

Bookworms and Their Diet

Amana Colonies, Iowa Fall 2018

NON-FICTION

Bary, Rifqa - *Hiding in the Light: Why I Risked Everything to Leave Islam and Follow Jesus* – Author, a devout Muslim, at age 12 secretly converted to Christianity; age 16 her parents found out and she ran away from father's threats. Physical, social, and emotional suffering that forged her love for Jesus. She's still living in an undisclosed location.

Boebert, Earl and Blossom, James M. - *Deepwater Horizon* - A comprehensive account by the 2 authors, senior systems engineers, show how corporate and engineering decisions, each one individually innocuous, interacted to create the disaster in 2010 by BP in the Gulf Coast.

Brown, Daniel James - *The Boys In The Boat* - Nine Americans and their epic quest for gold in 1936 in Berlin, Germany, Olympics. They defeated Hitler's elite rowing team.

Comey, James - *A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies and Leadership* - James shares his never before told experiences from some of the highest stakes situations of his career in the two decades of American government, exploring what good ethical leadership looks like and how it drives decisions. A non-partisan story.

Goodwin, Doris Kearns - *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* – Lincoln assembled a cabinet from his political rivals to lead the country through the Civil War. Extensive research from his writings and speeches.

Hillenbrand, Laura – *Unbroken: World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption* - Louis Zamperini, 1936 Olympic winner; captured by Japanese after 47 days on a raft, then 21/2 yrs as a prisoner. Unforgettable testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit.

Hinton, Anthony Ray - *The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row* - Revealing story of hope, love, justice, and the power of reading by a man who spent thirty years on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Released in 2015. He was assisted by Bryan Stephenson, founder of Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery Alabama.

Hockenos, Matthew - *Then They Came for Me: Martin Niemöller, the Pastor Who Defied the Nazis* – Author explores the many lives of Niemöller as he evolved from U-boat captain to clergyman believing in Hitler to critic of Hitler, spending 8 yrs in concentration camp and after war defending the German people.

Hornfischer, James D - *The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors: The Extraordinary World War II Story of the U.S. Navy's Finest Hour* – Portrait of Battle of Samar, a naval engagement unlike any other in U.S. history--and captures with unforgettable intensity the men, the strategies, and the sacrifices that turned certain defeat into a legendary victory.

Mazzeo, Tilar J. - *Irena's Children: The Extraordinary Story of the Woman Who Saved 2,500 Children from the Warsaw Ghetto* – She outsmarted Hitler in WWII.

O'Reilly, Bill and Dugard, Martin – Historical Killing Series (13 books thus far) *Killing Lincoln*; *Killing the Rising Sun*; etc. Newest - *Killing the SS*.

Penney, Darby and Stastny, Peter - *The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases from a State Hospital Attic* - When NY Willard State Mental Hospital closed in 1995, after operating for over 120 years, a forgotten attic filled with suitcases belonging to former patients was discovered. Using possessions in the suitcases including doctors' notes, 10 patients lives and stories were reconstructed.

Shetterly, Margot Lee - *Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* - Starting in WWII and moving forward are the interwoven accounts of careers and challenges of 4 brilliant black women mathematicians who participated in NASA's greatest successes. Movie

Stephenson, Bryan - *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* - Author is a lawyer and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama; helps those imprisoned based on racial prejudice. A true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us and a call to fix our broken justice system.

Tougias, Michael and Sherman, Casey - *The Finest Hours: True Story of the U.S. Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue* – Winter Atlantic storm 1952, Coast Guard heroically battled freezing water to save 84 men from 2 oil tankers, each split in two. Movie

White, Neil – *In The Sanctuary of Outcasts* - Emotional true story of Neil White, while a convict in a federal prison shared with patients in the last leper colony in the continental U.S., discovers the secret to happiness and leading a fulfilling life.

FICTION

Alyan, Hala - *Salt Houses* - Chronicles 3 generations of a Palestinian family as they face two life altering displacements. The first after the 1967's Six Day War and the second following Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Backman, Fredrik - *A Man Called Ove* - Ove hides his story of sadness behind a cranky exterior. Unexpected friendship develops with his chatty new neighbors. A feel good story.

Frank, Dorothea Benton - *Lowcountry Summer* (A Plantation Sequel & Book 7 of 9 in *Lowcountry Tales* series) Story with warmth and humor as Caroline Levine, after the death of Miss Lavinia, her late, force-of-nature mother, is concerned about the changing anatomy of her unique, challenging family.

Ivey, Eowyn – *To The Bright Edge Of The World* – Winter 1885; story through journals of exploration of Alaska Territory by war hero, Colonel Allen Forrester and men while Allen's pregnant wife stays in Vancouver Barracks taking up photography to explore nature. Each will have their courage and faith tested to the breaking point. Author also wrote great book, *Snow Child*, about Alaska.

