

## Summer Reading 2017

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### Books are from 2016 – 2017 school year

**\*\*prior to 2016-2017 school year**

#### Action and Adventure

No Man's Land (F Baldacci) - Special Agent John Puller, one of the US army's most tenacious investigators, is tasked with examining his mother's disappearance, which occurred over 30 years ago.

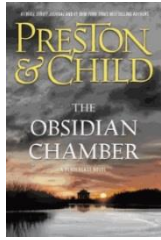
The Colony (F Berry) - What happens if both the president and vice-president-elect die before taking the oath of office? The answer is far from certain. Ex-Justice Department agent Cotton Malone is in a race against the clock that starts in the frozen extremes of Russia and ultimately ends at the White House"

Babylon's Ashes (F Corey) - The Free Navy, a violent group of Belters in black-market military ships, has crippled the Earth and begun a campaign of piracy and violence among the outer planets. The colony ships heading for the thousand new worlds on the far side of the alien ring gates are easy prey, and no single navy remains strong enough to protect them. James Holden and his crew know the strengths and weaknesses of this new force better than anyone. Outnumbered and outgunned, the embattled remnants of the old political powers call on the Rocinante for a desperate mission to reach Medina Station at the heart of the gate network. But the new alliances are as flawed as the old, and the struggle for power has only just begun. As the chaos grows, an alien mystery deepens. Pirate fleets, mutiny, and betrayal may be the least of the Rocinante's problems. And in the uncanny spaces past the ring gates, the choices of a few damaged and desperate people may determine the fate of more than just humanity"



Sweet Lamb of Heaven (F Millet) - the first-person account of a young mother, Anna, escaping her cold and unfaithful husband, a businessman who's just launched his first campaign for political office. When Ned chases Anna and their six-year-old daughter from Alaska to Maine, the two go into hiding in a run-down motel on the coast. But the longer they stay, the less the guests in the dingy motel look like typical tourists—and the less Ned resembles a typical candidate. As his pursuit of Anna and their child moves from threatening to criminal, Ned begins to alter his wife's world in ways she never could have imagined.

A double-edged and satisfying story with a strong female protagonist, a thrilling plot, and a creeping sense of the apocalyptic

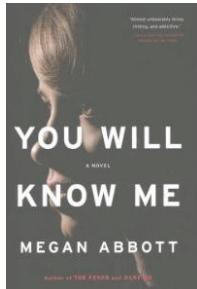


The Obsidian Chamber (F Preston) - After a harrowing, otherworldly confrontation on the shores of Exmouth, Massachusetts, Special Agent A.X.L. Pendergast is missing, presumed dead. Sick with grief, his ward, Constance, retreats to her chambers beneath the family mansion at 891 Riverside Drive - only to be taken captive by a shadowy figure from the past. Proctor, Pendergast's longtime bodyguard, springs to action, chasing Constance's kidnapper through cities, across oceans, and into wastelands unknown"

Take home the older Pendergast thr

Beyond the Ice Limit (F Preston) - Five years ago, the mysterious and inscrutable head of Effective Engineering Solutions, Eli Glinn, led a mission to recover a gigantic meteorite--the largest ever discovered--from a remote island off the coast of South America. The mission ended in disaster when their ship, the Rolvaag, foundered in a vicious storm in the Antarctic waters and broke apart. But this was not all. The tragedy revealed something truly terrifying: the meteorite they tried to retrieve was not, in fact, simply a rock. Instead, it was a complex organism from the deep reaches of space. Now, that organism has implanted itself in the sea bed two miles below the surface--and it is growing. If it is not destroyed, the planet will be doomed.

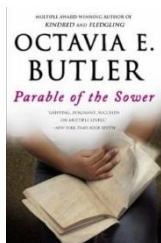
## New Fiction 2016-2017 School Year



You Will Know Me (F Abbott) - "How far will you go to achieve a dream? That's the question a celebrated coach poses to Katie and Eric Knox after he sees their daughter Devon, a gymnastics prodigy and Olympic hopeful, compete. For the Knoxes there are no limits--until a violent death rocks their close-knit gymnastics community and everything they have worked so hard for is suddenly at risk. As rumors swirl among the other parents, Katie tries frantically to hold her family together while also finding herself irresistibly drawn to the crime itself. What she uncovers--about her daughter's fears, her

own marriage, and herself--forces Katie to consider whether there's any price she isn't willing to pay to achieve Devon's dream"-

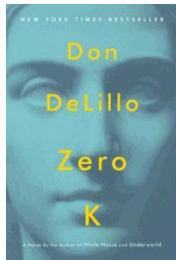
Alice & Oliver (F Brooks) - unflinching yet deeply humane portrait of a young family's journey through a medical crisis, laying bare a couple's love and fears as they fight for everything that's important to them.



\*\*Parable of the Sower (F Butler) - When unattended environmental and economic crises lead to social chaos, not even gated communities are safe. In a night of fire and death Lauren Olamina, a minister's young daughter, loses her family and home and ventures out into the unprotected American landscape. But what begins as a flight for survival soon leads to something much more: a startling vision of human destiny... and the birth of a new faith.

Moonglow: A Novel (F Chabon) - From the Jewish slums of prewar South Philadelphia to the invasion of Germany, from a Florida retirement village to the penal utopia of New York's Wallkill prison, from the heyday of the space program to the twilight of the "American Century," the novel revisits an entire era through a single life and collapses a lifetime into a single week. A lie that tells the truth, a work of fictional nonfiction, an autobiography wrapped in a novel disguised as a memoir, Moonglow is Chabon at his most moving and inventive.

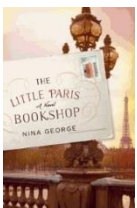
The Huntress of Thornbeck Forest: a Medieval Tale (F Dickerson) - "'Swan Lake" meets "Robin Hood" when the beautiful daughter of a wealthy merchant by day becomes the region's most notorious poacher by night, and falls in love with the forester.



Zero K (F Delillo) - Jeffrey Lockhart's father, Ross, is a billionaire in his sixties, with a younger wife, Artis Martineau, whose health is failing. Ross is the primary investor in a remote and secret compound where death is exquisitely controlled and bodies are preserved until a future time when biomedical advances and new technologies can return them to a life of transcendent promise. Jeff joins Ross and Artis at the compound to say 'an uncertain farewell' to her as she surrenders her body.

