



# Books and Bytes on the Bayou

A Lafourche Parish Public Library Publication

December 2018

## ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

A Reading from the 22nd U.S. Poet Laureate, Tracy K. Smith  
Books That Do the Reading for Me (VOX Books)  
To Learn a New Language with Rosetta Stone  
3rd Annual Louisiana Authors' Book Fair  
Exclusive Audiobooks from RBdigital  
A Winter Bingo Challenge with Prizes  
A Visit with Mrs. Claus or Santa  
Christmas Crafting Classes  
Animal Tales' Holiday Safari

Christmas is Coming  
Early This Year ...

Find All This  
& More Inside!

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## MEET OUR LIBRARY BOARD

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## STAFF STARS!

### ALL LPPL STAFF



Big congratulations go out to all of our staff members for being recognized as Staff Stars this month!

"I rave to people all the time about how helpful all of you are at LPPLibrary & how many services you offer. We are lucky to have a library like this!

- Lesley W. Marcello, LPPL Patron

**DO YOU KNOW A STAFF STAR?  
ASK FOR A NOMINATION FORM AT ANY  
BRANCH CUSTOMER SERVICE DESK!**

## LIBRARY CLOSURES



### STAFF DAY

All LPPL branches will be closed Monday, 12/03 for a Parish-Wide Staff Meeting.

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S

All LPPL branches will be closed Monday, 12/24 - Wednesday, 12/26 for Christmas. All branches will also be closed Monday, 12/31 - Tuesday, 01/01 for New Year's.



🎄 Merry 🎄

Christmas

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Our digital library is always open at [www.lafourche.org](http://www.lafourche.org)



# WHAT'S HOT & HAPPENING!



## Animal Tales' Holiday Safari Is Coming to Town!

Six surprise guest animals are coming to a LPPL branch near you this holiday season!



Friday, December 28	South Lafourche	Lockport	Thibodaux
	10:30 AM	1 PM	4 PM



## CHRISTMAS BREAK EVENT!

Animal Tales' Holiday Safari, featuring six "surprise" animals, is making its way to LPPLibraries this December! In this interactive show, audience members are asked to solve riddles about the animals before their identities are revealed. Animal Tales then presents the animals to the audience, & not only do you get to see these cool critters up close, you also get to learn some fun facts about them! You never know what kinds of amazing animals are going to show up in the Holiday Safari, so make plans to join us!



No Registration - bring the entire family!



Holiday Safari audience members will get "hands-on" experience with several animals, & will walk away with an appreciation & understanding of the role & importance of these animals to their ecosystem.



We'll see you there!



# "CAN'T MISS" EVENTS!



## BAYOU BLUE

*Mrs. Claus Visit*

Monday, 12/17, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, All Ages

Visit with Mrs. Claus at the library. Bring your camera for photos!



## LOCKPORT

*Mrs. Claus Story Time*

Thursday, 12/13, 10:30 AM, Kids

Join us for a special story hour & pictures with Mrs. Claus!

*Pictures with Mrs. Claus*

Thursday, 12/13, 4-6 PM, All Ages

Missed story time with Mrs. Claus? Fret not! Mrs. Claus will be at the library to take pictures in the afternoon.



## RACELAND

*Mrs. Claus is Coming to Town Story Time & Visit*

Tuesday, 12/18, 11 AM, Kids

Join us for a special story hour & pictures with Mrs. Claus!



## SOUTH LAFOURCHE

*Photos with Santa*

Tuesday, 12/11, 4:30-5:30 PM, All Ages

Tell Santa what you'd like for Christmas & take a photo with St. Nick when he visits the library this holiday season.



## THIBODAUX

*Christmas Carnival & Mrs. Claus*

Tuesday, 12/11, 3-5:30 PM, All Ages

Everyone is invited to participate in a variety of Christmas carnival games, a Christmas scavenger hunt, & a Christmas story time, plus pictures with Mrs. Claus.



## CHOCTAW

*Cookies with Mrs. Claus*

Wednesday, 12/12, 4:30 PM, All Ages

Mrs. Claus will be here to decorate cookies & take pictures with her little friends. Parents, don't forget your camera!



## GHEENS

*Visit with Santa*

Tuesday, 12/18, 4-5 PM, All Ages

Everyone is invited to our Christmas party with Santa as our special guest. Be sure to bring your cameras to capture the moment. Santa will visit from 4-5 PM.



## GOLDEN MEADOW

*Mrs. Claus Visits the Library*

Wednesday, 12/12, 4:30 PM, All Ages

Mrs. Claus is coming to the library! Come for a visit & get your picture taken.



## LAROSE

*Story Time with Mrs. Claus*

Thursday, 12/20, 1 PM, Kids

Join us for a special story hour & pictures with Mrs. Claus!



## Lafourche Parish Public Library

314 Saint Mary St  
Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301 | (985) 446-1163  
[www.lafourche.org](http://www.lafourche.org)



# "CAN'T MISS" EVENTS!



## Holiday Happenings!

Visit our website at [lafourche.org](http://lafourche.org) or pick up a calendar at your home branch for a full list of our holiday events.



**BAYOU BLUE**  
**Holiday Slime**  
 Tuesday, 12/18, 4 PM, All Ages  
 Make festive slime to celebrate the holidays!



**CHOCTAW**  
**Grinch Fun for Everyone**  
 Monday, 12/17, 4 PM, All Ages  
 Holidays have you feeling a little Grinchy? Let's celebrate all things Grinch with a special craft & treat.



**GHEENS**  
**Christmas Counting Blocks**  
 Wednesday, 12/05, 11 AM, Adults  
 Countdown to Christmas with your family by making a whimsical Christmas countdown craft using wooden blocks.



**GOLDEN MEADOW**  
**\*Decorate Your Own Christmas Tree**  
 Tuesday, 12/11, 4:15 PM, Kids  
**\*This event requires registration\***  
 Decorate your own Christmas tree using pom-poms!



**LAROSE**  
**Christmas Cookie Decorating**  
 Thursday, 12/20, 4 PM, All Ages  
 Cookies are not just yummy to eat; they are fun to decorate! Have fun while we decorate some Christmas cookies.



**LOCKPORT**  
**Polar Express PJ Palooza**  
 Saturday, 12/08, 2 PM, All Ages  
 Watch Warner Bros.' *The Polar Express* while enjoying hot chocolate & Christmas cookies. So bring your blankets, wear your pajamas, & take a journey with us to the North Pole!



**RACELAND**  
**Family Wreath**  
 Friday, 12/07, 4 PM, All Ages  
 Ever wonder what to do with leftover tree ornaments? Make a personalized wreath as a family.



