

MCMPPL NEWSLETTER

Mary C. Moore Public Library

April 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Online newsletter: <http://www.lacombelibrary.com/newsletter/>

Spring Craft Night: Join us May 10, 6-8pm in the library, to make several Spring-fresh crafts! Adults only, please. Please register in advance, beginning April 18.

Annual Friends of the Library Garage Sale: Friday, May 12, 9am-4pm & Saturday, May 13, 9am-3pm at 5805 52 Ave Lacombe. Donations for the sale gratefully accepted at the library until 5pm on May 11. No clothing, appliances or mattresses, please. All proceeds to the library.

Genealogy Club: Are you interested in genealogy but don't know where to start? Are you working on your family history and excited to share your tips and findings with other enthusiasts? If so, be sure to join us at Genealogy Club! Upcoming meetings April 4&18 at 4:30pm in the library.

Four Eyes Film Series: Independent, International, Illuminating, Imaginative. Four Eyes screens notable independent and world films not typically available to film lovers in Lacombe and area. Films will be shown on the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August), 7pm at Lacombe City Cinemas. See the next page for all the details!

Colouring Club for Adults: Wednesdays, April 5&19, drop-in 6-8pm in the library. Relax, unwind and enjoy quiet conversation while being creative! All materials provided. This program is free to attend! Adults and older teens only, please. Held every other Wednesday —see our website for upcoming dates.

Chess Club! Love to play or want to learn? Bring your brain to the library Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm. Don't forget to sign up for our upcoming tournament, April 23, 1:30-3:30pm in the library.

Armchair Travel series: Tuesday, April 11, 7pm in the LMC: "A Little Bit About Belgium, A Little Country," presented by Andrew & Emma Nokes.

Local History series: will return in Autumn.

Book Club: For our May 2 meeting we are reading *H is for Hawk* by Helen MacDonald. "When Helen Macdonald's father died suddenly on a London street, she was devastated. An experienced falconer—Helen had been captivated by hawks since childhood—she'd never before been tempted to train one of the most vicious predators, the goshawk. But in her grief, she saw that the goshawk's fierce and feral temperament mirrored her own. Resolving to purchase and raise the deadly creature as a means to cope with her loss, she adopted Mabel, and turned to the guidance of *The Once and Future King* author T.H. White's chronicle *The Goshawk* to begin her challenging endeavor. Projecting herself "in the hawk's wild mind to tame her" tested the limits of Macdonald's humanity and changed her life. Heart-wrenching and humorous, this book is an unflinching account of bereavement and a unique look at the magnetism of an extraordinary beast, with a parallel examination of a legendary writer's eccentric falconry. Obsession, madness, memory, myth, and history combine to achieve a distinctive blend of nature writing and memoir from an outstanding literary innovator. "

Children's Programs: ALL PROGRAMS ARE FULL. Programs run until May 26. Stay tuned for information about the free summer reading program. Also, see our website for monthly free special events for kids.

ABOUT US

Hours

Monday-Thursday
10am-8pm
Friday
10am-5pm
Saturday
10am-5pm
Sunday & Stat Holidays
Closed

Library Services

Free Wi-Fi
Free public computer access
Printing
Faxing
Scan-to-email
Photocopying
Reference Questions
eBook/Audio downloads

Regular Programs

Children's Programs
Monthly Book Club
Knitting Club
Monthly Film Club
Adult Colouring Club
Local History Lectures
Armchair Travel Presentations



FOUR EYES FILM SERIES

Independent, International, Illuminating, Imaginative



Four Eyes screens notable independent and world films not typically available to film lovers in Lacombe and area. Films will be shown on the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August), 7pm at Lacombe City Cinemas. The film series is organized by a group of staff at Mary C. Moore Public Library. We acknowledge and appreciate our partnership with Toronto international Film Festival Film Circuit and Lacombe City Cinemas.

Tickets

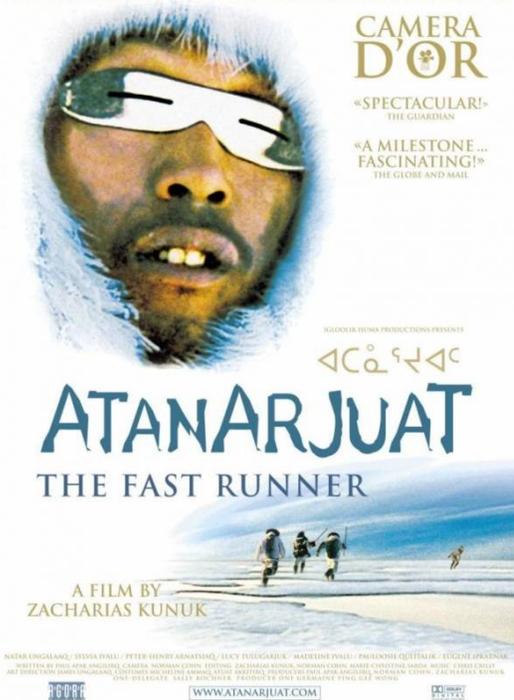
Advance tickets **\$9 each**, available at the library until noon on the day of the film. Door tickets are \$10 each, cash only and subject to availability. All tickets are final sale. Box office opens at 6:15pm in the lobby of Lacombe City Cinemas. All ticket proceeds to the library. Concession available!

