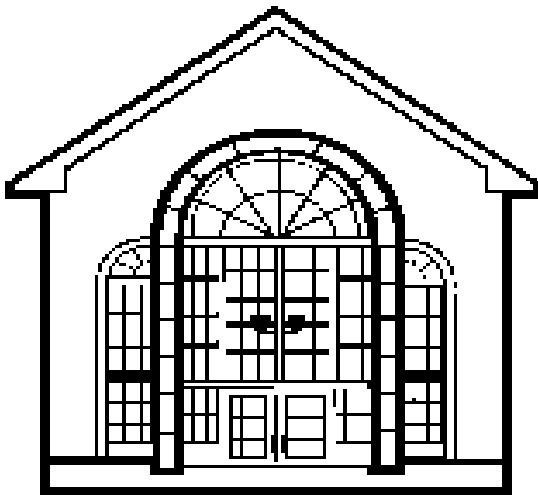


The Woman in White by Wilkie Collins
(FIC COL, cd FIC COL) - This is a psychological mystery come detective novel in epistolary form that is occasionally ornamented by a witty social commentary. Thought to be one of the first of its kind, written between 1859 and 1860, the novel is a study of gothic style and creepy character. Even though it may not be a seat-grabbing bone chiller, you will enjoy Collins' darkly descriptive literary portrait. If you seek a classic thriller, this one is for you.



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Staff Picks



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Compiled May 2013

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“If you resist reading what you disagree with, how will you ever acquire deeper insights into what you believe? The things most worth reading are precisely those that challenge our convictions.” - Author
Unknown

**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)
© (Debut-new author's first book)
* Book suggested for book groups

1Q84 by Haruki Murakami (FIC MUR, cd FIC MUR) - The year is 1984, but not for long. Aomame, on the way to meet a client, sits in a taxi stuck in traffic. She takes the driver's advice and bolts from the cab. Walking onto the elevated Tokyo expressway, she descends an emergency ladder to the street below and enters into a strange world. A fully articulated vision of a not-quite-nightmare world.

After the Music Stopped by Alan Blinder (330.973 BLI) - This book is one of the most authoritative accounts of the why, how and what of the global financial crisis. It brilliantly takes you through the construction of America's fragile "house of financial cards," its sudden and dramatic collapse and the difficult reconstructive and rehabilitative work that still needs to be done. It is a masterpiece and riveting tale.

All Fall Down by Megan Hart (FIC HAR) - A well-written and accurate life story about a girl, named Sunshine, who is raised in a cult and forced by her mother to escape the cult with her three small children to go find her father. It grabs your attention from the start and is a haunting tale and emotional read that stays with you long after you finish it.

The Aviator's Wife by Melanie Benjamin (FIC BEN, LP FIC BEN) - This is the remarkable story of Anne Morrow, who was the wife of the famous pilot, Charles Lindberg. It is a wonderful piece of historical fiction, as told by Anne Morrow and a book about famous people trying to live with the burdens of hero worship. Hard to put down! *

Beautiful Ruins by Jess Walter (FIC WAL, LP FIC WAL) - If you love the ancient charms of the Italian coast, long for Edinburg and its cold rain and distant hot sun, and love stories of the "dream factory" that is Hollywood, you will not be able to put this book down. It is a story of an almost-love affair that begins on the Italian coast in 1962...and is rekindled in Hollywood fifty years later. *



Utopia by Thomas More (335 MOR, pb C 250) - Utopia is a satirical examination of the society More lived in; unjust, polarized by poverty and powerlessness. Observing timeless philosophical questions, More, in conversation with fictional figures, cleverly avoided real life condemnation by a social system that allowed no criticism. Utopia is a diamond in a sea of glass, that despite its age (published in 1516) often feels relevant in the 21st century.

Wesley the Owl by Stacey O'Brien (598 OBR, LP 598, cd 598 OBR) - As a student researcher, O'Brien fell in love with an injured four-day-old barn owl and seized the opportunity to adopt him permanently. She named him Wesley and for 19 years kept, cared for and studied him. This memoir and compelling story sheds a bright light into the world of animal emotions and powerful bonds forged between animals and humans.