The After Party (F DiSclafami) - Joan Fortier is the epitome of Texas glamour and the center of the 1950s Houston social scene. Tall, blonde, beautiful, and strong, she dominates the room and the gossip columns. Every man wants her; every woman wants to be her. Devoted to Joan since childhood, Cece Buchanan is either her chaperone or her partner in crime, depending on whom you ask. But when Joan's radical behavior escalates the summer they are twenty-five, Cece considers it her responsibility to bring her back to the fold, ultimately forcing one provocative choice to appear the only one there is.

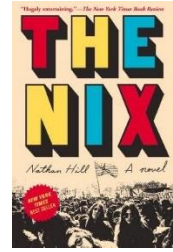
LaRose (Erdrick) - When recovered alcoholic Landreaux Irons accidentally shoots his neighbors five-year-old son, he seeks the advice of an Ojibwe tribe and then offers his own son LaRose in atonement.



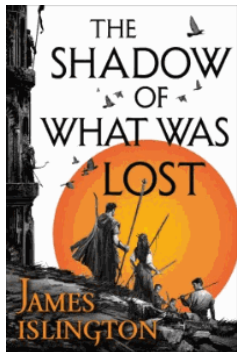
\*\* The Little Paris Bookshop (F George) - "Monsieur Perdu calls himself a literary apothecary. From his floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine, he prescribes novels for the hardships of life. Using his intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs, Perdu mends broken hearts and souls. The only person he can't seem to heal through literature is himself; he's still haunted by heartbreak after his great love disappeared. She left him with only a letter, which he has never opened"

Before the Fall (F Hawley) - Scott Burroughs, the only survivor of a plane crash on Martha's Vineyard, must cope with the aftermath as authorities scramble to salvage the truth from the wreckage.

The Nix (F Hill) - It's 2011, and Samuel Andresen-Anderson--college professor, stalled writer--has a Nix of his own: his mother, Faye. He hasn't seen her in decades, not since she abandoned the family when he was a boy. Now she's re-appeared, having committed an absurd crime that electrifies the nightly news, beguiles the internet, and inflames a politically divided country. The media paints Faye as a radical hippie with a sordid past, but as far as Samuel knows, his mother was an ordinary girl who married her high-school sweetheart. Which version of his mother is true? Two facts are certain: she's facing some serious charges, and she needs Samuel's help.



The Book that Matters (F Hood) - Ava's twenty-five-year marriage has fallen apart, and her two grown children are pursuing their own lives outside of the country. Ava joins a book group, not only for her love of reading but also out of sheer desperation for companionship. The group's goal throughout the year is for each member to present the book that matters most to them. Ava rediscovers a mysterious book from her childhood--one that helped her through the traumas of the untimely deaths of her sister and mother. Alternating with Ava's story is that of her troubled daughter Maggie, who, living in Paris, descends into a destructive relationship with an older man. Ava's mission to find that book and its enigmatic author takes her on a quest that unravels the secrets of her past and offers her and Maggie the chance to remake their lives.



The Shadow of What Was Lost (F Islington) -It has been twenty years since the god-like Augurs were overthrown and killed. Now, those who once served them - the Gifted - are spared only because they have accepted the rebellion's Four Tenets, vastly limiting their own powers. As a young Gifted, Davian suffers the consequences of a war lost before he was even born. He and his friends are despised beyond their school walls for the magical power they wield: a power that Davian, despite his best efforts, cannot seem to control. Worse, with his final test approaching and the consequences of failure severe, time to overcome his struggles is fast running out. But when Davian discovers he wields the forbidden power of the Augurs, he

unwittingly sets in motion a chain of events that will change his life"

Cruel Beautiful World (F Leavitt) - Set in the early 1970s amid the specter of the Manson girls, when the peace and love movement begins to turn ugly, this is the story of a runaway teenager's disappearance and her sister's quest to discover the truth.

This is a page turner

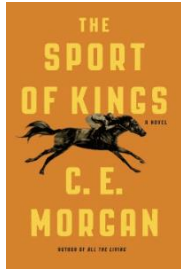


All Our Wrong Todays (F Matsai) - It's 2016 and in Tom Barren's world, technology has solved all of humanity's problems--there's no war, no poverty, no under-ripe avocados. Unfortunately, Tom isn't happy. He's lost the girl of his dreams. And what do you do when you're heartbroken and have a time machine? Something stupid. Finding himself stranded in a terrible alternate reality--which we immediately recognize as our 2016--Tom is desperate to fix his mistake and go home. Right up until the moment he discovers wonderfully unexpected versions of his family, his career, and the woman who may just be the love of his life. Now Tom faces an impossible choice. Go back to his perfect but loveless life. Or stay in our messy reality with a

soulmate by his side. Filled with humor and heart and packed with insight, intelligence, and mind-bending invention,

A powerful and moving story of life, loss, and love.

Behold the Dreamers (F Mbue) - A Cameroonian immigrant arrives in Harlem hoping for a better life for his family, but when the economy collapses, their marriage begins to fall apart and all four members' lives are dramatically upended.



The Sport of Kings (F Morgan) - Hellsmouth, a willful thoroughbred filly with the blood of Triple Crown winners flowing through her veins, has the legacy of the Forges riding on her. One of the oldest and proudest families in Kentucky, the Forge family is as mythic as the history of the South itself. Descended from one of the first settlers to brave the Gap, Henry Forge, through an act of naked ambition, is attempting to blaze a new path, breeding horses on the family's crop farm. His daughter, Henrietta, becomes his partner in the endeavor, although she has desires of her own. Their conflict escalates when Allmon Shaughnessy, a black man fresh from prison, comes to work in the stables, and the ugliness of the farm's past and the exigencies of appetite become evident. Together, the three stubbornly try to create a new future through sheer will--one that isn't written in their very fabric--while they mold Hellsmouth into a champion.

Truly Madly Guilty (F Moriarty) - couple finds themselves entangled in each other's oldest friends, and their lives are changed forever by this complicated entanglement.

The Assistant (F Perri) - Tina Fontana is a thirty-year-old executive assistant to Robert Barlow, the CEO of Titan Corp., a multinational media conglomerate. She's excellent at her job and beloved by her famous boss--but after six years of making reservations and pouring drinks from bottles that cost more than her rent, the glamour of working for a media company in New York has completely faded, but her student loan debt has not. When a technical error with Robert's expense report presents Tina with the opportunity to pay off the entire balance of her loans with what would essentially be pocket change for her boss, she hesitates. She's always played by the rules, but this would be a life-changer. As Tina begins to fall down the rabbit hole of her morally questionable plan, other assistants with crushing debt and fewer scruples approach her to say that they want in. Before she knows it, she's at the forefront of a movement that has implications far beyond what anyone anticipated.

