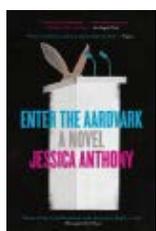


# Our Favorite Books 2020

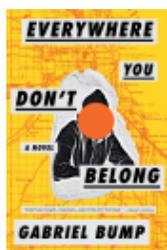
## Highland Park Public Library

### Fiction



**Enter the Aardvark by Jessica Anthony** (F ANTHONY, J.)

This slim but engaging novel opens with a U.S. Congressman finding a stuffed aardvark on his front doorstep. His quest to uncover the meaning of the gift exposes interconnections between Victorian England, the African savannah, and 21st century D.C. What begins as an absurdist comedy flowers into a deeply intelligent meditation on repressed desire, political power, and self-knowledge. *Bea, Membership Services*



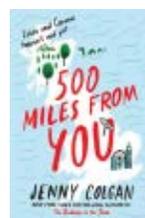
**Everywhere You Don't Belong by Gabriel Bump** (F BUMP, G.)

This book is both hilarious and serious—often at the same time. It's a coming-of-age story about a boy who grows up in Chicago's South Shore neighborhood and, in the second part of the book, moves to Missouri for college. It's a fast read, and you won't regret it! *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**Ring Shout by P. DeJili Clark** (F CLARK, P.)

Not only are the Klan evil, they're slowly turning into Lovecraftian horrors. And this small band of Black fighters assembled in 1922 are the only thing in several universes that can take them down. *Katie, Information & Reader Services*



**500 Miles from You by Jenny Colgan** (F COLGAN, J.)

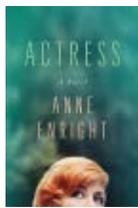
The third novel in Colgan's Scottish Bookshop series but can be read on its own. This is the story of Lissie, a nurse from London suffering from PTSD and Cormack, an Army veteran and nurse living in Scotland. These two nurses take the opportunity to switch places and then begin communicating through their patient notes, becoming friends and possibly more. For fans of *The Flatshare*. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



**The Pull of the Stars by Emma Donoghue** (F DONOGHUE, E.)

Inspired by the centenary of the Spanish flu pandemic, the author began writing this book in 2018 and delivered the final draft to her publisher in March 2020. Rich in authentic medical and historical detail, the book covers a few harrowing days in the life of a young Irish nurse working in a Dublin hospital in 1918, doing her best to care for several women in a supply closet that's been converted into a maternity ward. The *New York Times* review calls the novel's parallels to 2020 "uncanny." *Karen, Information & Reader Services*

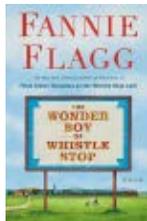
Set in Ireland during the 1918 Influenza Pandemic – this gorgeously-written, short novel takes place over the course of several days in a Maternity ward of a Dublin hospital. Nurse Julia finds herself in charge of the ward, taking care of expectant mothers suffering from influenza. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



### **Actress by Anne Enright**

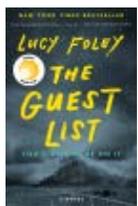
(F ENRIGHT, A.)

I loved this book for its setting in the world of 20th-century Irish theater—the actress of the title is the protagonist’s mother, who publicly went mad—but also for telling the story of a dramatic, emotional mother-daughter relationship without melodrama. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



### **Wonder Boys of Whistle Stop by Fannie Flagg** (F FLAGG, F.)

Whistle Stop and its idiosyncratic residents are back again in the story of Bud Threadgoode. Bad things happen, good things happen, heartwarming and amazing things happen. People are so wise and funny; even the mean ones turn out OK or get their just dessert. A great read. *Laurie, Information & Reader Services*



### **The Guest List by Lucy Foley**

(F FOLEY, L.)

From the beginning of this mystery set at a remote island in Ireland, we know only that a body has been found. The narrative switches perspectives between the bride, the bridesmaid, the wedding planner, the plus one, and the best man, as pieces of the puzzle are slowly and masterfully revealed. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



### **Upright Women Wanted by Sarah Gailey** (F GAILEY, S.)

Librarians as resistance fighters against an oppressive dystopia in the Weird Wild West in 100 pages of utterly engrossing action and a tiny peek at the wider world beyond it. *Katie, Information & Reader Services*



### **Glass Town by Isabel Greenberg**

(GRAPHIC NOVEL GREENBERG, I.)

