

April 2024

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

Sat: 10 am - 2 pm

Children's Services

(781) 438-1325

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9 am - 7 pm

Wed, Fri: 9 am - 5 pm

Sat: 10 am - 2 pm

StonehamLibrary.org

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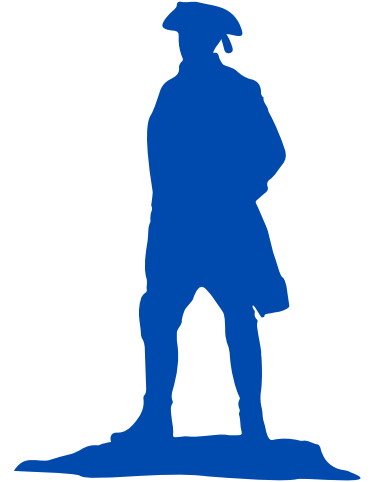
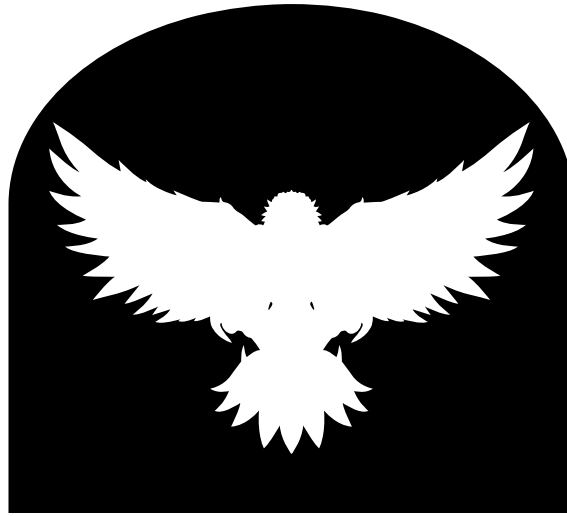
 [Stoneham Public Library](#)

APRIL 2024

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Holiday Closures

Monday, April 15th (Patriots' Day)



Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, April 8th @ 7:00 PM

The Stoneham Room

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. Members of the public are welcome to attend.



[Click here to learn more about the trustees and view minutes from their past meetings.](#)

APRIL 2024

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE



Books in Bloom

Friday, April 26th @ 5 PM

Saturday, April 27th @ 10 AM

The Friends of the Stoneham Library, in partnership with the Stoneham Garden Club, are happy to bring back Books in Bloom. It will be held at the library, using the entire interior space to showcase beautiful floral arrangements, raffle gift baskets with specific book themes, appetizers, and non-alcoholic beverages. There will also be live music.

In years past, the former Friends organization and the Garden Club put on this event to the delight of hundreds of Stoneham residents and visitors. All proceeds after expenses will be donated to the library.

[Tickets are \\$35 per person](#) which gets you access to all the raffle items up for bid, live music, food, beverages and more!! Learn more at the [FOSL website!](#)

APRIL 2024

DISPLAYS

Adult Reference

There will be a display of fiction and nonfiction selections, which will include such topics as gardening, the environment, and conservation, as well as art books featuring flowers, botanical themes and gardens.

Art Exhibit Hallway

Featuring: A flower/botanical art show of many local artists including Mouna Bassali, Jeannette Corbett, M.E. Drummey, Sheila Falco, Sandy Kirby, Alicia Mills, and Craig O'Neill.