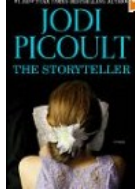


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Where Things Come Back by John Corey Whaley (Y WHA) - In the bizarre and heart-wrenching summer before Cullen Witter's senior year of high school, he is forced to examine everything he thinks he understands about his small and painfully, dull Arkansas town. Meanwhile, a crisis of faith spawned by a young missionary's disillusion in Africa prompts a frantic search for meaning that has far reaching consequences. As distant as the two stories initially seem, they are woven together through masterful plotting and merge into a surprising and harrowing climax.

Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail by Cheryl Strayed (B STR, LP B STR) - At twenty-two, Cheryl Strayed thought she lost everything in the wake of her mother's death. Her family was scattered and her own marriage was soon to be destroyed. Four years later, she made the most impulsive decision of her life, to hike more than one thousand miles of the Pacific Crest Trail. This book powerfully captures the terrors and pleasures of one young woman forging ahead against all odds on a journey that ultimately healed her.

The Storyteller by Jodi Picoult (FIC PIC, LP FIC PIC) - A story of a young woman who finds herself in the horns of a moral dilemma when she meets a nice old man, Josef Weber, who turns out to have been a Nazi war criminal. With characters that hook the reader into their stories and a well-researched and thought provoking plot, this novel deals with big issues: good and evil, forgiveness and redemption, love and justice.



Texts From Last Night by Lauren Leto and Ben Bator (818.7 TEX) - This is a collection of hilarious texts from the popular "Texts From Last Night" website that are presumably found on cell phones the next morning by blackout partiers and things one would be embarrassed about.

This is How: Surviving What You Think You Can't by Augusten Burroughs (814.54 BUR, LP 814.54 BUR) - In this book, Augusten Burroughs delivers prescriptions for handling life's most precious problems. This is raw, hard-knocked-life advice, veering from brutal to hilarious to deeply compassionate. He is honest about the limits of recovery, but even those in depths of despair will be energized by his exhortations to claw their way back to OK, even if it means leaving the life they've known behind.

Three Weeks to Say Goodbye by C.J. Box (FIC BOX, cd FIC BOX) - In this stand-alone thriller set in Denver, Jack and Melissa McGuane stand to lose their adoptive baby daughter to her birth father, a teenage psychopath who never relinquished his parental rights, and his father, a ruthless, well-connected federal judge. Box has built a reputation for writing suspense while incorporating solid social issues.

The Twelve Tribes of Hattie by Ayana Mathis (FIC MAT, LP FIC MAT, cd FIC MAT) - In 1923, fifteen-year-old Hattie Shepherd flees Georgia and settles in Philadelphia hoping for a chance for a better life. Instead, she marries a man who will bring her nothing but disappointment. Beautiful and yet devastating, this is a wondrous first novel which is an emotionally transfixing page-turner and searing portrait of striving in the face of insurmountable adversity. ☺ *

The Book of Summers by Emylia Hall (FIC HAL, LP FIC HAL) - A debut novel with wonderfully developed characters and a dynamically charged setting. It is a poetic trip to Hungary and a touching emotional read about love and the value of family. If you enjoy fiction about family dramas, this book is for you. * ☺

Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh (FIC WAU, dvd FIC BRI, pb C 858) - Waugh mixes a sophisticated cocktail of upper class elegance, young love, larger than life characters, human tragedy, wealth, and reconciled faith. As the memoir of Charles Ryder, *Brideshead Revisited* celebrates aristocratic life that all but ended with WWII. If you enjoyed *Downton Abbey*, you are sure to appreciate *Brideshead Revisited*. Pearls and champagne are *de rigeur*.

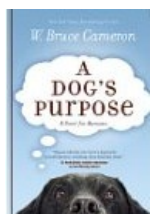
Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks (FIC BRO, LP FIC BRO) - Inspired by a true story, this is a wonderful historical novel describing the life of a young woman growing up in colonial New England and her incredible interactions with the Native Americans on Martha's Vineyard.