The Brontës—Anne, Charlotte, Emily, and Branwell—were a writing family, and as children they began writing adventures together, set

in fictional Glass Town. This graphic novel is based on that writing but turns metafictional, as characters emerge from the story to confront Charlotte, who has become mired in the grief and hardship of her life. The smudgy style of the artwork didn’t grab me at first, but as I read, I came to like it because it perfectly depicted the atmosphere of the moor. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



### **Boyfriend Material by Alexis Hall** (BROWSING ROMANCE)

Luc O’Donnell is the son of two former rock stars and was once famous for his outrageous behavior and his trips in and out of rehab. Now that his dad’s making a comeback, Luc’s back in the public eye, and one compromising photo is enough to ruin everything.

To clean up his image, Luc must find a nice, normal relationship...and Oliver Blackwood is as nice and normal as they come. He’s a barrister, an ethical vegetarian, and he’s never inspired a moment of scandal in his life. In other words: perfect boyfriend material. Unfortunately, apart from being gay, single, and really, really in need of a date for a big event, Luc and Oliver have nothing in common. So, they strike a deal to be publicity-friendly (fake) boyfriends until the dust has settled. Then they can go their separate ways and pretend it never happened.

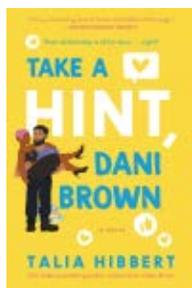
If you love the fake dating trope, this the book for you. Full of humor, yearning and a whole lot of heart; you will be feeling all the feelings until the last page. *Michelle, Information & Reader Services*



### **Beach Read by Emily Henry**

(F HENRY, E.)

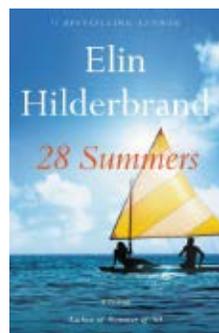
January Andrews is a romance novelist who is having a hard time writing her next book after finding out that her father had an affair before his recent death. She moves to his cottage in northern Michigan to clean out the house and try to end her writer’s block but finds her college nemesis living next door. Augustus Everett is now an author of dark, realistic, literary fiction and he is also working on a new book. They decide to strike a deal – she’ll teach him about romantic comedies while he’ll take her on field trips to meet the surviving members of a cult – both will write, and whoever gets a book deal first wins. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



**Take a Hint, Dani Brown**  
by Talia Hibbert

(BROWSING ROMANCE)

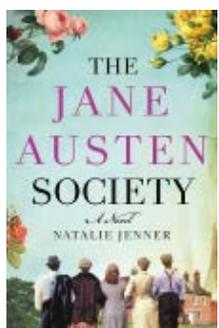
The second book in the Brown Sisters series finds middle sister Danika about to finish her PhD, lecturing at a university, and with NO time for a relationship. When the campus security Zafir rescues her from an elevator during a fire drill and video of them goes viral, they make a deal. She will pretend to be his girlfriend to help him get publicity for a charity that he started, and he will be her “friend with benefits” – as any romance reader can guess – this deal doesn’t go as planned. (The third and final book in the series, *Act Your Age, Eve Brown* comes out in March 2021 and is equally delightful) Sara, Information & Reader Services



**28 Summers**  
by Elin Hilderbrand

(F HILDERBRAND, E.)

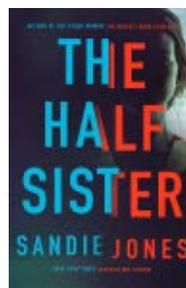
I’ve never read anything by Elin Hilderbrand, but I’m glad I picked up *28 Summers*! If you’re looking for a great light read, dive into *28 Summers*. It’s a perfect escape -- easy to devour and a page turner. The setting was beautiful and summery. The two main characters, who are so likeable (!), have a “same time next year” romance that takes place on Nantucket. The author introduces every year in the characters’ long romance with cultural references to that year. It’s a fun look back, and just another element that makes it such a great read! Beth, Marketing



**The Jane Austen Society**  
by Natalie Jenner

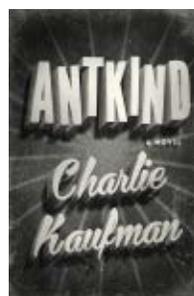
(F JENNER, N.)

