

Paying Guests

by Sarah Waters ROBIN'S and DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)
It is 1922, London. Ex-servicemen and the unemployed are disillusioned. In a genteel villa, life is about to be transformed, as an impoverished widow and her spinster daughter are obliged to take in lodgers. As life-and-death questions are answered, new ones come up and, until the last page, the reader will have no idea what's going to happen.

Rules of Civility

by Amor Towles VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)
Manhattan in the late 1930s is the setting for this saga of a bright, attractive and ambitious young woman whose relationships with her insecure roommate and the privileged Adonis they meet in a jazz club are never the same after an auto accident.

The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace

By Jeff Hobbs ROBIN'S PICK (Biography PEACE)
A heartfelt, and riveting biography of the short life of a talented young African-American man who escapes the slums of Newark for Yale University only to succumb to the dangers of the streets-and of one's own nature-when he returns home. Hobbs encompasses the most enduring conflicts in America: race, class, drugs, community, imprisonment, education, family, friendship, and love.

Still Life With Bread Crumbs

by Anna Quindlen ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)
Quindlen's seventh novel is a detailed exploration of creativity and the need for connection. Rebecca Winter is a 60-year-old photographer, once revered as a feminist icon, whose work isn't selling as briskly as it used to. She needs a fresh start after her marriage falls apart.

The Storyteller

by Jodi Picoult BRENNAS PICK (Fiction)
Picoult examines the links between family identity, religion, humanity, and how it all figures in difficult decisions. Sage Singer, a Jew who now considers herself an atheist, begins to think more deeply about faith after meeting the elderly Josef Weber, who shares something shocking from his past.

Ten Years in the Tub

by Nick Hornby ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)
Culling the best of his monthly column "Stuff I've Been Reading" the bestselling author presents hilarious observations on a vast array of topics, and provides a reader list that serves as a reminder as to why we read.

We Are Water

by Wally Lamb DANI'S PICK (Fiction)
A searching novel of contemporary manners--and long-buried secrets, exploring the secrets of a Connecticut family on the occasion of mother Annie's remarriage to another woman.

What Is Visible

by Kimberly Elkins LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)
In this fictional treatment of the life of Laura Bridgman, the first deaf and blind person to learn language, Elkins aims to show how little one can possess of what we think it means to be human while still possessing full humanity.

Adam

by Ariel Schrag DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)
A funny and poignant debut novel puts a fresh spin on questions of love, attraction, self-definition, and what it takes to be at home in your own skin. When Adam Freedman goes to stay with his older sister in New York City, he is hopeful that his life is about to change. And it sure does. It is the summer of 2006 and gay marriage and transgender rights are in the air.

All the Birds Singing

by Evie Wyld DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)
Jake Whyte is living on her own in an old farmhouse on a craggy British island. Her collie and a flock of sheep are her sole companions. Every few nights something picks off one of the sheep and creates a pulse of terror. Whyte is an outsider, haunted by an inescapable past, in a story of loneliness and survival, guilt and loss, and the power of forgiveness.

Anagrams

by Lorrie Moore LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)
Disillusioned and loveless, an art history professor who spends her spare time singing in nightclubs and tending to her young daughter finds herself pursued by an erratic, would-be librettist. Or does she? This first novel by Moore is clever, funny, and touching. Protagonist Benna and her companions are virtuosos with words, twisting and turning them for pure self-amusement.

The Baker's Daughter

by Sarah McCoy DANI'S PICK (Fiction)
An interview with Elsie, an elderly baker, leaves El Paso journalist Reba Adams feeling like she is the one who revealed too much, especially about her Border Patrol husband. As Elsie, Reba, and Riki's lives become more intertwined, all are forced to confront the uncomfortable truths.

The Boys in the Boat

by Daniel Brown MARILYN'S PICK (Non-Fic 797.123 BRO)
The long, passionate journey of the nine young Americans from the University of Washington rowing team to the 1936 Berlin Olympics. A touching, fairly uncomplicated portrayal of rowing legends.

