

Smythie

The monthly e-newsletter of the Smyth Public Library

December 2021

Volume 15, No.9

“It was always said of him, that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge. May that be truly said of us, and all of us!” Charles Dickens

Winter Hours

Monday: 2-8pm

Tuesday: 10am-8pm

Wednesday: 2-8pm

Thursday: 10am-8pm

Friday: 5-7pm

Saturday: 10am-2pm

We are requesting mask use and limiting library visits to 10-15 minutes. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

We will be closed for the Holidays December 24-26 & Dec.31-Jan2. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

If you are limiting your exposure due to Covid-19 concerns and would prefer to pick up items outside of the Library building, you can take advantage of our curbside service. Just reserve online or email librarian@smythpl.org and let us know what materials you would like, and we will package them up for you to pick up at our side door.

Closures for Inclement Weather or Staffing

The Library may close when weather conditions exist making it hazardous for travel or when staff is inaccessible. The primary criteria

for any decision will be the safety of the staff and the library patrons. If staffing issues or hazardous road conditions occur, the following means of notification will be used, whenever possible: a posting on the website, Facebook and WMUR or a sign on the door. The Library and the Moore

School will follow the same plan for any closures, so if school is canceled, the Library will also be closed that day.

And remember, we have the hotspot, free parking lot internet, and a host of books in the event a storm leaves you without power. Call us to be sure we are open and then come on in and grab some cozy supplies!

The Friends of the Smyth Public Library is an organization that provides financial and volunteer support to the Library through membership and contributions.

In the past few years, the Friends have given funds for our telescope, hotspot, summer music series as well as for programming to the library and passes to area museums.

Members have the satisfaction of knowing that your membership and contributions have helped support vital library programs.

If you would like to show your support for the Library by joining the Friends, please use the Contact Us form on our website at www.smythpl.org.



New Launchpads Available for Checkout:

Pre-loaded with content for kids, teens, and adults, designed with a simple, easy-to-use interface, and 100% secure, Launchpad tablets are made to be passed from one set of hands to the next. No download time. No need for Wi-Fi. Access to powerful content is simple as turning on each device — anytime, anywhere.

These materials made available and possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the New Hampshire State Library.

Events...



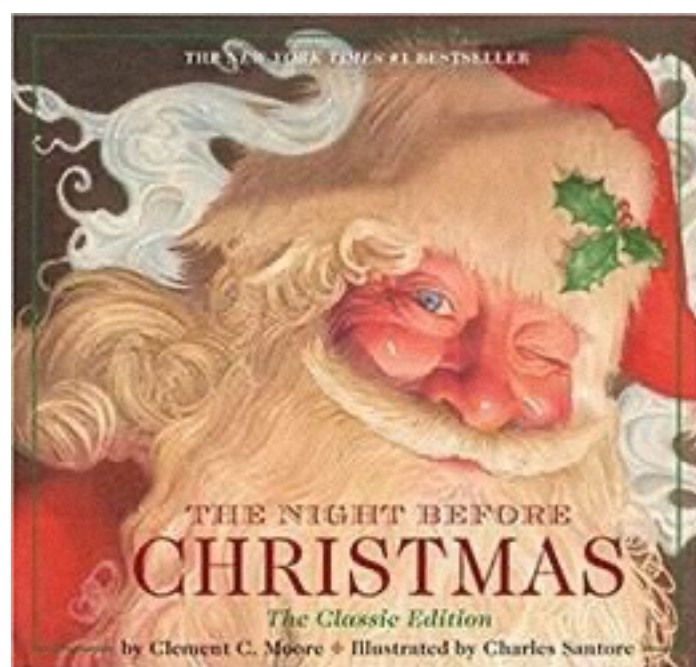
December 16 @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

New England Ski Museum

New Englanders know the reputation of 6,288-foot Mount Washington as a place of formidable climate extremes. The high winds for which the mountain is known funnel great accumulations of snow from the bare upper tundra of the Presidential Range into the glacial cirque of Tuckerman Ravine.

