

# MCMPL Newsletter

Mary C. Moore Public Library

July 2017

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

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

**The Library will be CLOSED July 1 through 3.**

**Friends of the Library Annual Lacombe Days BIG Book Sale:** Saturday, July 29, 10am-4pm in the Servus room in the LMC. Tons of books, magazines, movies and music for everyone! \$1 per item or \$5 for a bag. Donations for the sale gratefully accepted at the library.

**Book Club:** For our August 1 meeting we are reading *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon, the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him the bitter neighbor from hell, but must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time? Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heart-warming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations.

**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. Check back in August for news about our fall film line-up!

**Armchair Travel and Local History series:** will return in the fall.

**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! Meetings will resume in September.

**Colouring Club for Adults:** Wednesdays, July 12&26 and August 9&23, 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.

**Children's Programs:** Join the fun at our summer reading program! Stories, crafts and fun for ages 2-13! The Summer Reading Club runs July 4 through August 18. This is a FREE, drop-in program -- no registration required. Stop in or visit our website for days and times.

## 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  
Adult Colouring Club  
Local History Lectures  
Independent Film Series  
Armchair Travel Presentations



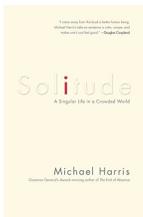
## NEW BOOK SPOTLIGHT

A selection of our recent acquisitions



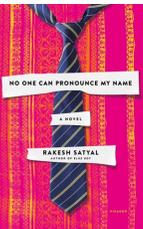
*Driving Miss Norma: One Family's Journey Saying "Yes" to Living* by Tim Bauerschmidt & Ramie Liddle

When Miss Norma was diagnosed with uterine cancer, she was advised to undergo surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. But instead of confining herself to a hospital bed for what could be her last stay, Miss Norma—newly widowed after nearly seven decades of marriage—rose to her full height of five feet and told the doctor, “I’m ninety years old. I’m hitting the road.” And so Miss Norma took off on an unforgettable around-the-country journey in a thirty-six-foot motor home with her retired son Tim, his wife Ramie, and their dog Ringo. As this once timid woman says “yes” to living in the face of death, she tries regional foods for the first time, reaches for the clouds in a hot air balloon, and mounts up for a horseback ride. With each passing mile (and one educational visit to a cannabis dispensary), Miss Norma’s health improves and conversations that had once been taboo begin to unfold. Norma, Tim, and Ramie bond in ways they had never done before, and their definitions of home, family, and friendship expand. Stop by stop, state by state, they meet countless people from all walks of life—strangers who become fast friends and welcome them with kindness and open hearts. Infused with this irrepressible nonagenarian’s wisdom, courage, and generous spirit, *Driving Miss Norma* is the charming, infectiously joyous chronicle of their experiences on the road. It portrays a transformative journey of living life on your own terms that shows us it is never too late to begin an adventure, inspire hope, or become a trailblazer.



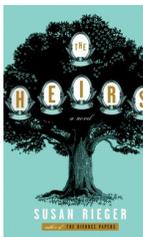
*Solitude: A Singular Life in a Crowded World* by Michael Harris

The capacity to be alone—properly alone—is one of life’s subtlest skills. Real solitude is a contented and productive state that garners tangible rewards: it allows us to reflect and recharge, improving our relationships with ourselves and, paradoxically, with others. Today, the zeitgeist embraces sharing like never before. Fueled by our dependence on online and social media, we have created an ecosystem of obsessive distraction that dangerously undervalues solitude. Many of us now lead lives of strangely crowded loneliness—we are ever-connected, but only shallowly so. Award-winning author Michael Harris examines why our experience of solitude has become so impoverished, and how we may grow to love it again in the frenzy of our digital landscape. *Solitude* is an optimistic and encouraging story about discovering true quiet inside the city, inside the crowd, inside our busy and urbane lives. Harris guides readers away from a life of ceaseless pings toward a state of measured connectivity, one that balances solitude and companionship. Rich with true stories about the life-changing power of solitude, and interwoven with reporting from the world’s foremost brain researchers, psychologists and tech entrepreneurs, *Solitude* is a beautiful and convincing statement on the benefits of being alone.