China Dolls

by Lisa See BRENNAS PICK (Fiction)
Three young women, Grace, Helen, and Ruby, meet and form an unlikely but strong bond in San Francisco in 1938. The novel spans 50 years, following the women's tumultuous personal lives and roller-coaster career choices. Yet the three always find a way back to each other.

The Circle

by Dave Eggers JIN'S PICK (Fiction)
A cautionary, plausible tale of subversive power in the digital age packaged as a Silicon Valley social satire. Set in the near future, it examines the inner workings of the Circle, an internet company that is both spiritual and literal successor to Facebook, Google, Twitter and more, as seen through the eyes of Mae Holland, a new hire.

More Staff Suggestions are found

www.ridgewoodlibrary.org

"Book and Film Corner" *Take a look!*

The Dive From Clausen's Pier

by Ann Packer VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

From short-story author Packer, a reflective and probing first novel about 23 year old Carrie Bell reassessing her life after her fiancé is crippled; a sensitive exploration of the line between selfishness and self-preservation.

The Dog Who Could Fly

by Damien Lewis MARILYN'S PICK (Non-Fic 940.5449 LEW)

During WWII, Czech airman Robert Bozdech and his canine companion Antis, found as a puppy, set out on wartime adventures testing the limits of the bond between man and beast. A heartwarming man-and-his-dog story.

First Impressions

by Charles Lovett LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Sophie Collingwood has recently taken a job at an antiquarian bookshop in London when two different customers request a copy of the same obscure book. Their queries draw Sophie into a mystery that will cast doubt on the true authorship of *Pride and Prejudice*; and ultimately threaten Sophie's life.

Fully Alive

by Timothy Shriver ROBIN'S PICK (Non-Fic 796.087 SHR)

A sincere, profound, and deeply satisfying memoir and history by the chairman of the Special Olympics, and a meditation on what one can learn about how to live from people with disabilities.

The Guns of August

by Barbara Wertheim Tuchman

PEGGY'S PICK (Non-Fic 940.421 TUC)

Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best nonfiction books of all time, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Guns of August* re-creates the first month of World War I: thirty days in the summer of 1914 that determined the course of the conflict, the century, and ultimately our present world.

The House Girl

by Tara Conklin DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Lina Sparrow is an ambitious lawyer working on a historic class-action lawsuit seeking reparations for the descendants of American slaves. Alternating between antebellum Virginia and modern-day NY, this tale of art and history, love and secrets, explores what it means to repair a wrong.

In the Woods

by Tara French DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

The discovery of a body forces a murder-squad detective in Ireland to confront his own horrific past, in an engrossing debut. This mystery, heavy on psycho-drama, is set in the Dublin suburb of Knocknaree and is the first in a sequence to feature detectives Cassie Maddox and Adam Ryan.

The Invention of Wings

by Sue Monk Kidd DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Kidd hits her stride and avoids sentimental revisionism with this historical novel about the relationship between a slave and the daughter of slave owners in antebellum Charleston.

Juliet's Nurse

by Lois Leveen PEGGY'S PICK (Fiction)

A lusty retelling of Romeo and Juliet from the nurse's perspective. With the largest number of lines in Shakespeare's play after the two lovers, wet nurse Angelica takes center stage in Leveen's second novel, which begins 14 years before the fateful five days spanned by the drama. Angelica's tale is one of poverty and sorrow tempered by a long and happy marriage.

The Lady in Gold

by Anne Marie O'Connor PAT'S PICK (Non-Fic 709)

The story of Gustav Klimt's portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer, one of the most emblematic portraits of its time; the beautiful, Viennese Jewish salon hostess who sat for it; the notorious artist who painted it; the now vanished turn-of-the-century Vienna that shaped it; and the strange twisted fate that befell it.

Leaving Before the Rains Come

by Alexandra Fuller ROBERTA'S PICK (Biography FULLER)

Fuller resumes her memories of growing up in Africa in this wry and captivating memoir. This time, the focus is on the slow unraveling of her marriage to a man she thought would save her from her family's madness and chaos. Except for her father's insistence that his children bathe and dress formally for dinner, a gesture toward discipline that emerged nowhere else, Fuller's childhood was as wild as the Zambian landscape.