A Historical novel set in Chawton, England – the village where Jane Austen wrote her last novels -- a group of villagers, each dealing with grief in their own way, comes together to preserve Austen’s home and legacy. For fans of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. Sara, Information & Reader Services



**The Half Sister**  
by Sandie Jones (F JONES, S.)

Sisters Kate and Lauren have grown apart as adults – Lauren is married with children, while Kate is (secretly) suffering from infertility – but they still have lunch with their recently widowed mother every Sunday. But one Sunday, a young woman appears on their doorstep, claiming to be their father’s daughter. Kate does not believe her, but Lauren does... and this domestic thriller keeps readers turning pages until the end. Sara, Information & Reader Services



**Antkind**  
by Charlie Kaufmann

(F KAUFMANN, C.)

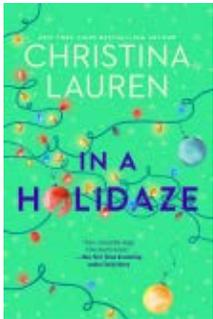
The screenwriter Charlie Kaufmann (known for *Being John Malkovich* and many others) brings the same sensibility of his movie writing to his first novel. It’s long, surreal, and lots of fun. Much of the humor is at the expense of the book’s narrator, a movie critic who discovers an outsider filmmaker, tries to use him to cement his own reputation, and is, basically, an ass. Catherine, Information & Reader Services



**The Exiles**  
by Christina Baker Kline

(F KLINE, C.)

A historical novel by the author of *Orphan Train*, this novel tells the story of several English women convicted of crimes and sentenced to transport to Australia. Evangeline has been seduced by the son of her employer, finds herself pregnant with his child, and is ultimately convicted of stealing the ring that he had given her. On the ship to Australia, she meets Hazel, a teenager from Scotland who has learned midwifery from her mother. Their stories are interwoven with that of an aboriginal girl who has been removed from her home in Australia. Sara, Information & Reader Services



**In a Holiday**  
by Christina Lauren

(BROWSING ROMANCE)

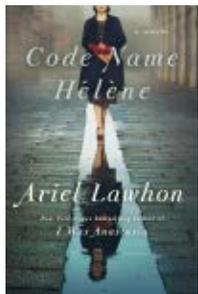
Another romantic comedy from Christina Lauren, this novel is best described as Hallmark Christmas Movie meets Groundhog Day. Maelyn Jones is spending Christmas with her family and family friends in a cabin in Utah, like she does every year – but this year is not going well. After finding out that the cabin is being sold and this will be the last year of the tradition, Mae and family are driving away for the last time when their car is hit by a Christmas tree truck... but when Mae wakes up, it's five days earlier and she is living the same week over (and over) again! *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



**Death in Her Hands**  
by Otessa Mossfegh

(F MOSHFEGH, O.)

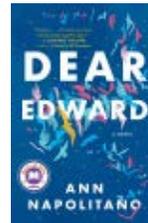
A widow out walking her dog finds a note referring to a murder and a body—but no body. This book starts as a murder mystery, but both the widow and the story get stranger as it goes along. I recommend just going where the book takes you. By the way, if you've read Drive Your Plow over the Bones of the Dead by Olga Tokarczuk, you'll find some striking similarities (an older woman living in a resort cabin in the off-season and William Blake), but a very different book. The two books have nothing to do with each other in author or conception, but they make a great pair. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**Code Name Hélène**  
by Ariel Lawhon

(F LAWHON, A.)

Based on the true story of Nancy Wake, an Australian woman living in France during WWII, who ultimately became a leader in the French Resistance. The novel switches between two time periods in Nancy's life, ultimately leading to a dramatic conclusion. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



**Dear Edward**  
by Ann Napolitano

(F NAPOLITANO, A.)

During his family's cross-country move, 12-year-old Edward becomes the sole survivor of a plane crash and is adopted by his aunt and uncle. In their home in suburban New Jersey, he begins the long process of physical and emotional healing that forms the backbone of this inventive novel. Flashbacks to the flight itself reveal the stories of various fellow passengers, people whose lives intersected with Edward's at that time and years later. Edward's story is touchingly and gracefully told in this hard-to-forget book. *Karen, Information & Reader Services*



**Migrations**  
by Charlotte McConaghy

(F MCCONAGHY, C.)