The Call by Yannick Murphy (FIC MUR, LP FIC MUR) - The daily rhythm of a veterinarian's family in rural New England is shaken when a hunting accident leaves their eldest son in a coma. With the lives of his loved ones unhinged, the veterinarian struggles to maintain stability while searching for the man responsible. A one-of-a-kind story in which true heroism is revealed. *

The Distant Hours by Kate Morton (FIC MOR, LP FIC MOR) - A modern day Gothic novel complete with the old and moldering Castle Milderhurst and three old eccentric sisters of the Blythe family that have lived in it their entire lives. It is a spellbinding journey and a mystery whose well-paced revelations provide a surprising and deeply satisfying read.

A Dog's Purpose by W. Bruce Cameron (FIC CAM, LP FIC CAM, cd FIC CAM) - Heartwarming and insightful, it is an emotional and hilarious story of a dog's many lives and a dog's-eye commentary on relationships and the unbreakable bonds between man and man's best friend. It teaches us that love never dies, that our true friends are always with us and that every creature on earth is born with a purpose.



Doctor Who: Shada by Gareth Roberts (SF ROB) - From the unique mind of Douglas Adams, legendary author of "*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*," comes *Shada*, a Doctor Who story scripted for the television series Doctor Who that was never produced. It has now been transformed into an original novel. Fans of Doctor Who will enjoy this little trip back into that world.

Fearless by Eric Blehm (359.9 BLE) - This is the story of a man of extremes, whose courage and determination were fueled by faith, family and the love of a woman. Be prepared for the full range of emotions as you read about the true adventures of a real American hero who persevered to reach the top of the U.S. Military.

Flawless: Inside the Largest Diamond Heist in History by Scott Andrew Selby



(364.16 SEL) - On February 15, 2003, a group of thieves broke into an allegedly airtight vault in the international diamond capital of Antwerp, Belgium and made

off with over \$108 million dollars worth of diamonds and other valuables. They did so without tripping an alarm or injuring a single guard in the process. This real-life Ocean's Eleven provides a combination of diamond history, journalistic reporting and riveting true-crime.

Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver (FIC KIN, LP FIC KIN) - Kingsolver returns with a brilliant and suspenseful novel set in present day Appalachia. This riveting story concerns a young wife and mother on a failing farm in rural Tennessee who experiences something she cannot explain. It is fiction rich in empathy, wit and science. If you like Barbara Kingsolver you will love this one!

The Garden of Evening Mists by Tan Twan Eng (FIC ENG) - A haunting, beautifully written novel that traces the relationship between Yun Ling, a scarred and embittered Chinese-Malaysian survivor of a Japanese labor camp and Aritomo, the enigmatic, exiled Japanese gardener to the Emperor. Part mystery, part tragedy, this is a story that speaks of forgetting and remembering and the conflict that exists between the two when the memories are of unspeakable tragedy and loss.

The Hiding Place by Corrie ten Boom (B TEN) - This book is a classic that shines a light on one of the darkest periods in history. It glows with the

Susan Cain, in her book argues that we dramatically undervalue introverts and shows how much we lose in doing so. Quiet has the power to change how we see introverts and equally important, how they see themselves.

The Round House by Louise Erdrich (FIC ERD, LP FIC ERD) - This moving, complex and surprisingly uplifting novel tells of a boy's coming of age in the wake of a brutal, racist attack on his mother. Drawn from real-life statistics about racially inspired attacks on our country's reservations, this tale is forceful. It is a gripping mystery with a moral twist. Revenge might be the harshest punishments, but only for the victims.

The Secret Keeper by Kate Morton (FIC MOR, LP FIC MOR) - Kate Morton's newest novel is filled with mystery, thievery, murder and enduring love. During a summer party at the family farm in the English countryside, sixteen-year-old Laurel Nicolson has escaped to her childhood tree house. But before the afternoon is over, Laurel will witness a shocking crime that challenges everything she knows about her family, especially her mother. You will be kept in suspense until the final pages of this book.

The 7 Deadly Innocent Frauds of Economic Policy by Warren Mosler (330.973 MOS) - A provocative book that gives crucial information on how economy works, how it could work and what to avoid. Everyone interested in economics or budget issues should read this book.