Little Failure

by Gary Shteyngart ANNALISE'S PICK (Biography SHT)

Novelist Shteyngart looks back at his life in this funny, brash, immigrant's memoir. Born in Leningrad, in 1972, the only child of a kindergarten piano teacher and a mechanical engineer, Shteyngart was a small, anxious, severely asthmatic boy subjected to downright medieval treatments for his ailment.

The Lobster Kings

by Alezi Zentner ANNALISE'S PICK (Fiction)

Set in a lobster fishing village, *The Lobster Kings* introduces a fiery and unforgettable heroine, Cordelia Kings. The Kings family has lived on Loosewood Island for three hundred years, blessed with the bounty of the sea. But for the Kings, this blessing comes with a curse: the loss of every firstborn son.

My Life in France

By Julia Child VICTORIA'S PICK (Biography CHILD)

In her own words, here is the captivating story of Julia Child's years in France, where she fell in love with French food and found "her true calling."

My Year of Meats

by Ruth Ozeki KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Ozeki brings the worlds of two women together by utilizing the U.S. meat industry as a link. Alternating between the voices of Jane (in the US) and Akiko, the wife of Jane's boss (in Japan), Ozeki draws parallels in the lives of these two women through beef, love, television, and their desire to have children.

The Nature of Water and Air

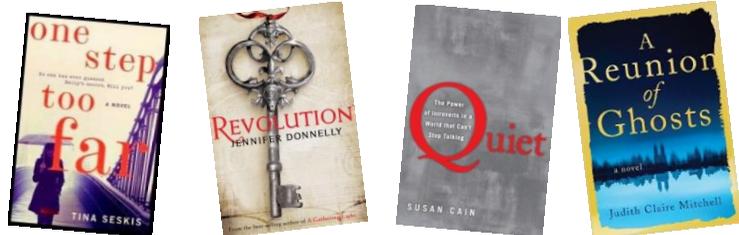
by Regina McBride KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)

This debut novel, set on the wild Irish coast, is the story of young Clodagh and her mysterious mother, Agatha, who was raised a gypsy but who was rumored to be a selkie, a mythical creature from the sea. The novel is lyrical and sad, infused with fascinating folklore and the chill of the Irish landscape.

Nora Webster

by Colm Toibin DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

From one of contemporary literature's bestselling, critically acclaimed and beloved authors, a magnificent new novel set in Ireland, about a fiercely compelling young widow and mother of four, navigating grief and fear, struggling for hope. Toibin's absorbing narrative follows Nora's rebuilding, restoration, and reaffirmation to the point where she can create a new life. A remarkably heart-affecting story.



Me & Earl & the Dying Girl

by **Jesse Andrews** KERRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Seventeen-year-old Greg has managed to become part of every social group at his Pittsburgh high school without having any friends, but his life changes when his mother forces him to befriend Rachel, a girl he once knew in Hebrew school who has leukemia.

One Step Too Far

by **Tina Seskis** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

A woman leaves her happy family and home to reinvent herself as a completely different person, with no trace of her former self, working in a hip London ad agency, until a shocking revelation makes her face what she has done. An evocative, skillful novel about the price of escape.

Quiet: the power of introverts in a world that just can't stop talking

by **Susan Cain** PAT'S PICK (Non-Fic 155.232 CAI)

It's hard to believe, in this world of social media and reality TV, that one-third to one-half of Americans are introverts. Cain demonstrates how introverted people are misunderstood and undervalued in modern culture and champions introvert talents in education, the workplace, and personal relationships. An intriguing and potentially life-altering examination of the human psyche that is sure to benefit both introverts and extroverts alike.

A Reunion of Ghosts

by **Judith Claire Mitchell** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

Three middle-aged sisters collaborating on a memoir that's meant to double as their suicide note may not sound like a hilarious premise for a novel, but Mitchell's family saga is as funny as it is aching. Inspired in part by the troubled life of Fritz Haber, Nobel Prize winner and inventor of mustard gas, the three tell the story of a family haunted by suicide ever since the sisters' great-grandfather developed the lethal agent used in the Third Reich's gas chambers.