*No One Can Pronounce My Name* by Rakesh Satyal

In a suburb outside Cleveland, a community of Indian Americans has settled into lives that straddle the divide between Eastern and Western cultures. For some, America is a bewildering and alienating place where coworkers can’t pronounce your name but will eagerly repeat the Sanskrit phrases from their yoga class. Harit, a lonely Indian immigrant in his midforties, lives with his mother who can no longer function after the death of Harit’s sister, Swati. In a misguided attempt to keep both himself and his mother sane, Harit has taken to dressing up in a sari every night to pass himself off as his sister. Meanwhile, Ranjana, also an Indian immigrant in her midforties, has just seen her only child, Prashant, off to college. Worried that her husband has begun an affair, she seeks solace by writing paranormal romances in secret. When Harit and Ranjana’s paths cross, they begin a strange yet necessary friendship that brings to light their own passions and fears. *No One Can Pronounce My Name* is a distinctive, funny, and insightful look into the lives of people who must reconcile the strictures of their culture and traditions with their own dreams and desires.



*The Heirs* by Susan Rieger

Brilliantly wrought, incisive, and stirring, *The Heirs* tells the story of an upper-crust Manhattan family coming undone after the death of their patriarch. Six months after Rupert Falkes dies, leaving a grieving widow and five adult sons, an unknown woman sues his estate, claiming she had two sons by him. The Falkes brothers are pitched into turmoil, at once missing their father and feeling betrayed by him. A riveting portrait of a family, told with compassion, insight, and wit, *The Heirs* wrestles with the tangled nature of inheritance and legacy for one unforgettable, patrician New York family. A tale a la Edith Wharton for the 21st century.



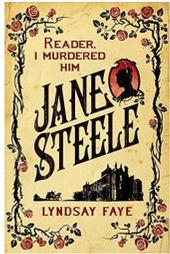
*This Accident of Being Lost* by Leanne Betasamosake Simpson

This Accident of Being Lost is the knife-sharp new collection of stories and songs from award-winning Nishnaabeg storyteller and writer Leanne Betasamosake Simpson. These visionary pieces build upon Simpson’s powerful use of the fragment as a tool for intervention in her critically acclaimed collection *Islands of Decolonial Love*. Provocateur and poet, she continually rebirths a decolonized reality, one that circles in and out of time and resists dominant narratives or comfortable categorization. A crow watches over a deer addicted to road salt; Lake Ontario floods Toronto to remake the world while texting “ARE THEY GETTING IT?”; lovers visit the last remaining corner of the boreal forest; three comrades guerrilla-tap maples in an upper middle-class neighbourhood; and Kwe gets her firearms license in rural Ontario. Blending elements of Nishnaabeg storytelling, science fiction, contemporary realism, and the lyric voice, *This Accident of Being Lost* burns with a quiet intensity, like a campfire in your backyard, challenging you to reconsider the world you thought you knew.

## READ-ALIKES

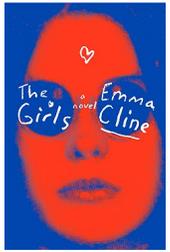
Discover new books & authors

### Beyond "Beach Reads"



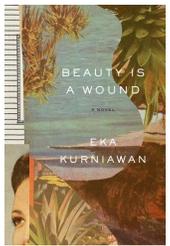
*Jane Steele* by Lyndsay Faye

A Gothic retelling of Jane Eyre. Like the heroine of the novel she adores, Jane Steele suffers cruelly at the hands of her aunt and schoolmaster. And like Jane Eyre, they call her wicked - but in her case, she fears the accusation is true. When she flees, she leaves behind the corpses of her tormentors. A fugitive navigating London's underbelly, Jane rights wrongs on behalf of the have-nots whilst avoiding the noose. Until an advertisement catches her eye. Her aunt has died and the new master at Highgate House, Mr. Thornfield, seeks a governess. Anxious to know if she is Highgate's true heir, Jane takes the position and is soon caught up in the household's strange spell. When she falls in love with the mysterious Charles Thornfield, she faces a terrible dilemma: can she possess him - body, soul and secrets - and what if he discovers her murderous past?



