



Books and Bytes *on the Bayou*

A Lafourche Parish Public Library Publication

June 2023

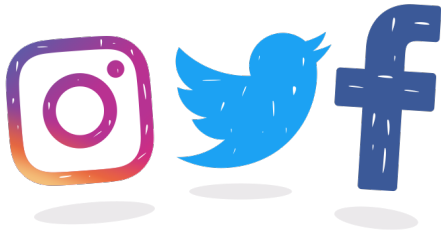
SUMMER

Experience 2023



Details Inside!

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Follow us on social media (@lafourchelib) and at lafourche.org for current news, services, programs, photos, and more!

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STAFF STARS!



Allison Clark

Congratulations to Allison Clark, Community Outreach Services Assistant, for being recognized TWICE as a Staff Star this month!

"I want to take a moment to brag about Ms. Allison! She is so amazing with her story times! Our kids absolutely love listening to her. We have had other people come to our classes, & none of them were as good as her. We look forward to story time days, as she makes books come to life!"

- *Jessica Babin, Bayou Blue Elementary*

"I want to send a shout out to Ms. Allison! She came into my kindergarten class at BBLES to read to the students. She was amazing! She has the perfect reading voice! We all enjoyed her reading so much. Thank you for allowing her to be part of my students' reading journey!"

- *Rebecca Luke, Bayou Blue Elementary*

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



Library Closure

All Lafourche Parish Public Library branches will be closed Saturday, June 17 - Monday, June 19 for Juneteenth.

Summer Experience 2023 is supported by a grant from the Louisiana Division of Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council, as administered by the RAC. Funding has also been provided by the National Endowment of the Arts.



SUMMER Experience 2023

READING Colors Your World!

Let your true colors shine this summer at your Lafourche Parish Public Library!
Our 2023 Summer Experience is headed to a library branch near you this
June & July to the theme of "Reading Colors Your World!"

How to Participate in the Fun This Summer:

- Visit your local branch to register for the reading challenge, pick up your participation log & an events calendar, & sign up for registration-required programming.
- The reading goal for all ages is to read for at least 20 minutes a day.
- Once you have logged reading for 5 days, come into the library to claim a prize! Every time you have 5 days of logged reading, you are meeting a goal and earn a prize.
- Your participation goal is to attend at least one in-person library event in June & one in July for even more fun!
- Complete the challenge to be entered into the grand prize drawing! To complete, you must have at least 30 days of reading & attended at least two library events.
- Visit us all summer long to check out books, attend special events, claim your prizes, & have a COLORFUL Summer Experience!



PLUS, DON'T MISS THIS!

- Performances by Roger Day, Crescent Circus, The Dinosaur Experience, & Animal Tales
- Page Turner Adventures' *Kindly Ever After* Virtual Program Series
- Arts & Crafts Workshops, including classes led by local artist Shelby Toups
- Escape Rooms, Code Combat Workshops, Challenge Island, & Story Times
- Pete the Cat Closing Celebrations



... AND SO MUCH MORE! GET THE FULL DETAILS @ [LAFOURCHE.ORG/SUMMER-EXPERIENCE-2023](https://lafourche.org/summer-experience-2023)

How to Have a **COLORFUL** Summer at Your Library!



REGISTRATION

Visit any branch to register for Summer Experience starting May 15! Pick up a participation log & calendar, & sign-up for registration -required programming.



PETE THE CAT

Pete the Cat will groove through our libraries, helping us close out an awesome Summer Experience! Join in the fun with a story time & craft, & a great photo op with this cool cat!



SHIRTS & BAGS

Purchase Reading Colors Your World shirts for \$9 each, while supplies last, and exclusive LPPL tote bags for \$2 each.



PAGE TURNER

Enjoy 4 weeks of virtual Page Turner Adventures content, Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays during select weeks at 11 AM (or any time after the premiere) on Facebook & lafourche.org.



PERFORMANCES

Performances are one of the highlights of the summer! Enjoy interactive shows by Roger Day, Crescent Circus, The Dinosaur Experience, & Animal Tales!