APRIL 2024

ADULT PROGRAMS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



1

2
Creative Writing
11:30 am
Lizzie Borden & John Best
7 pm

3

4

5

6
Bullet Journal Club for Adults
11 am

8
Gentle Yoga
7 pm

9
Meet the Author: Sam Farmer
7 pm

10

11
Creative Writing
7 pm

12

13

15
CLOSED

16

17

18
Read It & Eat Book Club
7 pm

19
Friday Movie Matinee
1 pm

20
Gentle Yoga
10:30 am
Sweet Cabaret Girl
12:30 pm

22
Monday Movie Night
6 pm

23
Arty Party
7 pm

24
Film Club Discussion
6:30 pm

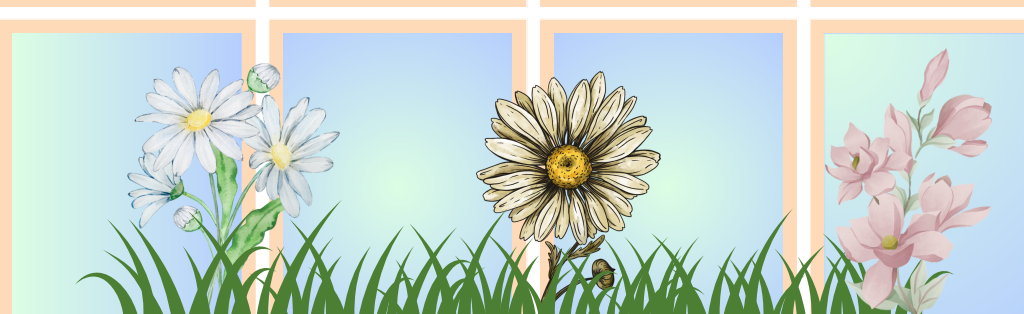
25
Queer Reader Book Group
7 pm

26
Books in Bloom**
6:30 pm
****a Friends of the Stoneham Library event**

27

29
Monday Night Book Group
7 pm

30



APRIL 2024

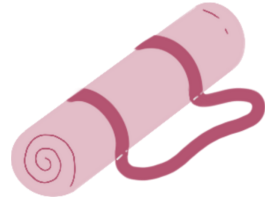
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Mondays

Gentle Yoga

April 8th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join us for gentle yoga with Joanna Kent! Joanna has been practicing yoga for five years and became a certified yoga teacher last year. She believes yoga should be accessible to and inclusive for all. Her class includes breathwork, slower paced movements, and lots of relaxation! Please bring your own yoga mat. [Registration required.](#)



Monday Movie Night: *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974)

April 22nd at 6 pm | The Marcy Room

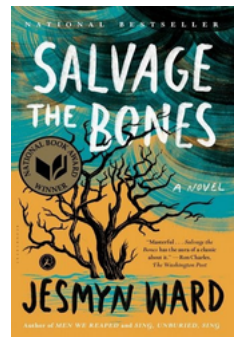
We will hold a viewing of this month's Film Club choice, *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974), directed by Martin Scorsese, and starring Ellen Burstyn and Kris Kristofferson. "A recently widowed woman is on the road with her precocious young son, determined to make a new life for herself as a singer."--IMDb



Monday Night Book Group

April 29th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

We will read, *Salvage the Bones*, a novel by Jesmyn Ward. This two-time National Book Award winner... delivers a gritty but tender novel about family and poverty in the days leading up to Hurricane Katrina. We are ready to welcome you to the discussion. No registration is required. If you have any questions, contact Maureen: 781-438-1324; saltzman@nobl.net.org.



Tuesdays

Creative Writing for Adults

April 2nd at 11:30 am | The Stoneham Room

Attendees are invited to bring their own projects to share with the group for critiques. Activities include reading excerpts from established authors, articles about creative writing skills, and writing sessions. All skill levels are welcome. If you are interested, contact Matt at msowyrda@nobl.net.org



APRIL 2024

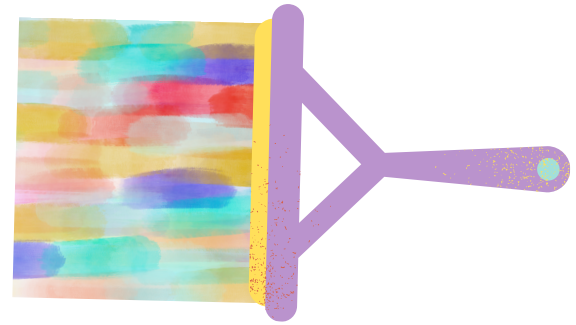
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Tuesdays