**SOUTH LAFOURCHE**  
**Elf Escape**  
 Saturday, 12/15, 1 PM, All Ages  
 Have you ever wanted to try an escape room? Our library will have an Elf Escape room that will challenge young minds to adult minds.



**THIBODAUX**  
**\*Family Craft: Santa Paint Brushes**  
 Monday, 12/17, 4 PM, Ages 4+  
**\*This event requires registration\***  
 Families will create Santa Claus's face & his red hat on a paint brush decorated with Christmas holly.

### WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

This is just a taste of the holly, jolly holiday events that are happening in our branches this month. Head over to [lafourche.org](http://lafourche.org) & click Calendar for all of our event offerings!



## Lafourche Parish Public Library

314 Saint Mary St  
 Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301 | (985) 446-1163  
[www.lafourche.org](http://www.lafourche.org)



# "CAN'T MISS" EVENTS!



AMERICAN CONVERSATIONS  
CELEBRATING POEMS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES



## TRACY K. SMITH, 22ND POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Lafourche Parish Public Library is honored to have been selected as the final stop on the American Conversations: Celebrating Poems in Rural Communities tour featuring the 22nd National Poet Laureate of the United States, Tracy K. Smith.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6-8 PM**

Jean Lafitte Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center  
314 Saint Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA, 70301

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 10-11 AM**

South Lafourche Branch Library  
16241 East Main Street, Cut Off, LA, 70345

### TRACY K. SMITH

22nd Poet Laureate of  
the United States

Tracy K. Smith was born in Falmouth, Massachusetts in 1972, & was raised in Fairfield, California. She is the author of four books of poetry, including *Wade in the Water* (2018) &

*Life on Mars* (2011). She is also the author of a memoir, *Ordinary Life* (2015), a finalist for the National Book Award in Nonfiction, & selected as a Notable Book by *The New York Times* & *The Washington Post*. She was appointed as the 22nd Poet Laureate of the United States on June 14, 2017 by Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden, & was reappointed to a second term on March 22, 2018. Smith succeeds Juan Felipe Herrera as Poet Laureate, & joins a long line of distinguished poets who have served.

During her first term as the 22nd Poet Laureate of the United States, Smith gave readings & led discussions as part of a pilot project in rural communities in New Mexico, South Carolina, & Kentucky. For her second term, she plans to pursue further engagement with small towns across America.

"Poetry invites us to listen to other voices, to make space for other perspectives, & to care about the lives of others who may not look, sound or think like ourselves," Smith said. "My project as Poet Laureate has brought me in contact with rural communities in the South & Southwest, & not only do we recognize & have many things to say to each other, but talking about poems together allows us to access & share our feelings & bear witness to the experiences that shape our lives."

Source: [loc.gov/poetry/laureate.html](http://loc.gov/poetry/laureate.html)



## LAFOURCHE PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 3rd Annual Louisiana Authors Book Fair



### Join Us:

Saturday, December 8

10 AM - 2 PM

Thibodaux Branch

705 W. 5th Street

Book Lovers and Aspiring Writers: Join us for our 3rd Annual Louisiana Authors Book Fair! Network with your favorite authors, get writing & publishing tips, & purchase new books to read or give as gifts.



# BLOGGING WITH LPPL

## CHILL OUT WITH OUR WINTER BINGO CHALLENGE!

December 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019



### Introducing LPPL's 1st Annual Winter Bingo Challenge!

The days are shorter. The weather is colder. Everyone is full of cheer. Winter must be here! Wintertime is upon us again, and we are spicing up the season by extending a special challenge to you!

If you love your library & you enjoy a good challenge, you're going to be smitten with our Winter Bingo Challenge! The idea is that participants have a blast reading books & attending library events, & in exchange, they have the chance to win some fun prizes!

### Interested? Check Out the Details Below:

- LPPL's Winter Bingo Challenge runs from December 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019.
- The challenge has four categories – Adult, Teen, Child, & Young Child.
- Each participant will receive a bingo card.
- Read books, attend programs, & do activities to finish the squares on your card.
- The squares have challenges such as "read a book set somewhere you would like to visit," & "attend a library event" for teens & adults; & challenges like "read sitting on the floor," & "read a big book" for kids!
- Cross off each square as it is completed.
- Record titles, programs, & dates on your card as you go.
- Complete Bingo by crossing off all of the squares in a row either across, down, or diagonally.
- Once you have Bingo, bring your card to the library for a prize.
- Complete Blackout (all squares) to be entered into a drawing for a special prize!
- There is a two card limit per player.
- Bring cards in by January 31, 2019 to be eligible for prizes.
- All prizes provided by the South Lafourche Friends of the Library.



*We are going to have "snow" much fun this winter!*

Are you up for the challenge? Be sure to drop in at your home branch beginning December 1st & pick up your bingo card!

- Brooke Savoie,  
Public Relations Librarian

# WHAT'S NEW!

## DOGGONE GOOD!

Download high-quality audiobooks from your library—24 hours/7 days a week!



You can now listen to exclusive audiobooks that you can't find anywhere else for FREE with your library card through RBdigital.

**rb digital**

We are excited to now offer the RBdigital e-Audiobook service to our LPPL community. What makes RBdigital stand apart from other e-Audiobook services is that you can listen to titles from exclusive authors that you can't find anywhere else, such as Danielle Steel & Iris Johansen!

As if that wasn't sweet enough, RBdigital is easy to use, so nothing will stand between you & the books you want to hear.

### HOW TO



### LISTEN

If you previously had a OnePlay account, that information will be your log-in for RBdigital. All you need to do is log-in to start downloading & listening to eAudiobooks.

*If you did not have a OnePlay account, follow the directions below:*

1. Go to RBdigital's website at [lafourcheparishla.rbdigital.com](http://lafourcheparishla.rbdigital.com)
2. Click Register.
3. Create your account.
4. Start downloading & listening!

**rb digital**

If you would like to listen on a mobile device, such as a phone or tablet, download the RBdigital app from the App or Play Store after creating your account.

Need help creating an account or logging in? Contact us!