PROGRAMMING

Join us for in-branch programming at all branches. Pick up a calendar at the library or visit lafourche.org for a complete list of programming opportunities.



SPECIAL EVENTS

If you're up for a fun challenge, join us for Escape Rooms in both June & July, as well as Code Combat workshops where you can learn to code while playing a video game!



KIDS CAFE MEALS

In partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, we are providing meals or snacks for kids & teens 6/1 - 8/11, Mon - Thu. Times & food served vary by branch (see branch calendar.) Meals will not be served in Gheens.



ART WORKSHOPS

Join our guest artists, including local artist Shelby Toups, for a variety of in-branch art workshops. Pick up a calendar or visit lafourche.org for a complete list of workshops.



PRIZES

Your goal this summer is to read for at least 20 minutes a day. Every time you log 5 days of reading, you earn a prize! Read for at least 30 days & attend two library events to be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing!



SCAN ME WITH YOUR DEVICE TO VISIT OUR SUMMER EXPERIENCE 2023 WEBSITE AND EXPLORE EVERYTHING THAT IS HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY THIS SUMMER!

Plus, follow us on social media for photos & more from Summer Experience!



READING WITH AUDIOBOOKS IS STILL READING!

June is National Audiobook Month

LISTENING @ YOUR LIBRARY

At Lafourche Parish Public Library, we believe in the power of a good audiobook. Audiobooks bring stories to life & serve as a form of read-aloud for listeners of all ages. You can listen @ your library in several ways:

- CloudLibrary & Hoopla Apps
- Books on CD
- Playaways
- VOX Books
- Wonderbooks

Remember to count any time spent listening to audiobooks on your Summer Experience Participation log!

HOW AUDIO PROMOTES LITERACY

BENEFITS OF AUDIO TO LEARNING HOW TO READ

"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."

-Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading

INCREASES READING ACCURACY BY **52%**



IMPROVES COMPREHENSION BY **76%**

Provides context, helping children decode words and comprehend challenging text.

TEACHES

INCREASES READING SPEED

PRUH • NUHN • SEE • EY • SHUN

EXPANDS VOCABULARY

IMPROVES FLUENCY

BENEFITS OF AUDIO TO OTHER TYPES OF LEARNING

"Children who are better listeners are also better learners."

-North University of Texas professor emeritus Sara Lundsteen



85% of what we learn, we learn by listening.

TEST SCORES INCREASED **21%** when engaged in multi-modal learning versus single-mode.



Combining print and audio increases recall **40%** over print alone.

2 GRADE LEVELS
Students can listen and comprehend 2 grade levels above their reading level.

INCREASES MOTIVATION BY **67%**

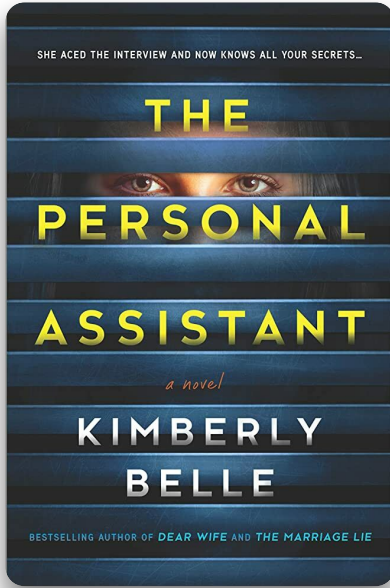
27% of the K-12 population are auditory learners.



Brooke



Read-Alike



The Personal Assistant By Kimberly Belle

Alex, a hugely popular blogger, relies on her personal assistant AC to help her manage her day, but when a controversial post goes viral, AC goes missing, and a woman is murdered, Alex finds herself thrown into the spotlight with no one left to trust.