Grief is the Thing with Feathers (Porter) - In a London apartment, two young boys grieve their mother's sudden death. Their scholarly father, a scruffy romantic, envisions a future of well-meaning visitors and loneliness. During this time of despair they encounter Crow who antagonizes them, tricks them, heals them, and watches over them. The sentimental bird draws nearer to the grieving family and threatens to stay until they no longer need him. As weeks turn to months and their pain eventually lessens, the family finally begins to heal.



Today Will Be Different (F Semple) - "Eleanor knows she's a mess. But today, she will tackle the little things. She will shower and get dressed. She will have her poetry and yoga lessons after dropping off her son, Timby. She won't swear. She will initiate sex with her husband, Joe"

If you liked Bernadette,

Your Heart is a Muscle as Big as Your Fist (F Yapa) - Follows seven different people, including a marijuana dealer and his estranged police chief father, who have their lives altered one afternoon in Seattle during the WTO protests that tried to shut the city down in 1999

The Orphan Keeper (F Wright) - Seven-year-old Chellamuthu's life--and his destiny--is forever changed when he is kidnapped from his village in Southern India and sold to the Lincoln Home for Homeless Children. His family is desperate to find him, and Chellamuthu anxiously tells the Indian orphanage that he is not an orphan, he has a mother who loves him. But he is told not to worry, he will soon be adopted by a loving family in America. Chellamuthu is suddenly surrounded by a foreign land and a foreign language. He can't tell people that he already has a family and becomes consumed by a single, impossible question: How do I get home? But after more than a decade, home becomes a much more complicated idea as the Indian boy eventually sheds his past and receives a new name: Taj Khyber Rowland. It isn't until Taj meets an Indian family who helps him rediscover his roots, as well as marrying Priya, his wife, who helps him unveil the secrets of his past, that he begins to discover the truth he has all but forgotten

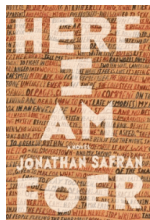
## **It's All About Families, Dysfunction, and Love**

New 2016-2017 School Year

Sons and Daughters of Ease and Plenty (F Ausubel) - An upperclass family summering on Martha's Vineyard come to grips with their reversal of fortune, and are forced to make decisions that impact future generations.

Happy Family (F Barone) -

Cheri Matzner, a fiercely independent woman, is forced to come to terms with the family that raised her, the one that gave her up, and the one she so desperately wants



Here I Am (F Foer) - In Washington, D.C., after an earthquake in the Middle East which sets in motion a quickly escalating conflict, Jacob and Julia Bloch and their three sons are forced to look at the distances between the lives they think they want and the lives they are living.

We Could be Beautiful (F Huntley) - "Feeling empty in spite of the wealth that affords her a luxurious Manhattan apartment, designer accessories, and fine art, Catherine West pursues a relationship with the son of a family friend who her Alzheimer's patient mother only remembers negatively

Hot Milk (F Levy) - "Sofia, a young anthropologist, has spent much of her life trying to solve the mystery of her mother's unexplainable illness. She is frustrated with Rose and her constant complaints, but utterly relieved to be called to abandon her own disappointing fledgling adult life. She and her mother travel to the searing, arid coast of southern Spain to see a famous consultant--their very last chance--in the hope that he might cure her unpredictable limb paralysis"

This Must Be the Place (O'Farrell) - . Daniel Sullivan, a young American professor reeling from a failed marriage and a brutal custody battle, is on holiday in Ireland when he falls in love with Claudette, a world famous sexual icon and actress who fled fame for a reclusive life in a rural village. Together, they make an idyllic life in the country, raising two more children in blissful seclusion until a secret from Daniel's past threatens to destroy their meticulously constructed and fiercely protected home. What follows is a journey through Daniel's many lives told in his voice and the voices of those who have made him the man he is: the American son and daughter he has not seen for many years; the family he has made with Claudette; and irrepressible, irreverent Claudette herself"

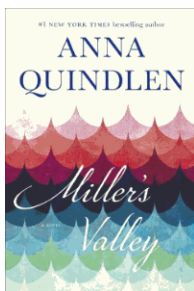
The Best of Us (F Pekkanen) - Four old college friends look forward to enjoying a week of escape at a luxury villa in Jamaica, but as a powerful hurricane bears down on the island, each of the women reevaluates her life.



The Children's Crusade (F Packer) - A portrait of a California family spanning several decades that examines the way a troubled marriage sets the course of family life and encourages adult children to grapple with the past even as they attempt to create successful families--and lives--of their own

Commonwealth (F Patchett) - One Sunday afternoon in Southern California, Bert Cousins shows up at Franny Keating's christening party uninvited. Before evening falls, he has kissed Franny's mother, Beverly—thus setting in motion the dissolution of their marriages and the joining of two families. Spanning five decades, Commonwealth explores how this chance encounter reverberates through the lives of the four parents and six children involved. Spending summers together in Virginia, the Keating and Cousins children forge a lasting bond that is based on a shared disillusionment with their parents and the strange and genuine affection that grows up between them.

Told with equal parts of humor and heartbreak



Miller's Valley (F Quindlen) - For generations the Millers have lived in Miller's Valley. Mimi Miller tells about her life with intimacy and honesty. As Mimi eavesdrops on her parents and quietly observes the people around her, she discovers more and more about the toxicity of family secrets, the dangers of gossip, the flaws of marriage, the inequalities of friendship and the risks of passion, loyalty, and love. Home, as Mimi begins to realize, can be 'a place where it's just as easy to feel lost as it is to feel content

Nora Webster (F Toibin) - Widowed at forty, with four children and not enough money, Nora has lost the love of her life, Maurice, the man who rescued her from the stifling world to which she was born. And now she fears she may be drawn back into it. Wounded, strong-willed, clinging to secrecy in a tiny community where everyone knows your business, Nora is drowning in her own sorrow and blind to the suffering of her young sons, who have lost their father. Yet she has moments of stunning empathy and kindness, and when she begins to sing again, after decades she finds solace, engagement, a haven, herself."



