



July 2023

ILLUMINATED STACKS

The Official Newsletter of the Stoneham Public Library

Stoneham Public Library

431 Main Street
Stoneham, MA
02180

Adult Services

(781) 438-1324

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9 am - 9 pm
Wed, Fri: 9 am - 5 pm

Children's Services

(781) 438-1325

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9 am - 7 pm
Wed, Fri: 9 am - 5 pm

StonehamLibrary.org

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Follow along online

 @StonehamPubLib

 Stoneham Public Library

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

Tuesday, July 4th: Independence Day



STONEHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Summer Concert Series: Thursdays @ 7:00 P.M.

The Town Common is a-swinging and a-rocking this month with a Big Band ensemble, a mix of Italian melodies and Broadway numbers, a Celtic-American group, and the golden oldies!

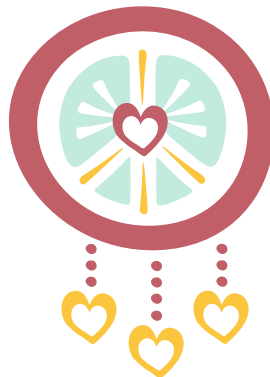
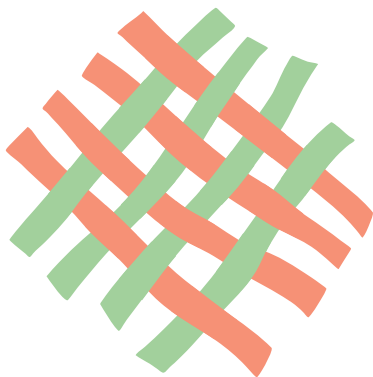


ART DISPLAY

JUNIOR ROOM SUMMER LEARNING ARTS & CRAFTS

This month we will be exhibiting kids' creations from our summer programming! Crafts include but aren't limited to:

- glow in the dark bugs
- spaceships
- woven blankets or turtle shells
- lion masks
- pressed flower suncatcher ornaments



Each month, the library hosts a different local artist! For more information about displaying artwork at the Stoneham Public Library, contact Reference Librarian Maureen Saltzman: **781-507-2483** or

sto@noblenet.org.

ADULT PROGRAMS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

3

4
CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

5

6
Mysteries Around the World Book Group 7 pm
What to do in Your Garden During Summer w/ Jean Anderson 7 pm

7

8
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

10

11
Adult Creative Writing Group 11:30 am

12

13
Queer Reader Book Group 7 pm
NEW!

14

15
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

17

18
The Fifties - The Golden Age of Music with the Retro Polatin Band 7 pm

19

20
Adult Board Game Night 7 pm

21
Film Club Screening: *Summertime* (1955) 1pm

22
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

24
Meet the Author: Dora Mwangi 7 pm

25
Arty Party 7 pm
NEW!

26
Film Club Discussion 6:30 pm

27

28

29
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

31
Monday Night Book Group 7 pm

CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

JULY 2023

MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Mondays

Monday Night Book Group

July 31st at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

Join our group discussion to read novels and the occasional nonfiction choice. July's book is *Paper Palace* by Miranda Cowley Heller. "Tender yet devastating, *The Paper Palace* considers the tensions between desire and dignity, the legacies of abuse, and the crimes and misdemeanors of families." *The group meets on the last Monday of each month.*

Registration required.



Tuesdays

Adult Creative Writing Group

July 11th at 11:30 am | The Stoneham Room

Interested in writing amongst a group of peers? During the meetings you will have conversations about writing habits, sharing work and giving critique (optional of course!), and have a timed writing portion to work on your latest work in progress or write on a theme. Members should bring pencils, pens, notebooks, loose-leaf paper and/or a laptop for brainstorming and taking notes. **Registration encouraged.**



Arty Party

July 25th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Do you miss the days of arts and crafts when you could get a little messy and just have fun while creating something? Well here's a craft program just for adults! July's craft is miniature books. Make them into keychains, necklaces, or earrings! If you want a specific book cover, please send the title to lmysona@noblenet.org when you register. **Registration required.**



Wednesdays

Film Club Discussion

July 26th at 6:30 pm | Zoom

The Film Club will discuss its July choice, *Summertime* (1955) on Zoom. Don't miss out on our screening of the movie on Friday, July 21st. **Registration Required.**



MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS CONTINUED:

Thursdays

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

July 6th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

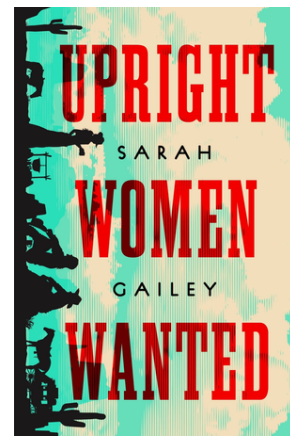
The Mystery Group meets to discuss *The Rising Tide*, the latest book by award-winning writer, Ann Cleeves. The story features the quirky, unique detective, Vera Stanhope... "This is an extraordinary novel...with secrets long hidden finding their way to the surface, and Vera and the team may find themselves in more danger than they could have believed possible"! This group meets on the first Thursday of each month. **Registration required.**



Queer Reader: An LGBTQ+ Book Club

Thursday, July 13th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

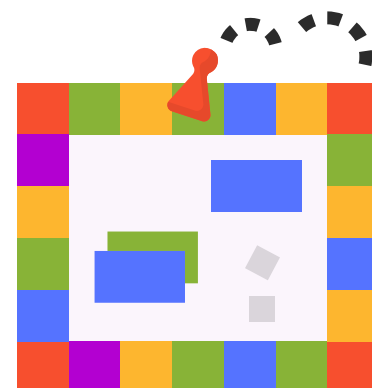
Join us for our newest book group, Queer Reader! In this group we will read and discuss books by and about the LGBTQ+ community! The July book is *Upright Women Wanted*, a reinvention of the pulp Western by award-winning author, Sarah Gailey. "The future American Southwest is full of bandits, fascists, and queer librarian spies on horseback trying to do the right thing. They'll bring the fight to you." Pick up your copy at the circulation desk! **Registration required.**



Adult Board Game Night

Thursday, July 20th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join us from 6-8pm to play board games, card games, put together puzzles, etc! There will be an array of games available. Choose what you want to play. It's a great opportunity to meet new people or get together with friends or BOTH! This program is open to anyone 18 or older and occurs every third Thursday. **Registration encouraged.**



MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS CONTINUED:

Fridays

Film Club Screening

July 21st at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

The film club selection for July is *Summertime* (1955). Oscar-nominated Katharine Hepburn gives one of her all-time great performances as a lonely American vacationing in Venice and yearning for a "wonderful, mystical, magical miracle." The acclaimed romantic comedy-drama was directed entirely on location by David Lean (who also received an Oscar nomination) and co-stars Rossano Brazzi, Isa Miranda and Darren McGavin. All Film Club Screenings are free and open to the public. **No registration required.**



SPECIAL ADULT PROGRAMS:

What to do in Your Garden During the Summer

Thursday, July 6th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Summer is HERE and our gardens are in full swing! What should we be doing to keep everything nice and healthy? Jean Anderson joins us once again to show you precisely what to do! If we're lucky, she may even have her local honey available for purchase! **Registration required.**

CLEANING & PLANTING,
SPLITTING PERENNIALS,
DEADHEADING



SPECIAL ADULT PROGRAMS CONTINUED:

The Fifties-The Golden Age of Music with the Retro Polatin Band

Thursday, July 11th at 7 pm | Outside, weather permitted

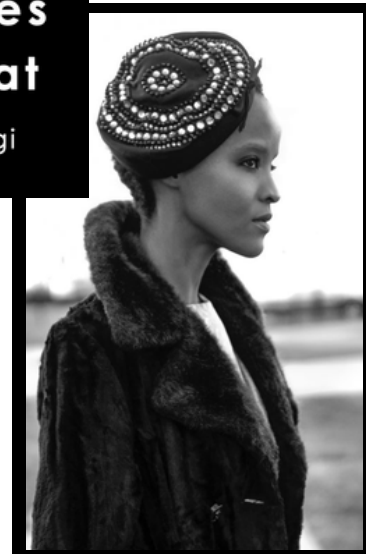
In this one hour entertaining and educational program, the Retro Polatin Band will discuss singers and play songs from the Fifties and the birth of rock and roll. This program is supported by a grant from the Stoneham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. **Registration encouraged.**