"Wow, this is an absolute whirlwind of a story & I did not know what to expect with each twist & turn! This three POV novel is expertly woven & nail biting to the end. I love a book that doesn't play around with everything that you DON'T need to know - all that Belle lays on the table throughout the pages of this book comes into play ... it is just up to you to put the pieces together. *The Personal Assistant* manages to be both sinister & light at the same time, combining the frivolousness of hustling on social media, sharing every moment of your life to fund an enviable lifestyle, while also highlighting how dangerous & downright frightening it can be when influencers are ruthlessly cancelled & doxed (in case you aren't familiar with the term, doxing is publicly identifying or publishing private information about someone, in this case, an influencer, as a form of punishment or revenge.) This is a finely crafted tale of social media gone wrong. Secrets, deceit, & oversharing all play a deadly role in this compelling novel for the modern age."

GENRE: Psychological Suspense
PACE: Fast-Paced

WRITING STYLE: Compelling
TONE: Suspenseful

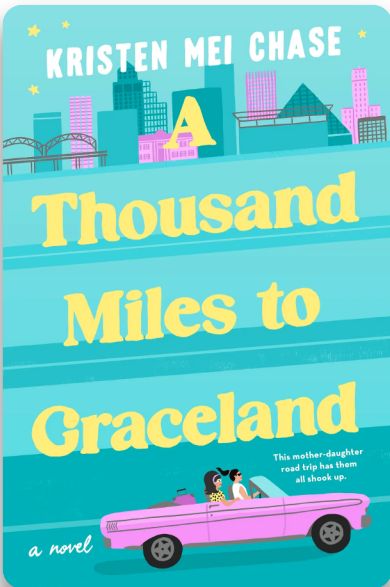
STORYLINE: Intricately Plotted
CHARACTER: Flawed



Crystal



Read-Alike



A Thousand Miles to Graceland By Kristen Mei Chase

The journey of a thousand miles begins with sequins and a beehive wig in this sharply funny and achingly tender debut novel about mothers, daughters, and the surprising power of Elvis.

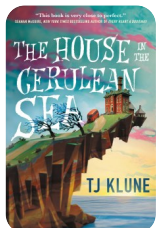
"If you're ready for an adventurous road trip filled with witty humor, a little romance, & a few emotional moments, hop into the purple convertible with Grace & her mother, Loralynn, as they cruise from El Paso to Memphis in *A Thousand Miles to Graceland* by Kristen Mei Chase. Grace has been thrown a curveball during a marital counseling session when she finds out that her husband is a hound dog. He's met someone else & wants to end the marriage. So, when Elvis-obsessed Loralynn suggests a road trip to Graceland for her seventieth birthday, Grace reluctantly decides to go. Their not so peachy keen mother-daughter relationship has Grace anticipating the worst. But as the miles roll by, secrets are revealed, past hurts are mended, & broken hearts are repaired. You can't help falling in love with this zany & heartwarming adventure. So, slip on your blue suede shoes & let's head out to Graceland!"

GENRE: Debut Title; Humorous Stories; Relationship Fiction
THEME: Road Tripping

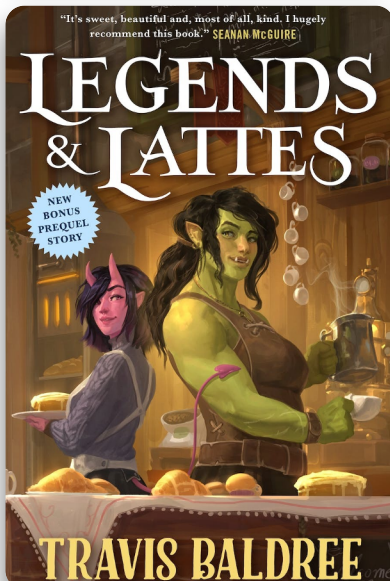
WRITING STYLE: Witty
TONE: Funny; Heartwarming; Moving



Catherine



Read-Alike



Legends & Lattes By Travis Baldree

The much-beloved BookTok sensation from Travis Baldree, *Legends & Lattes*, is a novel of high fantasy and low stakes.