Arty Party

April 23rd at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

This is a monthly program for adults 18+ to come hang out and make a craft together. April's craft will be squeegee paintings! All supplies are provided. Questions? Contact Rachel at roverbeck@noblenet.org or (781) 438-1324. [Registration is required.](#)

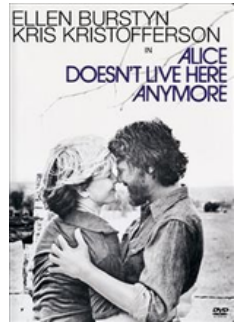


Wednesdays

Film Club Discussion

April 24th at 6:30 pm | Online

Join the Film Club to discuss their April selection, *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974). Dave will send out the Zoom link on the day of the discussion. Registration is required. To register, and for more information about this program, [click here.](#)



Thursdays

Creative Writing for Adults

April 11th at 7 pm | Lower Level / Oversize Section

Attendees are invited to bring their own projects to share with the group for critiques. Activities include reading excerpts from established authors, articles about creative writing skills, and writing sessions. All skill levels are welcome. If you are interested, contact Matt at msowyrda@noblenet.org



Read It & Eat: A Cookbook Club

April 18th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Do you love cooking and trying new recipes? If so, register for "Read It and Eat"! Come by and pick up a copy of the latest title at the main circulation desk. Select a recipe from the book, and cook it to share with the rest of the group! Contact Anna at apowers@noblenet.org. [Registration required.](#)



APRIL 2024

MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Thursdays

Queer Reader: An LGBTQ+ Book Club

April 25th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

The April book is book is *The Stars and the Blackness Between Them* by Junauda Petrus. To register for the program, [click here](#). Pick up your copy at the circulation desk! Contact Lily at (781) 507-2489 or lmysona@noble.net. **Registration is required.**



Fridays

Movie Matinee: *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974)

April 19th at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

We will hold a viewing of this month's Film Club choice, *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974) No registration required. All film screenings are free and open to the public.

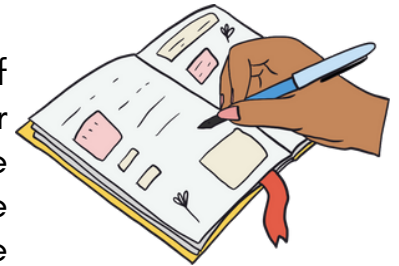
Directed by: Martin Scorsese | Starring: Ellen Burstyn, Kris Kristofferson, and Mia Bendixsen | Written by: Robert Getchell



Saturdays

April 6th at 11 AM | Adult Mezzanine (Upper Floor)

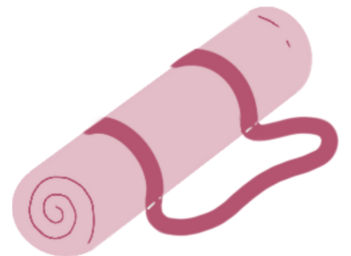
Join us for the Bullet Journal Club for Adults on the first Saturday of each month! We will have stencils, markers, washi tape, and stickers for you to use (supplies are not take home, please leave them at the library). Bring your own journal and imagination! This is a drop-in style program, meaning a staff member will not be leading it. You can come any time between 11 and 1 and the materials will be set out.



Gentle Yoga

April 20th at 10:30 AM | The Marcy Room

Join us for gentle yoga with Joanna Kent! Joanna has been practicing yoga for five years and became a certified yoga teacher last year. She believes yoga should be accessible to and inclusive for all. Her class includes breathwork, slower paced movements, and lots of relaxation! Please bring your own yoga mat. **[Registration required.](#)**



APRIL 2024

LIZZIE BORDEN AND JOHN BEST: KNOWLTON'S TRIALS THAT GRIPPED BOSTON'S SOUTH AND NORTH SHORES

WITH ALISON SIMCOX AND DOUGLAS HEATH

Tuesday, April 2nd @ 7:00 PM

The Marcy Room

At the second event in our True Crime Series, local authors Alison Simcox and Doug Heath will talk about Lizzie Borden and John Best: Knowlton's Trials that Grippped Boston's South and North Shores.