Meet the Author: Dora Mwangi

Monday, July 24th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join us as poet Dora Mwangi reads from her collection *Little Fires That Float* and speaks with Assistant Director Lily Mysona about what drew her to writing and how she found her voice in poetry. *Little Fires That Float*, published in 2020, focuses on self-exploration through reflecting within oneself and having thoroughly honest conversations about how we affect each other and the results of these engagements, whether intended or unintended. **Registration encouraged.**



NOTE: Each adult program that you attend qualifies you for a punch on your Summer Learning card and gets you one step closer to a Stoneham Public Library tote bag, designed by our own Ali Fletcher!



YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

3
Toddler Tales
 10 am

Fables & Fun
 4 pm

4
CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

5
Babytime
 9:30 am

Miss Frizzle: Insects 10:30 am

Teen Movie
 Afternoon
 3 pm

6
STEM & Stories
 1:30 pm

Farmers Market Storytime
 3:30 pm

7
Baby Bumble
 9:30-11 am

8
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

10
Toddler Tales
 10 am
Tween Paint Party
 3:30 pm
Fables & Fun
 4 pm
Teen Paint Party
 5:30 pm
Coloring Club
 6 pm

11
All Ages Storytime
 10:30 am

12
Babytime
 9:30 am

Toddler Tumble 10 am

Teen Movie
 Afternoon
 3 pm

13
STEM & Stories
 1:30 pm

Farmers Market Storytime
 3:30 pm

14
Baby Bumble
 9:30-11 am

15
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

17
Toddler Tales
 10 am

Fables & Fun
 4 pm

18
PICKture This
 10:30 am

19
Babytime
 9:30 am

Toddler Tumble 10 am

Teen Movie
 Afternoon
 3 pm

20
STEM & Stories
 1:30 pm

Farmers Market Storytime
 3:30 pm

21
Baby Bumble
 9:30-11 am

Pumpnickel Puppets
 10:30 am

Touch-a-truck
 1 pm

22
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

24
Toddler Tales
 10 am

Fables & Fun
 4 pm

Coloring Club
 6 pm

25
All Ages Storytime
 10:30 am

Middle Grade Graphic Novel Club 3:30 pm

26
Babytime
 9:30 am

Toddler Tumble 10 am

Teen Movie
 Afternoon
 3 pm

27
Stem & Stories
 1:30 pm
Farmers Market Storytime 3:30 pm
Tween Trivia: Weird but True 3:30 pm
Teen Trivia: Heartstopper 5:30 pm

28
Baby Bumble
 9:30-11 am

29

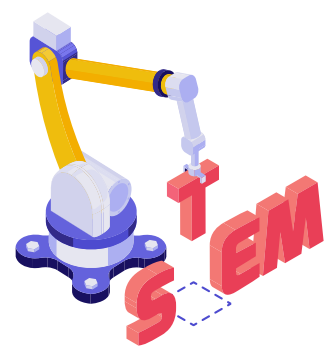
31
Toddler Tales
 10 am

Fables & Fun
 4 pm

Want to register for an event?
 Head to stonehamlibrary.org
 Hit the 'Calendar' tab.
 Scroll to the day and the event you want.
 Hit 'Register'!



weekly:



Mondays

Toddler Tales 10 am

Miss Melissa is ready to share a new picture book story with you! Come join us for a sweet story time! **Sign up required.**

Fables and Fun at 4pm

Join Miss Melissa for a fun folktale and a themed craft! **For Prek+. Sign up required.**

Coloring Club

July 10th and 24th at 6 pm

Ali is ready to share her art skills with you! Come by for an artistic challenge! **For teens and tweens. Sign up required.**

Tuesdays

All Ages Storytime

Tuesdays, June 6 and 27 at 10:30

Join Miss Rachel to sing favorite songs and rhymes, meet new friends and have some fun. **For all ages. Sign up required.**

PICKture This Storytime at 10:30 am

We have special toys specifically picked for toddlers that will be available during this program!



Wednesdays

Babytime at 9:30 am

Join Miss Katie for a quick, fun babytime program! We'll have bounces, rhymes, and loads of fun! **For babies 0-12mos.**

Toddler Tumble at 10 am

We have special toys specifically picked for toddlers that will be available during this program!