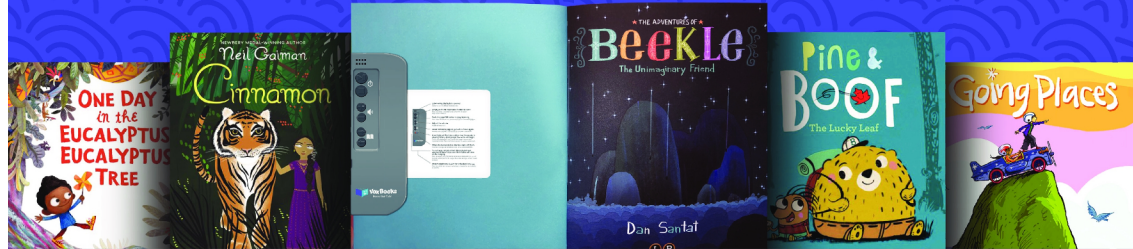


# RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT



OVER 75 TITLES  
AVAILABLE!

Studies show that read-alongs improve reading comprehension.



## What are VOX™ Books?

VOX™ Books capture children's attention by combining picture books with audio recordings. It makes learning and literacy development exciting!

Inside of the front cover is a permanently attached 5mm VOX™ Reader device which reads aloud at every flip of a page.

Children simply push a button to listen while they read.



## Features

- Hardcover book with full audio recording. Simply push a button to listen and read from beginning to end.
- Headphone jack for individual learning and a built-in speaker.
- 77 titles, with more being added frequently!
- Fully portable! Rechargeable battery allows up to 100 listens per charge. No Wi-Fi or data required.
- "Kid tough" design, backed by a 12 month warranty.

# Rosetta Stone



## Learn 30 different languages for FREE with your library card!

### Want to learn on-the-go? Check out our app directions below!

1. Download the Rosetta Stone free app for either Apple or Android.
2. Do not launch the app once installed. Instead, open your Internet browser & go to our website at [www.lafourche.org](http://www.lafourche.org).
3. Click on the purple button that says "Digital Library."
4. Enter your library card number if you are not already logged in.
5. Click on Rosetta Stone on the left side.
6. On the log-in screen, enter your email & password, & select the language you would like to learn.
7. After you log-in, click "Launch Rosetta Stone Language Lessons Version 3."
8. The Rosetta Stone app will open automatically & will start your lesson. You did it - happy language learning!



# LPPL Staff



## Meet Taylor Jambon South Lafourche Branch Assistant



We have a new face at our South Lafourche Library, so we would like to introduce you to Taylor Jambon, who just finished up her first month at the branch! Taylor, who previously worked at the Grand Isle Library for two years, shelves & finds books, places holds for patrons, & helps patrons with research & computer questions. Taylor tells us that her favorite thing about her new job is, "seeing people, and enjoying the services & resources offered by LPPL!"

When not at work, Taylor enjoys reading, playing video games, & traveling. If you're looking for a good book recommendation, Taylor loves Neil Gaiman, Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale, & the Discworld series by Terry Pratchett. As for TV shows, nothing beats Buffy the Vampire Slayer! Taylor has a pretty exciting year ahead of her in 2019. Not only is she loving her new job, but she is also getting married on May 18, 2019! Congratulations, Taylor!

## Q&A With Taylor!

- December is Learn a Foreign Language Month, which means that it is the perfect time to log-in to Rosetta Stone for FREE with your library card & start learning a new language! Which language would you most like to learn? French. My dad is always testing my knowledge of basic French words but I usually have no idea what he's saying. I wish my brain would let me learn foreign languages. (No worries, Taylor, Rosetta Stone will have you speaking French in no time! Parlez-vous, Francais? Oui, Oui!)
- In December, we celebrate Read a New Book Month. Which new book are you most excited to read? Reading is one of my hobbies, and I am really looking forward to the 2018 edition of The Best American Comics.
- Both National Cookie Day (12/04) & National Cupcake Day (12/15) are in December. What is your favorite cookie & cupcake? I love tea cookies, especially the ones my grandmother makes. Cupcakes are usually not my thing, but I will sometimes share a cupcake from Sucré with my Mom whenever we go.
- Christmas time is here! What is your favorite Christmas tradition? Getting socks from my fiancé's family. I get cold easily, so I am always wearing socks or slippers at home (even in the summer!)



**CHOCTAW:** \*COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS CRICUT MAKER CRAFT  
Thursday, 12/07, 10:15 AM, Adults

**GHEENS:** CHRISTMAS FLEUR-DE-LIS TEA TOWELS  
Wednesday, 12/12, 11 AM, Adults

**LAROSE:** CRICUT MAKER DEMO  
Wednesday, 12/19, 1 PM, Adults



Choctaw Craft

Gheens Craft



# LPPL Staff



## Meet Amber Bouffanie Lockport Branch Assistant



Everyone, say "hello" to Amber Bouffanie, the newest staff member at our Lockport Branch! Amber, a Nicholls graduate with a Bachelors of Interdisciplinary Studies, an Associate of Child Development, & an Associate of General Studies, started with us at the end of October. Amber has been learning how to perform all sorts of duties that ensure the successful running of a library branch, including checking items in & out, placing & retrieving holds, answering the phone & assisting patrons, and providing computer classes. When asked about her favorite part of her job, Amber said, "I love being in the environment at the library! I love finding & shelving books & other items. I like seeing what books we have & what new books have come in. I enjoy hearing the patrons' reviews of books or movies that they have read or seen recently."

When not at work, Amber enjoys cooking, reading, & spending time with her family. She also likes to cross stitch. Another of Amber's pastimes is watching TV, & she is usually into several different shows. One of her favorite shows that always makes her laugh is The Office. When it comes to books, Amber enjoyed reading V.C. Andrew's novels growing up, especially the first several that she wrote. Now, Amber prefers Jane Austen books & movies, & things set in that time period. Welcome to the team, Amber, we are happy you are here!

## Q&A With Amber!

- December is Learn a Foreign Language Month, which means that it is the perfect time to log-in to Rosetta Stone for FREE with your library card & start learning a new language! Which language would you most like to learn?  
I would like to learn how to speak French.
- In December, we celebrate Read a New Book Month. Which new book are you most excited to read?  
I enjoy reading, & lately I've been browsing the New Book shelves. I don't have a particular book that I am waiting to be released, but I am looking forward to seeing what new books come to the library.  
(Do you love new books too? Sign up for our weekly New Books Newsletter at [lpplstaff.wixsite.com/lafourchelib/new-books-newsletter](http://lpplstaff.wixsite.com/lafourchelib/new-books-newsletter))

- Both National Cookie Day (12/04) & National Cupcake Day (12/15) are in December. What is your favorite cookie & cupcake?  
My two favorite cookies are macadamia nut & chocolate chip. My favorite cupcake is yellow cake with chocolate frosting.



- Christmas time is here! What is your favorite Christmas tradition?  
My favorite Christmas tradition is helping decorate the Christmas tree with my parents. Also, we visit my grandparents on Christmas Eve to open presents. On Christmas day after opening presents at home, we go over to my grandparents' house to have Christmas dinner.