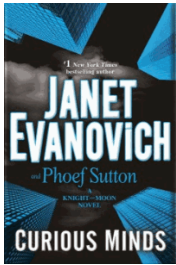
### **New Mysteries and Thrillers 2016-2017 School Year**

\*\* The Last Mile (F Baldacci) - Melvin Mars awaits his fate on Death Row. He was one of America's most promising football stars until, aged twenty years old, he was arrested and convicted for the murder of his parents just as he was due to begin a very lucrative contract with the NFL. When Amos Decker, newly appointed special agent with the FBI, hears the news that Melvin was saved in the final seconds before his execution because someone has confessed to the killings, he persuades his boss to allow him to carry out an investigation into the Mars murders."--Provided by publisher.

Tricky Twenty-Two (F Evanovich) - Something big is brewing in Trenton, N.J., and it could blow at any minute. Stephanie Plum might not be the world's greatest bounty hunter, but she knows when she's being played. Ken Globovic (aka Gobbles), hailed as the Supreme Exalted Zookeeper of the animal house known as Zeta fraternity, has been arrested for beating up the dean of students at Kiltman College. Gobbles has missed his court date and gone into hiding. ... Stephanie can't shake the feeling that something funny is going on at the college--and it's not just Zeta fraternity pranks. As much as people love Gobbles, they hate Doug Linken. When Linken is gunned down in his backyard it's good riddance, and the list of possible murder suspects is long. The only people who care about finding Linken's killer are Trenton cop Joe Morelli, who has been assigned the case, security expert Ranger, who was hired to protect Linken, and Stephanie, who has her eye on a cash prize and hopefully has some tricks up her sleeve

Turbo Twenty-Three (F Evanovich) - In the heart of Trenton, N.J., a killer is out to make sure someone gets his just desserts. Larry Virgil skipped out on his latest court date after he was arrested for hijacking an eighteen-wheeler full of premium bourbon. Fortunately for bounty hunter Stephanie Plum, Larry is just stupid enough to attempt almost the exact same crime again. Only this time he flees the scene, leaving behind a freezer truck loaded with Bogart ice cream and a dead body--frozen solid and covered in chocolate and chopped pecans. As fate would have it, Stephanie's mentor and occasional employer, Ranger, needs her to go undercover at the Bogart factory to find out who's putting their employees on ice and sabotaging the business. It's going to be hard for Stephanie to keep her hands off all that ice cream, and even harder for her to keep her hands off Ranger. ... Stephanie Plum has a lot on her plate, but for a girl who claims to have "virtually no marketable skills," these are the kinds of sweet assignments she does best



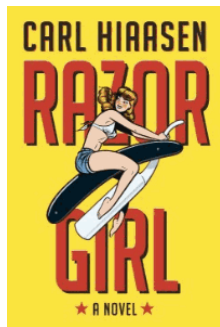


Curious Minds (F Evanovich) - Riley Moon is a junior analyst at a mega-bank, when she uncovers what looks like an embezzlement scheme that could lead straight to the top. With his gold gone missing and analysts disappearing, famously eccentric Emerson Knight, the bank's biggest client, decides to take on his own investigation. With Emerson's laserlike focus and ability to see clues no one else sees, and Riley's financial-whiz mind and street savvy, this unlikely pair will uncover one of the biggest crimes of the century.

Good as Gone (F Gentry) - Thirteen-year-old Julie Whitaker was kidnapped from her bedroom in the middle of the night, witnessed only by her younger sister. Her family was shattered, but managed to stick together, hoping against hope that Julie is still alive. And then one night: the doorbell rings. A young woman who appears to be Julie is finally, miraculously, home safe. The family is ecstatic--but Anna, Julie's mother, has whispers of doubts.

The Whistler (F Grisham) - Lacy Stoltz, an investigator for the Florida Board on Judicial Conduct, investigates a crooked judge who is getting paid by the Coast Mafia to look the other way on their involvement with a casino on Native American land

Razor Girl (F Hiaasen) - When Lane Coolman's car is bashed from behind on the road to the Florida



Keys, what appears to be an innocent accident is anything but (this is Hiaasen!). Behind the wheel of the offending car is Merry Mansfield--the eponymous Razor Girl--so named for her unique, astonishing addition to what might be an otherwise unexciting scam. There's the owner of Sedimental Journey--the company that steals sand from one beach to restore erosion on another...Dominick "Big Noogie" Aeola, the NYC mafia capo with a taste for the pinkest of sands...Zeto, the small-time hustler who gets electrocuted trying to charge a Tesla...Nance Buck, native Wisconsinite who's nonetheless the star of the red neck reality TV show, "Bayou Brethren"...a psycho who goes by the name of Blister and who's more Nance Buck than Buck could ever be...the multimillionaire product liability lawyer who's getting dangerously--and deformingly--hooked on the very product he's litigating

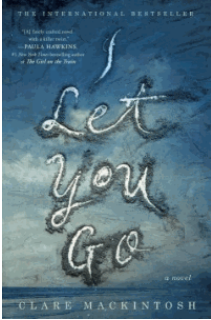
against...and Andrew Yancy--formerly Detective Yancy, busted to Key West roach patrol after he beat up his then-lover's husband with a dustbuster--who's convinced that if he can just solve one more murder on his own, he'll get his detective badge back. That the Razor Girl may be the key to his success in this deeply ill-considered endeavor will be as surprising to him as anything else he encounters along the way--including the nine-pound Gambian pouched rats getting very used to the good life in the Keys..."



When All the Girls Have Gone (F Krentz) - When Charlotte Sawyer is unable to find her stepsister, Jocelyn to tell her news about her best friend, she soon learns that Jocelyn is missing, and must make a desperate effort to find her.