Teen Movie Afternoon at 3 pm

On Wednesdays at 3, a movie for teens will show in our Marcy room. Bring snacks and enjoy a movie in the a.c.! Vote on our instagram stories to pick the movie! @stonehampublib **For teens and tweens.**

Thursdays

STEM & Stories at 1:30 pm

Miss Melissa is ready to share a story with you and guide you through a related STEM activity! **For grades 2+. Sign up required.**

Farmers' Market Storytime at 3:30 pm

Join Miss Ali at the Stoneham Farmers' market for a sweet summer storytime! She'll be in the gazebo waiting to greet you! **All ages welcome; intended for ages 1-5.**

Fridays

Baby Bumble 9:30-11:00 am

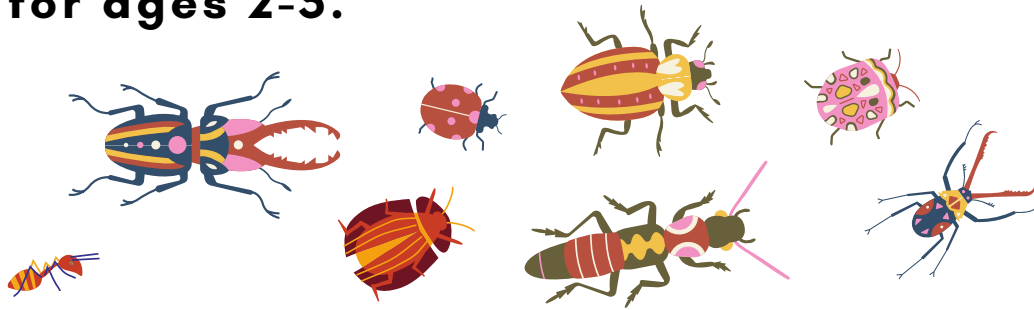
This drop-in style program is to encourage our young friends to socialize, play, and communicate with one another. **For babies 11ish months and up.**

special:

Wednesday, July 5th at 10:30 am

Miss Frizzle: Insects

Miss Frizzle is back for another visit; this time she'll be talking about insects! **All ages welcome; intended for ages 2-5.**



Monday, July 10th at 3:30 pm

Tween Paint Party

Tweens can join us for a paint party in the Marcy Room! We'll have music playing and instructions to bring you through painting your own beautiful canvas!! Supplies are all provided. **Space is limited, sign up required. Grades 5+.**

Monday, July 10th at 5:30 pm

Teen Paint Party

Teens can join us for a paint party in the Marcy Room! We'll have music playing and instructions to bring you through painting your own beautiful canvas!! Supplies are all provided. **Space is limited, sign up required. Grades 8+.**



special continued:

Friday, July 21st at 10:30 pm Pumpnickel Puppets

John is coming back to visit for a fantastic puppet show! Join us on the library lawn for an engaging show! **All ages welcome; intended for ages 1.5-5.**



Friday, July 21st at 1 pm Touch-a-Truck

Stoneham Public library, in conjunction with the Stoneham Fire, Public Works, and Police departments, are so excited to present our first Touch-a-truck program!! We'll have an array of vehicles showcased in the Town Hall parking lot for kiddos to view. We'll have stickers and crafts, too! Don't miss out on this exciting program! **For all ages. Sign ups are encouraged (so that we can get an estimate count), but not required!**



Tuesday, July 25th at 3:30 pm Middle Grade Graphic Novel Club

Join Ms. Katie on the last Tuesday of the month to chat about an awesome graphic novel! This month we are reading *Aquicorn Cove*. We'll talk about the book and draw our own graphic novel panels! For grades 4 and up. The graphic novel can be picked up at the Jr. library desk and should be read prior to the meeting. Happy reading! **Sign up required.**



special continued:

Thursday, July 27th at 3:30 pm

Tween Trivia: Weird but True

Weird but True books are a staple to our library collection! We'll be asking questions based on facts found within this series! You do not need to have read the books, though it will help! Teams must be 4 people or less. Winning team members will each get a \$25 giftcard to Christine's candy shop! **Sign up required; register for you and your teammates once. For teens and tweens.**



Thursday, July 27th at 5:30 pm

Teen Trivia: Heartstopper

Heartstopper has taken over Netflix accounts and library hold shelves everywhere! This trivia contest will test your knowledge on books 1-3!! Borrow Heartstopper by Alice Oseman from us and get ready to win. Teams must be 4 people or less. Winning team members will each get a \$25 giftcard to Christine's candy shop! **Sign up required; register for you and your teammates once. For teens and tweens.**



SUMMER LEARNING 2023

Kids, teens and adults can all participate in Summer Learning 2023! Sign up, complete activities, and win prizes!