Connect with us for the latest news, events, photos, & more! Find us @lafourchelib. 10



# Book Reviews

## COZY CHRISTMAS READS

Books to Curl Up with on Cold Winter Nights



### One Day in December

By Josie Silver

#### Brooke's Review:

"Sure to be savored by romance lovers & romantics at heart, the poignant & heartwarming *One Day in December* is a perfectly cozy read to pick up for the holiday season."

"It was love at first sight. Whether you believe in that sort of thing or not, when Laurie locked eyes with Jack from her seat on a London bus, she knew fate had just crossed her path & she had finally found her one. Except when the bus pulls off, & Laurie is left only with a mirage of the man she knows she is supposed to be with for the rest of her life.

For a year, Laurie pines after Jack, the bus stop stranger, even writing him into her New Year's resolution - 'I will find the man from the bus stop.' Laurie has almost all but given up hope of ever finding Jack until the day her best friend Sarah brings him home to their shared flat & introduces him to Laurie as her new, incredible boyfriend, the love of her life, the man she is going to marry. Laurie's world drops out from below her, & she suddenly finds herself torn between her best friend & the man of her dreams.

Debut author Josie Silver's *One Day in December* is a magical, masterful story of love & love lost. Told in alternating perspectives by both Laurie & Jack, this story follows the two throughout the years as they try to come to terms with their feelings for each other in the wake of unexpected, & rather unfortunate, circumstances.

I loved this book because Silver does a wonderful job of painting a complete picture of her characters. Readers really get to know Laurie & Jack & their personalities. I felt like I was in their circle of friends & invested in their relationship by the end of the book.

I enjoyed how Silver took us on the entire journey of their relationship with the novel spanning nine long years. Readers follow Laurie & Jack through the ups & downs, the highs & lows, careers & relationships, & just life in general. Very well-written, thought-provoking, & atmospheric, Laurie & Jack's story will stay with readers long after they close the cover of this book.

Sure to be savored by romance lovers & romantics at heart, this poignant & heartwarming novel is a perfectly cozy read to pick up for the holiday season."

Brooke is our Public Relations Librarian



### Rocky Mountain Cowboy Christmas

By Katie Ruggle

#### Dione's Review:

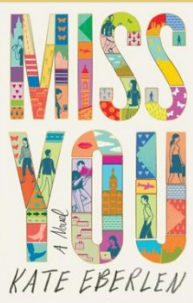
"This book is filled with 'giggle humor.' Katie Ruggle developed unique characters that I wanted to be friends with & get to know. I enjoyed this easy read & I hope you will too!"



"Are you ready for a Christmas romance? In *Rocky Mountain Cowboy Christmas*, single dad Steve Springfield rediscovers artist Camille Brandt. After losing his wife, Steve, a single dad of four delightful children moves back to his family ranch. Steve is a volunteer firefighter that saves the day when Camille's house burns to the ground. The town thinks Camille is a weird hermit. However, Camille is a quirky artist that works with junk metal & creates beautiful masterpieces. She enjoys solitude & is very shy. She sells some of her art at Steve's family ranch, which sells Christmas trees & decorations. Steve & Camille find themselves drawn to each other.

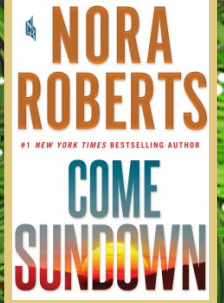
This book is filled with 'giggle humor.' I didn't quite laugh out loud, but I did giggle quite a lot at the antics of the characters. Katie Ruggle developed unique characters that I wanted to be friends with & get to know. Steve's kids are amazingly creative & funny. There are a few twists in the book that I didn't see coming, but I would categorize this book as a romance, not a suspense. The book has very loose ties with Katie Ruggle's *Rocky Mountain K-9* series, so you might recognize some references if you have read that series. I enjoyed this easy read & hope you will too!"

Dione is a Branch and Reference Librarian



If you enjoy *One Day in December*, you may like *Miss You*.

If you like *Rocky Mountain Cowboy Christmas*, you may enjoy *Come Sundown*.





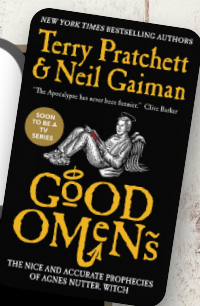
# STAFF PICKS

#ourfavorites  
#checkitout



## Good Omens

By Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett



Katie's Pick: ★★★★★

"The brilliant minds of Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett team up to deliver a novel that explores end of the world prophecies. Although the premise may sound sinister & depraved, Gaiman & Pratchett manage to keep this apocalyptic tale downright hilarious. I found myself giggling quite a few times at the characters' antics & the pure absurdity of events that lead to the final showdown between good & evil. After seeing the trailer for the upcoming TV series with the same name, I knew I had to read *Good Omens* before I watched it. Gaiman & Pratchett did not disappoint."

GENRE: Adult Books for Young Adults; Fantasy Fiction; Humorous Stories

THEME: Chosen One; Hidden Heritage

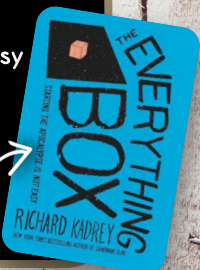
TONE: Darkly Humorous; Upbeat

CHARACTER: Quirky

PACE: Fast-Paced

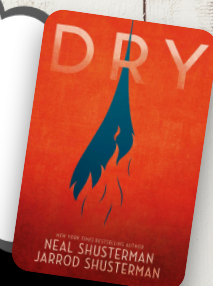
WRITING STYLE: Witty

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



## Dry

By Neal Shusterman



Brooke's Pick: ★★★★★

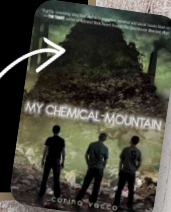
"Dystopia is a personal favorite of mine - there's nothing more gripping than reading about all of the ways society may someday come to an end - and having loved Neal Shusterman's *Scythe* series, I couldn't wait to pick up his latest YA novel, *Dry*, a book that explores what happens when the California water crisis becomes a dire reality. As an adult reading *Dry*, what I enjoyed most were the passages that explored how society reacts to the loss of our most precious resource. From manipulation to cold-blooded murder, humans will stop at nothing to quench their thirst. In all, *Dry* is a thrilling 'what-if' read that will have you questioning just how prepared you are for an impending apocalypse."