Revolution

by **Jennifer Donnelly** BRENNNA'S PICK (Fiction)

An angry, grieving seventeen-year-old musician facing expulsion from her prestigious Brooklyn private school travels to Paris to complete a school assignment and uncovers a diary written during the French revolution by a young actress attempting to help a tortured, imprisoned little boy--Louis Charles, the lost king of France.

Station Eleven

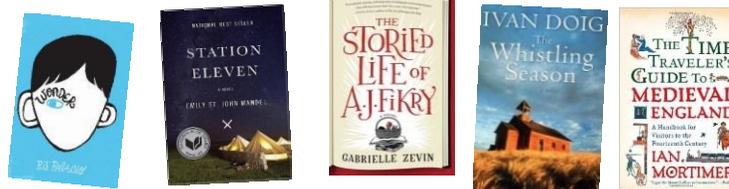
by **Emily St. John Mandel** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

One snowy night a famous Hollywood actor slumps over and dies onstage during a production of King Lear. Hours later, the world as we know it begins to dissolve. An audacious, darkly glittering novel sometimes terrifying, sometimes tender, about art, fame, and ambition set in the eerie days of civilization's collapse.

The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry

by **Gabrielle Zevin** PAT'S PICK (Fiction)

In this sweet, uplifting homage to bookstores, Zevin captures the joy of connecting people and books. Fikry, the cantankerous owner of Island Books, is despondent after losing his wife and the ever-declining number of sales at his small, quirky bookstore. Then one day A.J. discovers in his store a child abandoned by her mother, and his life takes a surprising turn.



The Time Traveler's Guide to Medieval England

by **Ian Mortimer** CLAIRE'S PICK (Non-Fic 942.03 MOR)

Mortimer has done copious, impeccable research into the appearance and texture of the High Middle Ages, and, assuming that the time-traveling reader has arrived in fourteenth-century England on an extended visit from the modern world, he serves as tour guide, offering an amazingly detailed social history of life in city, town, village, and countryside.

The Whistling Season

by **Ivan Doig** VICTORIA'S PICK (Fiction)

Paul Milliron is on the verge of announcing the closure of Montana's one-room schools, seen as hopelessly out of date. The narrative takes us back to Paul's pivotal seventh-grade year, 1910, when he was a student in one of those one-room schools. Intriguing and unpredictable characters come together in surprising ways in this affectionate, heartwarming tale.

Wonder

by **R.J. Palacio** BRITTIN'S PICK (Fiction)

10-year-old August is a homeschooled boy who is about to take the plunge into a private middle school. Even 27 operations later, Auggie's face has what doctors call anomalies. *Wonder* is a rare story with the power to open eyes-and hearts-to what it's like to be singled out for a difference you can't control.

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STAFF PICKS

Summer 2015

Almost Famous Women

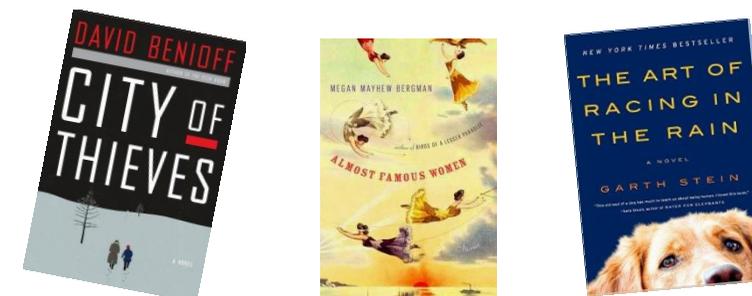
by **Megan Mayhew Bergman** LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

A marvelous collection of stories about remarkable people whose lives were reduced to mere footnotes. While the stories themselves are fictitious, the characters are not. We meet a member of the first all-female integrated swing band and Allegra, Lord Byron's illegitimate daughter. We also meet a cigar-smoking speedboat racer who calls herself Joe, Oscar Wilde's disturbed niece Dolly, and Norma, the sister of Edna St. Vincent Millay, to name but a few.