In a near future where humans are facing mass extinctions of wildlife, Franny is attempting to track some of the last remaining arctic terns, a bird that migrates all the way from the arctic to Antarctica and back every year. Franny herself is migratory, in a way, finding it impossible to stay at home with her husband, despite their loving relationship. To follow the terns, she talks her way onto a fishing boat, whose crew is trying to find fish in the depleted seas. She's a flawed but interesting main character, and this is perhaps the first adult book I've read in which a woman serves on the crew of ship that isn't a spaceship. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**Weather** by Jenny Offill

(F OFFILL, J.)

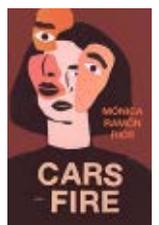
Lizzie Benson is a librarian coping with a lot of anxieties—especially climate change, as she begins answering email for a friend's podcast. Even though COVID-19 knocked climate change down a peg on our list of global anxieties, I related. However, what made this book great were the humor and the small human moments. The very short chapters pass almost like the changing weather. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



### **The Switch** by Beth O'Leary

(F O'LEARY, B.)

In this new novel from the author of *The Flatshare*, Leena Cotton and her grandmother Eileen decide to switch homes. Leena has been forced to take a two-month sabbatical at work, so she takes over her grandmother's cottage in a rural Yorkshire, and her grandmother moves into her London flat and takes up online dating. Both grandmother and granddaughter end up finding love in unexpected places. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



### **Cars on Fire** by Monica Ramon Rios

(F RAMON, M.)

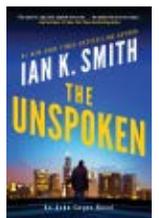
In a work that might be described as Cubism meets 21st century Latina prose, "Cars on fire" is poignant. Composed in English by Chilean writer Monica Ramon Rios, this series of short stories describes a spectrum of personalities and their lives, sometimes tragic and sometimes inspiring. The stories are best read in sequence as the reader discovers citizens in repressive regimes, refugees adapting to a new home and others adjusting to their fates. The work is ultimately a tableau painted as subversion to an ever-moving cultural structure. *Nancy, Archivist*



### **Black Sun** by Rebecca Roanhorse

(SF ROANHORSE, R.)

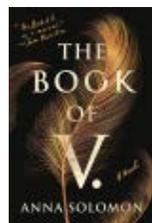
Want a fantasy that will never let you know where it's headed? Where the characters are varied and interesting, never asking you to pick a side? Where each page reveals more of the secret twists and turns of the city it calls home? This is the book for you. For fans of *Game of Thrones*. *Katie, Information & Reader Services*



### **Unspoken** by Ian Smith

(MYS SMITH, I.)

I recommend this book for those who love mysteries and fiction that take place in their hometown of Chicago and the North Shore. *Laura, Media Services*



### **The Book of V.** by Anna Solomon

(F SOLOMON, A.)

Riffing on the story of Esther and Vashti, this book tells the story of three women in three different times—Esther herself, Vee—a U.S. senator's wife in the 1970s, and Lily—an academic-turned-housewife in nearly-present-day Brooklyn. The storytelling kept me turning pages, and the plot came together in a way I didn't expect. Readers familiar with feminist novelists such as Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Marilyn French may catch hints of them, but this book is enjoyable all on its own. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



### **Fortune Favors the Dead** by Stephen Spottswood

(MYS SPOTTSWOOD, S.)

This noir-ish detective story starts in the early 1940s in New York City. Private detective Lillian Pentecost can't get around like she used to because of multiple sclerosis, which she tries hard to mask. Willowjean "Will" Parker, who has picked up an evening gig as a night watchman, saves Lillian's life with knife throwing skills she's learned in her years with a circus troupe. Lillian hires Will to be her investigator and the story picks up three years later when they are solving a classic locked-room mystery involving the wealthy. I hope this isn't the last we'll read of Will Parker and Lillian Pentecost. *Laurie, Information & Reader Services*



### **Remain silent** by Susie Steiner

(MYS STEINER, S.)

Susie Steiner continues the story of British detective Manon Bradshaw that was begun in two earlier novels. Now in her mid-forties, Manon has a full personal life: a teenaged adopted son, a toddler, and a partner of four years. A few years back, she volunteered to work cold cases in the hope it would offer some work/life balance. Since her young son was born, she's scaled back to part time--until, walking in the local park with her son, she happens to discover a body, and she's suddenly called upon to lead the investigation. This police procedural is full of appealing characters; the dialogue stands out both for its British flavor and its humor. *Karen, Information & Reader Services*

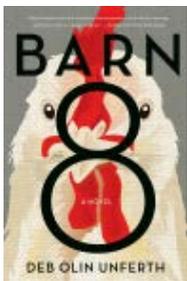


**The Devil and the Dark Water by Stuart Turton**

(MYS TURTON, S.)