KIDS

Check out the [Juvenile Summer Learning page](#) on our website to sign up, see the programs we're offering, and access your summer learning pamphlet.

TEENS

Check out the [Teen Summer Learning page](#) on our website to sign up, see the programs we're offering, and access your summer learning bookmark.

ADULTS

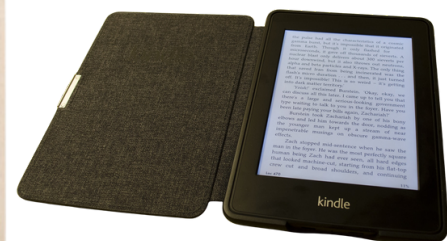
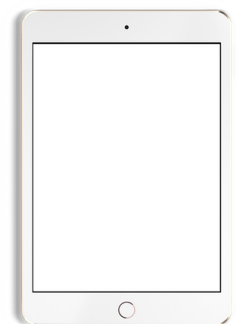
Check out the [Adult Summer Learning page](#) on our website to sign up, see the programs we're offering, and access your summer learning punch card and bookmark

what kinds of prizes can you win?


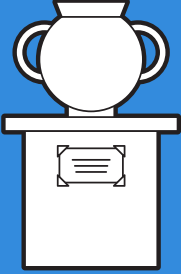
Tags and beads for your summer learning NECKLACE!

An iPad or a Kindle Fire!

A Stoneham Public Library bookplate tote bag, designed in house by our own Ali Fletcher!



MUSEUM PASSES



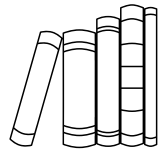
[Aviation Museum of New Hampshire](#)

The AMNH is an institution that is dedicated to educating visitors about New Hampshire's aviation history. The Museum is open year-round: Fridays & Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sunday from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Information about events, activities, and programs can be found on the organization's website. The pass covers a total of four (4) paid admissions to the Aviation Museum. Children under six are always admitted for free. The pass can be used for special programs, provided the program is being held on-site during the Museum's regular operating hours.

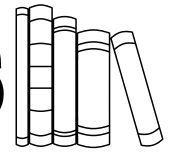


[Massachusetts Parking Pass](#)

This pass must be checked out with a NOBLE library card and returned to the library following your visit. The pass allows free parking for one (1) car at multiple sites in Massachusetts. Please note that it is not valid for: Quabbin Reservoir, Squantum Point, North Point, Draw Seven State Park, or camping.



JULY BOOK LISTS



Between Boston and the Bastille

Commemorating Independence Day (July 4th, 1776) and France's Bastille Day (July 14th, 1789). In this list you will find titles on the history, literature, and lives that were lived in 18th century America, England, and France. Also included are some materials on modern cuisine from each of the three countries.