Laureano, Carla - *The Saturday Night Supper Club* (Book 1 of 2 of *Saturday Supper Club* series) Rachael Bishop, head chef and part owner of an upscale Denver restaurant, suddenly has her dream ripped away by an accidental negative review by writer Alex Kanin. Alex feels guilty, he and Rachael join forces to create a unique Saturday Night Supper Club. *Brunch at Bittersweet Café* (Book 2 of *Supper Club* Series) available Feb. 5, 2019

Mcomber, Debbie - *The Shop on Blossom Street* – (Book 1 of 10 in Blossom Street series) Lydia Hoffman's A Good Yarn Shop is her new beginning free from cancer, is also the place where 4 lives are knit together in friendship and acceptance. *A Good Yarn* – (Book 2 of Blossom Street series) Lydia and her A Good Yarn Shop have thrived and now 3 women taking a class in a welcoming place discover how knitting can change their lives.

Mirza, Fatima Farheen - *A Place For Us* – Story of the lives of a Muslim-American family, opening on the eve of the eldest daughter's marriage and examines the intricacies of a family straddling two very different cultures.

Monroe, Mary Alice - *Beach House Reunion* (Book 5 of *The Beach House* series) –3 generations of Rutledge family gather at Primrose Cottage on Isle of Palms, South Carolina, to find strength and love as endure family struggles and commit to forge new family bonds. Loggerhead turtles and dolphins are part of this heart warming story.

Monroe, Mary Alice - *The Book Club* - Five women from different walks of life, embracing the challenge of change as they share their hopes, fears and triumphs, hold fast to the true magic of the book club—friendship.

Moyes, JoJo - *Me Before You* - In a small English village, Will, a quadriplegic is cared for by Louisa who loves him and struggles with how to accept his choices. Now a movie. Book Sequel - *After You* – Louisa wonders how do I move on after losing the person I love and build a life worth living?

Sparks, Nicholas – *Two by Two* – Russell Green, 32, has the perfect life with a beautiful wife, 6 year old daughter and a great job but then he is w/o a job, a wife and is a single parent. With support from his parents, sister and fatherhood lessons, he realizes unconditional love is a bestowed treasure.

Wu, Julie - *The Third Son* - Saburo, a boy growing up in Japanese occupied Taiwan in the 1940's will do anything to escape his tormenting family and reconnect with his first love. Tale of terrible sibling rivalry.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Boyne, John - *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* - Germany, 1942, Bruno, 9 years old, is unaware the big camp surrounded by a high wire fence that his father is in charge of, is a concentration camp. Without permission, making friends with Shmuel through the fence results in devastating consequences. Grades 7-9 – adults

Doerr, Anthony - *All the Light We Cannot See* – A blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France, both try to survive the devastation of WWII.

Chiaverini, Jennifer - *The Spymistress* - True-Elizabeth Van Lew, born to slave-holding aristocracy in Richmond, VA, and educated by northern Quakers, became a spy passing on important info to Union General Ulysses Grant and helping escaped Union prisoners. She was never discovered.

Chiaverini, Jennifer - *Mrs. Grant and Madame Jule* - 1844. When southerner Julia Dent married Ulysses Grant, over his objections, she kept her maid, Jule, who since childhood they had been companions and confidantes. -On Emancipation Proclamation signing day, Jule made a difficult decision.

Chiaverini, Jennifer - *Enchantress of Numbers: A Novel of Ada Lovelace* – Story of a key but overlooked woman in history, Ada Byron Lovelace, a young math and science genius, responsible for writing the world's first-ever computer code more than 150 years ago in Victorian England.

Hunter, Georgia - *We Were the Lucky Ones* – 1939, Radom, Poland, 3 generations of the Jewish Kurc family are flung to far corners of the world as war takes over Europe. Each member struggles to survive until all family is together again. Based on author's family history.

Laurens, Stephanie - *Lady Osbaldestone's Christmas Goose (Lady Osbaldestone's Christmas Chronicles)* Book 1- Lighthearted, long ago Christmas tale with a grandmother, three of her grandchildren, one lost soul, a lady driven to distraction, a recalcitrant donkey, and a flock of determined geese. Book 2 – *Lady Osbaldestone and The Missing Christmas Carols* - Country-village Christmas, a grandmother, three eager grandchildren, one moody teenage granddaughter, an earnest young lady, a gentleman in hiding, and an elusive book of Christmas carols.

McLain, Paula – *Circling the Sun*- Beryl Markham, raised in 1920s in Kenya by her father and native tribe people, was strong willed and competent which allowed her to do many brave things, especially rare for women at that time as she pursued being a great horse trainer and a record setting aviator.

Miller, Judith – *A Simple Change* - Book 2 of *Home to Amana* series – 1881, Jancey Rohder, 22, gives up her cherished school teaching job and social life to move to Middle Amana with her parents. Wants to teach among the religious Inspirationists people but each job is assigned. *A Hidden Truth (1)*, *A Shining Light (3)* Each a 'stand alone' book

Moyes, JoJo – *The Girl You Left Behind* - France, WWI, As Sophie Lefevre struggles to keep her family safe while her husband is at war, the portrait he painted of her becomes an obsession by an occupying German soldier. Nearly a century later in London, Sophie's portrait is owned by Liv Halstron, a gift from her late husband. A battle begins over its true worth and troubled history.

