

Summer 2010 New Lenox Public Library District Staff Picks



Agassi, Andre. Open: an Autobiography. The 1992 Grand Slam Wimbledon winner writes an insightful and honest account of his life in which he hated tennis from the beginning. (B AGA)

Berkin, Carol. Civil War Wives : the Lives and Times of Angelina Grimke Weld, Varina Howell Davis, and Julia Dent Grant. "...the life stories of three women who connect us to our national past and provide windows into a social and political landscape that is strangely familiar yet shockingly foreign." (Book Jacket) (973.7 BER)

Bertinelli, Valerie. Losing It : and Gaining My Life Back One Pound at a Time. This autobiography is not only about weight loss, but it is also about taking control of ones life in all areas. (B BER)

Bertinelli, Valerie. Finding it : and Satisfying My Hunger for Life without Opening the Fridge. The memoir continues as the author struggles to maintain her very public weight loss of 40 pounds. (B BER)

Best European Fiction 2010. edited by Aleksandar Hemon. The editor has chosen stories from 30 countries in an attempt to fill a need for the world's people to communicate their ideas and insights. (SC BES)

Black, Benjamin. Elegy for April : a Novel. "Quirke, the haunted Dublin pathologist and haphazard sleuth, returns in the third in Black's superb series of sharply etched, nearly Jamesian mysteries." (Booklist). Black (penname of John Banville) includes ideas about family, friendship and loyalty in his latest whodunit. (Fiction BLA)

Bohjalian, Christopher A. Double Bind. Bohjalian's fiction has "ordinary people in heartbreaking circumstances behaving with grace and dignity." (*San Francisco Chronicle*) (Fiction BOH)

Boyd, Noah. The Bricklayer "Nonstop action and nonstop authenticity make this a real winner." (Lee Child) (Fiction BOY)

Brooks, Geraldine. People of the Book : a Novel. "In 1996, Hanna Heath, a young Australian book conservator is called to analyze the famed Sarajevo Haggadah, a priceless six-hundred-year-old Jewish prayer book that has been salvaged from a destroyed Bosnian library. When Hanna discovers a series of artifacts, she unwittingly exposes an international cover up." (Prairie Cat catalog) (Fiction BRO)

Cartwright, Justin. To Heaven By Water. The award winning author has written the story of David Cross who "as he moves toward old age...finds himself living an unexpected new life." (Book jacket) (Fiction CAR)

Collins, Gail. When Everything Changed : the Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present. "I should mention that Collins is at the top of my guest list for my imaginary dinner party, the theme of which would be: 'Famous fun people I'd like to meet and talk with, but probably never will'...The stories that emerge are...deeply moving." (*Boston Sunday Globe* Sharon Ullman) (305.4 COL)

Conant, Jennet. 109 East Palace : Robert Oppenheimer and the Secret City of Los Alamos . For 27 months scientists lived in secrecy while they rushed to be the first to build an atom bomb. (623.45119 CON)

Finkel, David. The Good Soldiers. Pulitzer Prize winning reporter Finkel traveled with the 2-16 Infantry Battalion, the Rangers, on their 15 month deployment to secure Bagdad. The "surge" took place four years after the invasion of Iraq. (956.70443 FIN)

Hill, Ingrid. Ursula, Under. "...extravagant and absorbing. Each story opens into another story, and as each new chapter ended, I thought: I like that one best. I didn't want it to end." (Audrey Niffenegger, author of *The Time Traveler's Wife*) (Fiction HIL)

Horan, Nancy. Loving Frank : a Novel. Mamah Borthwick Cheney is known as the woman who destroyed Wright's first marriage. The author has turned the scandal into a love story. (Fiction HOR)

Kennedy, M. Edward. True Compass: a Memoir. In addition to the story of his growing up years, Kennedy writes of his involvement in national events during fifty years of public service. (B KEN)

Lamott, Anne. Imperfect Birds. A family in crisis is composed of teenaged Rosie, her recovering alcoholic mother Elizabeth and her workaholic step-father James. The brilliant student Rosie in her high school senior year becomes addicted to alcohol and drugs after using many substances over a couple of years. The author vividly depicts the teenage drug culture and the effects on the family. (Fiction LAM)

Lindsay, Jeffrey P. Darkly Dreaming Dexter : a Novel. The first in a series of serial killer novels has a twist. Dexter Morgan, lab technician with the Miami Dade Police Department, is really a good guy because he only kills other serial killers. (Fiction LIN)

McInerney, Ralph. Irish Gilt. The prolific author of mysteries, science fiction, poetry and non fiction, writing under his own name as well as several pseudonyms, died in 2010. In addition to his many Father Dowling mysteries, he has written a series of academic mysteries set at the University of Notre Dame. (M MCI)

Michener, James. Centennial. This tribute to America's bicentennial celebration is epic in its coverage of the history, land and people of Colorado. (Fiction MIC)

Rice, Anne. Called Out of Darkness : a Spiritual Confession. Fans of the author were shocked when she stopped writing about vampires and began writing about Jesus. She tells the story of losing the faith of her childhood, but finding it again in her later years. (B RIC)

Roker, Al and Lochte, Dick. The Morning Show Murders. Chef Billy Blessing, food anchor for the fictional morning show Wake Up America! and owner of a very successful Manhattan bistro is suspected of murdering a network executive with poisoned cog au vin. (M ROK)

See, Lisa, Shanghai Girls : a Novel. "See...explores tradition, the ravages of war and the importance of family in her excellent latest." (Publishers Weekly) Sisters Pearl and May are forced to leave China because their father has sold them to a wealthy Chinese-American as brides for his sons. (Fiction SEE)

Simonson, Helen. Major Pettigrew's Last Stand : a Novel. The retired major who lives in a small village in England is fighting to keep his greedy relatives from selling a valuable family heirloom. Unexpectedly he develops a special relationship with his Pakistani neighbor Ali, who is also a widow. (Fiction SIM)

Skloot, Rebecca. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. The poor southern tobacco farmer known to scientists as HeLa has been in an unmarked grave for sixty years. Her children discovered that without her permission her cells were taken from her and have been used extensively throughout the world to develop vaccines which have led to cures. (B LAC)

Shreve, Anita. Testimony. A sex scandal at a New England boarding school exposes an entire community. Many lives are destroyed over some careless actions. (Fiction SHR)

Thompson, Gabriel. Working in the Shadows : a Year of Doing the Jobs (most) Americans Won't Do. After a year of working alongside undocumented workers, the investigative journalist writes of the dignity and perseverance of his coworkers who receive little in pay and benefits. (331.62 THO)

Twilight zone : 19 original stories on the 50th anniversary. edited by Carol Serling. This anthology is an all-new collection of stories by science fiction and fantasy favorites as well as writers from the original series in honor of Rod Serling. (SC TWI)

Waller, Robert James. The Bridges of Madison County. The story is about an Iowa homemaker, Francesca, and a National Geographic photographer, Robert; the 4 days they spent together and how it changed their lives. (Fiction WAL)

Waller, Robert James. A Thousand Country Roads: an Epilogue to the Bridges of Madison County. The book continues the story of Francesca and Robert after Robert leaves Madison County. (Fiction WAL)

Winn, Steven. Come Back, Como : Winning the Heart of a Reluctant Dog. San Francisco Chronicle journalist Winn describes how he became more human by loving a dog who wanted nothing to do with him. (636.70887 WIN)

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