

Magician's Lie

by Greer Macallister DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

This well-paced, evocative, and adventurous historical novel from Macallister chronicles the career of America's preeminent female stage illusionist at the turn of the 20th century, who, as the Amazing Arden, created the lurid, controversial stage act known as the Halved Man.

Marriage of Opposites

by Alice Hoffman DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

In this lovely and imaginative fictionalized biography, Hoffman re-envisions the mother of Camille Pissarro, the "father of impressionism." She offers a rare look at nineteenth-century Jewish life in the Caribbean and discloses the dramatic family history of this French painter.

Murder in the Telephone Exchange

By June Wright ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

First published in 1948, this welcome reissue of Australian author Wright's first mystery features Maggie Byrnes, a "telephonist" at the Melbourne Exchange, who gets swept up into the investigation of the murder of a much disliked supervisor. The story creates an engaging porthole into the past, with lively characters and inventive plotting.

Open City

by Teju Cole DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Nigerian immigrant Julius, a young graduate student studying psychiatry in New York City, has recently broken up with his girlfriend and spends most of his time dreamily walking around Manhattan. The majority of Open City centers on Julius' inner thoughts as he rambles throughout the city, painting scenes of both what occurs around him and past events that he can't help but dwell on. Readers who enjoy stream-of-consciousness narratives and fiction infused with politics will find this unique and pensive book a charming read.

The Queen of the Tearling

by Erika Johansen BRITTIN'S PICK (Fiction)

Following a mysterious cataclysmic event referred to as the Crossing, humans now exist without modern technology and have reverted back to feudalism. At the story's opening, Kelsea, the rightful Queen of the Tearling, turns 19 (the age of ascension) and is escorted by the Queen's Guard from her forest home to claim her throne.

The Silver Swan

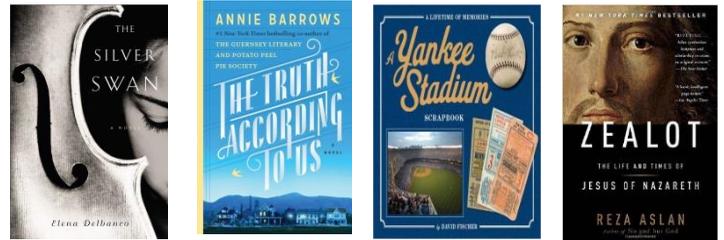
by Elena Delbanco LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Alexander Feldmann is a world-renowned cellist and the owner of the Silver Swan, a famous centuries-old cello. Much to his daughter's surprise, her father leaves it to a young cellist whom Feldmann dubs his musical heir. The novel explores the complications of love and family and the conflicts associated with possession.

Tiny Little Thing

by Beatriz Williams LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

During her husband's 1966 congressional run, Christina "Tiny" Hardcastle realizes her picture-perfect life has more than a few cracks and that maybe the time has come to be true to herself rather than to the glossy facade she has created. A fascinating look at wealth, love, ambition, secrets, and what family members will and won't do to protect each other.



The Truth According to Us

by Annie Barrows ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Cast out by her U.S. Senator father for disparaging the nature of hard work while the Great Depression rages on, refined Layla Beck lands a job with the Federal Writers' Project that sends her to the hardscrabble apple-and-coal country of West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle.

A Yankee Stadium Scrapbook: a lifetime of memories

by David Fischer MARGARET'S PICK (NON-Fic 796.357 FIS)

A nostalgic tribute to Yankee Stadium brings together photographs, text, and memorabilia that celebrate Babe Ruth's 60th home run, Lou Gehrig's farewell address, World Series championships, and other milestones.

Zealot: the life and times of Jesus of Nazareth

by Reza Aslan KATHY'S PICK (Non-Fic 232.904 ASL)

Aslan focuses on how Jesus the man evolved into Jesus the Christ. Approaching the subject from a purely academic perspective, the author parts an important curtain that has long hidden from view - the man Jesus, who "is every bit as compelling, charismatic, and praiseworthy as Jesus the Christ."