APRIL 19

National Canadian Film Day FREE presentation of the award-winning *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner*, directed by Zacharias Kunuk

No ticket necessary -- just show up at the theatre!

OFFICIAL SELECTION CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2001



This sweeping epic features a cast of Inuit actors and is based on an ancient legends. Natar Ungalaaq stars as a young Inuit who falls for a woman (Sylvia Ivalu) who has been promised to the unlikable son of the tribal chief. The drama plays out against a stark Arctic background and includes some astonishing outdoor sequences.

Rated 14A

One night only! Don't miss it!

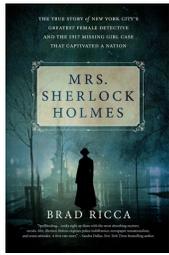
(If you do miss a screening, don't worry, a DVD copy of each film will be available in the library's collection)

See the full Four Eyes line-up, with film trailers, on our website.



NEW BOOK SPOTLIGHT

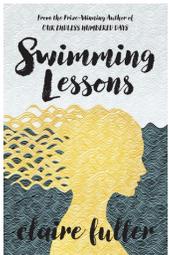
A selection of our recent acquisitions



Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York City's Greatest Female Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case That Captivated a Nation by Brad Ricca

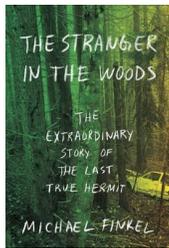
Mrs. Sherlock Holmes tells the true story of Grace Humiston, the detective and lawyer who turned her back on New York society life to become one of the nation's greatest crime fighters during an era when women weren't involved with murder investigations. After agreeing to take the sensational Cruger case, Grace and her partner, the hard-boiled detective Julius J. Kron, navigated a dangerous web of secret boyfriends, two-faced cops, underground tunnels, rumors of white slavery, and a mysterious pale man — in a desperate race against time. This is the first-ever narrative biography of this singular woman the press nicknamed after fiction's greatest detective. This poignant story reveals important corollaries between missing girls, the role of the media, and the real truth of crime stories.

The great mystery of Mrs. Sherlock Holmes —and its haunting twist ending—is how one woman could become so famous only to disappear completely.



Swimming Lessons by Claire Fuller

Ingrid Coleman writes letters to her husband, Gil, about the truth of their marriage, but instead of giving them to him, she hides them in the thousands of books he has collected over the years. When Ingrid has written her final letter she disappears from a Dorset beach, leaving behind her beautiful but dilapidated house by the sea, her husband, and her two daughters, Flora and Nan. Twelve years later, Gil thinks he sees Ingrid from a bookshop window, but he's getting older and this unlikely sighting is chalked up to senility. Flora, who has never believed her mother drowned, returns home to care for her father and to try to finally discover what happened to Ingrid. But what Flora doesn't realize is that the answers to her questions are hidden in the books that surround her. Scandalous and whip-smart, *Swimming Lessons* holds the Coleman family up to the light, exposing the mysterious truths of a passionate and troubled marriage.



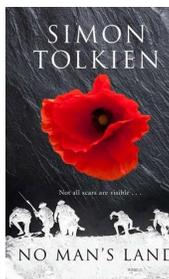
The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit by Michael Finkel

Many people dream of escaping modern life, but most will never act on it. This is the remarkable true story of a man who lived alone in the woods of Maine for 27 years, making this dream a reality—not out of anger at the world, but simply because he preferred to live on his own. In 1986, a shy and intelligent twenty-year-old named Christopher Knight left his home in Massachusetts, drove to Maine, and disappeared into the forest. He would not have a conversation with another human being until nearly three decades later, when he was arrested for stealing food. Living in a tent even through brutal winters, he had survived by his wits and courage, developing ingenious ways to store edibles and water, and to avoid freezing to death. He broke into nearby cottages for food, clothing, reading material, and other provisions, taking only what he needed but terrifying a community never able to solve the mysterious burglaries. Based on extensive interviews with Knight himself, this is a vividly detailed account of his secluded life—why did he leave? what did he learn?—as well as the challenges he has faced since returning to the world. It is a gripping story of survival that asks fundamental questions about solitude, community, and what makes a good life, and a deeply moving portrait of a man who was determined to live his own way, and succeeded.



Setting Free the Kites by Alex George

For Robert Carter, life in his coastal Maine hometown is comfortably predictable. But in 1976, on his first day of eighth grade, he meets Nathan Tilly, who changes everything. Nathan is confident, fearless, impetuous—and fascinated by kites and flying. Robert and Nathan's budding friendship is forged in the crucible of two family tragedies, and as the boys struggle to come to terms with loss, they take summer jobs at the local rundown amusement park. It's there that Nathan's boundless capacity for optimism threatens to overwhelm them both, and where they learn some harsh truths about family, desire, and revenge. Unforgettable and heart-breaking, *Setting Free the Kites* is a poignant and moving exploration of the pain, joy, and glories of young friendship.