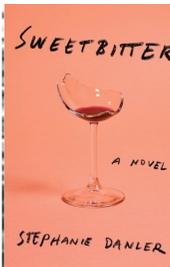
*The Girls* by Emma Cline

Northern California, during the violent end of the 1960s. At the start of summer, a lonely and thoughtful teenager, Evie Boyd, sees a group of girls in the park, and is immediately caught by their freedom, their careless dress, their dangerous aura of abandon. Soon, Evie is in thrall to Suzanne, a mesmerizing older girl, and is drawn into the circle of a soon-to-be infamous cult and the man who is its charismatic leader. Hidden in the hills, their sprawling ranch is eerie and run down, but to Evie, it is exotic, thrilling, charged—a place where she feels desperate to be accepted. As she spends more time away from her mother and the rhythms of her daily life, and as her obsession with Suzanne intensifies, Evie does not realize she is coming closer and closer to unthinkable violence, and to that moment in a girl's life when everything can go horribly wrong.



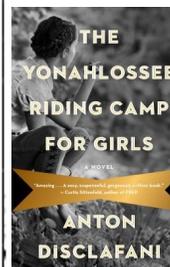
*Beauty is a Wound* by Eka Kurniawan, translated by Annie Tucker

The epic novel *Beauty Is a Wound* combines history, satire, family tragedy, legend, humor, and romance in a sweeping polyphony. The beautiful Indo prostitute Dewi Ayu and her four daughters are beset by incest, murder, bestiality, rape, insanity, monstrosity, and the often vengeful undead. Kurniawan's gleefully grotesque hyperbole functions as a scathing critique of his young nation's troubled past: the rapacious offhand greed of colonialism; the chaotic struggle for independence; the 1965 mass murders of perhaps a million "Communists," followed by three decades of Suharto's despotic rule. *Beauty Is a Wound* astonishes from its opening line: "One afternoon on a weekend in May, Dewi Ayu rose from her grave after being dead for twenty-one years..." Drawing on local sources—folk tales and the all-night shadow puppet plays, with their bawdy wit and epic scope—and inspired by Melville and Gogol, Kurniawan's distinctive voice brings something luscious yet astringent to contemporary literature.



*Sweetbitter* by Stephanie Danler

A lush, raw, thrilling novel of the senses about a year in the life of a uniquely beguiling young woman, set in the wild, alluring world of a famous downtown New York restaurant. "Let's say I was born when I came over the George Washington Bridge..." This is how we meet unforgettable Tess, the twenty-two-year-old at the heart of this stunning first novel. Shot from a mundane, provincial past, she's come to New York to look for a life she can't define, except as a burning drive to become someone, to belong somewhere. After she stumbles into a coveted job at a renowned Union Square restaurant, we spend the year with her as she learns the chaotic, punishing, privileged life of a "backwaiter," on duty and off. Her appetites—for food, wine, knowledge, and every kind of experience—are awakened. And she's pulled into the magnetic thrall of two other servers—a handsome bartender she falls hard for, and an older woman she latches onto with an orphan's ardor. These two and their enigmatic connection to each other will prove to be Tess's hardest lesson of all. *Sweetbitter* is a story of discovery, enchantment, and the power of what remains after disillusionment.



*The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls* by Anton DiSclafani

It is 1930, the midst of the Great Depression. After her mysterious role in a family tragedy, passionate, strong-willed Thea Atwell, age fifteen, has been cast out of her Florida home, exiled to an equestrienne boarding school for Southern debutantes. High in the Blue Ridge Mountains, with its complex social strata ordered by money, beauty, and girls' friendships, the Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls is a far remove from the free-roaming, dreamlike childhood Thea shared with her twin brother on their family's citrus farm—a world now partially shattered. As Thea grapples with her responsibility for the events of the past year that led her here, she finds herself enmeshed in a new order, one that will change her sense of what is possible for herself, her family, her country. Weaving provocatively between home and school, the narrative powerfully unfurls the true story behind Thea's expulsion from her family, but it isn't long before the mystery of her past is rivaled by the question of how it will shape her future. Part scandalous love story, part heartbreaking family drama, *The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls* is an immersive, transporting page-turner.