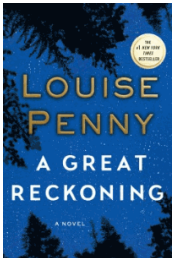
Don't You Cry (F Kubica) - "In downtown Chicago, a young woman named Esther Vaughan disappears from her apartment without a trace. A haunting letter addressed to My Dearest is found among her possessions, leaving her friend and roommate Quinn Collins to wonder where Esther is and whether or not she's the person Quinn thought she knew. Meanwhile, in a small Michigan harbor town an hour outside Chicago, a mysterious woman appears in the quiet coffee shop where eighteen-year-old Alex Gallo works as

a dishwasher. He is immediately drawn to her charm and beauty, but what starts as an innocent crush quickly spirals into something far more dark and sinister than he ever expected"



**I Let You Go (F Mackintosh)** - On a rainy afternoon, a mother's life is shattered as her son slips from her grip and runs into the street . . . Follows Jenna Gray as she moves to a ramshackle cottage on the remote Welsh coast, trying to escape the memory of the car accident that plays again and again in her mind and desperate to heal from the loss of her child and the rest of her painful past. At the same time, the novel tracks the pair of Bristol police investigators trying to get to the bottom of this hit-and-run. As they chase down one hopeless lead after another, they find themselves as drawn to each other as they are to the frustrating, twist-filled case before them

**Two if by Sea (F Mitchard)** - Mitchard returns with another heartbreaker, which opens with American expat Frank Mercy losing his wife and all her family in Brisbane's Christmas Eve "inland tsunami." During the flooding, he's managed to rescue a little boy named Ian and breaks the rules by taking him back to his family home in America's Midwest. But he's aware that a sinister bunch of people are edging in, eager to take Ian away. Will he and new love Claudia be able to rescue the child?



**A Great Reckoning (F Penny)** - When an intricate old map is found stuffed into the walls of the bistro in Three Pines, it at first seems no more than a curiosity. But the closer the villagers look, the stranger it becomes. Given to Armand Gamache as a gift the first day of his new job, the map eventually leads him to shattering secrets. To an old friend and older adversary. It leads the former Chief of Homicide for the Sûreté du Québec to places even he is afraid to go. But must. And there he finds four young cadets in the Sûreté academy, and a dead professor. And, with the body, a copy of the old, odd map"

**The Woman in Cabin 10 (F Ware)** - Lo Blacklock, a journalist who writes for a travel magazine, has just been given the assignment of a lifetime: a week on a luxury cruise with only a handful of cabins ... At first, Lo's stay is nothing but pleasant: the cabins are plush, the dinner parties are sparkling, and the guests are elegant. But as the week wears on, frigid winds whip the deck, gray skies fall, and Lo witnesses what she can only describe as a dark and terrifying nightmare: a woman being thrown overboard. The problem? All passengers remain accounted for--and so, the ship sails on as if nothing has happened, despite Lo's desperate attempts to convey that something (or someone) has gone terribly, terribly wrong

**In a Dark, Dark Wood (F Ware)** - What should be a cozy and fun-filled weekend deep in the English countryside takes a sinister turn. Leonora, known to some as Lee and others as Nora, is a reclusive crime writer, unwilling to leave her "nest" of an apartment unless it is absolutely necessary. When a friend she hasn't seen or spoken to in years unexpectedly invites Nora (Lee?) to a weekend away in an eerie glass house deep in the English countryside, she reluctantly agrees to make the trip. Forty-eight hours



later, she wakes up in a hospital bed injured but alive, with the knowledge that someone is dead. Wondering not "what happened?" but "what have I done?"



## Beach Reads

### \*\* New 2016-2017 School Year

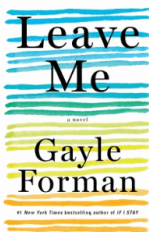
\*\*Invincible Summer (F Adams) - A group of friends struggle to navigate their twenties and the highs and lows of adulthood over the course of broken hearts and broken careers.



\*\* The Versions of US (F Barnett) - Three different versions of the lives of two people who meet on a street in Cambridge are told in this tale of possibilities and consequences that rings across fifty years showing how even the smallest choices can define the course of our lives

\*\*This Too Shall Pass (F Basquets) - Blanca is forty years old and motherless. Shaken by the unexpected death of the most important person in her life, she suddenly realizes that she has no idea what her future will look like. To ease her dizzying grief and confusion, Blanca turns to her dearest friends, her closest family, and a change of scenery. Leaving Barcelona behind, she returns to Cadaqu's, on the coast, accompanied by her two sons, two ex-husbands, and two best friends, and makes a plan to meet her married lover for a few stolen moments as well. Surrounded by those she loves most, she spends the summer in an impossibly beautiful place, finding ways to reconnect and understand what it means to truly, happily live on her own terms, just as her mother would have wanted.

\*\*A Woman's Place (Delinsky) - Claire Raphael, primary breadwinner in the family since the failure of her husband's company, stages the fight of her life when she returns home from visiting her dying mother to find that her husband is suing her for divorce, and is demanding alimony, the house, and their children.

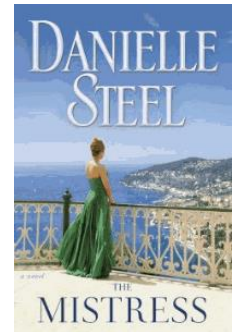


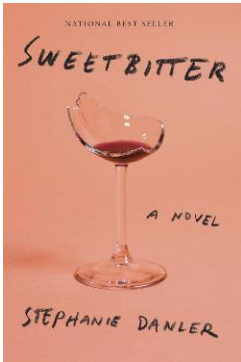
\*\*Leave Me (F Forman) - Surprised to discover that her recuperation [from a heart attack] seems to be an imposition on those who rely on her, [harried working mother] Maribeth does the unthinkable: she packs a bag and leaves. But, as is so often the case, once she gets to where she's going, she sees her life from a different perspective. Far from the demands of family and career and with the help of liberating new friendships, Maribeth is finally able to own up to secrets she has been keeping from those she loves, and from herself"

\*\*Here's to Us (F Hilderbrand) - "Laurel Thorpe, Belinda Rowe, and Scarlett Oliver share only two things; a love for the man they all married, Deacon Thorpe--a celebrity chef with an insatiable appetite for life--and a passionate dislike of one another ... They've established a delicate understanding over the years--they avoid each other at all costs. But their fragile detente threatens to come crashing down after Deacon's tragic death on his favorite place on earth: a ramshackle Nantucket summer cottage. Deacon's final wish was for his makeshift family to assemble on his beloved Nantucket to say good-bye. Begrudgingly, Laurel, Belinda, and Scarlett gather on the island ... [But] before the weekend is over, there are enough accusations, lies, tears, and drama to turn even the best of friends--let alone three women who married the same man--into adversaries"

Two by Two (F Sparks) - In a matter of months, Russ finds himself without a job or wife, caring for his young daughter London while struggling to adapt to a new and baffling reality. Trying to launch his own business while grappling with the demise of his marriage, the only thing he knows for certain is that London must be sheltered from the consequences of these radical changes. Throwing himself into the wilderness of single parenting, Russ embarks on a journey at once terrifying and rewarding, one that will test his abilities and his emotional resources beyond anything he ever imagined.