Hosea Knowlton is best known as the chief prosecutor of Lizzie Borden, whose 1893 trial for the murder of her parents created a national sensation. During his tenure as Massachusetts Attorney General, Knowlton tried more murder cases than any man who had held that office. As notorious as the Borden trial was at the time, one of his last cases, the trial of John Courtney Best, also involved a horrific axe murder.

In their talk, Alison Simcox and Douglas Heath will reveal the facts and bizarre circumstances of this shocking murder and you can decide whether Knowlton's famous ability to incisively question trial witnesses and present eloquent arguments ensured that justice was served.

No Registration Required

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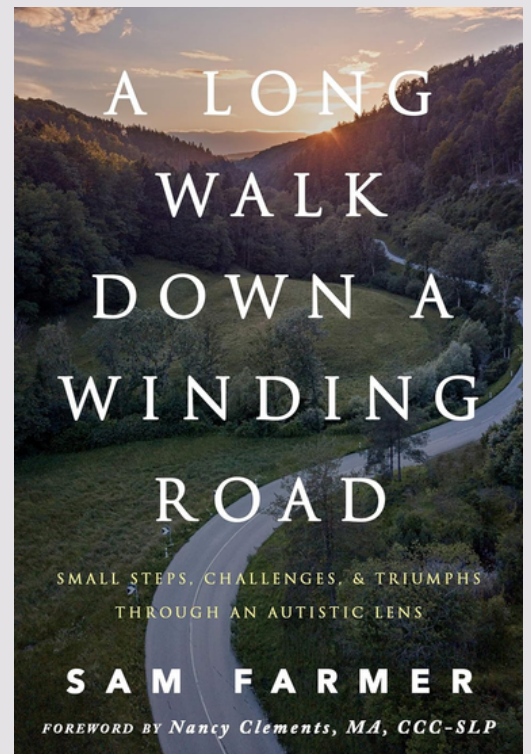
MEET THE AUTHOR: **SAM FARMER**

Tuesday, April 9th at 7 PM
The Marcy Room



Meet author Sam Farmer as he talks about his book, *A Long and Winding Road: Small Steps, Challenges, & Triumphs Through an Autistic Lens*.

From the unique perspective of someone on the autism spectrum comes a book about working to carve out a better life in the face of challenge and adversity. Interwoven with true stories of personal hardships and triumphs, *A Long Walk Down a Winding Road* offers ideas and insights aimed at inspiring and empowering the reader to enhance quality of life. It also exposes what it can feel like to be autistic, as told by somebody who actually walks in these shoes.



Registration is appreciated but not required.

If you would like to register for this program, [click here](#).

APRIL 2024

SWEET CABARET GIRL

WITH ANN MARIE KING

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

12:30 PM | THE MARCY ROOM



Join us for "Sweet Cabaret Girl: One Woman's Journey Through Life and Love" with Anne Marie King. This one hour show includes music, comedy, and even some dance! King will be accompanied by live pianist Wendy Stewart and guest star Kevin Pierson.

Ann Marie King is the girl next door. Her standup comedy is a clever blend of expressive and witty worldly observations with a unique comical style. Quirky and endearing, she can also melt your heart with a lovely ballad. Her delightful voice has brought her to sing at Fenway Park and the Hatch Shell in Boston, the MGM Grand Theater at Foxwoods, and on cruise ships around the world. She has performed throughout New England. She has also been charming audiences for years in theater and musicals.