GENRE: Adventure Stories; Realistic Fiction; Multiple Perspectives

THEME: Green Reads

TONE: Bleak; Thought-Provoking

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



## Hot Winter Nights

By Jill Shalvis



Diane's Pick: ★★★

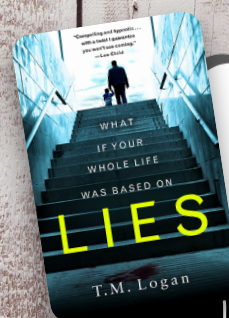
"After reading the seven other books in the *Heartbreaker Bay* series, I felt like I knew the 'format' of what was going to happen. Not to say that is a bad thing, but this book is a no-brainer HEA (happily ever after.) Meaning that you don't really have to think. If you want to fall into a book about good friends & a little romance, this is your book. If you want drama, strife, & a psychological thriller this is not your book. That said, I LOVE romances, & this book gave me a good, strong woman who I could like, & a powerful ex-DEA agent that I also liked. The main characters, Molly & Lucas, had diametrically different childhoods, but both overcame traumatic experiences. Molly's elderly neighbor works for a Christmas village, & is sure Santa is a bad man. Molly takes on the case & mayhem ensues. Can Molly & Jake save Christmas?"

GENRE: Contemporary Romances; Holiday Romances

WRITING STYLE: Engaging

TONE: Heartwarming; Steamy

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



## Lies

By T.M. Logan



Laura's Pick: ★★★★★

"What if your whole life was based on a lie ... would you even know? Joe is happily married to his wife Mel & they have an amazing son, William. Although some see Joe's life as nothing special, he is happy. That is until William spots his mom's car driving to a hotel when she is supposed to be at work. Joe decides to follow her. He sees her having an argument with the husband of her best friend. Joe confronts the friend & a pushing match occurs. The friend falls & is knocked unconscious. From this point on, Joe's life will never be the same. T.M. Logan's *Lies* is a great example of why psychological thrillers are so popular today. This was a true page-turner with twists & turns I never saw coming."

GENRE: Psychological Suspense

TONE: Suspenseful

STORYLINE: Intricately Plotted

WRITING STYLE: Compelling

THEME: Proving Own Innocence; Too Good to Be True

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



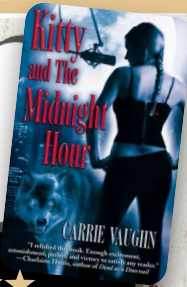


# STAFF PICKS

#ourfavorites  
#checkitout



## Kitty & the Midnight Hour By Carrie Vaughn



Catherine's Pick: ★★★★★

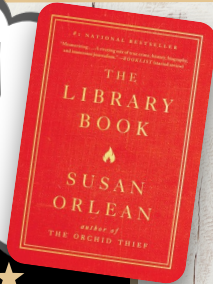
"Kitty is a radio DJ in Denver. She is also a werewolf. When Kitty accidentally launches a late-night advice show for the supernaturally disadvantaged, she becomes the target of werewolf hunters & several homicidal undead. *Kitty & the Midnight Hour* is a thrilling, fast-paced ride, leaving the reader tense in the hope that Kitty will find her way to the life she wants with a satisfying ending paving the way for the adventures that follow. As soon as I put this book down, I was eager to pick up the next book in the *Kitty Norville* series, *Kitty Goes to Washington*."

GENRE: Urban Fantasy  
THEME: Hidden Among Us  
TONE: Amusing  
CHARACTER: Sympathetic  
STORYLINE: Action-Packed  
WRITING STYLE: Engaging

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



## The Library Book By Susan Orlean

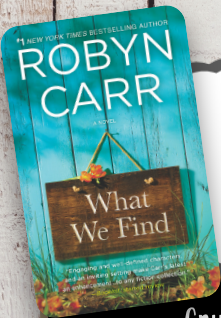


Helen's Pick: ★★★★★

"If you love libraries (& who doesn't?!), then you will love *The Library Book*. Part whodunit, part a love letter to libraries, the catalyst for the story is the 1986 fire that destroyed the Los Angeles main library branch. For a library lover like Orlean, this story was too important to ignore. *The Library Book* tells the story of the fire & its aftermath - how the library came back bigger & better. Orlean spent time in every department in the library, & her descriptions of the day-to-day workings & behind the scenes details are fascinating. She brings vivid life to libraries, which are historically the preservers of history & knowledge, & now have become centers & lifeblood of communities. Believe the rave reviews about this book!"

GENRE: History Writing  
THEME: Books about Books  
TONE: Dramatic  
WRITING STYLE: Compelling; Witty; Richly Detailed

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



## What We Find By Robyn Carr

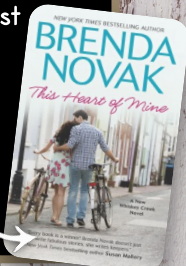


Crystal's Pick: ★★★★★

"This is the first book I've ever read by Robyn Carr, & after the first few pages, I was glad I had chosen it. If you enjoy reading sweet romances about contemporary small town life, you will enjoy this novel. *What We Find* is set in Colorado, & is the first of three books in the *Sullivan's Crossing* series. This is a story of loss, isolation, & loneliness. As I was reading, I realized that Carr didn't just write some 'sappy romance.' She did a fantastic job of weaving BIG events into the story to hold the readers' interest throughout its entirety. If you're looking for a sweet, charming, & easygoing romance, this might just be the perfect book for you."

GENRE: Contemporary Romances; Chick Lit  
THEME: Bouncing Back  
PACE: Leisurely Paced  
CHARACTER: Well-Developed  
TONE: Moving; Steamy  
WRITING STYLE: Engaging

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...



## The Silent Companions By Laura Purcell



Van's Pick: ★★★★★

"*The Silent Companions* is an excellent Victorian ghost story. The novel's narrative switches between two time periods - 1635 & 1865 - & it is gradually revealed to the reader how the two stories are connected. Both narratives will keep the reader engaged & terrified. The two stories do take a while to build in momentum, but it's well worth the wait. The author's writing style is descriptive & has quite a bit of foreboding imagery. The author's eye for historical detail is definitely evident. There are also quite a few interesting twists & a surprise ending to the novel that will leave the reader rewarded. For a good old-fashioned ghost tale that will keep the reader riveted with its ghostly imagery & delayed suspense, this novel definitely delivers."

GENRE: Gothic Fiction; Historical Fiction;  
Parallel Narratives  
WRITING STYLE: Compelling  
TONE: Atmospheric; Bleak; Creepy

If you like this book, you may also enjoy ...