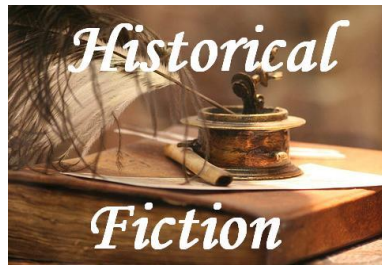
\*\*The Mistress (F Steel) - Natasha Leonova's beauty saved her life. Discovered on a freezing Moscow street by a Russian billionaire, she has lived for seven years under his protection, immersed in rarefied luxury, while he pursues his activities in a dark world that she guesses at but never sees. Her home is the world, often on one of Vladimir Stanislas's spectacular yachts manned by scores of heavily armed crew members. Natasha's job is to keep Vladimir happy, ask no questions, and be discreet. She knows her place, and the rules. She feels fortunate to be spoiled and protected, and is careful not to dwell on Vladimir's ruthlessness or the deadly circles he moves in. She experiences only his kindness and generosity and believes he will always keep her safe. She is unfailingly loyal to him in exchange. Theo Luca is the son of a brilliant, world famous, and difficult artist, Lorenzo Luca, who left his wife and son with a fortune in artwork they refuse to sell. Lorenzo's widow, Maylis, has transformed their home in St. Paul de Vence into a celebrated restaurant decorated with her late husband's paintings, and treats it as a museum. There, on a warm June evening, Theo first encounters Natasha, the most exquisite woman he has ever seen. And there, Vladimir lays eyes on Luca's artwork. Two dangerous obsessions begin. Theo, a gifted artist in his own right, finds himself feverishly painting Natasha's image for weeks after their first meeting. Vladimir, enraged that Lorenzo's works are not for sale, is determined to secure a painting at any price. And Natasha, who knows that she cannot afford to make even one false move, nevertheless begins to think of a world of freedom she can never experience as Vladimir's mistress. She cannot risk her safety for another man, or even a conversation with him, as Theo longs for a woman he can never have "





**\*\*Bittersweet (F Stephanie) -** Tess is a Midwestern 22-year-old who escapes to New York City to discover herself. She lands a job at a Union Square restaurant and begins her search for a place to belong. The "new girl" in every sense, Tess is certain of her immortality; she works, studies to learn about wine, drinks excessively, and counters the alcohol with cocaine—all with the diner staff who become her family. She falls for a 30-year-old bartender and is befriended by a server who runs the restaurant. There is a backstory between these new friends, but Tess doesn't quite understand it. In her naïveté, she believes her new love can erase the past, until she discovers otherwise.

**\*\*Then Came You (F Weiner) -** The lives of four women intersect in a miraculous way when India Bishop, having married and then fallen in love with a wealthy older man, decides to cement their relationship with a baby, despite the disapproval of his grown daughter Bettina, and turns to Princeton student and egg donor Jules Strauss, and surrogate mother Annie Barrow, for help.



### **Historical Fiction**

#### **\*\* New 2016-2017 School Year**

**A God in Ruins (F Atkinson) -** Tells the dramatic story of the twentieth century through Ursula's beloved younger brother Teddy--would-be poet, heroic pilot, husband, father, and grandfather--as he navigates the perils and progress of a rapidly changing world. After all that Teddy endures in battle, his greatest challenge is living in a future he never expected to have"

**\*\*The Sons and Daughters of Ease and Plenty (F Ausubel) -** An upperclass family summering on Martha's Vineyard come to grips with their reversal of fortune, and are forced to make decisions that impact future generations.

**\*\*The House at the Edge of Night (F Banner) -** A saga of four generations of Espositos, a family living off the coast of Italy spanning nearly a century, and detailing the scandals, secrets, trials, mysteries, and indiscretions within the lives of each member.

\*\*Days Without End (F Barry) - barely seventeen and having fled the Great Famine, signs up for the U.S. Army in the 1850s. With his brother in arms, John Cole, Thomas fights in the Indian Wars and, ultimately, the Civil War. Orphans of terrible hardships, the men find these days to be vivid and alive, despite the horrors they see and are complicit in.



Palisades Park (F Brennert) - Sharing life in the 1930s near the legendary Palisades Amusement Park, a family of dreamers explores ambitions and cultural boundaries that are challenged by the realities of the Great Depression, multiple wars, and the park's eventual closing in 1971.

The Queen of the Night (F Chee) - "Liliet Berne is a sensation of the Paris Opera, a legendary soprano with every accolade except an original role, every singers' chance at immortality. When one is finally offered to her, she realizes with alarm that the libretto is based on a hidden piece of her past. Only four could have betrayed her: one is dead, one loves her, one wants to own her. And one, she hopes, never thinks of her at all. As she mines her memories for clues, she recalls her life as an orphan who left the American frontier for Europe and was swept up into the glitzy, gritty world of Second Empire Paris. In order to survive, she transformed herself from hippodrome rider to courtesan, from empress's maid to debut singer, all the while weaving a complicated web of romance, obligation, and political intrigue."

\*\*At the Edge of the Orchard (F Chevalier) - James Goodenough, whose family had originally settled in Connecticut from England, brings his family to Ohio to carve out a new life for them in the Black Swamp in 1838. Swamp fever gradually picks off their children and they wrestle daily with survival. This course will see their family engulfed in tragedy and fifteen years later we pick up with their youngest son, Robert, who has been running west since, trying to escape his memories of what happened, taking solace in a very different kind of tree--the redwoods and sequoias of California. But Robert's past catches up with him and he's forced to confront what he's running from and work out for himself that you can't run forever"-

\*\* To Capture What We Cannot Keep (F Colin) - Set against the construction of the Eiffel Tower, the novel charts the relationship between a young Scottish widow and a French engineer who, despite constraints of class and wealth, fall in love.