**More Book Suggestions are found www.ridgewoodlibrary.org
"Book and Media" tab Staff Picks *Take a look!***



The Assistant

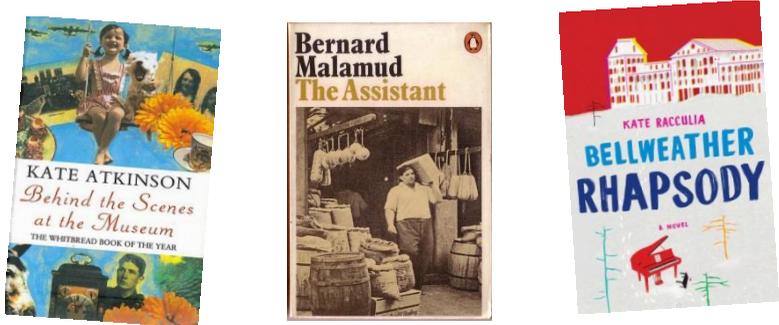
by Bernard Malamud DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Morris Bober, a grocer in postwar Brooklyn, "wants better" for himself and his family. First, two robbers hold him up. Then, things take a turn for the better when Frank Alpine becomes his assistant. But there are complications: Frank falls in love with Helen Bober and begins to steal from the store. Like Malamud's best stories, this novel unerringly evokes an immigrant world of cramped circumstances and great expectations.

Behind the Scenes at the Museum

by Kate Atkinson ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Spanning generations and both world wars, this British debut leaves no stone unturned in recounting the humorously turbulent family history of Ruby Lennox, a quirky, complex character who relates the events of her life and her family starting with her moment of conception in England.



Bellweather Rhapsody

by Kate Racculia DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

It is time for the 1997 Statewide Music Festival at the decrepit Bellweather Hotel in New York's Catskill Mountains. Part ghost story, part mystery, part coming-of-age tale, and part love sonnet to music, Racculia's second novel is dark and delightful, with memorable characters inspired by both literature and pop culture. It will grab readers and keep them with multilayered plotting and writing that ranges from humorous to poetic.

Between the World and Me

by Ta-Nehisi Coates DEBORAH'S PICK (Non-Fic 305.8 COA)

In this extended open letter to his young son, Atlantic national correspondent and senior editor Coates reflects further on his unlikely road to manhood. Mixing memoir, discourse, and outcry, Coates details what it has meant and what it means to be a black male in America.

The Black Count: glory, revolution, betrayal, and the real Count of Monte Cristo

by Tom Reiss SARAH'S PICK (Non-Fic 944.09 REI)

Confronted with the surname Dumas, readers are likely to think of Alexandre Dumas, author of such classics as *The Count of Monte Cristo*. But in *The Black Count*, Reiss explores the life of the writer's father, born to a slave mother (her last name was Dumas) and a French aristocrat, demonstrating the great effect of the elder Dumas on his son's fiction.

The Day the Falls Stood Still

by Cathy Marie Buchanan SARAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Buchanan illuminates the beginnings of hydroelectric power in Canada during World War I. The conflict between the natural world and progress leads to tragedy and Bess's family suffers particularly. Historical fiction readers will appreciate the excellent period detail, especially the depiction of the era's social mores, and the romance between Bess and Tom.

Deep Down Dark: the untold stories of 33 men buried in a Chilean mine, and the miracle that set them free

by Hector Tobar KERRI'S PICK (Non-Fic 363.119 TOB)

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and novelist Tobar presents the riveting story of the 33 men who spent 69 days trapped more than 2,000 feet underground in Chile's San Jose Mine in 2010. Tobar also vividly narrates the miners' lives post-rescue as they come to terms with their life-changing experience and the media frenzy surrounding it. Rich in local color, this is a sensitive, suspenseful rendering of a legendary story.

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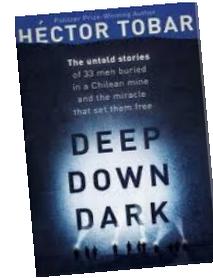
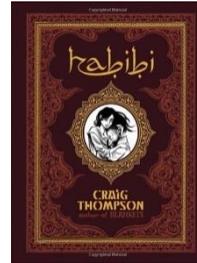
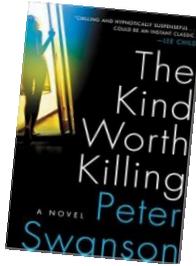
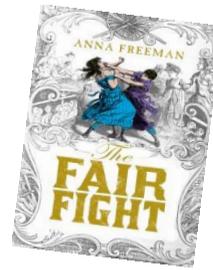
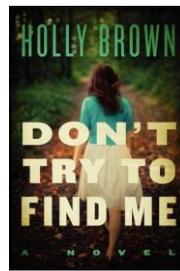
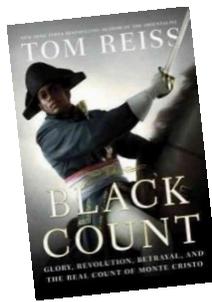
by Renee Knight DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