## 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  
V.S. Alexander - Taster  
Katherine Arden - The Girl in the Tower  
Jeffrey Archer - Tell Tale  
David Baldacci - End Game  
Linwood Barclay - The Twenty-Three  
Diksha Basu - Delhi Riche  
M.C. Beaton - Death of an Honest Man  
Chloe Benjamin - Immortalists  
Elizabeth Berg - The Story of Arthur Truluv  
Steve Berry - The Lost Order  
Rhys Bowen - Ghost of Christmas Past  
John Boyne - The Heart's Invisible Furies  
Alan Bradley - A Grave's a Fine and Private Place  
Patricia Briggs - Silence Fallen  
Dan Brown - Origin  
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 - Pyramid of Mud  
Lee Child - The Midnight Line  
Carol Higgins Clark - Knocked  
Ann Cleeves - The Seagull  
Margaret Coel - Man Who Fell from the Sky  
Genevieve Cogman - The Lost Plot  
Michael Connelly - The Wrong Side of Goodbye  
John Connolly - Game of Ghosts  
Bernard Cornwell - Fools and Mortals  
Colin Cotterill - Rat Catchers Olympics  
Fiona Davis - The Address  
Brian Doyle - The Adventures of John Carson in Several Quarters of the World  
Roddy Doyle - Smile  
Brendan Duffy - House of Echoes  
Janet Evanovich - Dangerous Minds  
Will Ferguson - The Shoe on the Roof  
Charles Finch - The Woman in the Water  
Ellen Feldman - Terrible Virtue  
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  
Sam Graham-Felsen - Green  
Shelley Shepard Gray - Her Secret  
Elly Griffiths - Chalk Pit  
Karo Hämäläinen - Cruel is the Night  
Charlaine Harris - Sleep Like a Baby  
Robert Harris - Conclave  
Cynthia Harrod-Eagles - One Under  
Cynthia Harrod-Eagles - Star Fall  
Nadia Hashimi - House With No Windows  
Terry Hayes - The Year of the Locust  
Kevin Hearne - Plague of Giants  
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  
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  
Cynthia Kadohata - Place I Belong  
Hannah Kent - The Good People  
Lars Kepler - Rabbit Hunter  
Marian Keyes - Break  
Laurie R. King - Lockdown  
Stephen King - Sleeping Beauty  
Danya Kukafka - Girl in Snow  
Dean Koontz - Secret Forest  
Lawrence H. Levy - Last Stop Brooklyn  
Debbie Macomber - Sweet Tomorrow  
George R.R. Martin - Mystery Knight  
Debbie Macomber - Merry & Bright  
Peter May - Cast Iron  
Val McDermid - The Last Temptation  
Andy McDermott - Kingdom of Darkness  
Martin McLinnes - Infinite Ground  
Teresa Messineo - Fire by Night  
Celeste Ng - Little Fires Everywhere  
James Oswald - Prayer for the Dead  
John Pielmeier - Hook's Tale  
Orhan Pamuk - The Red-Haired Woman  
Louise Penny - Glass Houses  
Anne Perry - Murder on the Serpentine  
Anne Perry - Echo of Murder  
Ruth Rendell - Dark Corners  
Kathy Reichs - Two Nights  
Candace Robb - Service of the Dead  
J.D. Robb - Brotherhood in Death  
Peter Robinson - Sleeping in the Ground  
Arundhati Roy - Ministry of Utmost Happiness  
Salman Rushdie - Golden House  
John Sandford - Deep Freeze  
Lisa Scottoline - Exposed  
Lionel Shriver - Mandibles  
Yrsa Sigurdardottir - Legacy  
Karin Slaughter - Good Daughter  
Mickey Spillane - Big Showdown

Danielle Steel - Duchess  
Elizabeth Strout - Anything is Possible  
Andrea Thalasinis - Fly by Night  
Brad Thor - Foreign Agent  
Roberto Tiraboschi - Apothecary's Shop  
Peter Tremayne - Penance of the Damned  
Adriana Trigiani - Kiss Carlo  
Fred Vargas - Ice Age  
Mary Walsh - Crying for the Moon  
Alison Weir - Katherine of Aragon  
Iona Whishaw - Death in a Darkening Mist  
Randy Wayne White - Deep Blue

### Adult Non-Fiction

Blood Brothers: The Story of the Strange Friendship between Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill by Deanne Stillman  
Original Highways: Travelling the Great Rivers of Canada by Roy MacGregor  
Sweet by Yotem Ottolenghi  
Seven Fallen Feathers: Racism, Death, and Hard Truths in a Northern City by Tanya Talaga  
Feeding My Mother: Comfort and Laughter in the Kitchen as My Mom Lives with Memory Loss Hardcover by Jann Arden  
Quackery: A Brief History of the Worst Ways to Cure Everything Hardcover by Lydia Kang & Nate Pedersen  
5 Ingredients: Quick & Easy Food by Jamie Oliver  
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  
Where I Live by Sharon Butala  
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  
Dirt is Good by Dr. Robert Knight  
North of Familiar by Terry Milos  
Nazi Hunters by Andrew Nagorski  
Peakbagger's Guide to the Canadian Rockies by Ben Nearingburg  
I Need a Lifeguard Everywhere but the Pool by Lisa Scottoline