Cooking out with the Library

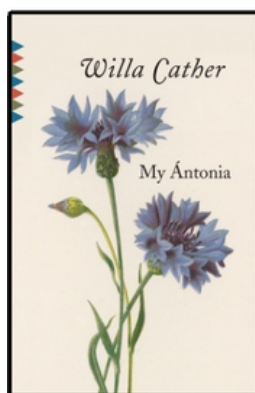
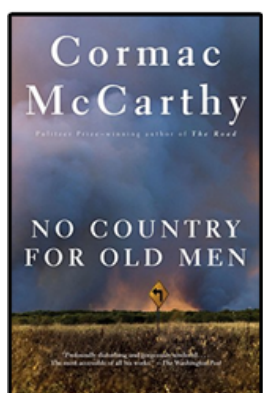
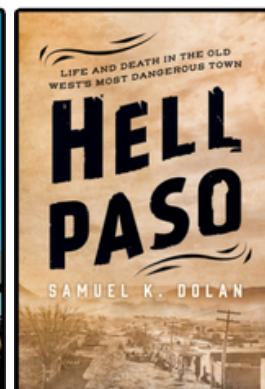
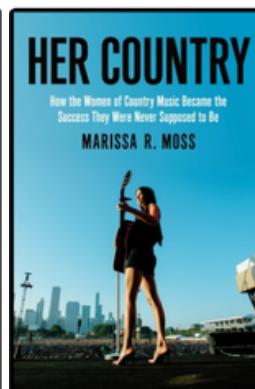
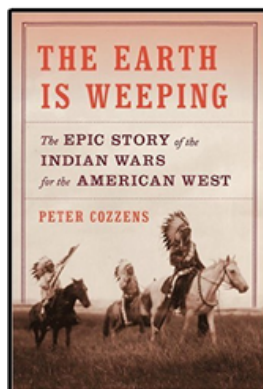
We have compiled a list for the cuisine *par excellence* of summer gatherings: appetizers, sides, light fare, grilled food, fried food, cocktails, and "cool" desserts. Recipes are optimal for backyard cookouts & campfire barbecues.



JULY BOOK LISTS CONT.

"Country and Western"

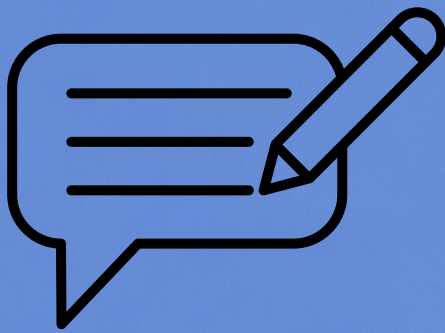
A rambling saloonful of print, electronic, and audio-visual materials that have to do with those two similar, but distinct, concepts mysteriously alluded to in the film, *The Blues Brothers* (1980) with John Belushi and Dan Ackroyd.



July 2023 Book Challenge

This month's theme from the [Massachusetts Center for the Book](#) is to **read a book that you**

have borrowed from your local library. Do not hesitate to ask library staff for suggestions and help in locating titles! The database, [NoveList Plus](#), is a useful readers advisory tool if you prefer to search for books on your own.

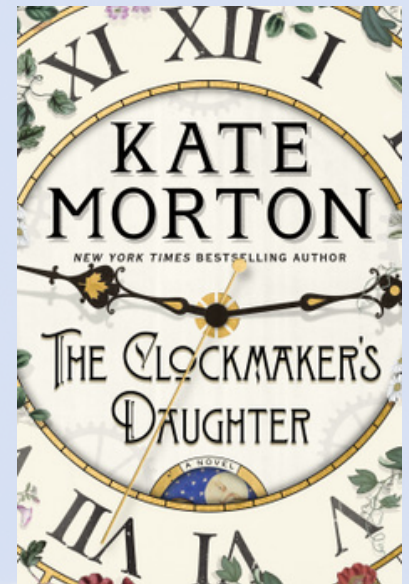


STAFF REVIEWS

How a Book Can Connect Me with my Family

Recommendation | Melissa Jackson

My mother, sister, and I share a great passion for reading and will often share books. My mother actually ran the lending library at her retirement community until she could no longer manage it and wrote and read until she passed last year. The owner of the bookstore in the coastal community she and Dad retired to would actually come out of the building and stand in a parking place to hold it for her! He knew a good customer when he saw one! My sister and I would have lunch with her and we would pass books back and forth, sharing our recommendations, and for years my mom would recommend Kate Morton's *The Forgotten Garden* to me as a pick for my book club. I was a fan of Kate Morton from then on.



Kate Morton writes historical fiction involving families and their secrets that are discovered generations later. The stories go back and forth from past events to the present and slowly a story begins to evolve showing how one single event can change the trajectory of an entire family's lives. She spins a wonderful story and has a way of spinning a web of a story that is absolutely enchanting! My mom, sister, and I adore these books and I am planning to read her latest, *The Homecoming*, very soon. If you are looking for a summer book, or a new author, **[I most heartily recommend Kate Morton and her wonderful canon of novels!](#)**

The Dragon in the Library by Louie Stowell

Review | Ali Fletcher

To some, the library is a place to explore new ideas, travel to distant lands, try their hands at crafts or activities, meet new people, and just have fun - it's where stories come to life! For young Kit Spencer, the library is anything but fun. Kit is a muddy, outdoorsy rascal who would much rather go poking around in cemeteries for spooky angels made of stone, bugs hiding in the undergrowth, and (on some lucky day) a family of rats! She simply cannot understand why her bookworm friends, Josh and Alita, would want to go to the library of all places at the beginning of summer vacation. Don't they know how boring and quiet the library is?