"At the heart of the role-playing game genre, whether played on a screen or by a group of friends gathered around a table, is the appeal of the adventuring party. The idea of a group of comrades going out into the world to find & conquer danger, & to win riches & glory in the process, calls out to something in people who, outside of the game, live otherwise fairly mundane & usually peaceful lives. But imagine living in such a world. After some years of adventure, suspense, fighting, & bloodshed, a mundane & peaceful life may sound as appealing to people living that life as a life of adventure sounds to a typical RPG player. Such is the premise of Travis Baldree's debut *Legends & Lattes*, about an orc who retires from adventuring to start a fantasy city's very first coffee shop. *Legends & Lattes* feels like a Dungeons & Dragons player group had a big group hug & the hug turned into a book. With a warm heart & an utterly engaging writing style, this is a tremendously enjoyable comfort read for fantasy fans, especially those fond of Terry Pratchett's *Discworld* series. Also, it includes a stray dire-cat that adopts the coffee shop as a new home, and I want to pet it so badly!"

GENRE: Debut Title; Fantasy Fiction

WRITING STYLE: Engaging

TONE: Atmospheric; Heartwarming

What We're Reading

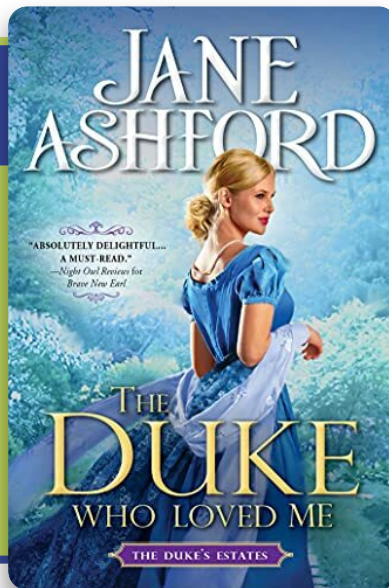


The Duke's Estates Series By Jane Ashford

Fans of Bridgerton will fall in love with this sparkling Regency romance series from bestselling author Jane Ashford.

"A duke accustomed to getting his own way. A lady determined to teach him a thing or two about love. Delicious opposites-attract romance. Glittering detail and banter. First in a new series - *The Duke Who Loved Me!* James Cantrell, the new Duke of Tereford, has inherited a dukedom in disarray & is overwhelmed by his unaccustomed responsibilities. Cecelia Vainsmeade served as liaison between James & her father, & she knows a great deal about business matters, his own in particular. She's also quite pretty. Ever the pragmatist, he suggests a marriage of convenience. Cecelia has always been good at working with James, but she doesn't understand how he can be so obtuse. He clearly doesn't realize that he's the duke she's always wished for, or that his offer is an insult. But when a German prince arrives in London & immediately sets out to woo Cecelia, James will have to come to terms with what he really feels for her. Is running away worth the cost of losing her, or will the duke dare to win her once & for all?"

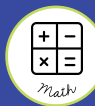
GENRE: Regency Romances **THEME:** Friends to Lovers **WRITING STYLE:** Engaging; Banter-Filled
SERIES: Duke's Estates **CHARACTER:** Well-Developed **TIME PERIOD:** Regency Period (1811-1820)



Shannon



Read-Alike

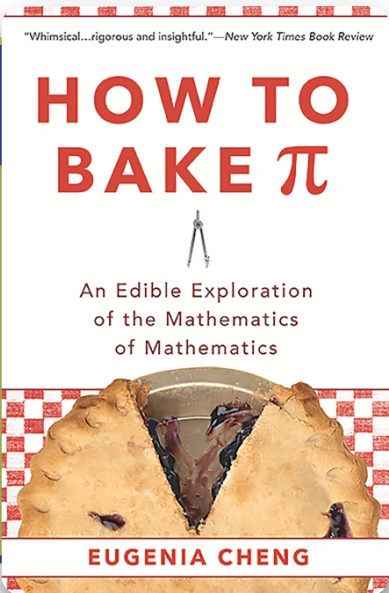


How to Bake Pi By Eugenia Cheng

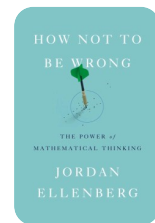
A math expert uses cooking to shed light on the heart of mathematics.