It's 1634 and Samuel Pippis, the world's greatest detective, is being transported to Amsterdam to be executed for a crime he may, or may not, have committed. Travelling with him is his loyal bodyguard, Arent Hayes, who is determined to prove his friend innocent. But no sooner are they out to sea than devilry begins to blight the voyage. A twice-dead leper stalks the decks. Strange symbols appear on the sails. Livestock is slaughtered. And then three passengers are marked for death, including Samuel. Could a demon be responsible for their misfortunes?

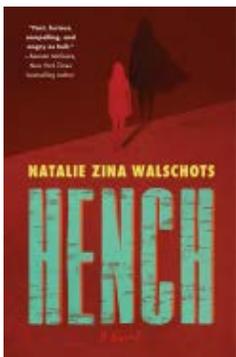
Once again Turton writes a crafty, twisty whodunit that keep you turning the pages. Just when you think you know who (or what) did it, something is thrown your way to knock you off your track. It kept me guessing until the very end, and even then, it surprised me. *Michelle, Information & Reader Services*



**Barn 8 by Deb Olin Unferth**

(F UNFERTH, D.)

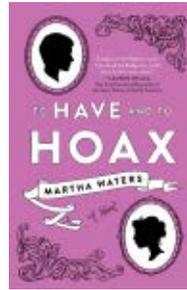
I loved this book about chickens, and I don't even like chickens. After some twists and turns, two women come together to pull off the massive heist of a million chickens from a farm. The writing is excellent, and in my opinion, this book didn't get as much attention as it deserved. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**Hench by Natalie Zina Walschotts**

(SF WALSCHOTS, N.)

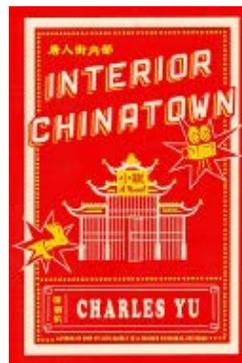
Fighting powerful "good" guys (and the terrors of the gig economy) through data, friendship, and the crushing freedom of the truth. *Katie, Information & Reader Services*



**To Have and to Hoax by Martha Waters**

(BROWSING ROMANCE)

A Regency romantic comedy – Lady Violet Grey and Lord James Audley have been married for five years, but after a horrible misunderstanding, they have been estranged for the last four years. Wanting to teach her husband a lesson, Violet decides to pretend to be ill. James knows that she's pretending but decides to play along... and sparks fly. *Sara, Information & Reader Services*



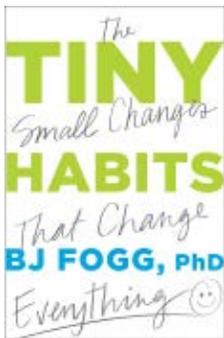
**Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu (F YU, C.)**

Tackling Asian-American stereotypes head-on, Interior Chinatown is told in the form of a screenplay. Actor Willis Wu dreams of working his way up from "Background Oriental Male" to "Kung Fu Guy," but as we begin to glimpse behind the scenes, real life looks like just another set. Unusual and thought-provoking. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*

# Our Favorite Books 2020

## Highland Park Public Library

### Nonfiction

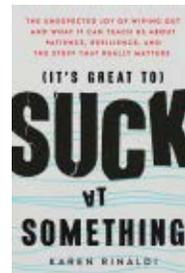


**Tiny Habits:  
The Small Changes that  
Change Everything**

by **B. J. Fogg** (158.1 F655)

Behavior Scientist and Stanford Professor B. J. Fogg's "Tiny Habits" is not only a self-help and self-actualization guide; the tome explains the human behavior behind our habits. Dr. Fogg takes the simple, distilled message that Tiny is mighty and outlines three steps: trigger/cue, routine and reward. Then, each step is explained and detailed. Sometimes the book descends into "how I changed this person's life."