No Registration Required

APRIL 2024

SPECIAL EVENT FRIDAY 26 APRIL

6:30-9:00pm

BOOKS IN BLOOM

FUNDRAISER \$35/TIX

- LIVE MUSIC
- APPETIZERS
- RAFFLE ITEMS
- BOOK-THEMED FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS
- BEVERAGES
- NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Get Tickets at stonehamfriends.org

📍 Stoneham Library, Main Street, Stoneham

all proceeds support Stoneham Library

brought to you by Friends of Stoneham Library
in partnership with Stoneham Garden Club

APRIL 2024

APRIL

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

2

Toddler Time
10 am

3

Babytime
9:30 am

4

5

Baby Bumble
9:30 am

Home School
Social 12:30 pm

6

Lego Club
11 am

8

Quick Stitch
Club 4:30 pm

9

Toddler Time
10 am

Musical
Mornings
10:30 am

10

Babytime
9:30 am

11

12

Baby Bumble
9:30 am

Home School
Social 12:30pm

13

Chess Club
10:30 am

Lego Club
11 am

15

CLOSED

16

Toddler Time
10 am

17

Babytime
9:30 am

18

Kiddo
Creations 6 pm

19

Baby Bumble
9:30 am
Home School
Social 12:30pm
Teen & Tween
Craft Collective
3:30 pm

20

Lego Club
11 am

22

23

Toddler Time
10 am

24

Babytime
9:30 am

25

Musical
Mornings
10:30 am
Bullet Journal
Club 6 pm

26

Baby Bumble
9:30 am

Home School
Social 12:30pm

27

Arbor Day Event**
10:30 am
Crochet Club
12 pm
Lego Club
11 am

29

30

Toddler Time
10 am
Graphic Novel
Club 6 pm

**a Friends of the
Stoneham Library
event

REMINDER: Please have your snacks before you enter the library. We do not have full time maintenance and we will get bugs from food! Thank you!

APRIL 2024

weekly:

Mondays

Crazy Crafts at 4pm

No Crazy Crafts this month; check back in May.

Tuesdays

Toddler Time at 10 am

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

Silly Storytime 4pm ✓

No Silly Storytime this month; check back in May.

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.**

Thursdays

Toddler Tales at 10:30 am

No Toddler Tales this month; check back in May

April 18th: Kiddo Creations at 6pm ✓

We will have all of the supplies that you need along with a sample for you to see! Katie will be there to walk you through what you are making and to help you along.

All ages welcome, intended for 3-5.

Fridays

Baby Bumble 9:30 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.**

Home School Social 12:30pm

This drop-in program is an open social time for kiddos who are homeschooled! We welcome you to come, hang out, and meet new friends! The library will not have any set programming during this time, but rather would like to open our space for you to utilize!

Saturdays

Lego Club 11 am

Come build your Lego dreams during this drop in program! Swing by and hang out with us! **For all ages.**

Weekdays

Switch after School

On any weekday at 3, ask a youth services staff member to use our Nintendo Switch! We'll set it up for you and you can use it until the Jr Room closes for the night!



= Sign up Required

Quick Stitch Club ✓

Apr. 8th at 4:30pm

Teens and Tweens: Join Deb once a month to learn how to embroider your own hoop! No experience required; she'll help you build your skills!

This is a series program; you sign up once for all 5 sessions! The dates for this program will fall on: Monday 1/22, 2/12, 3/11, 4/8, and 5/13!



Musical Mornings ✓

Apr. 9th & 25th at 10:30 am

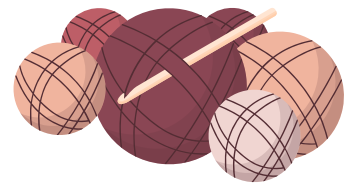
The wonderful Matt Heaton is hosting a monthly musical program!!! Come join us for a morning of movin' and groovin'! **For all ages. Intended for ages 1.5-5.**



Crochet Club ✓

Apr. 27th at 12pm

JC, the crochet master, will be here to guide you through crocheting a beautiful creation. No experience necessary; bring supplies if you have them, but if you don't, that is okay! **Grades 4+**



Graphic Novel Club ✓

Apr. 30th at 6pm

Join us while we chat about a graphic novel and draw graphic novel panels. Copies are available at the youth services desk. **For teens and tweens.**



Bullet Journal Club ✓

Apr. 25th at 6pm

Come make a bullet journal with Katie! We'll make a new calendar each month and go over new ideas! Journal and supplies provided. **For teens and tweens.**



 = **Sign up Required. Click a logo to register for that program.**

Special Event

ARBOR DAY Walk + Talk



APRIL 27



AGES 4-12

**SAT
27**

**2
SESSIONS**

Nature Walk and Talk with a
Botanist Dr. Lucas O'Neil

Learn about Trees and The
Surrounding Area

First 100 children receive a free
tree seedling

SESSION 1 | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

SESSION 2 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

all proceeds support Stoneham Library

brought to you by Friends of Stoneham Library
in partnership with Stoneham Garden Club

Please sign up in advance!