## WHAT WE'RE READING

### Staff Picks

Amy

*Fifteen Dogs* by André Alexis

"I wonder", said Hermes, "what it would be like if animals had human intelligence." "I'll wager a year's servitude, answered Apollo, that animals – any animal you like – would be even more unhappy than humans are, if they were given human intelligence." And so it begins: a bet between the gods Hermes and Apollo leads them to grant human consciousness and language to a group of dogs overnighting at a Toronto vet-erinary clinic. Suddenly capable of more complex thought, the pack is torn between those who resist the new ways of thinking, preferring the old 'dog' ways, and those who embrace the change. The gods watch from above as the dogs venture into their newly unfamiliar world, as they become divided among themselves, as each struggles with new thoughts and feelings. Wily Benjy moves from home to home, Prince becomes a poet, and Majnoun forges a relationship with a kind couple that stops even the Fates in their tracks.

Arlene

*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 . . .

Connie

*Miss Julia Throws a Wedding* by Ann B. Ross

Readers love Miss Julia, the proper lady of a certain age with a backbone of iron and perfect Steel Magnolia poise, not to mention the sharpest tongue south of the Mason-Dixon Line. In *Miss Julia Throws a Wedding*, we find her feeling a little wistful when Hazel Marie, once her late husband's paramour and now her best friend, prepares to move out and live in sin with that marriage-shy Mr. Pickens. Suddenly, to Miss Julia's delight, a wedding is in the offing: Handsome Deputy Coleman Bates and attorney Binkie Enloe announce their plans to run down to the courthouse and tie the knot. But Miss Julia insists they have a real wedding ceremony and vows to make it happen. When a missing preacher, a crowd of uninvited guests, and a queasy bride threaten the happy event, Miss Julia is there to restore order, confirming her undying motto: if you want something done right, you have to do it yourself!

Emma Joy

*Beauty Sleep: A Retelling of Sleeping Beauty* by Cameron Dokey

The Princess Aurore has had an unusual childhood. Cursed at birth, Aurore is fated to prick her finger at the age of sixteen and sleep for one hundred years -- until a prince awakens her with a kiss. So, to protect her, Aurore's loving parents forbid any task requiring a needle. Unable to sew or embroider like most little princesses, Aurore instead explores the castle grounds and beyond, where her warmth and generosity soon endear her to the townspeople. Their devotion to the spirited princess grows as she does. On her sixteenth birthday, Aurore learns that the impending curse will harm not only her, but the entire kingdom as well. Unwilling to cause suffering, she will embark on a quest to end the evil magic. The princess's bravery will be rewarded as she finds adventure, enchantment, a handsome prince, and ultimately her destiny.

Julie

*Sick Puppy* by Carl Hiaasen

Independently wealthy eco-terrorist Twilly Spree teaches a flagrant litterbug a lesson--and leaves the offender's precious Range Rover swarming with hungry dung beetles. When he discovers the litterer is one of the most powerful political fixers in Florida, the real Hiaasen-style fun begins.

Kirstin

*Wolf Willow* by Wallace Stegner

Wallace Stegner weaves together fiction and nonfiction, history and impressions, childhood remembrance and adult reflections in this unusual portrait of his boyhood. Set in Cypress Hills in southern Saskatchewan, where Stegner's family homesteaded from 1914 to 1920, *Wolf Willow: A History, a Story & a Memory of the Last Plains Frontier* brings to life both the pioneer community and the magnificent landscape that surrounds it.

## Mary

*Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* by Margot Lee Shetterly

Before John Glenn orbited the Earth or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as "human computers" used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets and astronauts into space. Among these problem solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation. Originally relegated to teaching math in the South's segregated public schools, they were called into service during the labor shortages of World War II, when America's aeronautics industry was in dire need of anyone who had the right stuff. Suddenly these overlooked math whizzes had shots at jobs worthy of their skills, and they answered Uncle Sam's call, moving to Hampton, Virginia, and the fascinating, high-energy world of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory. Even as Virginia's Jim Crow laws required them to be segregated from their white counterparts, the women of Langley's all-black West Computing group helped America achieve one of the things it desired most: a decisive victory over the Soviet Union in the Cold War and complete domination of the heavens.