Rosenberg, Alex - *The Girl from Krakow* –1935, Rita Feuerstahl, Krakow, Poland, Jewish university student has a completely Aryan look; later must live by her wits as she struggles to survive WWII.

Sullivan, Mark – *Beneath A Scarlet Sky* - WWII Italian Pino Lella, helping Jews escape over the Alps, is forced by his parents, to protect him, to join German Army. Injured, he became the personal driver for Hitler's most powerful commander in Italy. Courageously he was an Allied spy inside Headquarters. *True- Pino is still alive and lives in Italy.*

Towles, Amor - *A Gentleman in Moscow* - Count Alexander Rostov, an unrepentant aristocrat, is sentenced by Bolshevik tribunal to spend the rest of his life in a luxury hotel across the street from the Kremlin while decades of tumultuous Russian history unfold outside; meets interesting people inside.

RELIGIOUS

Burpo, Todd and Vincent, Lynn - *Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back* - Todd, 4 years old, has a near death experience, goes to Heaven and later describes his Heavenly experience to his surprised parents.

Dodge, Rachel - *Praying with Jane: 31 Days through the Prayers of Jane Austen* - Spiritual insights and Scripture references shed light on the meaning behind Miss Austen's prayers and the truths they contain. (Rachel is the daughter of Ruth and George Beckman, GMC motor home club members).

Jennings, Brian - *Dancing in No Man's Land: Moving with Peace and Truth in a Hostile World* - Our fractured world desperately needs people who will speak gently, value truth, and think clearly. Book is life-giving, practical journey into Jesus way that will revolutionize how you view conflict and choose to speak both truth and peace in the midst of conflict.

MYSTERY

Atherton, Nancy – *Aunt Dimity and The King's Ransom* (Book 23 in Aunt Dimity Series) - A dark and stormy night kicks off a ghost chase for American, Lori Johnson, in rural England at the King's Ransom Inn. With innate curiosity she solves mysteries w/o violence or sexual situations. Read *Aunt Dimity's Death* (book 1) first since it introduces main characters and background that rest of series build upon.

Child, Lee - *The Midnight Line* – (Book 22 of 23 in *Jack Reacher* series) Reacher buys a woman's 2005 West Point ring in a pawn shop to return it to her but his good deed turns into a dangerous harrowing journey.

Coble, Colleen - *The House at Saltwater Point* (Book 2 of 3 *A Lavender Tides Novel*) Ellie Blackmore is a popular house flipper. When her sister, Mackenzie disappears she tries to find out what happened to her and is drawn into danger.

Book 1 *The View from Rainshadow Bay*; Book 3 *Secrets At Cedar Cove* (read in order)

Cussler, Clive - Author or coauthor of over fifty books in five bestselling series as Dirk Pitt adventures (Director of National Underwater Marine Agency) and other series; some history; some non fiction

Elliot, Kendra - *A Merciful Silence* (Book 4 of 6 in *Mercy Kilpatrick* series) FBI agent Mercy Kilpatrick must unlock the mystery of a years ago mass murder in her Oregon hometown and the secrets of its traumatized silent witness.

Francis, Felix – *Dick Francis* novels – Thrillers about horseracing and steeple chase.

Grisham, John - *The Last Juror* - Willie Traynor, newspaper owner, reported gruesome details of a young mother's brutal murder in 1970 in Mississippi. The murderer vowed to get revenge on the jurors and now, 9 years later he's out of jail and jurors are starting to die, one by one.

Harris, Robert – *Conclave* - 118 cardinals in a secretive election will select the new pope. They are holy men with ambition and with rivals. The power of God is nearly equaled by the ambition of some men during this election.

MacNeal, Susan Elia – *Maggie Hope* (series of 8 books) WWII Maggie, American-born mathematician and cryptographer once a secretary to Winston Churchill, now a spy working for the top secret organization Special Operations Executive.

Patterson, James & Clinton, Bill - *The President Is Missing* – He's not really missing but is in a secure secret place with experts trying to discover the code word that will disable a cyber terrorist's virus that will destroy entire U.S. electronic infrastructure and paralyze the country.

Penny, Louise - *Still Life* - (Book 1 of 14 in *Chief Inspector Armand Gamache* series) Chief and his team are called to the scene of a woman's suspicious death south of Montreal in rural Three Pines.

Pearl, Matthew - *The Dante Club* – 1865, As members of the Harvard Dante Club fight to keep a sacred literary cause alive, plans fall apart when a series of murders erupts through Boston and Cambridge. The killings are modeled on the descriptions of Hell's punishments from Dante's *Inferno*.

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