The Art of Racing in the Rain

by **Garth Stein** LOIS' PICK (Fiction)

Nearing the end of his life, Enzo, a dog with a philosopher's soul, tries to bring together the family, pulled apart by a three year custody battle between daughter Zoe's maternal grandparents and her father Denny, a race car driver.



City of Thieves

by **David Benioff** DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

Looking for the feel-good World War II book of the year? This tale of two miscreants in Soviet Leningrad might be the one, as Lev and Kolya attempt to locate a dozen eggs for a stern Soviet colonel who needs them for his daughter's wedding cakes. Delivering the eggs will release them from their death sentences, as Lev was caught looting the body of a downed German paratrooper and Kolya deserted his unit to visit girlfriends. Deftly sly humor and respect for the agony of warfare elevate this boys-to-men story.

The Day of Atonement

by David Liss LOIS' PICK (Fiction)

Historical fiction buffs will enjoy an action-packed adventure in an unusual setting: 1755, the Portuguese Inquisition. Sebastian Foxx, a converso (a Jew who converted to Christianity), escaped the Inquisition by leaving Lisbon for London when he was 13 years old. The rest of his family, and many of their friends, died while in the hands of the Inquisitors. In London, Sebastian reverts to Judaism and is now ready to seek revenge on those responsible for the death of his family.

The Dud Avocado

by Elaine Dundy CLAIRE'S PICK (Fiction)

The Dud Avocado follows the romantic and comedic adventures of a young American who heads overseas to conquer Paris in the late 1950s. Edith Wharton and Henry James wrote about the American girl abroad, but it was Dundy's Sally Jay Gorce who told us what she was really thinking. Charming, sexy, and hilarious.

The First Bad Man

by Miranda July LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

In a bizarrely touching first novel, July brings the characteristic humor and emotional ruthlessness of her previous work to a larger canvas. Cheryl Glickman lives a lonely, arranged life afflicted by mysterious neuroses, including the persistent sensation of a lump in her throat. She obsesses over Phillip Bettelheim, a board member of the nonprofit where she works, and the belief that she keeps meeting a familiar soul embodied in the babies of strangers. This well-written, compelling novel will delight the open-minded reader looking for something new.

Foundling Boy

by Michel Deon DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

The boy, named Jean by the couple who takes him in, grows up in a simple but honest home in Normandy and develops a set of values that will lend him stability when he leaves home on some eventful journeys between the two world wars. In 1936, at age 17, he travels to Italy, meeting en route a friendly Hitler Youth, a fascist Italian truck driver, a beguiling fraudster and a voracious female restaurateur. Other trips are similar voyages of discovery encompassing friendship, culture, and morality. Brightly descriptive, Deon's spry, bittersweet ramble invites nostalgia for a lost era. A sequel will follow.

God Help the Child

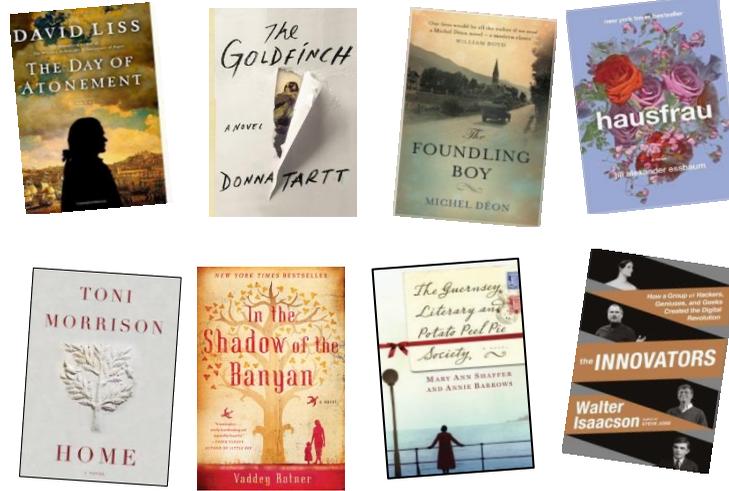
by Toni Morrison ROBERTA'S PICK (Fiction)