Attracting notice when skiing was a young sport for the great depths of snow found there, the ravine became a springtime Mecca to skiers looking to extend the ski season. As ski equipment and techniques evolved, they were rapidly adopted by ravine skiers, with the important exception of ski lifts. Tuckerman Ravine remains a backcountry ski destination that is unique in the eastern U.S. for its alpine terrain, where present day skiers and riders can find an experience that the ski pioneers of an earlier day would find familiar.

Based on one of the most popular exhibits of the New England Ski Museum and its subsequent exhibit catalog, *Over The Headwall* presents images and stories drawn from the extensive collections of the museum.



SANTA COMES TO STORYTIME

Thursday, December 16

10:30 AM Smyth library

***No Storytime during Holiday break
Dec 23-30**



Saturday, December 18, 11-2 pm, Annual Christmas Cookie Swap!

Bake five dozen homemade cookies and drop off Friday, December 20, **BEFORE** 5 pm at the side meeting room door area in marked containers and pick up inside the library anytime between 11-2 pm on Saturday. Your same container will hold a new selection of goodies to take home and share with your family and friends! (Love to bake? Feel free to leave a plate for sharing)

Service only through end of year:

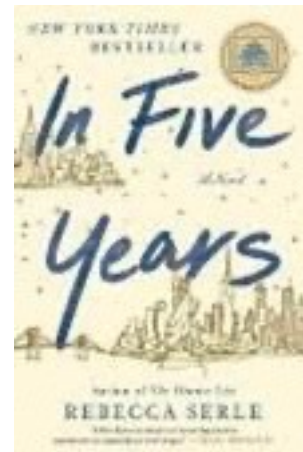
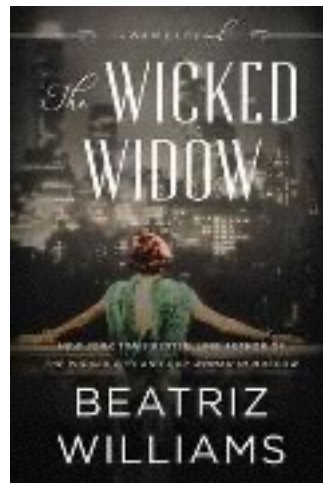
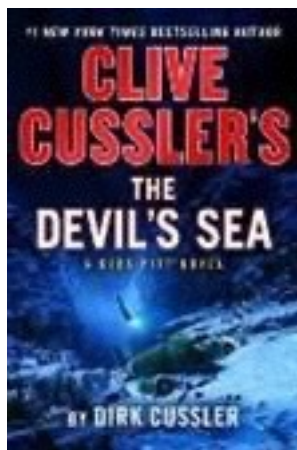
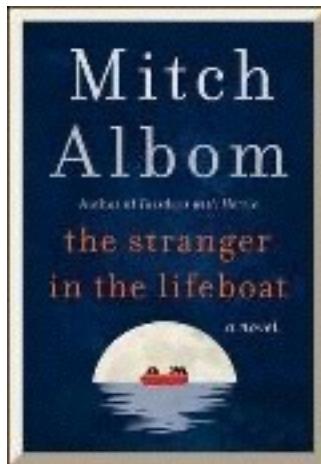
Brainfuse HelpNow

Smyth Library Now offers On-Demand, Anywhere Online Tutoring for All Learners *Includes online tutoring for all levels of learners from children through adults*

To access HelpNow™, please visit the library's website and sign in to your account: [<https://smyth.bibliunix.com/catalog/?search=>].

[Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) remote service is accessible only through end of year. Heritage Quest will be available remotely starting in 2022. Access through catalog.

New on our shelves...



New Fiction...