## Melvyn

*Spectacles* by Sue Perkins

"When I began writing this book, I went home to see if my mum had kept some of my stuff. What I found was that she hadn't kept some of it. She had kept all of it - every bus ticket, postcard, school report - from the moment I was born to the moment I finally had the confidence to turn round and say 'Why is our house full of this shit?' Sadly, a recycling 'incident' destroyed the bulk of this archive. This has meant two things: firstly, Dear Reader, you will never get to see countless drawings of wizards, read a poem about corn on the cob, or marvel at the kilos of brown flowers I so lovingly pressed as a child. Secondly, it's left me with no choice but to actually write this thing myself. This, my first ever book, will answer questions such as 'Is Mary Berry real?', 'Is it true you wear a surgical truss?' and 'Is a non-spherically symmetric gravitational pull from outside the observable universe responsible for some of the observed motion of large objects such as galactic clusters in the universe?' Most of this book is true. I have, of course, amplified my more positive characteristics in an effort to make you like me. Thank you for reading."

## Miranda

*Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid

In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet—sensual, fiercely independent Nadia and gentle, restrained Saeed. They embark on a furtive love affair and are soon cloistered in a premature intimacy by the unrest roiling their city. When it explodes, turning familiar streets into a patchwork of checkpoints and bomb blasts, they begin to hear whispers about doors—doors that can whisk people far away, if perilously and for a price. As the violence escalates, Nadia and Saeed decide that they no longer have a choice. Leaving their homeland and their old lives behind, they find a door and step through. *Exit West* follows these characters as they emerge into an alien and uncertain future, struggling to hold on to each other, to their past, to the very sense of who they are. Profoundly intimate and powerfully inventive, it tells an unforgettable story of love, loyalty, and courage that is both completely of our time and for all time.

## Morgan

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Wells

*The Glass Castle* is a remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant. When sober, Jeannette's brilliant and charismatic father captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and how to embrace life fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity and didn't want the responsibility of raising a family. The Walls children learned to take care of themselves. They fed, clothed, and protected one another, and eventually found their way to New York. Their parents followed them, choosing to be homeless even as their children prospered.

## Sharon

*Police at the Station and They Don't Look Friendly* by Adrian McKinty

Belfast 1988: A man is found dead, killed with a bolt from a crossbow in front of his house. This is no hunting accident. But uncovering who is responsible for the murder will take Detective Sean Duffy down his most dangerous road yet, a road that leads to a lonely clearing on a high bog where three masked gunmen will force Duffy to dig his own grave. Hunted by forces unknown, threatened by Internal Affairs, and with his relationship on the rocks, Duffy will need all his wits to get out of this investigation in one piece.

## Victoria

*Half-Off Ragnarok* by Seanan McGuire

When Alex Price agreed to go to Ohio to oversee a basilisk breeding program and assist in the recovery of his psychic cousin, he didn't expect people to start dropping dead. But bodies are cropping up at the zoo where he works, and his girlfriend—Shelby Tanner, an Australian zoologist with a fondness for big cats—is starting to get suspicious. Worse yet, the bodies have all been turned partially to stone... The third book in the *InCryptid* series takes us to a new location and a new member of the family, as Alex tries to balance life, work, and the strong desire not to become a piece of garden statuary. Old friends and new are on the scene, and danger lurks around every corner.

## FILM PICKS

Highlights from our Special Film Collection

### JULY SPOTLIGHT Focus on Indigenous Films



*Hank Williams First Nation*, directed by Aaron James Sorensen. An elderly Cree man decides that before he dies he must travel via Greyhound from his remote Indian Reservation in Northern Canada, into the southern United States to visit the grave of Hank Williams. Along the way he and his travelling companion, a 17 year old nephew, are picked up as a regional human-interest story in the US press. News of their growing celebrity causes a stir back home among an eclectic cast of locals; including a chief running desperately for re-election, a young girl trying desperately to find a prom date, a teacher trying desperately to help, and a social worker trying desperately to get a transfer.