"Using a recipe for clotted cream as a case in point, Eugenia Cheng begins her book by explaining why five myths about math are not accurate, & then goes on to analyze & define exactly 'what is math?' Each chapter starts with a recipe, some more elaborate than others, to illustrate key concepts about how we use mathematics in the real world. Step-by-step solutions are shown for all the equations used, with numerous examples given to help with comprehension. The focus of the first part of the book is math. Its principles, processes, axioms, & generalizations are explored, dissected & translated into cooking terms, applied to online dating, & visualized as donuts. In the second part of the book, Category Theory is broken down into the structure, relationships, context, & sameness of groups or sets of object. Cheng states, 'Mathematics is there to make difficult things easy ... Category Theory is there to make difficult mathematics easy.' Cheng's love of math shows in her exuberant & sometimes hilarious explanations of concepts, such as understanding the principles of simplification & abstraction. This fun book, written in an upbeat & entertaining style, demystifies the world of math & encourages you to look at the real world through the eyes of a mathematician."

GENRE: Science Writing; Food Writing **WRITING STYLE:** Accessible



Kathy



Read-Alike

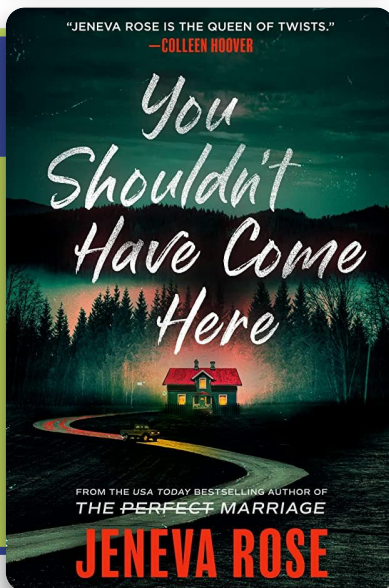


You Shouldn't Have Come Here By Geneva Rose

Told from dual points of view, this is a thrill ride and cautionary tale of what can go wrong when you open up your house and your heart to a total stranger.

"Grace is an overworked New Yorker looking for some time to decompress. She books a secluded room at an AirBnB home in Wyoming. She asked that the owner not have any other guests, so it is just her & the owner at the premises. When she gets there, she is in the middle of nowhere with no cell service, no WiFi, & her car has just stopped working. Definitely gives off some creepy beware vibes. Calvin, the home owner, & Grace start to have a connection until weird things begin happening: there is a massacre of animals, Grace is attacked by a wild animal, the townspeople keep staring at her, Calvin has secrets with his dysfunctional family, & a crazy ex wants her gone because of a one-night-stand with Calvin. The tension keeps escalating with each incident getting creepier than the last. Each of the characters seem like suspects, & now the police have come out because the woman who was supposed to have been there before Grace is missing. This was quite the wild ride with lots of suspense as the many curveballs come to an end. Never saw that ending though! I recommend this to everyone who loves a good suspenseful thriller that keeps you on the edge of your seat the whole way through."

GENRE: Psychological Suspense; Multiple Perspectives **TOPE:** Suspenseful



Laura



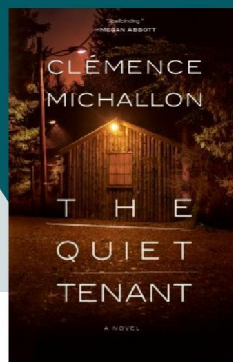
Read-Alike



June 2023

The Top Ten Adult Fiction and Nonfiction Chosen Monthly by America's Library Staff

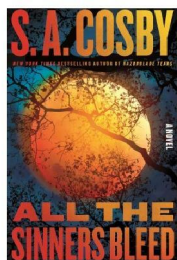
Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org



The Quiet Tenant: A Novel
Clémence Michallon
(Knopf)

The entire town feels sorry for Aidan Thomas when his wife dies. But the mysterious woman staying in the house Aidan shares with his teenage daughter has seen a very different side of him... and knows her every move has life-or-death stakes. A great pick for thriller fans looking for a page-turner with strong female protagonists.