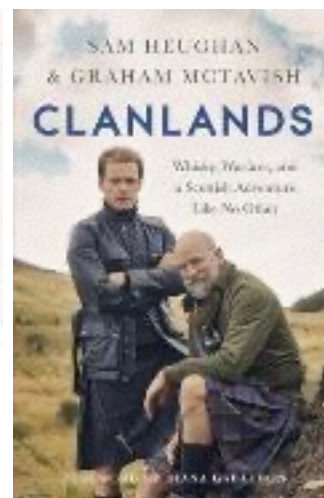
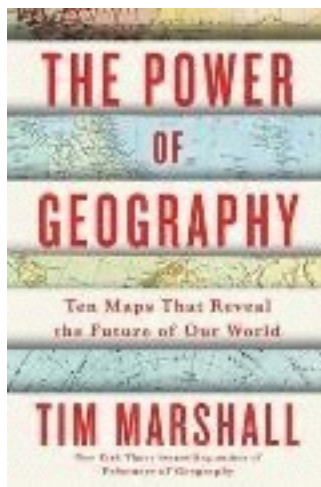
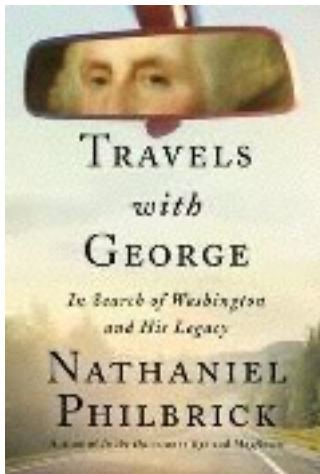
The stranger in the lifeboat: a novel
The Christmas train
Mercy
April in Spain: a novel

Albom, Mitch
Baldacci, David
Baldacci, David
Banville, John

Down the hatch
Marion Chesney
Once upon a wardrobe
Murder at Mallowan Hall
Tom Clancy chain of command
The dark hours
Autopsy: a Scarpetta novel
The devil's sea
The Midnight Lock
The sentence: a novel
Game on: tempting twenty-eight
Never
The proposal
Labyrinth of lies
The keeper of lost things: a novel
The French gift: a novel of World War II Paris
The Joy and Light Bus Company
The first Christmas: a story of new beginnings
Down a dark river
Wish you were here: a novel
In five years
Flying angels
Rules of civility
The wicked widow
Still life
The immigrant garden: Letters

Beaton, M. C. writing at
Henry, Patti Callahan
Cambridge, Colleen,
Cameron, Marc
Connelly, Michael
Cornwell, Patricia Daniels.
Cussler, Dirk
Deaver, Jeffery
Erdrich, Louise
Evanovich, Janet
Follett, Ken
Guillory, Jasmine
Hannon, Irene
Hogan, Ruth
Manning, Kirsty,
McCall Smith, Alexander
Mitchell, Stephen
Odden, Karen
Picoult, Jodi
Serle, Rebecca
Steel, Danielle
Towles, Amor
Williams, Beatriz
Winman, Sarah
Wood, C.

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New Non-Fiction...



The age of AI: and our human future Kissinger,
Henry,
Rationality: what it is, why it seems scarce, why it matters Pinker,
Steven,
Courage is calling: fortune favors the brave Holiday,
Ryan,
The simple difference: how every small kindness makes a big impact
Keife, Becky,
Fierce, free, and full of fire: the guide to being glorious you Hatmaker,
Jen,
Saying grace: blessings for the family table
Freedom is costly, but priceless: if not maintained, it will not remain
Meyer, David,
The power of geography: ten maps that reveal the future of our world
Marshall, Tim,

From Warsaw with love: Polish spies, the CIA, and the forging of an unlikely alliance

Pomfret, John,

The real Lolita: the kidnapping of Sally Horner and the novel that scandalized the world