[Session 1 @ 10:30am](#)

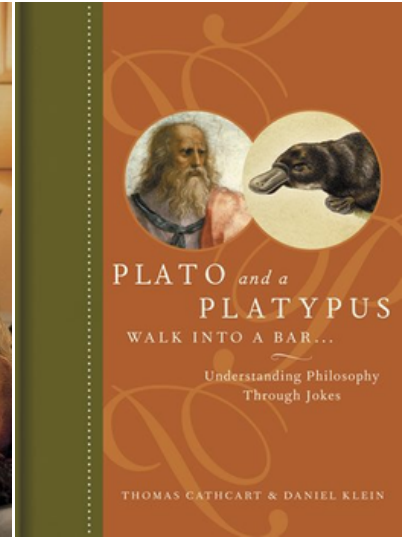
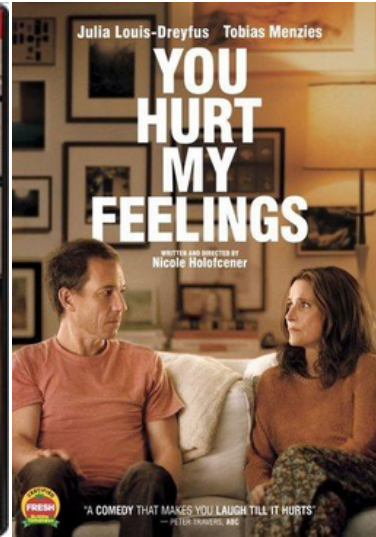
[Session 2 @ 12pm](#)

APRIL 2024

APRIL BOOK LISTS

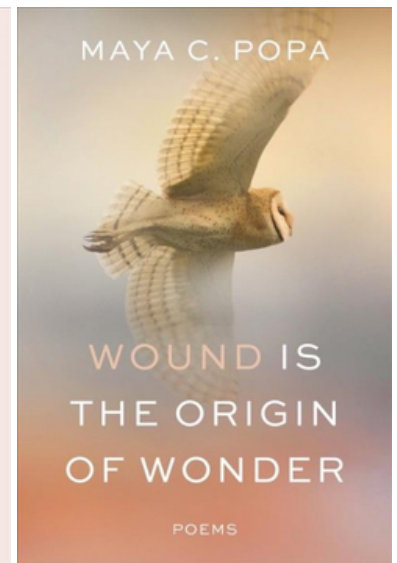
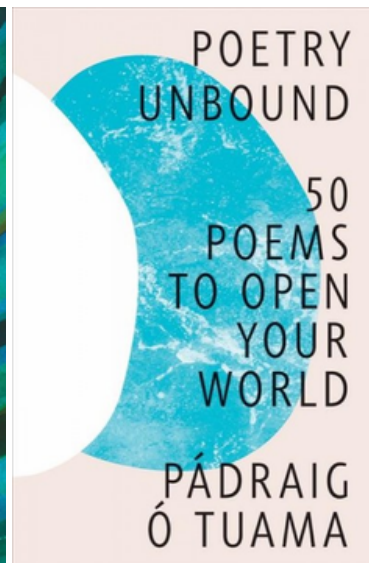
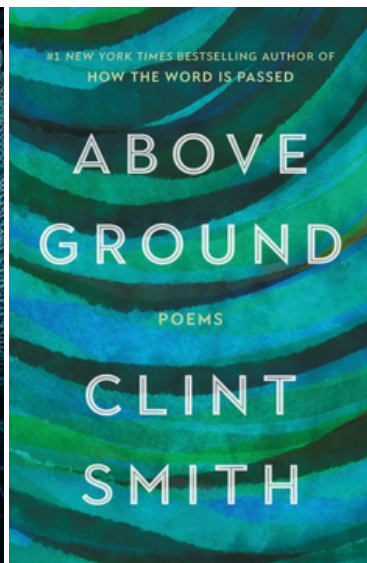
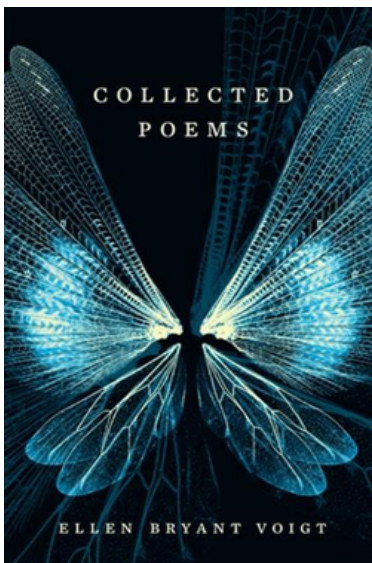
Humor Us