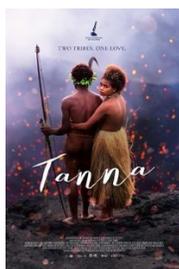


*Songs My Brothers Taught Me*, directed by Chloé Zhao. The setting is the often starkly beautiful Badlands of South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation; most of the key players are young Lakota Native Americans who attend Little Wound High School. Johnny and his preteen sister, Jashaun, spend time on horseback when they're not selling illegal liquor or tattoo-designed apparel. Director Chloé Zhao captures the subtleties of a marginalized existence in which the historic culture of a people can't compete on a level playing field with the modern problems of poverty, alcoholism, and violence. Amazingly, she embroiders her tale with moments of breathtaking natural beauty that offset the despair her characters struggle against. *Songs* is an auspicious debut feature from a director whose superb eye is informed by the sophisticated and nuanced compassion she brings to her story.

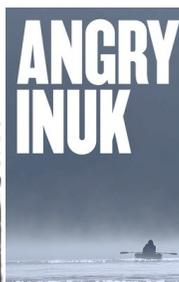


*Unikkausivut: AtuKatigennik Unikkausittinik: Sharing Our Stories*. The Inuit have a long and vibrant tradition of passing tales and legends down from one generation to the next using visual arts and storytelling. For the past 70 years, the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) has been documenting life in the Arctic through the production of films by, and about, the Inuit. The NFB's collection of more than 100 documentaries and animated films represents a unique audiovisual account of the life of the Inuit—an account that should be shared with, and celebrated by, all Canadians. The National Film Board of Canada - in collaboration with the Inuit Relations Secretariat of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, the Government of Nunavut (Department of Education), and with the support of Inuit organizations - has selected more than 60 films from its collection, the most important worldwide, that represent all 4 Canadian Inuit regions (Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut and Inuvialuit), some available in Inuktitut. Discover a powerful portrait of the Inuit experience, past and present, in these animated shorts and documentaries.

### Coming Soon:



*Tanna*, directed by Bentley Dean and Martin Butler. *Tanna*, an extraordinary Australia/Vanuatu co-production, is a Romeo and Juliet story set in one of the world's last true tribal societies. It is the first feature film shot entirely in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu, in a village called Yakel. The people of this remote community, high in the mountain rainforests near a spitting volcano, truly wear grass skirts and sheaths and have rejected colonial and Christian influences in favor of their traditional and pure "Kastom" system of laws and beliefs. Their customs and lifestyle have changed little for centuries. Before *Tanna*, they had never before seen a movie or a camera, yet welcomed the filmmakers to live with the tribe for seven months where they absorbed stories and observed ceremonies, with the input and collaboration of the local people. None of the 'cast' had ever acted before, but they passionately and naturally re-created this real-life story from recent tribal history as if they had had years of training. *Tanna* is a spectacularly lush and exotic film that is Australia's submission for the Academy Awards Best Foreign Film of 2017.



*Angry Inuk*, directed by Alethea Arnaquq-Baril. In her award-winning documentary, Arnaquq-Baril joins a new tech-savvy generation of Inuit as they campaign to challenge long-established perceptions of seal hunting. Armed with social media and their own sense of humour and justice, this group is bringing its own voice into the conversation and presenting themselves to the world as a modern people in dire need of a sustainable economy.



his edition of library ladies is coming to you from the realm of Vancouver, B.C. and area.

This scribe is on holidays but thought why not take a moment and share some of my experiences with my readers and my co-peons. I will briefly recount times in my holiday that I was reminded of each lady as well as a little more about the city.

Lady Christina came to mind as I saw the poster for the Dragon Boat races and realized that she would have been so excited that she would have squealed with joy and her energy alone would have made the teams row faster. Vancouver fact: The Lion's Gate Bridge was opened in 1938 and can be a traffic nightmare. I'm wondering who thought three lanes made sense?

I thought of Lady Connie as I perused the shops with beautiful cloth from all over the world. She would enjoy the colours and texture of all the material and, perhaps, would make it into something lovely. Vancouver fact: Vancouver is the third largest film producer after L.A. and New York.