Weinman, Sarah,

The redemption of wolf 302: from renegade to Yellowstone alpha male

McIntyre, Rick,

The speckled beauty: a dog and his people

Bragg, Rick

Edible flowers: how, why, and when we eat flowers

Minimalista: your step-by-step guide to a better home, wardrobe, and life

Gill, Shira,

Where nobody knows your name: life in the minor leagues of baseball

Feinstein,

John

The call of Kilimanjaro: finding hope above the clouds

Belanger,

Jeff

This land of snow: a journey across the north in winter

Morley,

Anders,

Clanlands: whisky, warfare, and a Scottish adventure like no other

Heughan, Sam,

True raiders: the untold story of the 1909 expedition to find the legendary

Ark of the Covenant

Ricca, Brad

Lightning down: a World War II story of survival

Clavin,

Thomas

Travels with George: in search of Washington and his legacy

Nathaniel

James Madison: America's first politician

Cost, Jay,

The outlier: the unfinished presidency of Jimmy Carter

Bird, Kai

Stories from the White Mountains: more tales from New Hampshire's highest peak

Szczesny, Dan

New Books on CD...

Better Off Dead: A Jack Reacher Novel CD (8) Child, Lee

The dark hours CD (10)

Connelly, Michael

The nameless ones CD (10)

Connolly, John

Autopsy CD (10)

Cornwell, Patricia

Daniels.

Clive Cussler's the Devil's Sea CD (9)
Game on: tempting twenty-eight CD (6)
The sleeper and the spindle CD (1)
The unknown CD (7)
The judge's list CD (10)
Foul play CD (6)

Cussler, Clive
Evanovich, Janet
Gaiman, Neil
Graham, Heather
Grisham, John
Woods, Stuart

New Video...

Escape room DVD 1332 [PG13]
Cruella DVD 1342 [PG13]
Luca DVD 1343A [PG]
Paw patrol the movie DVD 1345A [G]
Hitman's wife's bodyguard DVD 1346 [R]
Whiskey tango foxtrot DVD 1347 [R]
Stillwater DVD 1348 [R]
Six minutes to midnight DVD 1349 [PG13]
Copperhead DVD 1350 [PG13]
Great white DVD 1351 [PG13]
Respect DVD 1344 [PG13]



You know you've read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend. Paul Sweeney



**Why is a book your best friend?
When it bores you, you can shut it up without
it taking offense.**



Tip from the front desk

**Perseverance, a word which captures the
undaunted will of people across the world to
never give up, despite the many challenges of
the last 12 months, is Cambridge Dictionary's
Word of the Year 2021.**

Just as it takes perseverance to land a rover on Mars, it takes perseverance to face challenges and disruption to our lives. Perseverance has been looked up more than 243,000 times on the website in 2021, the first time it has made a noticeable appearance.

Defined by the dictionary as 'continued effort to do or achieve something, even when this is difficult or takes a long time', the word's stellar performance this year may have as much to do with NASA as the pandemic. A spike of 30,487 searches for perseverance occurred

between 19–25 February 2021, after NASA's Perseverance Rover made its final descent to Mars on 18 February.

Excerpt by Wendalyn Nichols

During this time of joy, we remember our wonderful patrons and wish you all a glorious Christmas!

*“O Father, may that Holy star
Grow every year more bright,
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.”*

William Cullen Bryant

Enjoy this special Holiday season!

Heidi and Staff

?

Did you know...

LIBRARIANS USED TO HAVE TO ADOPT A PARTICULAR STYLE OF HANDWRITING KNOWN AS “LIBRARIAN HAND.”

The practice was prevalent in the late 1800s, when library pioneer Melvil Dewey—of the Dewey Decimal System fame—and other curators of early collections believed that

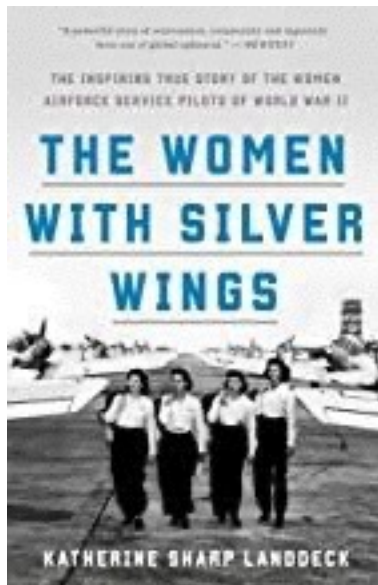
legible handwriting was a must for card catalogs. The practice faded as typewriters grew in popularity.