# STAFF PICKS

#ourfavorites  
#checkitout



## The Duchess By Penny Junor



Shannon's Pick: ★★★★★

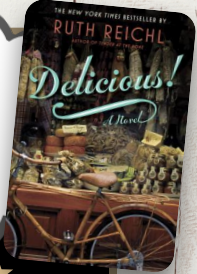
"Author Penny Junor has written an in-depth biography of Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall. If you happen to be a watcher of *The Royals* & enjoy all the ins & outs of the royal pedigree (or gossip & outright lies), then this is the book for you! Junor is well-known across the pond & is enjoyed & respected by *The Royals* watchers. Her background into Camilla's history is very well-researched & presented. It can be long-winded & at times, tedious, but Junor is trying to present Camilla to a public that has its own opinions about what almost brought down the English monarchy. I listened to the audiobook, read by Jenny Funnell, which will keep you listening if you're a lover of all things royal!"

GENRE: Autobiographies & Memoirs;  
History Writing; Life Stories  
WRITING STYLE: Journalistic;  
Thoughtful; Witty

If you like  
this book,  
you may  
also enjoy ...



## Delicious! By Ruth Reichl

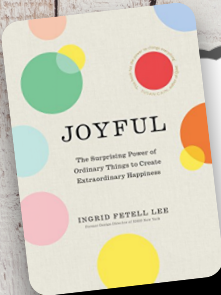


Lynette's Pick: ★★★★★

"Billie Breslin's mother dies when she is just a baby. Aunt Melba lives next door & teaches Billie all things cooking. Billie discovers she has inherited a very special palate that can detect any spice or flavor in food. She moves to NYC to work as a public relations hotline specialist for a culinary publication called *Delicious!* This iconic food magazine operates in an old mansion that holds many secrets. A cast of colorful characters quickly dispels her loneliness, & they welcome Billie & her exceptional culinary abilities onto the team. What follows is an intriguing story involving dusty archives & long-forgotten letters written during WWII to James Beard. Vivid characters & masterful storytelling kept my interest, & the end came too soon!"

GENRE: Women's Romantic Fiction  
THEME: Eat, Drink, & Be Merry  
WRITING STYLE: Lush; Witty  
STORYLINE: Intricately Plotted

If you like  
this book,  
you may  
also enjoy ...



## Joyful By Ingrid Fetell Lee



Kathy's Pick: ★★★★★

"Who would believe that everyday, ordinary things in the world around us can generate a feeling of joy? Joy can be found all around us - if you only take notice. Ingrid Lee identifies 10 aesthetics of joy: Energy, Abundance, Freedom, Harmony, Play, Surprise, Transcendence, Magic, Celebration, & Renewal. Each chapter of this delightful book deals with one aspect & explains how it can affect us so deeply. Lee uses examples from a myriad of sources, from experts to people chance-met on the street. She shares her investigations as to how & why certain things can precipitate joy (there is a reason!) She also provides a 'Joy Toolkit' to help incorporate items that instill joy into your own surroundings. This fascinating book makes you think & become more aware of your surroundings. It allows you to see your world with new eyes. It draws you in & captivates your imagination. Not only is it a quick read, but it is fun & vastly entertaining."

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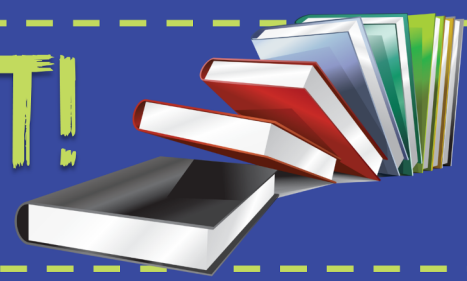
## How We Rate Our Reads: A Guide to Stars

- ★★★★★ Loved It
- ★★★★ Really Liked It
- ★★★ Liked It



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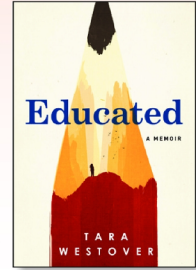


TOP PICK!

**EDUCATED**  
A Memoir  
by Tara Westover  
(Random House)

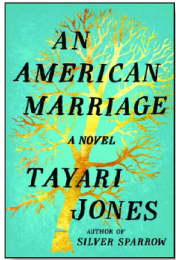
"In her memoir, Westover recounts her childhood growing up in a strict Mormon family, ruled by an erratic father, and living off the grid in Idaho. Westover compellingly sketches her years growing up, her relationships with siblings, encounters in the town nearby, and the events that eventually drove her to leave and pursue formal education. For fans of Jeannette Walls' *The Glass Castle*."

—Andrea Gough, Seattle Public Library, Seattle, WA



### The top ten books that librarians across the country loved recommending this year.

#### FAVORITES OF THE FAVORITES

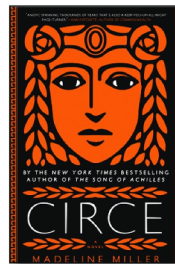


**AN AMERICAN MARRIAGE**  
by Tayari Jones  
(Algonquin Books)

"Celestial and Roy are newly married professionals leaning in to a bright future when Roy is convicted of a crime he did not commit. This is not a heroes vs. villains tale with a tidy resolution. It is a complicated, messy, moving, and thought-provoking story about love,

family, and the wide-reaching effects of incarceration. Book clubs get ready!"

—Jennifer Alexander, St. Louis County Library, St. Louis, MO

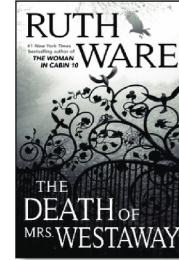


**CIRCE**  
by Madeline Miller  
(Little, Brown and Company)

"*Circe* follows the banished witch daughter of the Titans as she practices her powers for an inevitable conflict with one of Olympus's most vindictive gods. I found myself pondering motherhood, mortality, and feminism. For readers of

historical and mythological drama or anyone who loves a strong female lead."

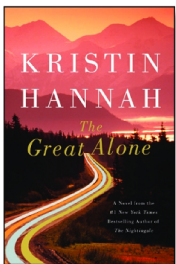
—McKelle George, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake, UT



**THE DEATH OF MRS. WESTAWAY**  
by Ruth Ware  
(Gallery/Scout Press)

"Ware's best book by far. I finally stopped trying to puzzle it out and just sat back to enjoy the ride."