Humorous books and comedy films



Prose 'n Verse

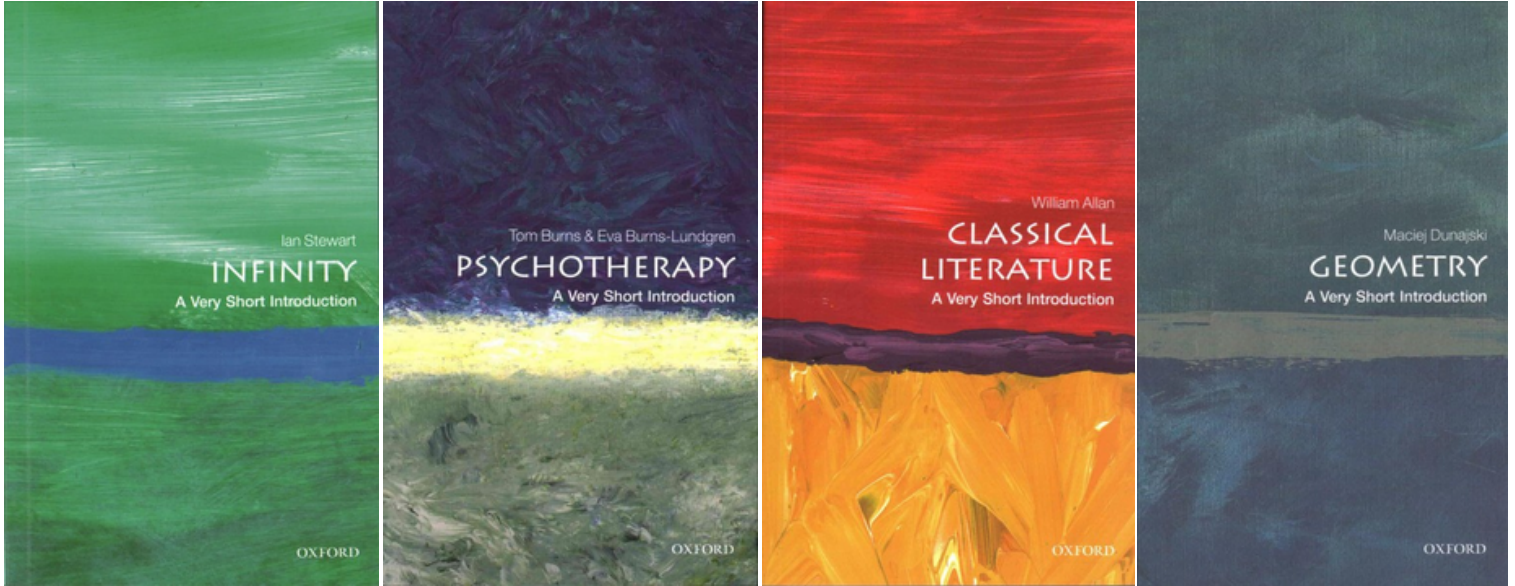
To celebrate National Poetry Month



APRIL 2024

Allow Me to Introduce...