Monthly Reading Group

*Readers meet **every 2nd Thursday** of the month*

Next month join us January 13th ~ 7 pm

This Month's Selection:



The Women with Silver Wings: The Inspiring True Story of the Women Airforce Service Pilots of World War II

“With the fate of the free world hanging in the balance, women pilots went aloft to serve their nation. . . . A soaring tale in which, at long last, these daring World War II pilots gain the credit they deserve.”—Liza Mundy, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Code Girls*

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941, Cornelia Fort was already in the air. At twenty-two, Fort had escaped Nashville's debutante scene for a fresh start as a flight instructor in Hawaii. She and her student were in the middle of their lesson when the bombs began to fall, and they barely made it back to ground that morning. Still, when the U.S. Army Air Forces put out a call for women pilots to aid the war effort, Fort was one of the first to respond. She became one of just over 1,100 women from across the nation to make it through the Army's rigorous selection process and earn her silver wings.

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New Museum Pass List!

These passes are available for check out and provide free or reduced admission. Many museums now require advance registration for visits. See website details.

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE MUSEUM

BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CURRIER MUSEUM OF ART

FULLER GARDENS

LIBBY MUSEUM

MUSEUM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORY

SEACOAST SCIENCE CENTER AT ODIORNE STATE PARK

SEE SCIENCE CENTER

SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER

STRAWBERRY BANKE



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Smyth Public Library Assoc" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app*
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features*
- 3. Select "Smyth Public Library Assoc" as your charity*
- 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile*

Making Your Life Easy:

By going to our website, you can search our entire catalogue for books, CD's, DVD's and movies. Once found, you can check to see if what you want is in. If so, just to our website and reserve the book. The next time you come in, it will be waiting for you at the front desk. WITH OUR NEW WEBSITE YOU CAN DO IT WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

PLUS!! Check out our smythpl.org website updates and Smyth Library's Public Catalog featuring:

- A new signup button for new library card accounts! Tell your friends and neighbors!
- A crawl of new items.
- "What's Hot" now covers several choices.
- "Most Popular" titles (a combination of checkouts and reserves are used to determine this list).
- "More Search Options" includes Medium that lets members search by DVD or Large Print, etc.

More Research Options:

Full text articles from thousands of magazines, journals and national newspapers, plus NoveList. Call or e-mail us and provide your name and your library card number, and we'll give you the password.



We're on Facebook!

Like the Smyth Public Library
Look at our page on Facebook
for events and updates about
our library!

Downloadable Books!!!!

Ipods and Kindles work and you can
Order right from our website!

New books for juniors...

NH rocks that rock: an adventure guide to twenty-five famous boulders of
the Granite State

Uma,

The enchanted wood

Across the desert

Deeper

The story that cannot be told

Death cloud

Pony

The Christmas pig

Stick Dog comes to town

Anna and the Swallow Man

Science: a LEGO adventure in the real world

Madeline's Christmas

Ten beautiful things

The impossible mountain

Olivia: the audio collection CD (1)

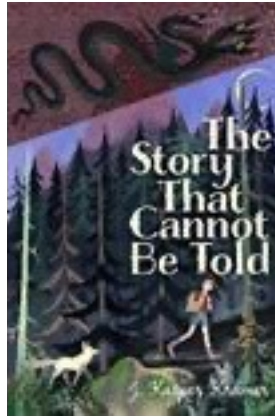
Finding Winnie: the true story of the world's most famous bear CD (1)

Mattick, Lindsay,

Blyton, Enid,
Bowling, Dusti
Gordon, Roderick
Kramer, J. Kasper,
Lane, Andy.
Palacio, R. J
Rowling, J. K
Watson, Tom
Savit, Gavriel

Bemelmans, Ludwig
Griffin, Molly Beth,
Soman, David.
Falconer, Ian

From the Junior Shelves~



The Story That Cannot Be Told

by J. Kasper Kramer

A middle grade debut that weaves together folklore and history to tell the story of a girl finding her voice and the strength to use it during the final months of the Communist regime in Romania in 1989.