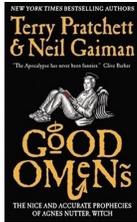
No Man's Land by Simon Tolkien

Inspired by the real-life experiences of his grandfather, J. R. R. Tolkien, during World War I, Simon Tolkien delivers a perfectly rendered novel rife with class tension, period detail, and stirring action, ranging from the sharply divided society of northern England to the trenches of the Somme. Adam Raine is a boy cursed by misfortune. His impoverished childhood in turn-of-the-century London comes to a sudden and tragic end when his mother is killed in a workers' protest march. His father, Daniel, is barely able to cope with the loss. But a job offer in the coal mining town of Scarsdale presents one last chance, so father and son head north. The relocation is hard on Adam: the local boys prove difficult to befriend, and he never quite fits in. Meanwhile tensions between the miners and their employer, Sir John Scarsdale, escalate, and finally explode with terrible consequences. In the aftermath, Adam's fate shifts once again, and he finds himself drawn into the opulent Scarsdale family home where he makes an enemy of Sir John's son, Brice, who subjects Adam to a succession of petty cruelties for daring to step above his station. However, Adam finds consolation in the company of Miriam, the local parson's beautiful daughter with whom he falls in love. When they become engaged and Adam wins a scholarship to Oxford, he starts to feel that his life is finally coming together—until the outbreak of war threatens to tear everything apart. From the slums of London to the riches of an Edwardian country house; from the hot, dark seams of a Yorkshire coal mine to the exposed terrors of the trenches in France; Adam's journey from boy to man is set against the backdrop of a society violently entering the modern world.

ON-A-THEME

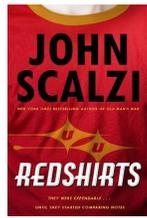
Discover new books & authors

Humourous Fantasy



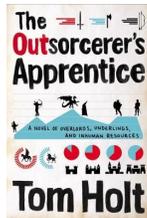
Good Omens by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman

According to *The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch* (the world's only completely accurate book of prophecies, written in 1655, before she exploded), the world will end on a Saturday. Next Saturday, in fact. Just before dinner. So the armies of Good and Evil are amassing, Atlantis is rising, frogs are falling, tempers are flaring. Everything appears to be going according to Divine Plan. Except a somewhat fussy angel and a fast-living demon—both of whom have lived amongst Earth's mortals since *The Beginning* and have grown rather fond of the lifestyle—are not actually looking forward to the coming Rapture. And someone seems to have misplaced the Antichrist . . .



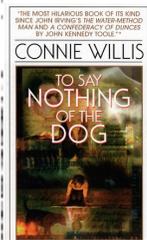
Redshirts by John Scalzi

Ensign Andrew Dahl has just been assigned to the Universal Union Capital Ship *Intrepid*, flagship of the Universal Union since the year 2456. It's a prestige posting, and Andrew is thrilled all the more to be assigned to the ship's Xenobiology laboratory. Life couldn't be better...until Andrew begins to pick up on the fact that: One, every Away Mission involves some kind of lethal confrontation with alien forces. Two, the ship's captain, its chief science officer, and the handsome Lieutenant Kerensky always survive these confrontations. Three, at least one low-ranked crew member is, sadly, always killed. Not surprisingly, a great deal of energy below decks is expended on avoiding, at all costs, being assigned to an Away Mission. Then Andrew stumbles on information that completely transforms his and his colleagues' understanding of what the starship *Intrepid* really is...and offers them a crazy, high-risk chance to save their own lives.



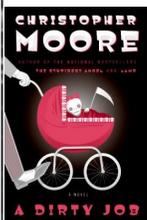
The Outsorcerer's Apprentice by Tom Holt

A happy workforce, it is said, is a productive workforce. Mmmm. Try telling that to an army of belligerent goblins. Or the Big Bad Wolf. Or a professional dragonslayer. Who is looking after their well-being? Who gives a damn about their intolerable working conditions, lack of adequate health insurance, and terrible coffee in the canteen? Thankfully, with access to an astonishingly diverse workforce and limitless natural resources, maximizing revenue and improving operating profit has never really been an issue for the one they call "the Wizard." Until now. Because now a perfectly good business model -- based on sound fiscal planning, entrepreneurial flair, and only one or two of the infinite parallel worlds that make up our universe -- is about to be disrupted by a young man not entirely aware of what's going on. There's also a slight risk that the fabric of reality will be torn to shreds. You really do have to be awfully careful with these things.



To Say Nothing of the Dog by Connie Willis

When too many jumps back to 1940 leave 21st century Oxford history student Ned Henry exhausted, a relaxing trip to Victorian England seems the perfect solution. But complexities like recalcitrant rowboats, missing cats, and love at first sight make Ned's holiday anything but restful - to say nothing of the way hideous pieces of Victorian art can jeopardize the entire course of history.



A Dirty Job by Christopher Moore

Charlie Asher is a pretty normal guy with a normal life, married to a bright and pretty woman who actually loves him for his normalcy. They're even about to have their first child. Yes, Charlie's doing okay—until people start dropping dead around him, and everywhere he goes a dark presence whispers to him from under the streets. Charlie Asher, it seems, has been recruited for a new position: as Death. It's a dirty job, but hey! Somebody's got to do it.