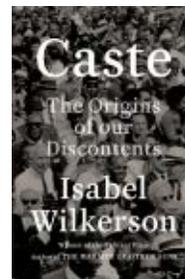
However, his simply articulated message and indices of basic techniques to address problems and solutions make this a key book well worth the read. *Nancy, Archivist*



**It's Great to Suck  
at Something**

by **Karen Rinaldi** (158.1 R578)

Rinaldi makes a good case for doing something you love, even if you suck at it. Her examples about surfing were perfect, when it came to exploring her dogged determination, to keep at it. The realities of such a dangerous, but euphoric activity, made the lessons she learned along the way, vivid, and unforgettable. *Lisa, Membership Services*

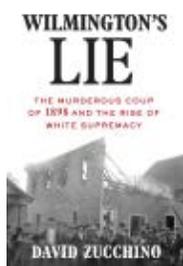


**Caste:**

**The Origins of Our  
Discontents**  
by **Isabel Wilkerson**

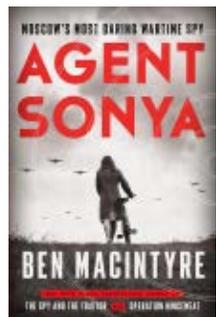
(305.5 W681)

A compelling theory of American injustice and the roles we all play in perpetuating it. *Chad, Administration*



**Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy** by David Zucchino (305.896073 Z94)

This book is a history of the only violent coup in the United States, which occurred in Wilmington, North Carolina. In the late 19th century, the city was prosperous, supported a black middle class, and had elected several black leaders to office. Then white supremacists, supported by the Democratic Party of the time, took over the government. I learned about a chapter of history that is unpleasant but important. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**Agent Sonya** by Ben MacIntyre (327.1247 M152)

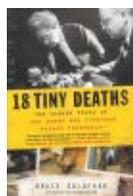
Berlin-born “Sonya” (Ursula Kuczynski) joined the Communist Party in Germany in her teens and was recruited as a spy by the Soviets in her early twenties. As a woman with a baby (she eventually had three children), she blended easily into the landscape of the various places she was sent. She had a few close calls but evaded detection for twenty years. This book is nonfiction, but it often reads like a good suspense novel. *Karen, Information & Reader Services*

This fast-paced historical account of the life of Ursula Kuczynski, a committed Communist born in 1907 Berlin and spy for the Soviets, reads like a novel, with surprising twists and turns, and will thrill readers until the very last page. *Laurie, Information & Reader Services*



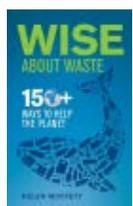
**Uncanny Valley** by Anna Wiener (338.761 W647)

This memoir is a 280-page explication of why being told to “think like a startup” feels so terrible. And yet, looking into that world through Anna Wiener’s eyes makes for an enjoyable read. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**18 Tiny Deaths: the untold story of Frances Glassner Lee and the invention of modern forensics** by Bruce Goldfarb (363.25 G618)

This was a riveting book about a remarkable woman, Lee, and Dr. George Burgess Magrath, who worked so hard at trying to establish a reliable way to investigate suspicious deaths. It was frustrating to see how difficult that was, and it still isn’t as well established as it should be. Considering Lee’s resources and determination, it’s amazing how quickly her efforts were forgotten. I’d heard about the Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death, but didn’t know much about them, though I’ve been curious to know more. This book has fulfilled that need to know perfectly. *Lisa, Membership Services*



**Wise About Waste: 150+ Ways to Help the Planet** by Helen Moffett (363.728 M695)

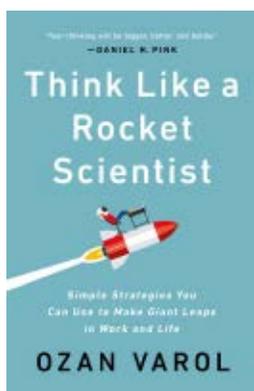
An environment is the space that we live in, that shapes us. It’s not a green space “out there” lived in by rare animals and occasionally visited by the rich in search of recreation. It is what surrounds us and gives us life. How do we live more gently on our planet? Can we put a stop to the environmental disasters that loom larger every day? These burning questions are on everyone’s mind. **Wise About Waste** addresses these urgent issues by providing a practical guide to reducing the waste we generate. Well-known author, academic, and activist Helen Moffett looks at how we can all create less waste and use resources more wisely. She tackles plastic waste, energy waste, food waste, manufacturing waste and much more – from homes to businesses, from immediate actions to long-term plans, there’s a strategy for everyone. With over 150 practical tips and ideas, from the tiny and the quirky to the big and the dramatic, **Wise About Waste** can help us work towards waste-wise lifestyles. While there are tough questions and even tougher answers, these go hand-in-hand with reasons for hope and a good dash of humor.