In this short, emotionally-wrenching novel, a mother learns about the damage adults do to children and the choices children make as they grow to suppress or overcome their shame. Sweetness, who is from a family whose members can pass for white, gives birth to the midnight-black Lula Ann and raises her at an ashamed and bitter distance. As an adult who renames herself Bride, Lula Ann becomes a successful, beautiful career woman until her life starts falling apart.

The Goldfinch

by Donna Tartt LOIS' PICK (Fiction)

The story begins with an explosion at the Metropolitan Museum that kills Theo Decker's mother and results in his unlikely possession of a Dutch masterwork, "The Goldfinch." Shootouts, gangsters, and the black market for art all play parts in the ensuing life of the painting in Theo's care. Theo is stricken with grief and post-traumatic stress syndrome and seeks sanctuary with a troubled Park Avenue family and, in Greenwich Village, with a kind and gifted restorer of antique furniture. Fate then delivers Theo to utterly alien Las Vegas, where he meets a young outlaw, Boris.



The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society

by Mary Ann Shaffer SARAH'S PICK (Fiction)

The German occupation of the Channel Islands is recalled in letters between a London reporter and an eccentric gaggle of Guernsey islanders. This debut by an "aunt-niece" authorial team presents itself as cozy fiction about comfortably quirky people in a bucolic setting, but it quickly evinces far more serious, and ambitious, intent. The engrossing subject matter and lively writing make this a sure winner.

Hausfrau

by Jill Alexander Essbaum DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Anna Benz, an American woman in her thirties, lives in comfort and affluence with her Swiss banker husband and their three children in a suburb of Zurich. Despite the tranquility and order of her domestic existence, Anna is falling apart inside. Anna begins three adventures to restart her life: Jungian analysis, German language classes, and a series of extramarital affairs. *Hausfrau* is a daring novel about marriage, fidelity, morality, and most especially, self.

Home

by Toni Morrison DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

The Korean conflict is over, and soldier Frank Money has returned to the States with a disturbed psyche. From the mental ward in which he has been incarcerated he determines that he must escape. He needs to get to Atlanta to attend to his gravely ill sister and take her back to their Georgia hometown of Lotus. Morrison shows how a damaged man can gather the fortitude to clear his mind of war's horror and face his own part in that horror and take responsibility for his own life as well as someone else's.

In a Lonely Place

by Dorothy B. Hughes DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Postwar Los Angeles is a lonely place where the American Dream is showing its seamy underside--and a stranger is preying on young women. Dix Steele is the LAPD's top suspect. Dix knows enough to watch his step, but when he meets the luscious Laurel Gray--a femme fatale with brains--something begins to crack. A superb novel by one of noir fiction's finest.

In the Shadow of the Banyan

by Vadey Ratner DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

Ratner's first novel recounts the harrowing experiences of Raami, the seven-year-old daughter of a prince, during the rise of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia and her family's capture and internment in work camps. What makes her novel especially remarkable is that it's based on Ratner's real experiences as a young girl of the Cambodian aristocracy under the Khmer Rouge. Her heartrending tale depicts the senselessness of the violence there while still managing to capture small, beautiful moments.

Information Doesn't Want to Be Free

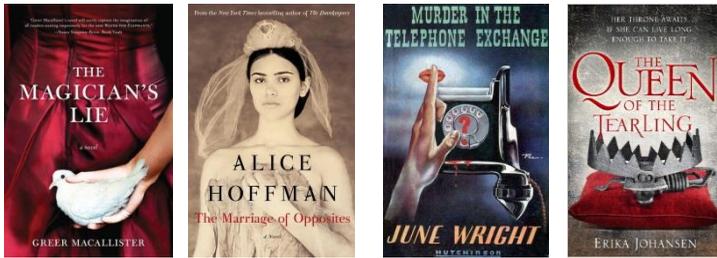
by Cory Doctorow DEBORAH'S PICK (Non-Fic 346.73 DOC)

The Internet has cluttered the debate over intellectual property with technical terms and special interests, but Doctorow breaks down some of the most fundamental concepts at work into plain language. The book is organized around Doctorow's Three Laws, which consider digital rights management, piracy versus obscurity, and the way copyright ought to work. Equal parts manifesto and field guide, Doctorow's primer for artists and creators delivers a healthy dose of clarity to the debate.