The Wee Free Men by Terry Pratchett

Armed only with a frying pan and her common sense, Tiffany Aching, a young witch-to-be, is all that stands between the monsters of Fairyland and the warm, green Chalk country that is her home. Forced into Fairyland to seek her kidnapped brother, Tiffany allies herself with the Chalk's local Nac Mac Feegle - aka the Wee Free Men - a clan of sheep-stealing, sword-wielding, six-inch-high blue men who are as fierce as they are funny. Together they battle through an eerie and ever-shifting landscape, fighting brutal flying fairies, dream-spinning dromes, and grimhounds - black dogs with eyes of fire and teeth of razors - before ultimately confronting the Queen of the Elves, absolute ruler of a world in which reality intertwines with nightmare. And in the final showdown, Tiffany must face her cruel power alone...In a riveting narrative that is equal parts suspense and humor, Carnegie Medalist Terry Pratchett returns to his internationally popular Discworld with a breathtaking tale certain to leave fans, new and old, enthralled.

COMING SOON!

The following titles are currently on order.
Place your request today online, or in person at the Library

Adult Fiction

Ayobami Adebayo - Stay With Me
Robert Bradley Abraham - Magicians Impossible
Susan Wittig Albert- The Last Chance Olive Ranch
Kate Alcott - Hollywood Daughter
Jeffrey Archer - This Was a Man
David Baldacci - Fix
Linwood Barclay - The Twenty-Three
Diksha Basu - Delhi Riche
Elizabeth Berg - The Story of Arthur Truluv
Steve Berry - The Lost Order
Benjamin Black - Wolf on a String
John Boyne - History of Loneliness
Patricia Briggs - Silence Fallen
Ken Bruen - Merrick
Edna Buchanan - Dead Man's Daughter
James Lee Burke - Jealous Kid
Shannon Burke - Into the Savage Country
Tom Calloghan - Killing Winter
W. Bruce Cameron - Dog's Way Home
Andrea Camilleri - Nest of Vipers
Janie Chang - Dragon Springs Road
Tracy Chevalier - New Boy
Lee Child - Night School
Mary Higgins Clark - All by Myself Alone
Carol Higgins Clark - Knocked
Ann Cleeves - Moth Catcher
Margaret Coel - Man Who Fell from the Sky
Michael Connelly - The Wrong Side of Goodbye
John Connolly - Game of Ghosts
Colin Cotterill - Rat Catchers Olympics
Meg Donohue - Every Wild Heart
Brian Doyle - The Adventures of John Carson in Several Quarters of the World
Brendan Duffy - House of Echoes
Kate Ellis - Mermaid's Scream
Amy Engel - Roanoke Girls
Janet Evanovich - Dangerous Minds
Ellen Feldman - Terrible Virtue
John-Paul Flintoff - What If the Queen Should Die?
Jonathan Safran Foer - Here I Am
Ken Follett - Column of Fire
Nicci French - Dark Saturday
Diana Gabaldon - Seven Stones to Stand or Fall
Michelle Gable - I'll See You in Paris
Roxane Gay - Difficult Women
John Freeman Gill - Gargoyle Hunters
Barbara Gowdy - Little Sister
Heather Graham - Darkest Journey
Shelley Shepard Gray - Her Secret
Elly Griffiths - Chalk Pit
John Grisham - Camino Island
Karo Hämmäläinen - Cruel is the Night
Robert Harris - Conclave

Cynthia Harrod-Eagles - One Under
Cynthia Harrod-Eagles - Star Fall
Nadia Hashimi - House With No Windows
Paula Hawkins - Into the Water
Terry Hayes - The Year of the Locust
Mark Henshaw - Fall of Moscow Station
Keigo Higashino - Detective Galileo
Elin Hilderbrand - Winter Storms
Tami Hoag - Boy
Alice Hoffman - Faithful
Kay Hooper - Wait for the Dark
Anthony Horowitz - Magpie Murders
Arnaldur Indridason - Shadow District
Sue Ann Jaffarian - Ghosts of Misty Hollow
Peter James - Need You Dead
J.A. Jance - Downfall
Balli Kaur Jaswal - Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows
Maureen Jennings - Dead Ground in Between
Laurie R. King - Lockdown
Danya Kukafka - Girl in Snow
Dean Koontz - Secret Forest
Elizabeth Kostova - Shadow Land
Kevin Kwan - Rich People Problems
Min Jin Lee - Pachinko
Donna Leon - Earthly Remains
Debbie Macomber - Sweet Tomorrow
George R.R. Martin - Mystery Knight
Peter May - Coffin Road
Val McDermid - The Last Temptation
Andy McDermott - Kingdom of Darkness
Teresa Messineo - Fire by Night
James Oswald - Prayer for the Dead
Anne Perry - Murder on the Serpentine
Vaddey Ratner - Music of the Ghosts
Ruth Rendell - Dark Corners
Kathy Reichs - Two Nights
Candace Robb - Service of the Dead
J.D. Robb - Brotherhood in Death
Nora Roberts - Bay of Sighs
Nora Roberts - Come Sundown
Arundhati Roy - Ministry of Utmost Happiness
John Sandford - Deep Freeze
Rakesh Satyal - No One Can Pronounce My Name
Lisa Scottoline - Exposed
Lisa See - Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane
Anita Shreve - Stars Are Fire
Lionel Shriver - Mandibles
Yrsa Sigurdardottir - Legacy
S.J. Sindu - Marriage of a Thousand Lies
Karin Slaughter - Good Daughter
Mickey Spillane - Big Showdown
Danielle Steel - Duchess
Emma Straub - Modern Lovers
Elizabeth Strout - Anything is Possible
Matthew Sullivan - Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore
Andrea Thalasinis - Fly by Night