Nevertheless, to the library they go, where the three kids encounter the tall, loc-wearing, long-nailed, Head Librarian, Faith Braithwaite, who seems to have more than just perfect book recommendations tucked up her sleeves - books that even the library-averse Kit may be interested in. After Kit stumbles upon a shelf of dusty, old books kept behind padlocked glass doors, she discovers that, for some people, stories about snakes and enchanted gardens and houses with chicken feet really do come to life. Why? Because despite how average Kit feels, she is no ordinary middle-schooler. Kit, like Faith, is a Wizard - the youngest wizard in the world! But, before Kit even has time to process her newfound magical powers and to get to know her new Wizard-Librarian mentor, the library that holds all the secrets to her wizardry (and all the great things libraries hold in general) finds itself threatened by a billionaire who wants to buy and destroy the library and all within it - including the very magical, very powerful, and very dangerous sleeping dragon that the Wizards are sworn to protect! Can Kit learn enough about her power as a Wizard, the power of her friendships, and the power of stories in time to save the library - and the dragon - from destruction?

The first in a series of three *Kit the Wizard* books, Louie Stowell's enchanting novel is packed with endearing and diverse characters, mythical creatures, and all the wonders that keep the magic of libraries alive (even those without secret dragons). Perfect for readers in grades 4-7, whether they'd rather spend their summer vacations inside with a good book or exploring the muddy, buggy outdoors, *The Dragon in the Library* is sure to provide just the right kind of adventure.

The Art of Claude Monet **Review | Matthew Sowyrda**

[There is no shortage of materials in our collection](#) in which the paintings of Claude Monet are catalogued and discussed. He was the champion of Impressionism, a style in which the artist utilizes color, light, and shading instead of detail to render a cursory illustration of the scene at hand. Unlike Realism, or the Modernist Movement, which arose around the same time in the 19th century - and was characterized by a tendency to reject ideal beauty in art, its proponents demanding instead to portray the hustle-bustle of urban life and the gritty face of social issues - Monet for the most part kept his eye and palette on the quiet corners of the world. This can be seen in *Water Lilies*, which lie upon a pond in his garden. Then there is *Early Morning on the Seine*, in which a tranquil stretch of France's great river is wrapped in a blanket of dawn's dreamy mist. Other noteworthy pieces are of rustic roads, sunny fields that are full of flowers, and ocean waves passing into rocky coves.

A fine specimen of his city life paintings is the *Saint-Germain-l'Auxerrois*. The titular church stands majestically against a cloudless sky over a park near the Louvre, while pedestrians and horse-drawn carriages amble about the walkway on the ground below. The radiant treetops and the shading of the afternoon sun's angle on the stone façade are so clear that it all looks, at first glance, almost photographic. One will notice that in this and in other urban or "social" scenes, the viewer is nearly always placed at a distance from the action; participants or passersby are sometimes little more than dark shapes, such as in *The Train in the Snow* and *The Boulevard des Capucines*. Monet infuses peaceful, serene moods into every painting; even his representations of the city seem reserved, detached, private.

Although I have good things to say about Monet's art, I do not think that I can rightly call it "beautiful" - not nearly on the level as the works of Michelangelo, Raphael, and the other maestros of the Renaissance - because of his wispy, splash-like strokes that give a teary-eyed effect. This works well in pieces that contain mist or heavy precipitation, such as the mystifying *Sunrise*, in which a thick morning haze has fallen over the water; distant figures on sailboats row away under a fiery sun. In other cases, however, it tends to result in blended boundaries, which makes it difficult to distinguish between objects, as in *The Rue Montorgueil, Fête nationale*. Moreover, it mutes dimensionality and detail that could otherwise draw out verdant splendor, as in *Ravine of the Creuse*. Nonetheless, Monet had an eye for selecting great scenes, and we can delight in his corpus of colorful compositions.