Ileana has always collected stories. Some are about the past, before the leader of her country tore down her home to make room for his golden palace; back when families had enough food, and the hot water worked on more than just Saturday nights. Others are folktales like the one she was named for, which her father used to tell her at bedtime. But some stories can get you in trouble, like the dangerous one criticizing Romania's Communist government that Uncle Andrei published—right before he went missing.

Fearing for her safety, Ileana's parents send her to live with the grandparents she's never met, far from the prying eyes and ears of the secret police and their spies, who could be any of the neighbors. But danger is never far away. Now, to save her family and the village she's come to love, Ileana will have to tell the most important story of her life. Goodreads

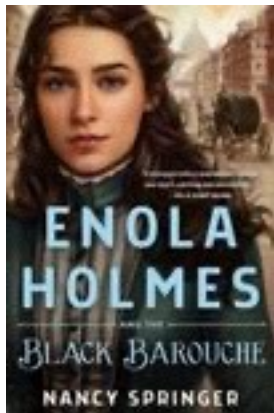
New books for young adults...

The last shadow
Don't get caught
Enola Holmes and the black barouche
A most clever girl: a novel of an American spy
Stephanie,
The insomniacs
Launchpad tablet: On a mission!

Card, Orson Scott
Dinan, Kurt
Springer, Nancy
Thornton,

Weisenberg, Marit,

From the Young Adult Shelves~



Enola Holmes and the Black Barouche

by Nancy Springer

Enola Holmes is the much younger sister of her more famous brothers, Sherlock and Mycroft. But she has all the wits, skills, and sleuthing inclinations of them both. At fifteen, she's an independent young woman--after all, her name spelled backwards reads 'alone'--and living on her own in London. When a young professional woman, Miss Letitia Glover, shows up on Sherlock's doorstep, desperate to learn more about the fate of her twin sister, it is Enola who steps up. It

seems her sister, the former Felicity Glover, married the Earl of Dunhynch and per a curt note from the Earl, has died. But Letitia Glover is convinced this isn't the truth, that she'd know--she'd feel--if her twin had died.

The Earl's note is suspiciously vague and the death certificate is even more dubious, signed it seems by a John H. Watson, M.D. (who denies any knowledge of such). The only way forward is for Enola to go undercover--or so Enola decides at the vehement objection of her brother. And she soon finds out that this is not the first of the Earl's wives to die suddenly and vaguely--and that the secret to the fate of the missing Felicity is tied to a mysterious black barouche that arrived at the Earl's home in the middle of the night. To uncover the secrets held tightly within the Earl's hall, Enola is going to require help--from Sherlock, from the twin sister of the missing woman, and from an old friend, the young Viscount Tewkesbury, Marquess of Basilwether! Goodreads

Trivia Time!

Every month we ask a trivia question. If you know the answer, drop it off at the front desk or e-mail it here.

Last month's question and answer:

Q. Who is Harry Potter's best female friend?

A. Hermione

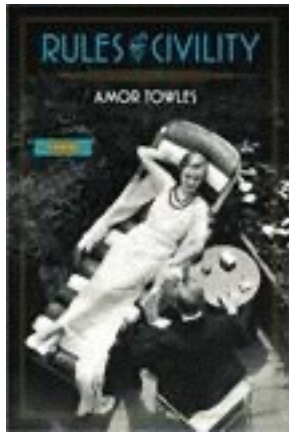
This Month's Trivia Question:

In what novel do Tweedledee and Tweedledum appear?

From the New and Recent Shelves~

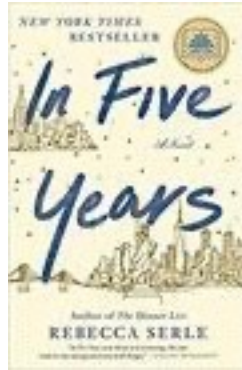
We (being I) are always looking for contributors to this reviews section. The editor has a limited range of taste, so any reviews would be more than welcomed. Just e-mail them in reply to this, or to librarian@smythpl.org

Fiction...