Brad Thor - Foreign Agent
Colm Toibin - House of Names
Peter Tremayne - Penance of the Damned
Adriana Trigiani - Kiss Carlo
Fred Vargas - Ice Age
Mary Walsh - Crying for the Moon
Alison Weir - Anne Boleyn
Alison Weir - Katherine of Aragon
Iona Wishaw - Death in a Darkening Mist
Randy Wayne White - Deep Blue

Adult Non-Fiction

If I Understood You, Why Would I Have this Look on My Face? by Alan Alda
You Don't Have to Say You Love Me by Sherman Alexie
Inside the Inferno: A Firefighter's Story of the Brotherhood that Saved Fort McMurray by Damian Asher
Where I Live by Sharon Butala
Among the Walking Wounded : Soldiers, Survival, and PTSD by John Conrad
From Holmes to Sherlock by Michael Gallagher
From Oral to Written: A Celebration of Native Canadian Literature, 1980-2010 by Tomson Highway
Along the Western Front by Leah Hennel
River of Time by Naomi Judd
Nazi Hunters by Andrew Nagorski
I Need a Lifeguard Everywhere but the Pool by Lisa Scottoline

WHAT WE'RE READING

Staff Picks

Amy

I See You by Clare Mackintosh

You do the same thing every day. You know exactly where you're going. You're not alone. When Zoe Walker sees her photo in the classifieds section of a London newspaper, she is determined to find out why it's there. There's no explanation: just a website, a grainy image and a phone number. She takes it home to her family, who are convinced it's just someone who looks like Zoe. But the next day the advert shows a photo of a different woman, and another the day after that. Is it a mistake? A coincidence? Or is someone keeping track of every move they make . . .

Arlene

Dead Cold by Louise Penny

The falling snow brings a hush to Three Pines - until a scream pierces the air. A spectator at the annual Boxing Day curling match has been fatally electrocuted. Heading the investigation, Chief Inspector Armand Gamache unravels the dead woman's past and discovers a history of secrets and enemies. But Gamache has enemies of his own. As a bitter wind blows into the village, something even more chilling is sneaking up behind him...

Connie

Staked by Kevin Hearne

When a druid has lived for two thousand years like Atticus, he's bound to run afoul of a few vampires. Make that legions of them. Even his former friend and legal counsel turned out to be a bloodsucking backstabber. Now the toothy troublemakers—led by power-mad pain-in-the-neck Theophilus—have become a huge problem requiring a solution. It's time to make a stand. As always, Atticus wouldn't mind a little backup. But his allies have problems of their own. Ornery archdruid Owen Kennedy is having a wee bit of troll trouble: Turns out when you stiff a troll, it's not water under the bridge. Meanwhile, Granuaile is desperate to free herself of the Norse god Loki's mark and elude his powers of divination—a quest that will bring her face-to-face with several Slavic nightmares. As Atticus globetrotts to stop his nemesis Theophilus, the journey leads to Rome. What better place to end an immortal than the Eternal City? But poetic justice won't come without a price: In order to defeat Theophilus, Atticus may have to lose an old friend.

Emma Joy

Caraval by Stephanie Garber

Scarlett Dragna has never left the tiny island where she and her sister, Tella, live with their powerful, and cruel, father. Now Scarlett's father has arranged a marriage for her, and Scarlett thinks her dreams of seeing Caraval—the faraway, once-a-year performance where the audience participates in the show—are over. But this year, Scarlett's long-dreamt-of invitation finally arrives. With the help of a mysterious sailor, Tella whisks Scarlett away to the show. Only, as soon as they arrive, Tella is kidnapped by Caraval's mastermind organizer, Legend. It turns out that this season's Caraval revolves around Tella, and whoever finds her first is the winner. Scarlett has been told that everything that happens during Caraval is only an elaborate performance. Nevertheless she becomes enmeshed in a game of love, heartbreak, and magic. And whether Caraval is real or not, Scarlett must find Tella before the five nights of the game are over or a dangerous domino effect of consequences will be set off, and her beloved sister will disappear forever.