—Susanne Guide, Union County Public Library, Liberty, IN

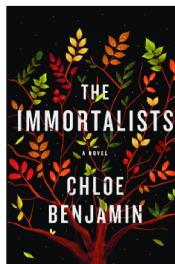


**THE GREAT ALONE**  
A Novel  
by Kristin Hannah  
(St. Martin's Press)

"Leni and her troubled family embark on a new way of life in Alaska's wilderness in 1974 – hoping this is finally the solution for her troubled, POW father. In Alaska, Leni and her family are tested and when change comes to their small community her

father's anger threatens to explode and divide the town. This is a beautifully written novel, descriptive and engaging with well-developed characters and a strong sense of place."

—Alissa Williams, Morton Public Library, Morton, IL



**THE IMMORTALISTS**  
by Chloe Benjamin  
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)

"A thought-provoking, sweeping family saga set in New York City's Lower East Side, 1969. Four siblings' sneak out to visit a psychic who reveals to each, separately, the exact date of his or her death. The book goes on to recount five decades of experience shaped by the

siblings' attempts to control fate."

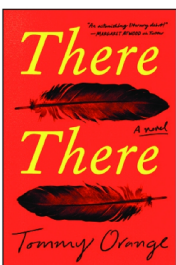
—Kelly Currie, Delphi Public Library, Delphi, IN



**THE KISS QUOTIENT**  
by Helen Hoang  
(Berkley/Jove)

"A wonderfully sweet and erotic romance featuring an autistic heroine who hires a hot male escort to teach her how to enjoy sex, but learns so much more."

—Elizabeth Gabriel, Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, WI



**THERE THERE**  
by Tommy Orange  
(Knopf)

"A large cast of interwoven characters depicts the experience of Native Americans living in urban settings. Perfect for readers of character-driven fiction with a strong sense of place."

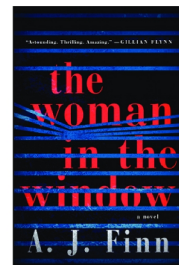
—Abby Johnson, New Albany-Floyd County Public Library, New Albany, IN



**THE WEDDING DATE**  
by Jasmine Guillory  
(Berkley Jove)

"Drew is in San Francisco for his ex-girlfriend's wedding. When he finds himself stuck in an elevator with Alexa, they hatch a plan to go to the wedding together, pretending to be a couple. Told in alternating points of view, this is a delightful multicultural romance."

—Elizabeth Gabriel, Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, WI



**THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW**  
A Novel  
by A. J. Finn  
(William Morrow)

"A menacing psychological thriller that starts out like Rear Window and then veers off into unexpected places. An agoraphobic recluse languishes in her New York City home, drinking wine and spying on her neighbors. One day she witnesses a crime that threatens to expose her secrets."

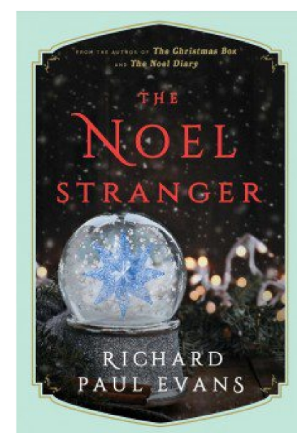
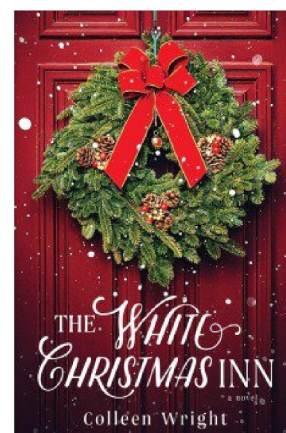
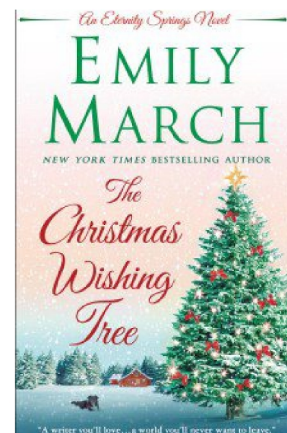
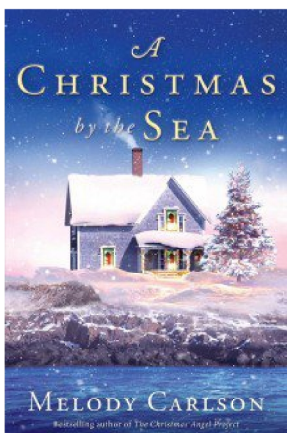
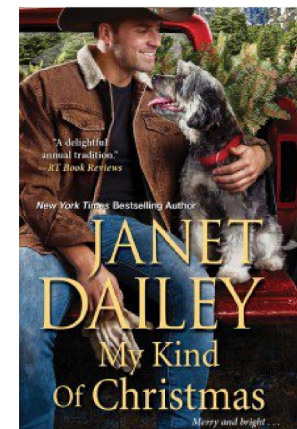
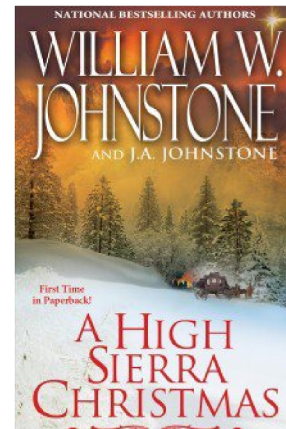
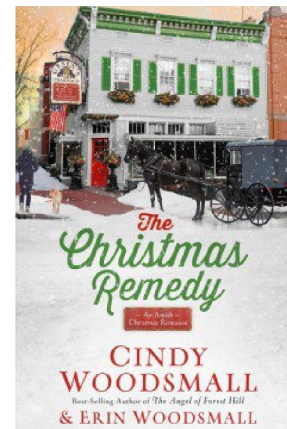
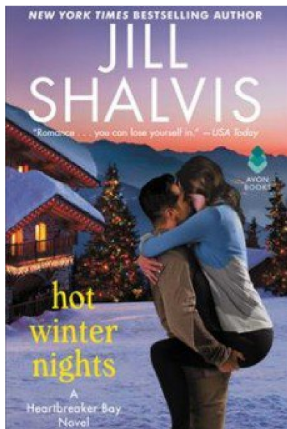
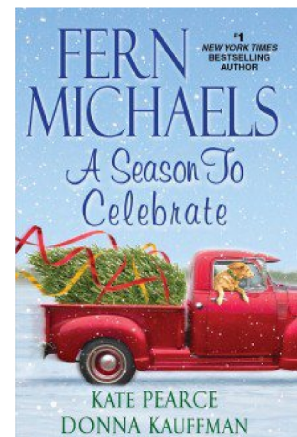
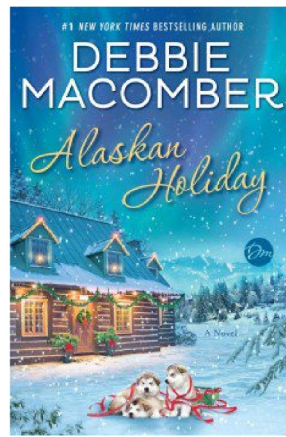
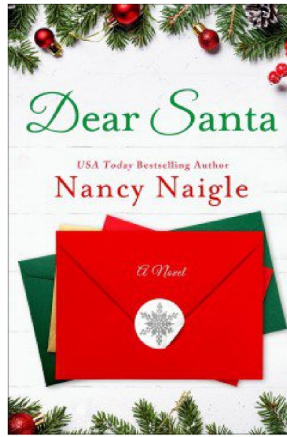
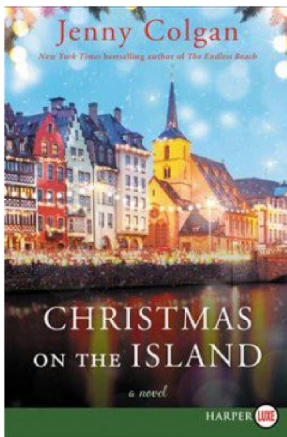
—Joseph Jones, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cuyahoga, OH