The Innovators: how a group of inventors, hackers, geniuses, and geeks created the digital revolution

by Walter Isaacson ROBIN'S PICK (Non-Fic 338.7 ISA)

In 1843, Ada Lovelace, the daughter of Lord Byron, wrote in a letter to Charles Babbage that mathematical calculating machines would one day become general-purpose devices that link the operations of matter and the abstract mental processes, correctly predicting the rise of modern computers. Thus begins a remarkable overview of the history of computers in a very accessible manner that often reads like a thriller.



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

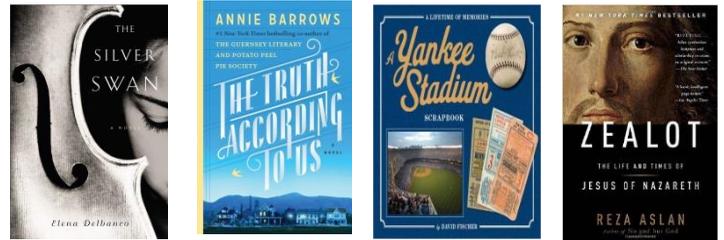
by Elena Delbanco LORRI'S PICK (Fiction)

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."

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"Book and Media" tab Staff Picks *Take a look!***



The Assistant

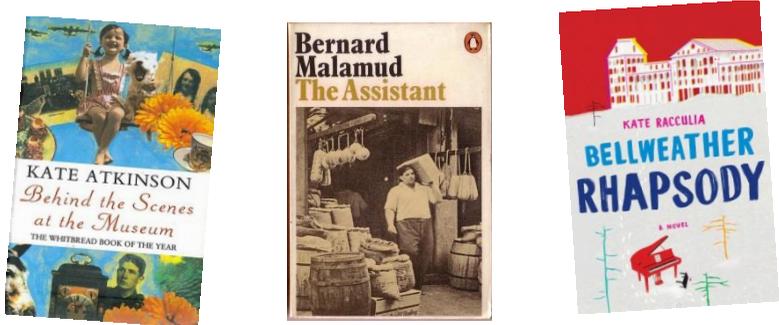
by Bernard Malamud DEBORAH'S PICK (Fiction)

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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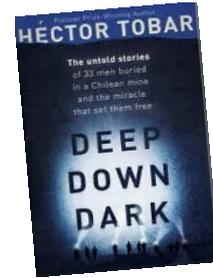
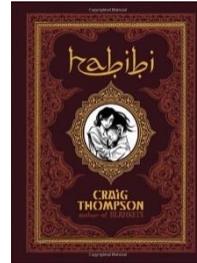
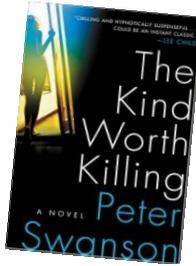
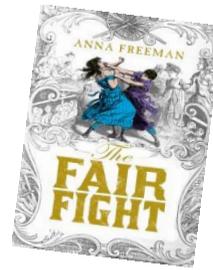
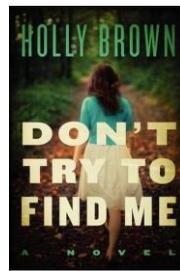
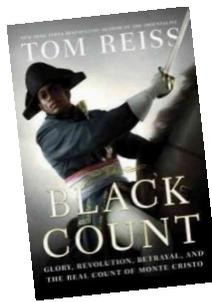
by Renee Knight DANI'S PICK (Fiction)

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.