Julie

Inside the Third Reich by Albert Speer

From 1946 to 1966, while serving the prison sentence handed down from the Nuremberg War Crimes tribunal, Albert Speer penned 1,200 manuscript pages of personal memoirs. Titled *Erinnerungen ("Recollections")* upon their 1969 publication in German, Speer's critically acclaimed personal history was translated into English and published one year later as *Inside the Third Reich*. Long after their initial publication, Speer's memoir continues to provide one of the most detailed and fascinating portrayals of life within Hitler's inner circles, the rise and fall of the third German empire, and of Hitler himself. Speer chronicles his entire life, but the majority of *Inside the Third Reich* focuses on the years between 1933 and 1945, when Speer figured prominently in Hitler's government and the German war effort as Inspector General of Buildings for the Renovation of the Federal Capital and later as Minister of Arms and Munitions. Speer's recollections of both duties foreground the impossibility of reconciling Hitler's idealistic, imperialistic ambitions with both architectural and military reality. Throughout, *Inside the Third Reich* remains true to its author's intentions. With compelling insight, Speer reveals many of the "premises which almost inevitably led to the disasters" of the Third Reich as well as "what comes from one man's holding unrestricted power in his hands.

Kirstin

The Chilbury Ladies' Choir by Jennifer Ryan

As England enters World War II's dark early days, spirited music professor Primrose Trent, recently arrived to the village of Chilbury, emboldens the women of the town to defy the Vicar's stuffy edict to shutter the church's choir in the absence of men and instead 'carry on singing'. Resurrecting themselves as "The Chilbury Ladies' Choir", the women of this small village soon use their joint song to lift up themselves, and the community, as the war tears through their lives. Told through letters and journals, The Chilbury Ladies' Choir moves seamlessly from budding romances to village intrigues to heartbreaking matters of life and death. As we come to know the struggles of the charismatic members of this unforgettable outfit -- a timid widow worried over her son at the front; the town beauty drawn to a rakish artist; her younger sister nursing an impossible crush and dabbling in politics she doesn't understand; a young Jewish refugee hiding secrets about her family, and a conniving midwife plotting to outrun her seedy past -- we come to see how the strength each finds in the choir's collective voice reverberates in her individual life.

Mary

The Tower, The Zoo, and The Tortoise by Julia Stuart

Balthazar Jones has lived in the Tower of London with his loving wife, Hebe, and his 181-year-old pet tortoise for the past eight years. That's right, he is a Beefeater (they really do live there). It's no easy job living and working in the tourist attraction in present-day London. Among the eccentric characters who call the Tower's maze of ancient buildings and spiral staircases home are the Tower's Rack & Ruin barmaid, Ruby Dore, who just found out she's pregnant; portly Valerie Jennings, who is falling for ticket inspector Arthur Catnip; the lifelong bachelor Reverend Septimus Drew, who secretly pens a series of principled erotica; and the philandering Ravenmaster, aiming to avenge the death of one of his insufferable ravens. When Balthazar is tasked with setting up an elaborate menagerie within the Tower walls to house the many exotic animals gifted to the Queen, life at the Tower gets all the more interesting. Penguins escape, giraffes are stolen, and the Komodo dragon sends innocent people running for their lives. Balthazar is in charge and things are not exactly running smoothly. Then Hebe decides to leave him and his beloved tortoise "runs" away.

Melvyn

Blitzed: Drugs in Nazi Germany by Norman Ohler

The Nazis presented themselves as warriors against moral degeneracy. Yet, as Norman Ohler's gripping book reveals, the entire Third Reich was permeated with drugs: cocaine, heroin, morphine and, most of all, methamphetamines, or crystal meth, used by everyone from factory workers to housewives, and crucial to troops' resilience - even partly explaining German victory in 1940. The promiscuous use of drugs at the very highest levels also impaired and confused decision-making, with Hitler and his entourage taking refuge in potentially lethal cocktails of stimulants administered by the physician Dr. Morell as the war turned against Germany. While drugs cannot on their own explain the events of the Second World War or its outcome, Ohler shows, they change our understanding of it. *Blitzed* forms a crucial missing piece of the story.

Miranda

A Long Way Home by Saroo Brierley

When Saroo Brierley used Google Earth to find his long-lost home town half a world away, he made global headlines. Saroo had become lost on a train in India at the age of five. Not knowing the name of his family or where he was from, he survived for weeks on the streets of Kolkata, before being taken into an orphanage and adopted by a couple in Australia. Despite being happy in his new family, Saroo always wondered about his origins. He spent hours staring at the map of India on his bedroom wall. When he was a young man the advent of Google Earth led him to pore over satellite images of the country for landmarks he recognised. And one day, after years of searching, he miraculously found what he was looking for. Then he set off on a journey to find his mother.

Sharon

On Turpentine Lane by Elinor Lipman

At thirty-two, Faith Frankel has returned to her claustro-suburban hometown, where she writes institutional thank-you notes for her alma mater. It's a peaceful life, really, and surely with her recent purchase of a sweet bungalow on Turpentine Lane her life is finally on track. Never mind that her fiancé is off on a crowdfunded cross-country walk, too busy to return her texts (but not too busy to post photos of himself with a different woman in every state.) And never mind her witless boss, or a mother who lives too close, or a philandering father who thinks he's Chagall. When she finds some mysterious artifacts in the attic of her new home, she wonders whether anything in her life is as it seems. What good fortune, then, that Faith has found a friend in affable, collegial Nick Franconi, officemate par excellence . . . Elinor Lipman may well have invented the screwball romantic comedy for our era, and here she is at her sharpest and best. On Turpentine Lane is funny, poignant, and a little bit outrageous.