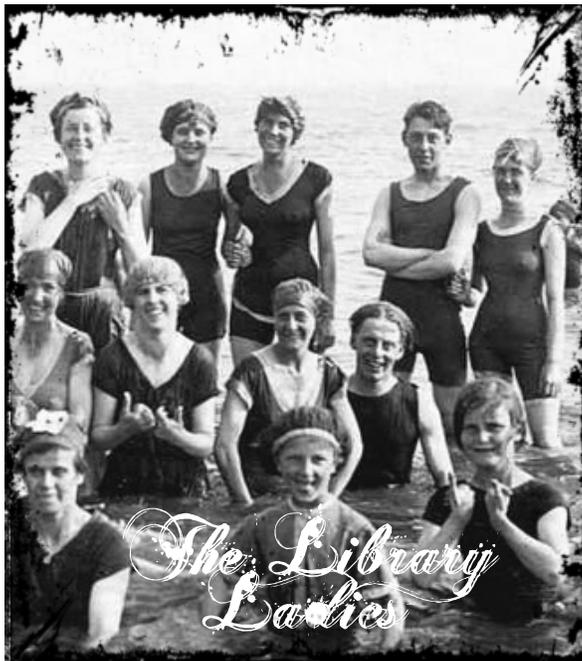
Lady Sharon would have enjoyed the conversation I had with a busker from the realm of Belfast, Northern Ireland about home. He had travelled here to escape the constant rain and laughingly said there was still rain but it was warmer rain than home. Vancouver fact: It rains an average of 165 days a year in Vancouver which is nothing compared to Northern Ireland.

Lady Mary was reminded of herself as she watched the thousands of people scurry to their work and couldn't understand why people wanted to live in this huge tangle of vehicles and skyscrapers but as a visitor it was an experience not to be forgotten. Vancouver fact: Stanley Park is 10% larger than Central Park in New York at 1001 acres, making this scribe able to imagine she was in the country.

Lady Miranda came to mind as I sought out the pottery studios and the Museum of Anthropology pottery exhibit and realized that we too will one day create something beautiful. Also, I saw many people trip and fall so she came to mind again. Vancouver fact: The Marine Building on Burrard St was once the tallest building in the British Empire.

For Wizard Melvyn it was a tie between all the cyclists in and around this city and the mandala that was on the Sunshine Coast that different people had filled in the spaces with their own artwork. Vancouver Fact: Residents of Vancouver take over 131 000 bike trips each day.

Lady Victoria came to mind when I toured the various libraries in the area. From the Vancouver Public library that was six stories high to the Gibsons Public Library that had a stunning view of the mountains to Robert's Creek Library that was a beautiful little cabin. Vancouver fact: All the grey squirrels in Stanley Park are descendants of 8 pairs of squirrels given to the city of Vancouver from New York City in 1909.



Lady Kirstin would enjoy the beautiful tree shaded paths of the Ecology Centre where you can forget you're in the city and they have done a fine job of keeping it natural. Vancouver fact: In 1930 a Vancouver hen laid 367 eggs in 365 days for a world record.

Lady Amy, what can I say: the number of motorcycles is incredible. From the mountain passes to Whistler they wove in and out of traffic and arrived much sooner than the cars. Vancouver fact: There is a functioning steam clock in Gastown, Vancouver that is one of only 6 functioning steam clocks in the world.

Lady Julie came to mind as I walked among the wild blackberry bushes that were only in blossom but they would be packed with her favourite fruit very soon. Vancouver fact:

Vancouver is the 4th largest cruise ship terminus in the world and the largest port in Canada.

Lady Arlene would fit right in with the markets as people sold their beautiful hand-made wares. The thing is, there were not any beautiful cards or photo albums so she would have made a killing. Vancouver fact: Howard Hughes, the reclusive billionaire, spent two years holed up in the Bayshore Hotel just outside the entrance of Stanley Park.

Lady Emma Joy was everywhere. There were high school students enjoying the beautiful weather, playing volleyball on the beach and sitting in the coffee houses enjoying brisk conversations about every topic. Vancouver fact: In just Vancouver proper, there are more than 60 000 students in their schools.

Lady Morgan was well represented on the UBC campus. I also saw a few horses on the way as a further reminder. Vancouver fact: The University of British Columbia has a Quidditch team that competes internationally and is ranked #1 in the Northwest. (University of Alberta better get on that.)

So the holiday was fun and informative. I can cross Vancouver off my bucket list, not because I wouldn't come back to parts of it but because there's a lot more of the kingdom of Canada to see.

Written by your loyal scribe,

*Lady Miss Mary*