

Spirit Wing is a six time Native American Music Award nominee. Since the year 2000, Spirit Wing has appeared at many Native American Festivals throughout North America. Their music comes from a strong folk/acoustic music tradition along with traditional Native songs that date back hundreds of years. All four members of Spirit Wing have performed in various types of bands and ensembles that feature Rock, Blues, Bluegrass, and Country music. Once you hear **Spirit Wing's** impassioned performance you will not forget their intense respect for their people and the history of Native Americans or that they have become one of the most popular Native American acts in the Middle Atlantic States.

### "Decorating with the First Ladies" presented by Colleen Christian Burke Sunday, December 1, 2019 2:00 p.m.

Coleen Christian Burke will share the magic of White House Christmas decorating from Jackie Kennedy thru Melania Trump. Come see our First Families, in both public and private moments, as they celebrated the most wonderful time of the year in the most famous home in America, the White House.

Coleen Christian Burke is an award-winning designer and author of *Christmas with the First Ladies*. Coleen has had the three-time honor of being on the White House Holiday Decorating Team, having served First Ladies Laura Bush and Michelle Obama. In 2014, Coleen served as a White House Design Partner and began planning the White House Christmas Décor in February!

A lifestyle expert, Coleen has made over 40 national TV appearances, including Good Morning America, the CBS Morning Show, CNN and Fox & Friends. Coleen is considered a foremost White House Historian, and is a