One person cannot change the world. One person can reach out to another, build a community to bring about change where they have control about personal accountability. Personal accountability is what we all need to aim for. *Deborah, Information & Reader Services*



**My Wild Garden:  
Notes from a Writer's Eden  
by Meir Shalev** (635.9 Sh52)

Shalev writes about his garden in Jezreel Valley, celebrating his wild and not-quite haphazard gardening style. The book includes beautiful illustrations by Refa'elah Shir. *Laurie, Information & Reader Services*

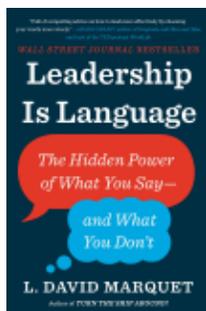


**Think Like a Rocket  
Scientist: Simple  
Strategies You Can Use  
to Make Giant Leaps in  
Work and Life** by Ozan  
O. Varol (ON ORDER)

A former rocket scientist reveals technology-inspired habits, ideas and strategies that can help readers overcome

complex and unfamiliar challenges to make personal advances in work and life.

This book will teach you the one word you will learn to boost your creativity and empower you to change the world. *Deborah, Information & Reader Services*

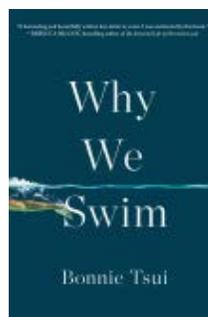


**Leadership Is Language:  
The Hidden Power of What  
You Say -and What You  
Don't** by L. David Marquet

(ON ORDER)

From the acclaimed author of *Turn the Ship Around!*, former US Navy Captain David Marquet, comes a radical new playbook for empowering your team to make better decisions and take greater ownership. You might imagine that an effective leader is someone who makes quick, intelligent decisions, gives inspiring speeches, and issues clear orders to their team so they can execute a plan to achieve your organization's goals.

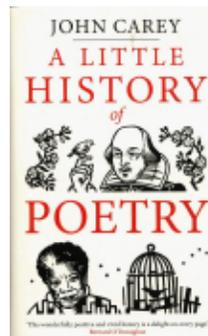
Great advice on how to lead more effectively by choosing your words more wisely. *Deborah, Information & Reader Services*



**Why We Swim  
by Bonnie Tsui**

(CD 797.21 T882)

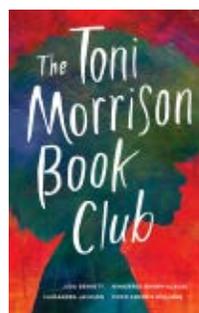
Swimming is the second-most popular recreational activity in the U.S.--first is walking—but you don't have to be a swimmer to enjoy this book. It's packed with interesting people who have survived disaster by swimming long distances, recovered from severe injuries in part by swimming, competed in samurai martial arts swimming, and more. The part about the samurai swimming was my favorite—imagine being able to tread water with your upper body so still that you can fight with a sword! An informative and entertaining book all about what draws us to the water. *Catherine, Information & Reader Services*



**A Little History of Poetry  
by John Carey** (809.1 C274)

I love how Carey engages the reader, as he explores poetry through the centuries, with historical highlights, details of a wide range of poets, and numerous examples of poems, that reveal their significant importance to each

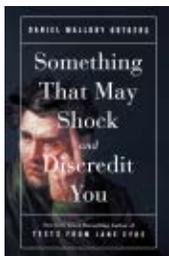
generation. Every chapter offers a new doorway, for further exploration. *Lisa, Membership Services*



**The Toni Morrison Book  
Club** by Juda Bennett,  
Winnifred Brown-Glaude,  
Cassandra Jackson, and  
Piper Kendrix Williams

(813 M882 Zben)

These four exceptional professors from the College of New Jersey, explore the important themes found in the books by Morrison. They delve into *Beloved*, *The Bluest Eye*, *The Song of Solomon*, and *A Mercy*. They discuss the current political climate, personal experiences of racism, and other significant issues. *Lisa, Membership Services*



**Something that May Shock and Discredit You**

by Daniel M. Lavey (814 Or77)

In this collection of funny and deeply moving essays, Lavey interweaves his experiences as a trans man with stories from myth and pop culture. He explores everything from Byron to Mean Girls with humor, intelligence, and vulnerability. *Bea, Membership Services*