Victoria

Brooklyn by Colm Tóibín

Eilis Lacey has come of age in small-town Ireland in the hard years following World War Two. When an Irish priest from Brooklyn offers to sponsor Eilis in America -- to live and work in a Brooklyn neighborhood "just like Ireland" -- she decides she must go, leaving her fragile mother and her charismatic sister behind. Eilis finds work in a department store on Fulton Street, and when she least expects it, finds love. Tony, who loves the Dodgers and his big Italian family, slowly wins her over with patient charm. But just as Eilis begins to fall in love with Tony, devastating news from Ireland threatens the promise of her future.

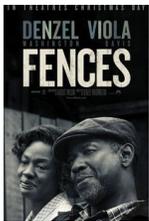
FILM PICKS

Highlights from our Special Film Collection

APRIL SPOTLIGHT New Award Winners



Nocturnal Animals, directed by Tom Ford, is a haunting romantic thriller of shocking intimacy and gripping tension that explores the thin lines between love and cruelty, and revenge and redemption. Academy Award nominees Amy Adams and Jake Gyllenhaal star in a "story inside a story," in which the first part follows a woman named Susan who receives a book manuscript from her ex-husband, a man whom she left 20 years earlier, asking for her opinion. The second element follows the actual manuscript, called "Nocturnal Animals," which revolves around a man whose family vacation turns violent and deadly. It also continues to follow the story of Susan, who finds herself recalling her first marriage and confronting some dark truths about herself. Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor, Golden Globe nomination for Best Screenplay, and Venice Film Festival winner for Grand Jury Prize (director Tom Ford).



Fences, directed by Denzel Washington, is an adaptation of August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, which centers on a black garbage collector named Troy Maxson in 1950s Pittsburgh. Bitter that baseball's color barrier was only broken after his own heyday in the Negro Leagues, Maxson is prone to taking out his frustrations on his loved ones. Both Washington and co-star Viola Davis won Tonys for their performances in the 2010 revival of the play. Oscar winner for Best Supporting Actress, Oscar nominations for Best Motion Picture, Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Actor, Golden Globe winner for Best Supporting Actress, and Golden Globe nomination for Best Actor.



Manchester by the Sea, directed by Kenneth Lonergan. After the death of his older brother Joe (Kyle Chandler), Lee Chandler (Casey Affleck) is shocked to learn that Joe has made him sole guardian of his nephew Patrick (Lucas Hedges). Taking leave of his job, Lee reluctantly returns to Manchester-by-the-Sea to care for Patrick, a spirited 16-year-old, and is forced to deal with a past that separated him from his wife Randi (Michelle Williams) and the community where he was born and raised. Bonded by the man who held their family together, Lee and Patrick struggle to adjust to a world without him. Oscar winner for Best Screenplay and Best Actor, Oscar nominations for Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Best Director, Golden Globe winner for Best Actor, Golden Globe nominations for Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress, Best Director and Best Screenplay.



The Eagle Huntress, directed by Otto Bell, follows Aisholpan, a 13-year-old girl, as she trains to become the first female in twelve generations of her Kazakh family to become an eagle hunter, and rises to the pinnacle of a tradition that has been handed down from father to son for centuries. Set against the breath-taking expanse of the Mongolian steppe, *The Eagle Huntress* features some of the most awe-inspiring cinematography ever captured in a documentary, giving this intimate tale of a young girl's quest the dramatic force of an epic narrative film. While there are many old Kazakh eagle hunters who vehemently reject the idea of any female taking part in their ancient tradition, Aisholpan's father Nurgaiv believes that a girl can do anything a boy can, as long as she's determined. The story begins after Aisholpan has been training with her father's eagle for many months. As every eagle can only have one master, the time has come for Aisholpan to capture an eagle of her own. Clambering down a sheer rock cliff with a rope, Aisholpan retrieves a fledgling eagle from its nest as its mother circles overhead. Her eagle will live, train, and hunt with her, until she releases it into the wild years later, so the cycle of life can continue. After months of training her eagle with her father, Aisholpan is ready to test her abilities. She enters a renowned competition, the Golden Eagle Festival, and faces off against 70 of the greatest Kazakh eagle hunters in Mongolia. The most arduous challenge is yet to come, as the rite-of-passage for every young eagle hunter is to take part in a hunt. Aisholpan must ride with her father deep into the frigid mountains and endure 40 below zero temperatures and perilous landscapes to prove she is a true eagle huntress. Winner of 8 independent film awards and recipient of 18 nominations.

Coming Soon:



Juste la fin du Monde (It's Only the End of the World), directed by Xavier Dolan. After 12 years of absence, a writer goes back to his home town, planning on announcing his upcoming death to his family. As resentment soon rewrites the course of the afternoon, fits and feuds unfold, fueled by loneliness and doubt, while all attempts at empathy are sabotaged by people's incapacity to listen and love. French with English subtitles. Cannes winner for Grand Prize of the Jury and Prize of the Ecumenical Jury, Cannes nomination for the Palme d'Or, National Film Award of France winner for Best Actor, Best Editing and Best Director

The Royal Library was abuzz with activity. The weather wizards had smiled down on the kingdom for the last half of March and sent warm temperatures and strong winds to melt the snow and bring a hint of spring to the realm. The Royal Children were searching for signs of spring and April would soon turn from brown to green. April being the month of many historical events; some important some that would cause some discussion of importance.