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett (FIC PAT, LP FIC PAT, cd FIC PAT) - A provocative and assured novel of morality and miracles, science and sacrifice, set in the Amazon rainforest. Infusing narrative with ingenuity, Patchett has written an enthrallingly innovative tale. It is a gripping adventure story and a profound look at the difficult choices we make in the name of discovery.



The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Food From My Frontier by Ree Drummond (641.59793 DRU) - Accidental ranch wife, Ree Drummond is back with a second helping of delicious recipes, down home wit and warm remembrances. Readers will find soul-satisfying, cowboy-approved comfort food that the whole family will enjoy.

Plain and Simple: A Woman's Journey to the Amish by Sue Bender (305.687 BEN) - A captivating and inspiring true story of a harried urban Californian moved by the beauty of a display of quilts to seek out and live with the Amish. In nine interrelated chapters, Bender shares the quiet power she found reflected in the lives of joyful simplicity, humanity and clarity.



Please Look After Mom by Kyung-Sook Shin (FIC SHI) - When sixty-nine-year old So-nyo is separated from her husband among the crowds of the Seoul subway station, her family begins a desperate search to find her. Yet, as long held secrets and private sorrows begin to reveal themselves, they are forced to wonder how well did they actually know the woman they called mom? An authentic picture of contemporary life in Korea and a universal story of family love.

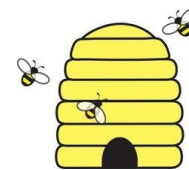
The Pleasure of Finding Things Out: The Best Short Works of Richard P. Feynman by Richard P. Feynman (500 FEY) - This book is a magnificent treasury of the best short works of Richard P. Feynman—from interviews and speeches to lectures and printed articles. It is a sweeping, wide-ranging collection of a life in sciences, a life like no other. From his ruminations on science in our culture to his Nobel Prize winning acceptance speech, this book is sure to fascinate anyone interested in the world of ideas.

Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking by Susan Cain (155.232 CAI, LP 155.232 CAI) - At least one-third of the people we know are introverts. They prefer listening to speaking and they innovate and create but dislike self-promotion and favor working on their own over working in teams.



glory of God and the courage of a quiet Christian spinster whose life was transformed by it. It is a story of Christ's message and the courageous woman who listened and lived to pass it along.

The Hive and the Honey Bee (638.1 HIV) - Peruse the quintessential guide to honey bees. Inside are twenty-seven chapters from experts in the field covering everything from ethology to practical beekeeping down to venom composition. This book contains everything you ever wanted to know about honey bees and more.



Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos (Y GAN) - A riveting and compelling read by a prize-winning author of over thirty books for young people. In this book, Jack Gantos confronts the period of struggle and confinement that marked the end of his own youth. The narrative moves from one crazed moment to the next as he pieces together the story of his restless final year of high school and short-lived career in prison.

Homicide Special: A Year with the LAPD's Elite Detective Unit by Miles Corwin (363.25 COR) - The mandate for Los Angeles's unique police unit *Homicide Special* is to take on the toughest, most controversial and highest profile cases. In the unfailingly interesting work of true crime, acclaimed writer Miles Corwin uses unprecedented access to narrate six of the unit's cases and capture its newest generation at work. It is truly a book you won't forget anytime soon.

Illuminations by Mary Sharratt (FIC SHA) - A powerful narrative that gives a fictional account of the life of one of medieval history's most venerated religious figures, Hildegard Von Bingen (1098-1170). Hailed as both a prophet and philosopher, her tale of courage, fellowship and human endurance is poignantly revealed. Whatever the true source of her visions, the fact remains that Hildegard Von Bingen's existence is remembered and revered.

In the Shadow of the Banyan: A Novel by Vaddey Ratner (FIC RAT, LP FIC RAT) - Seven year old Raami experiences the shattering end of childhood when her father returns home in the early dawn hours bringing details of the civil war that has overwhelmed the streets of Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital. Her family's world of the careful guarding of those of royal privilege is swept up in the chaos of revolution and forced exodus.