—Mara Bandy Fass, Champaign Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *The Last Housewife* by Ashley Winstead



All the Sinners Bleed
S.A. Cosby
(Flatiron Books)

As a Black sheriff in rural Virginia, Titus Crown is caught in political turmoil while a pedophile mass murderer runs amok. A brilliant perfectionist and former FBI agent, Titus ran for office to change things for the better, but can anything honestly change?

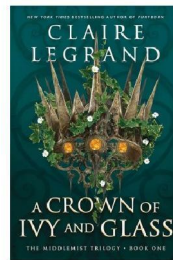
—Jill Minor, Washington County Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *When Ghosts Come Home* by Wiley Cash



The Brightest Star: A Novel
Gail Tsukiyama
(HarperVia)

This moving historical novel spotlights Chinese-American icon Anna May Wong, a talented and ambitious actress caught in a film industry that denied her the roles she was born to play, even as she was expected to teach white actresses how to "act Chinese".

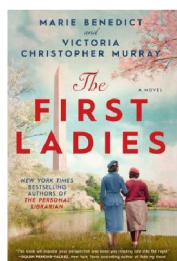
—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Community Library
Novelist read-alike: *Siren Queen* by Nghi Vo



A Crown of Ivy and Glass
Claire LeGrand
(Sourcebooks Casablanca)

Gemma is the only person in her powerful family not to possess magic; in fact, she's physically sickened by it. But when a dashing man tells her of a demonic curse, Gemma engages in a quest to find her tormentor. This is a sweeping, romantic fantasy with the promise of more to come.

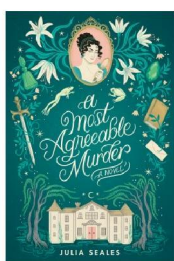
—Mary Lovell, Seymour Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros



The First Ladies
Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray
(Berkley)

An illuminating read about the unlikely friendship between Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune as both overcame obstacles pursuing equal rights during the Great Depression/WWII and formed a close relationship through their personal struggles.

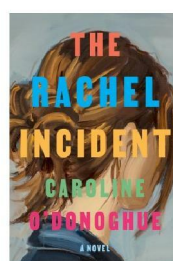
—Debbie Lease, Hillsdale Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *The Thread Collectors* by Shaunna J. Edwards



A Most Agreeable Murder: A Novel
Julia Seales
(Knopf)

Beatrice has had enough of Regency societal rules about what is proper and loves true crime and Lord Huxley. When Huxley's former assistant shows up in her village, Beatrice immediately dislikes him. When another guest to the village is murdered, Beatrice helps the vile man solve the case. Much laughter is had on the way to personal freedom and autonomy.

—Michelle Ogden, Crawfordsville District Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *The Murder of Mr. Wickham* by Claudia Gray



The Rachel Incident: A Novel
Caroline O'Donoghue
(Knopf)

Rachel and James meet while working at a bookshop in Cork and decide to hold a book release event for Rachel's professor. Ten years later, a pregnant Rachel reflects on this time in her life and how it led her to where she is now. Capturing university life where friendships are strong, emotions are deep, and money is tight, this is a wonderful novel.

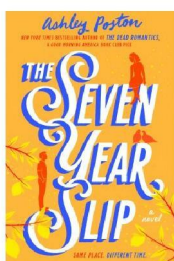
—Tara McGuinness, Cuyahoga County Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *Conversations with Friends* by Sally Rooney



Same Time Next Summer
Annabel Monaghan
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)

Sam and Wyatt have met up every summer since they were young and fall deeply in love. Even at their young age they know this love is forever. This starts out as a basic romance novel, but when something terrible happens to our two lovers, the writing changes, becoming more compelling and more nuanced.