On the bedroom nightstand in the new apartment filmmaker Catherine Ravenscroft shares with her husband, Robert, Catherine finds a self-published novel, *The Perfect Stranger*, which describes an incident that Catherine never told Robert about. This unsettling psychological thriller about guilt and grief briskly moves to a shocking finale enhanced by its strong characters.

Don't Try to Find Me

by Holly Brown DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

At 14, Marley faces the typical issues most teens face - identity crisis, body image, parents who don't understand. Brown, a marriage and family therapist, examines a family in midcrisis when Marley runs away, leaving her parents struggling with demons of their own.



The Evil Hours: a biography of posttraumatic stress disorder

by David Morris ROBERTA'S PICK (Non-Fic 616.852 MOR)

David J. Morris -- a war correspondent, former Marine, and PTSD sufferer himself, has written the essential account of this illness which afflicts as many as 30 percent of veterans and also extends far beyond the armed forces. Morris crafts a moving work that will speak not only to those with the condition and to their loved ones, but also to all of us struggling to make sense of an anxious and uncertain time.

The Fair Fight

by Anna Freeman LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Eighteenth-century England is a cruel and dirty world in Freeman's engrossing historical novel. Raised in a brothel, the unattractive Ruth is considered unsuitable to become a lady of the house, so it is fortunate that her scrappiness leads to some success as a professional pugilist. In this sweeping saga, her story is intertwined with two others: that of George Bowden, the well-born youngest son of a family from whom he will inherit neither title nor fortune and of smallpox survivor Charlotte.

Frog

by Mo Yan KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)

In a brutally realistic novel that weaves autobiographical details from the author's own life, China's controversial one-child policy comes under the scrutiny of Nobel laureate Mo Yan (*Life and Death Are Wearing Me Out*, 2008), who reveals the scope of this edict, its effect on the inhabitants of a rural village, and the ruthlessness of people who are charged with its implementation.

Habibi

by Craig Thompson CLAIRE'S PICK (Fiction)

Thompson's graphic novel is an epic love story that's both inspiring and heartbreaking, intertwined with parables from both Islam and Christianity. Sold into marriage as a young girl, Dodola endures life as the wife of a scribe until she's captured by slave traders. Before she can be sold again, she escapes, taking with her an abandoned toddler named Habibi.

Her

by Harriet Lane ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

Lane's gracefully written psychological thriller is about friendship wielded as a weapon. Affluent artist Nina Bremner glimpses a lovely but disheveled pregnant woman shopping with a toddler one day and experiences a shock of recognition. She once knew Emma Nash-and her hatred for the other woman simmers, though it's not clear why.

Ike and Dick: portrait of a strange political marriage

by Jeffrey Frank KATHY'S PICK (Non-Fic 973.921 FRA)

Frank offers an engaging narrative of the 16-year relationship between Eisenhower and Nixon: a political marriage not made in heaven. This deeply researched account is the only complete book treatment of the enduring yet shaky political connection that guided the United States through some of the most critical decades of the Cold War.

The Incarnations

by Susan Barker DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Barker presents a gripping novel about a Beijing taxi driver whose past incarnations haunt him through searing letters sent by a mysterious stalker during the 2008 Olympics. Driving the narrative is the suspense over the identity of Wang's stalker and whether the stories are indeed true.

The Kind Worth Killing

by Peter Swanson DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Ted Severson meets Lily Kintner in an airport bar, and their flirtation turns serious when he admits that he's just caught his wife cheating. A little drunk, he recklessly claims that he'd like to kill her and is shocked when Lily agrees that he should. After Ted spends the flight exploring Lily's simple philosophy of justice, he allows her reckless comment to morph into a murder plot.

A Little Life

by Hanya Yanagihara DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Four men who meet as college roommates move to New York and spend the next three decades gaining renown in their professions as an architect, painter, actor and lawyer and struggling with demons in their intertwined personal lives. By the time the characters reach their 50s and the story arrives at its moving conclusion, readers will be attached and find them very hard to forget.