\*\*A Spy's Devotion (F Dickerson) - After suffering a battlefield injury, wealthy, well-connected British officer Nicholas Langdon, returns home to heal--and to fulfill a dying soldier's last wish by delivering his coded diary. At the home of the Wilherns, one of England's most powerful families, Langdon attends a lavish ball where he meets their beautiful and intelligent ward, Julia Grey. Determined to maintain propriety, he keeps his distance--until the diary is stolen and all clues lead to Julia's guardian

\*\*Wonder (F Donoghue) - Lib Wright, a young English nurse trained by the legendary Florence Nightingale, arrives in an impoverished Irish village with a strange mission. Eleven-year-old

Anna O'Donnell is said to have eaten nothing for four months. With tourists thronging to see the child, and the press sowing doubt, the baffled community looks to an outsider to bring the truth to light. Lib's job is simple: to stay in the girl's bare room at all hours, watching her. An educated skeptic repelled by what she sees as ignorance and superstition, Lib expects to expose the fast as a hoax within days. But the long hours she spends with Anna begin to erode all her assumptions about the child, the Irish, and herself."

\*\*The Man Who Saved Henry Morgan (F Hough) - The year is 1664, and Benny Wand, a young thief and board game hustler, is arrested in London for illegal gaming. Deported to the city of Port Royal, Jamaica -- known as "the wickedest city on earth" -- Wand is forced by his depleted circumstances to join a raid on the Spanish city of Villahermosa. The mission is a perilous success, and Wand attracts the attention of the mission's leader, an up-and-coming Welsh seaman, Captain Henry Morgan, whose raids on Spanish strongholds are funded by the British government. While embarking on a campaign in the Caribbean, Morgan forms an unlikely friendship with Wand through their shared love of chess. Yet as Morgan becomes morally corrupted by the increasingly sordid attacks, he slowly transforms into Wand's greatest enemy. To defeat his former ally, Wand embarks on a strategic battle of wits with Morgan, only to discover that if he wants to break free of his friend, he's going to have to help him in the most savage and unexpected way possible.

\*\*Chasing the North Star (F Morgan) - "Tells the story of a runaway slave named Jonah Williams, who, on his eighteenth birthday, flees the South Carolina plantation on which he was born with only a few saved coins, a knife, and the clothes on his back. No shoes, no map, no clear idea of where to head, except north, hiding during the day and running through the night. Although Jonah eludes the men sent to capture him, the one person who never loses his trail is Angel, a slave girl he meets in North Carolina, remarkably free in spirit, who sees Jonah as her way to freedom and sets out to follow him.

\*\*Barkskins (F Proulx) - The descendants of two penniless Frenchmen travel across North America, Europe, China, and New Zealand and the brutal conditions they endure against rivals, accidents, pestilence, and cultural annihilation.

\*\*The Last Days of Night (F Moore) - A fictionalized account of the lawsuit between George Westinghouse and Thomas Edison over the invention of the lightbulb, and a lawyer engaged in a rigorous pursuit of the truth.

\*\*This Must Be the Place (F O'Farrell) - Daniel Sullivan, a young American professor reeling from a failed marriage and a brutal custody battle, is on holiday in Ireland when he falls in love with Claudette, a world famous sexual icon and actress who fled fame for a reclusive life in a rural village. Together, they make an idyllic life in the country, raising two more children in blissful seclusion until a secret from Daniel's past threatens to destroy their meticulously constructed and fiercely protected home. What follows is a journey through Daniel's many lives told in his voice and the voices of those who have made him the man he is: the American son and daughter he has not seen for many years; the family he has made with Claudette; and irrepressible, irreverent Claudette herself"

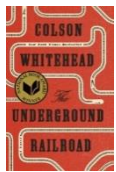


\*\*The Moon in the Palace (F Randel) - Empress of Bright Moon Duology  
A concubine at the palace learns quickly that there are many ways to capture the Emperor's attention. Many paint their faces white and style their hair attractively, hoping to lure in the One Above All with their beauty. Some present him with fantastic gifts, such as jade pendants and scrolls of calligraphy, while others rely on their knowledge of seduction to draw his interest. But young Mei knows nothing of these womanly arts, yet she will give the Emperor a gift he can never forget. Mei's intelligence and curiosity, the same traits that make her an outcast among the other concubines, impress the Emperor. But just as she is in a position to seduce the most powerful man in China, divided loyalties split the palace in two, culminating in a perilous battle that Mei can only hope to survive.

You might also want to read the novels of Lisa See

\*\*The Summer Before the War (F Simonson) - t is the end of England's brief Edwardian summer, and everyone agrees that the weather has never been so beautiful. Hugh Grange, down from his medical studies, is visiting his Aunt Agatha, ... . Agatha has ... just risked her carefully built reputation by pushing for the appointment of a woman to replace the Latin master. When Beatrice Nash arrives with one trunk and several large crates of books, it is clear she is significantly more freethinking-and attractive-than anyone believes a Latin teacher should be. ... But just as Beatrice comes alive to the beauty of the Sussex landscape and the colorful characters who populate Rye, the perfect summer is about to end. ... Soon the limits of progress, and the old ways, will be tested as this small Sussex town and its inhabitants go to war.

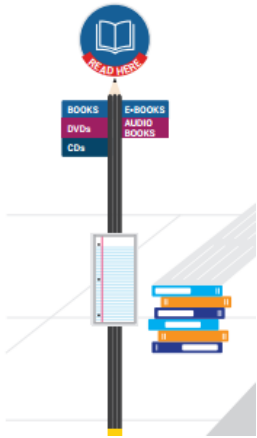
\*\*The Award (F Steele) - Gaëlle de Barbet is sixteen years old in 1940 when the German army occupies France and frightening changes begin. She is shocked and powerless when French gendarmes take away her closest friend, Rebekah Feldmann, and her family, and send them to a detention camp for deportation to an unknown, ominous fate"



\*\*The Underground Railroad (F Whitehead) - Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. When Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they decide to take a terrifying risk and escape. Though they manage to find a station and head north, they are being hunted. Their first stop is South Carolina, in a city that initially seems like a haven. But the city's placid surface masks an insidious scheme designed for its black denizens. And even worse: Ridgeway, the relentless slave catcher, is close on their heels."--Provided by publisher.



## A Hodgepodge of Good Books



The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto (F Albom) - Mitch Albom creates his most unforgettable fictional character—Frankie Presto, the greatest guitarist to ever walk the earth—in this magical novel about the bands we join in life and the power of talent to change our lives. Young Frankie Presto, a war orphan raised by a blind music teacher in a small Spanish town. At nine years old, Frankie is sent to America in the bottom of a boat. His only possession is an old guitar and six precious strings. But Frankie’s talent is touched by the gods, and his amazing journey weaves him through the musical landscape of the 20th century as he becomes a pop star. But his gift is also his burden, as he realizes, through his music, he can actually affect people’s futures—with one string turning blue whenever a life is altered. At the height of his popularity, Frankie Presto vanishes. His legend grows. Only decades later, does he reappear—just before his spectacular death—to change one last life.