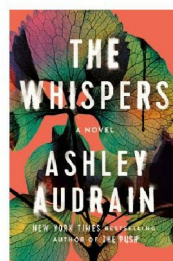
—Judy G Sebastian, Eastham Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *Every Summer After* by Carly Fortune



The Seven Year Slip
Ashley Poston
(Berkley)

Suspend belief, forget logic, and don't ask questions, just go with the love in this romance set in a magical apartment. Clementine and Iwan fall in love and then lose each other in a seven-year time slip. Their lives are filled with good friends and family and eventually a happy ending.

—JR Ring, Baltimore County Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *The Impossible Us* by Sarah Lotz



The Whispers: A Novel
Ashley Audrain
(Pamela Dorman Books)

After a picnic where everyone hears the host losing her temper towards her son, that same boy is admitted to the hospital with a life-threatening injury. Told from multiple perspectives, revealing a bit more with every chapter, this story centers around deception, envy, and despair, leaving readers rushing towards the climactic conclusion.

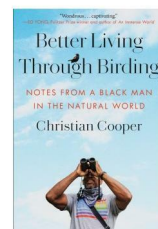
—KC Davis, Fairfield Woods Branch Library
Novelist read-alike: *Dirty Laundry* by Disha Bose

Bonus pick:



Much Ado About Nada
Uzma Jalaluddin
(Berkley)

Notable Nonfiction:



Better Living Through Birding: Notes from a Black Man in the Natural World
Christian Cooper
(Random House)

Photo Highlights



Ten Locations to Serve You!

BAYOU BLUE

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-580-0634
Fax: 985-580-9640

CHOCTAW

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-633-6453
Fax: 985-633-8873

GHEENS

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone & Fax: 985-532-2288

GOLDEN MEADOW

Currently Closed Due to Hurricane Ida

Phone: 985-475-5660
Fax: 985-475-4517

LAROSE

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-693-3336
Fax: 985-693-3978

LOCKPORT

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-532-3158
Fax: 985-532-0270

RACELAND

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-537-6875
Fax: 985-537-2292

SOUTH LAFOURCHE

Currently Closed Due to Hurricane Ida

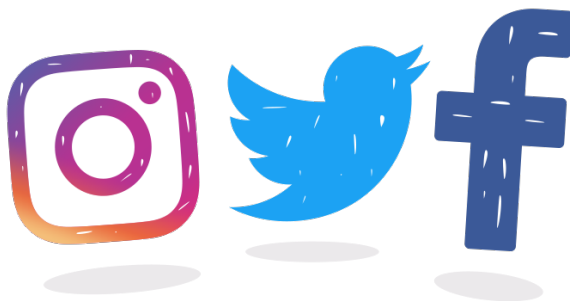
Phone: 985-632-7140
Fax: 985-632-4963

THIBODAUX

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-447-4119
Fax: 985-449-4128

HEADQUARTERS

Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Sat - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-446-1163
Fax: 985-446-3848



Connect with us for the latest!



We Are More Than Books!

- Programming for All Ages
- Summer Experience
- Hotspots
- Video Games
- Legos & Tinker Toys
- DVDs
- iPads
- STEAM Activities
- Meeting Rooms
- Subscription Services
- Story Times
- MakerSpace
- Book Clubs
- Outreach
- Guest Authors
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- Laptops
- Book-a-Librarian
- Kids' Cafe
- Meeting Rooms
- Crafts
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- Performances
- Books Before Reading Challenges
- New Items Weekly

... and the list goes on!

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Where we educate, enrich and entertain Lafourche Communities

BRANCH LOCATIONS: HEADQUARTERS, THIBODAUX, CHOCTAW, BAYOU BLUE, RACELAND, GHEENS, LOCKPORT, LAROSE, SOUTH LAFOURCHE, GOLDEN MEADOW, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH AREAS



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