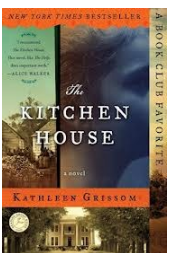
Is This Tomorrow: A Novel by Caroline Leavitt (FIC LEA) - When someone disappears, what happens to the people who are left behind? This is the central heartbreaking question in Caroline Leavitt's new book. Like its predecessor, *Pictures of You*, her latest work, set mainly in the 1950's turns on a single, fateful incident. It is her examination of loss, grief and disappointment that will engross its readers.

Juliet in August by Dianne Warren (FIC WAR, LP FIC WAR) - Juliet is a small, quiet town in Saskatchewan where not much seems to happen. But in this book, the author manages to weave together the stories of its likeable residents with dry humor and compassion. The characters are as real as the people next door, but in these pages Warren gives us something we can never have with our neighbors-access to their hidden hearts. *

Karl Marx: A Nineteenth Century Life by Jonathan Sperber (B MAR) - A deeply researched and well-written biography of the controversial economic thinker and revolutionary man, Karl Marx. In the book, Marx emerges as a man struggling personally and intellectually with the profound issues of his own time. It is the first significant biography of Marx in decades.

Kids for Cash: Two Judges, Thousands of Children and a \$2.6 Million Kickback Scheme by William Ecenbarger (365.42 ECE) - The setting is the Luzerne County, PA juvenile court system between 2003 and 2008, when two judges mishandled the criminal cases of thousands of children. Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, William Ecenbarger describes the background and criminal activities from the heart of the case. It is based on 200 interviews and reflects the author's insider knowledge of the scandal.

The Kitchen House by Kathleen Grisson (FIC GRI, LP FIC GRI) - Orphaned while onboard ship from Ireland, seven-year-old Lavina arrives on the steps of a tobacco plantation where she is to work with the slaves of the kitchen house. She becomes deeply bonded to her adopted family, though she is set apart from them by her white skin. It is a tragic, suspenseful, page-turning story exploring the meaning of family where love and loyalty prevail. ☺ *



Levi Strauss Gets a Bright Idea by Tony Johnston (JP JOH) - A Wild West "tall" tale, this book celebrates creativity, innovation and the item that fills the closets of grateful jean wearers worldwide. It is a hilarious narrative about how Strauss became the "denim king."

Methland by Nick Reding (362.29 RED) - This is a dramatic story of the methamphetamine epidemic as it sweeps the American heartland. Not only does the book provide a wealth of information but it also shows the depth of Reding's compassion for the individuals meth has touched: the heroes, the helpless witnesses, the innocent victims and even the perpetrators of this American crisis.

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool (J VAN, J cd VAN) - This Newbery Award Winning historical fiction, shifts effortlessly between two eras-the Depression Era and World War I, chocked-full of elements of excitement and mystery. In this debut novel, Vanderpool weaves humor and sorrow into a complex tale involving murders, orphans, bootlegging and a mother in hiding. A real gem! ☺ *

The Orphan Master's Son by Adam Johnson (FIC JOH) - Johnson, an American writer, has masterfully rendered the mysterious world of North Korea with the soul and savvy of a native, from the orphanages and fishing boats to the kitchens of its high-ranking commanders. Blending personal story and political history, this Pulitzer Prize winner is possibly the greatest North Korean love story ever told.



Peaches for Father Francis by Joanne Harris (FIC HAR, LP FIC HAR) - Vianne Rocher, who worked culinary magic on a French village in *Chocolat*, now finds herself returning to Lansquenet where Father Francis is suspected of recent crime. It is the sequel to *Chocolat* and *The Girl with No Shadow*. Fans of the first two books will delight in becoming reacquainted with Vianne, her dashing man, Roux, and her clever daughters.

Pictures of You by Caroline Leavitt (FIC LEA, cd FIC LEA) - This is a story of love, grief, regrets, family forgiveness and redemption enmeshed in mystery and suspense. A white-knuckle ride of love and longing, Caroline has a real talent for insightfully probing into people and telling stories from various points of view. Too bad we cannot look into the future then look back and ask for a chance to do things differently!