**Square Haunting: five writers in London between the wars**

by Francesca Wade (820.9 W119)

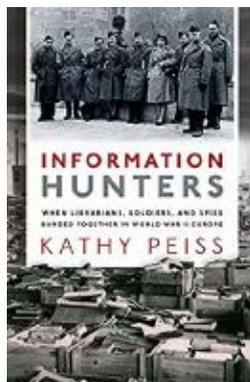
H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), Dorothy L. Sayers, Jane Ellen Harrison, Eileen Power, and Virginia Woolf are the memorable individuals, who lived in Mecklenburgh Square at different times. Wade captures their lives, works, and important contributions that they made, so women could choose independent, and fulfilling options in life. I was amazed and uplifted as I read about their struggles, and their achievements, knowing that they did make a difference, even though they felt hindered, and rebuffed, during the process. *Lisa, Membership Services*



**Un si long silence**

by Sara Abitbol (848 Ab14)

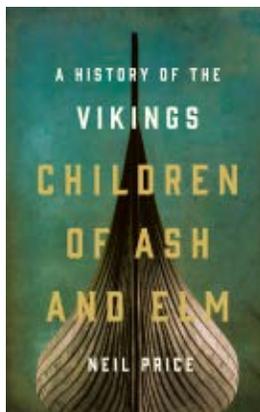
With her partner Stéphane Bernadis, Olympian and world champion medalist Sarah Abitbol won the French national pairs figure skater championship tenfold. She was also raped repeatedly by her coach beginning at the age of 15. In crisp prose, Abitbol and her co-writer Emmanuelle Anizon detail the enduring trauma of abuse. This book documents the life of the young sportswoman on her road to international acclaim (before and after changing coaches) and her move forward to address and investigate sexual abuse and the culture of silence; in general, and precisely within the Fédération française des sports de glace (French skating federation). As the title, "Such a long Silence," indicates, Abitbol confronts the barriers that keeps abuses hidden. In French, this book is accessible to those at with a basic knowledge of the French language. *Nancy, Archivist*



**Information Hunters: When Librarians, Soldiers, and Spies Banded Together in World War II Europe**

by Kathy Lee Peiss (940.548673 P379)

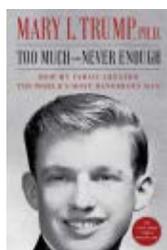
This descriptive compendium of World War II efforts by the United States to access and preserve informational resources before, during and postwar is an invaluable resource about intelligence, counter-intelligence and American research library collections. As the Second World War progressed, materials were collected for informational, evidential and preservation purposes. Large-scale micro-filming and bibliographic descriptive practices hold deep roots in these efforts. As the book title suggests, two groups: librarians and intelligence agents worked with intertwined purposes. At the war's end, this same group worked to return or find repositories scattered and plundered collections; efforts that became increasingly poignant as it became clear that many owners: individuals, families, and organizations no longer existed. Within these efforts are also revealed new beginnings of reformatting materials and other efforts to preserve and make accessible knowledge. *Nancy, Archivist*



**Children of Ash and Elm: A History of the Vikings**

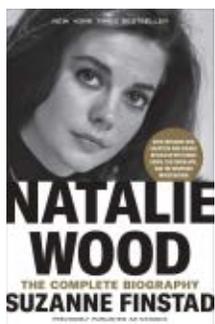
by Eric Price (948.022 P946)

This compelling and thoroughly enjoyable history of the Vikings is not for the squeamish. Price paints a vivid picture of Viking mythology, material culture, and historical significance, making this a must-read for history lovers. *Bea, Membership Services*



***Too Much and Never Enough***  
**by Mary L. Trump** (973.933 T871t)

This book reveals Donald Trump's family relationships and the truth behind the businessman who took over his father's company creating an image that is far from the reality. I recommend this book as it gives some insight into how Donald Trump became the ruthless man he is today. *Laura, Media Services*



***Natalie Wood***  
**by Suzanne Finstad**

(B W877)

This book gives a look into the entire life of Natalie Wood from her Russian parents coming to America through her career in movies starting as a child star and becoming one of America's most popular award-winning actresses. The book probes further into her numerous romantic relationships including her two marriages to Robert Wagner while shedding light on his involvement in her untimely death. If you are a Natalie Wood fan, you will like this book as it delves into her personal life and answers questions about who was responsible for her death. *Laura, Media Services*