My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She’s Sorry (F Backman) - A ... novel about a young girl whose grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters, sending her on a journey that brings to life the world of her grandmother's fairy tales"

The Prince of Tides (F Conroy) – Tom Wingo is a high school football coach whose marriage and career are crumbling. He flies to New York after learning of his twin sister's suicide attempt. He realizes that while trying to save her, this may be his last chance to save himself as well.

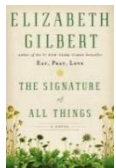
You might want to also read The Great Santini.

The Red Tent (F Diamant) –

The story of Dinah, the daughter of Jacob, is told from her point of view, beginning with the story of her mothers, Leah, Rachel, Zilpah, and Bilhah. These wives of Jacob give her the fits that are to sustain her through a damaged youth, a calling to midwifery, and a new home in a foreign land

Pillars of the Earth (F Follett) – The ambitious prior of Kingsbridge, England, dreams of building the greatest Gothic cathedral in the world, and the struggle to construct it leads to a battle between good and evil in twelfth-century Englan

Read the trilogy over the summer The World Without End and Columns of Fire



The Signature of All Things (F Gilbert) - Daughter of Henry Whittaker, the richest man in early 1800s Philadelphia owing to the quinine trade, Alma becomes a distinguished botanist, then falls in love with Ambrose, a painter of orchids attracted to the spiritual. Science and art unite; get ready for the 15-city tour.

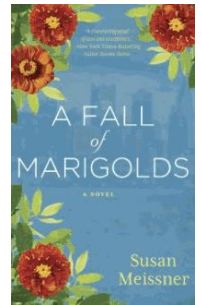
Water for Elephants (F Gruen) -

The Nix (F Hill) - Samuel Andresen-Anderson, is a failed writer and increasingly apathetic college professor, who gets a second chance at literary fame from the most unlikely source—the mother who abandoned him as a child. The American public is outraged about a rather absurd crime that Samuel’s mother committed against an obnoxious politician. While Sam is shocked and surprised to learn the whereabouts of his estranged mother, he also realizes it’s the chance of a lifetime to tap into the zeitgeist with some choice tidbits about her, if he can write it before media A.D.D. sets in. But in order to write the book that will revive him, Samuel is forced to dig into her life, and he discovers a completely different version of the woman he thought he knew; it turns out he’s not the only one who’s life is carved out of traumatic events.

Our Souls at Night (f Haruf) - A spare yet eloquent, bittersweet yet inspiring story of a man and a woman who, in advanced age, come together to wrestle with the events of their lives and their hopes for the imminent future.

This is a book that is highly recommended

A Fall of Marigold (F Meissner) - September 1911. On Ellis Island in New York Harbor, nurse Clara Wood cannot face returning to Manhattan, where the man she loved fell to his death in the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire. Then, while caring for a fevered immigrant whose own loss mirrors hers, she becomes intrigued by a name embroidered onto the scarf he carries...and finds herself caught in a dilemma that compels her to confront the truth about the assumptions she's made" -

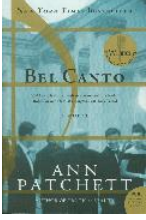


Salt to the Sea (F Sepety) - As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull

Poisonwood Bible (F Kingsolver) – Nathan Price and his family move to the Belgian Congo in 1959, and the experiences they have while living in Africa affect each member of the family in a different way.

She’s Come Undone (F Lamb) – A series of tragedies, including the death of her baby brother, her parent's divorce, her mother's nervous breakdown, and her own rape at the age of thirteen, leaves Dolores Price wounded both mentally and physically, but she miraculously finds the strength to give herself one more chance at life and love.

The Tiger’s Wife (F Obrecht) - Natalia, a young doctor on a medical mission to an orphanage in the Balkans, ponders the mystery of her beloved grandfather's recent death. She finds the answers she seeks in the story of an abused deaf-mute woman in the village of his childhood who formed a bond with a tiger that escaped from the zoo following the German bombardment in 1941



**Bel Canto** (F Patchett) – At a lavish party for a powerful Japanese businessman, terrorists break in and take the entire party hostage. But what begins as a life-threatening scenario turns into something quite different--as terrorists and hostages forge unexpected bonds and people from different countries and continents become compatriots. Friendship, compassion, and the chance for great love lead the characters to forget the real danger that has been set in motion.

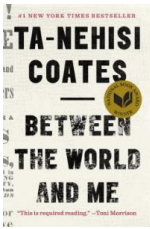
**Empire Falls** (F Russo) –

Non Fiction



**Lab Girl** (B Jahren) - Jahren has built three laboratories in which she's studied trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. She tells about her childhood in rural Minnesota with an uncompromising mother and a father who encouraged hours of play in his classroom's labs; about how she found a sanctuary in science, and the disappointments, triumphs and exhilarating discoveries of scientific work. Yet at the core of this book is the story of a relationship Jahren forged with Bill, who becomes her lab partner and best friend. Their sometimes rogue adventures in

science take them over the Atlantic to the ever-light skies of the North Pole and to tropical Hawaii, where she and her lab currently make their home.



**Between the World and Me** (305.8 Coa) - Coates takes readers along on his journey through America's history of race and its contemporary resonances through a series of awakenings--moments when he discovered some new truth about our long, tangled history of race, whether through his myth-busting professors at Howard University, a trip to a Civil War battlefield with a rogue historian.

**Devil in the White City** (364.15 Larson) - Investigative reporter Erik Larson unearths the lost history of the 1893 World's Fair. The "White City" drew 27 million visitors and gathered the era's brightest intellectual lights. Nearby, Dr. Henry Holmes built the "World's Fair Hotel," a torture palace to which he lured 27 victims. While the fair ushered in a new epoch in American history, Holmes marked the emergence of the serial killer, who thrived on the forces transforming the country.

You might also like *In the Garden of Beasts* or *Thunkerstruck*

**Ghost Map** (614.5 Joh) - Chronicles the outbreak and spread of Cholera in London during the summer of 1854 and the efforts of Reverend Henry Whitehead and Dr. John Snow who isolated the disease and put an end to the epidemic.