Lady Christina was busy with her administrative duties but still found the time to visit with the subjects and help in the community. Lady Christina has a super power. She has the power to shop and find the best sales. This scribe can only dream of having this talent. April Fact: April 6th, 1930 the first Hostess Twinkie is invented!

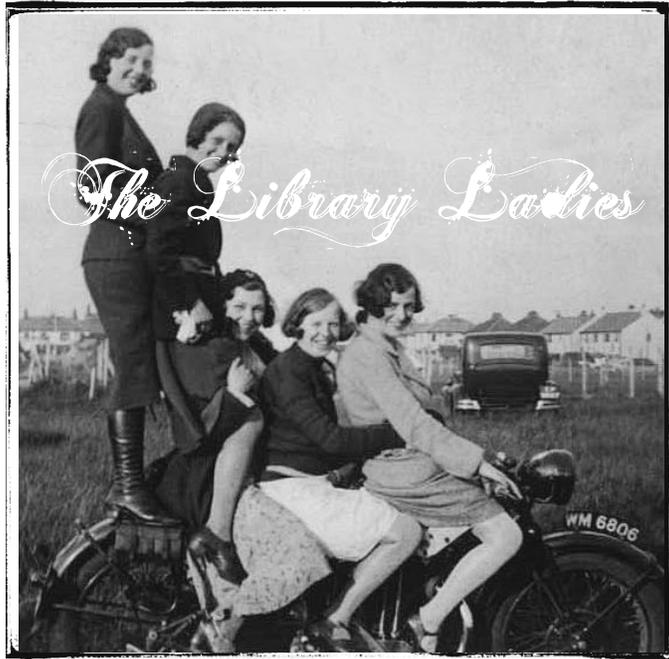
Lady Connie's kitchen had been repaired by Sir Steve and was beautiful. She was also busy at work with the many book loans that came from other regions. April Fact: April 15th, 1955 the McDonalds Corporation was founded and life would never be the same.

Lady Sharon was already making Christmas plans, since it looked like her daughter, Lady Jill, would be coming over from the realm of Northern Ireland in December. These things required much thought and planning of aviation times and celebration. April Fact: April 3rd, 1972 the first mobile phone call was placed. (Leading to the ease of texting so Lady Sharon can stay in contact with her family.)

Lady Mary was busy with the Royal Children and her own grandchildren as she was still in the midst of birthday parties. She was also ordering seeds and thinking about her garden. April Fact: April 30th, 1938 Bugs Bunny first appeared in a cartoon. (This started a lifelong love of Bugs and cartoons for Lady Mary.)

Lady Miranda was busy with the Royal Library programs but she was also honing her pottery skills with Lady Mary. They were having trouble with the glazing step of the process and would welcome any advice from the talented potters in the kingdom. April Fact: April 14, 1849 the first edition of the Webster's Dictionary is published.

Wizard Melvyn was planning her next art project for the Royal Children's Program Room. She was also ready for the basketball playoffs. April Fact: April 27th, 1981 the computer mouse was introduced. (Allowing vermin to finally become useful.)



Lady Victoria had entertained the subjects one evening with an excellent talk on her trip to the realm of the United Kingdom. April Fact: April 29th, 1852 the first edition of Peter Roget's Thesaurus was published.

Lady Kirstin and her family had enjoyed a mountain holiday and Princess Elspeth and Prince Rowan pronounced that they had an excellent time. April Fact: April 1st, 1891 the Wrigley Gum Company was founded in Chicago, Illinois.

Lady Amy had been afflicted with the plague but had overcome her illness very quickly. She was very busy with her plans for her yard in the beautiful country side. April Fact: April 20th, 1926 the first film with sound is produced.

Lady Julie had been very busy in her home replacing her wearing hardwood floors with beautiful new flooring. She works very hard and gets things done. April Fact: April 7th, 1827 John Walker invented the first friction match.

Lady Arlene is well and has forgiven this scribe for her gross negligence last newsletter. Due to cutting and pasting (which used to be a craft but is now an editing tool), Lady Arlene was cut and not pasted. Alas, this unfortunate error may have led to rumours that she was missing. Let me assure you that she is still a valued member of the Royal Library staff and is also a fine upstanding citizen. I could go on but I have groveled in person. April Fact: April 28th 1990 after 6,237 performances, the Broadway musical A Chorus Line closes.

Lady Emma Joy was combining her schooling and work and was successful at each. Add to that her talent in figure skating and she is a very remarkable person. April Fact: April 23rd, 1851 Canada's first official postage stamp, the three-penny beaver, is issued. (and was considered very expensive.)

The Royal Library Ladies were pleased with their subjects loyalty and looked forward to more of the realm joining their community.

Written by your loyal scribe,

Lady Miss Mary