'A Very Short Introduction' books



Homescaping

Gardening, DIY projects, and home economics



APRIL 2024



STAFF REVIEWS

Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore (1974)

Review | David Huygens

Martin Scorsese's fourth feature film, *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974), is an anomaly in the director's career, focusing on a female main character. It's about what happens when a 1970s Socorro, Arizona housewife is suddenly widowed, and takes off across the Southwest with her young son (Alfred Lutter) to try to find a better life.

After several false starts, Alice finds a job as a lounge singer in Phoenix, and a new relationship that ultimately does bad. Escaping to Tucson, and with very little money left, she finds work as a waitress in a diner, and ends up bonding with the women she works with. There's also a local rancher who's interested in her, who may or may not be what she needs in her life at the moment.

Vincent Canby of *The New York Times* called the film a "fine, moving, frequently hilarious tale", and wrote that "the center of the movie and giving it a visible sensibility is Miss Burstyn, one of the few actresses at work today...who is able to seem appealing, tough, intelligent, funny, and bereft, all at approximately the same moment." Burstyn's performance won her the Academy Award for Best Actress.

The film was a commercial success, grossing \$21 million on a \$1.8 million budget. Kris Kristofferson plays Burstyn's love interest, with Diane Ladd (nominated for Best Supporting Actress), Harvey Keitel, Lane Bradbury, Valerie Curtin, Lelia Goldoni, Vic Tayback, Jodie Foster, Billy "Green" Bush, and Harry Northrup. Also nominated for an Academy Award was screenwriter Robert Getchell (*Bound For Glory*). The film was the basis for the long-running TV series, *Alice*.

***Yours, Purple Gallinule* by Ewa Chrusciel**
Review | Matthew Sowyrd

Ewa Chrusciel is a 21st Century poet, an author of several poetry collections, among which are *Of Annunciations*, *Contraband of Hoopoe*, and *Strata*; the rest are still in her native Polish tongue. Her latest work, *Yours, Purple Gallinule*, revolves around birds and madness. The speaker is a psychiatrist who attempts to diagnose her avian patients based on the behaviors and sounds that are unique to each kind. She finds it impossible, however, to “pigeonhole” the artful motions of these winged creatures using modern approaches to mental diagnosis, even with the help of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (2013).



Chrusciel has a poet’s command of language. For example, “A poem is a ravenous flock of snow buntings, an apocalypse of the air ... you need to wrestle it like Jacob did the Angel. Its otherness will bless, and wound” (p. 16). In one sense, this describes the essence poetry, which, through its intensity of feeling, pours forth from and is received by the heart. In another, it encompasses the pleasure and the pain of those who are truly alive. It reminds me of Don Quixote - literature’s beloved madman - who would writhe in his sleep, his mind twisting itself over some complex passage in a book he had just read.

The symbolism of birds is clear, and so is the reason why Chrusciel chose them as a subject. Because birds and humans are, in a way, both migratory species, many analogies can be made here. Chrusciel’s birds serve as a metaphor for human beings, who cannot be reduced to a label based on a strict set of symptoms. They are like travelers who wander so often that those who prefer to stay at home are bothered by the constant movement of the other. Chrusciel shows how, in turn, they who are at home in this world, often brand these “strangers” - philosophers, mystics, poets, lovers, the religious - with the seal of madness, or, in some cases, of folly. Even the structure of these poems vacillate between verse and prose, as if they themselves cannot be pinned down to a certain form.

Chrusciel weaves together allusions to biblical figures, Plato’s philosophy (especially from *Symposium* and *Phaedrus*), St. Hildegard’s mysticism, and Bosch’s artistry, as she treats of classical and modern views of mental illness, as well as the idea that the human person transcends the vanity of excessive mental diagnosis and convenient prescriptions.