This sophisticated and entertaining first novel presents the story of a young woman whose life is on the brink of transformation. On the last night of 1937, twenty-five-year-old Katey Kontent is in a second-rate Greenwich Village jazz bar when Tinker Grey, a handsome banker, happens to sit down at the neighboring table. This chance encounter and its startling consequences propel Katey on a year-long journey into the upper echelons of New York society—where she will have little to rely upon other than a bracing wit and her own brand of cool nerve. With its sparkling depiction of New York's social strata, its intricate imagery and themes, and its immensely appealing characters, *Rules of Civility* won the hearts of readers and critics alike. [Goodreads](#)

More fiction...



Where do you see yourself in five years?

When Type-A Manhattan lawyer Dannie Kohan is asked this question at the most important interview of her career, she has a meticulously crafted answer at the ready. Later, after nailing her interview and accepting her boyfriend's marriage proposal, Dannie goes to sleep knowing she is right on track to achieve her five-year plan.

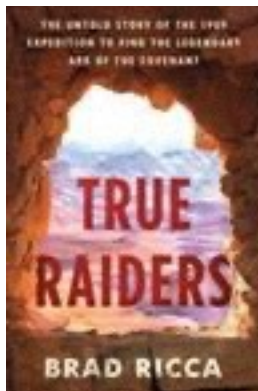
But when she wakes up, she's suddenly in a different apartment, with a different ring on her finger, and beside a very different man. The television news is on in the background, and she can just make out the scrolling date. It's the same night—December 15—but 2025, five years in the future.

After a very intense, shocking hour, Dannie wakes again, at the brink of midnight, back in 2020. She can't shake what has happened. It certainly felt much more than merely a dream, but she isn't the kind of person who believes in visions. That nonsense is only charming coming from free-spirited types, like her lifelong best friend, Bella. Determined to ignore the odd experience, she files it away in the back of her mind.

That is, until four-and-a-half years later, when by chance Dannie meets the very same man from her long-ago vision.

Brimming with joy and heartbreak, *In Five Years* is an unforgettable love story that reminds us of the power of loyalty, friendship, and the unpredictable nature of destiny. Goodreads

Non-fiction...



True Raiders is *The Lost City of Z* meets *The Da Vinci Code*, from critically acclaimed author Brad Ricca.

This book tells the untold true story of Monty Parker, a British rogue nobleman who, after being dared to do so by Ava Astor, the so-called "most beautiful woman in the world," headed a secret 1909 expedition to find the fabled Ark of the Covenant. Like a real-life version of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, this incredible story of adventure and mystery has almost been completely forgotten today.

In 1908, Monty is approached by a strange Finnish scholar named Valter Juvelius who claims to have discovered a secret code in the Bible that reveals the location of the Ark. Monty assembles a ragtag group of blueblood adventurers, a renowned psychic, and a Franciscan father, to engage in a secret excavation just outside the city walls of Jerusalem.

Using recently uncovered records from the original expedition and several newly translated sources, *True Raiders* is the first retelling of this group's adventures- in the space between fact and faith, science and romance. Goodreads

Ever want to be one of those know-it-all reviewers?

Got a book to recommend?

Want to write a blurb?

Have a child with a favorite book who would like to contribute to the Smythie?

We welcome contributors (less for us to write!), especially children and teens to review and recommend favorite books. Just drop Heidi Deacon an e-mail at librarian@smythpl.org or “reply” to this and we’ll include it here. It need not be a new book – it can be a golden oldie, a classic, a trashy beach book or whatever you have enjoyed.

I hope you have enjoyed this edition. Comments, suggestions and, of course, reviews are always welcomed.

Rick Mitchell and the library staff
The Smythie is now over a gazillion subscribers strong!!

But... We may not be for everyone. If you do not want to be on this e-mail list, just reply and tell us to remove your name.