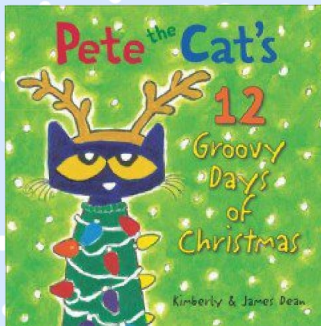
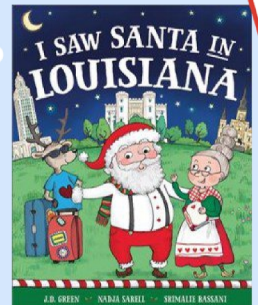
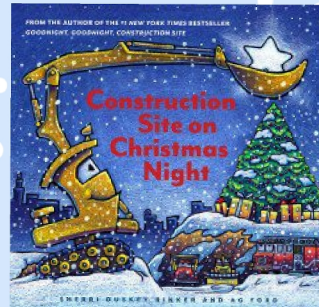
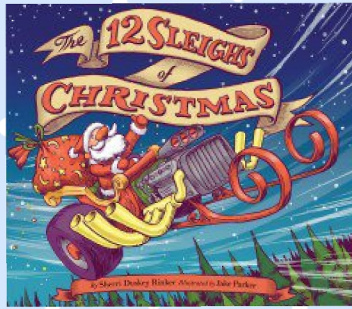
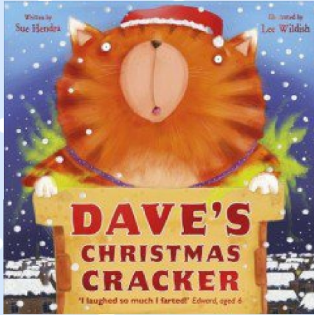
## All Wrapped Up ...

In a Good Book!

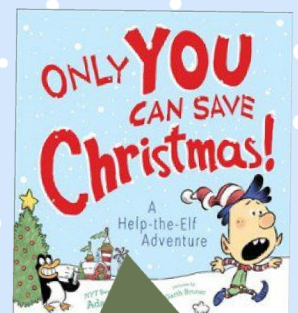
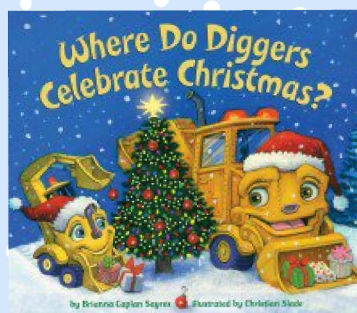
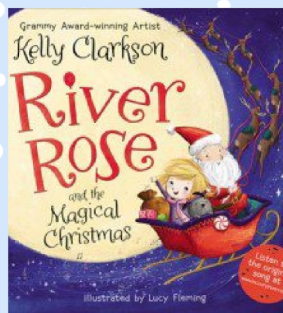
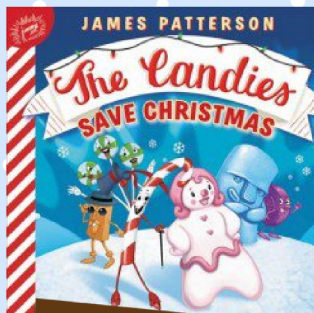


**KIDS ONLY!**

# Children's Books of the Month



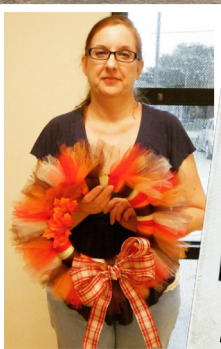
Oh, To Be  
a Kid at  
Christmas!





# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

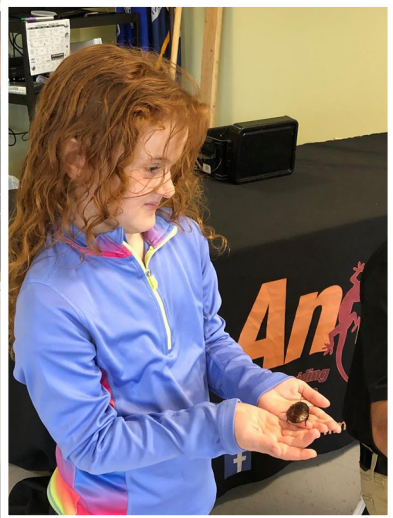
Veterans Day 2018  
11/11/18



Thanks-giving 2018  
Nov. 2018



Animal Tales' Creepy Critters  
11/20/18



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## **SOUTH LAFOURCHE**

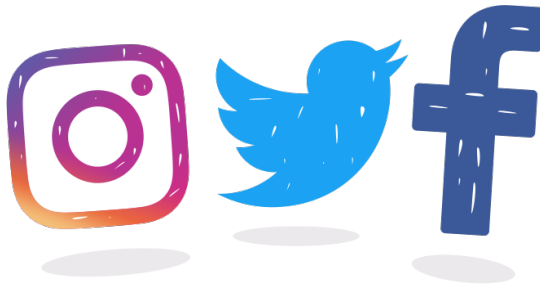
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Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM  
Sun: Closed  
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Fax: 985-632-4963

## **THIBODAUX**

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Sun: Closed  
Phone: 985-447-4119  
Fax: 985-449-4128

## **HEADQUARTERS**

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- .... And the List Goes On

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