

October 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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Job Seekers (ages 50+)
Youth Book and Craft Sale
Stoneham Reads
Letter to the Community
Rebus Puzzles
Reviews

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Stoneham Public Library

OCTOBER 2024

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

NOTICE

The library will be closed
Monday, October 14th, for Columbus Day!

14th Annual Halloween Stroll

Saturday, October 26th @ 1 PM
Downtown Stoneham & Town Common

From the Stoneham Chamber of Commerce: *Ghosts, goblins, and witches of all ages, come to Downtown Stoneham for some not so spooky Halloween fun. Trick-or-treat at local businesses, stop by the common for Stoneham TV interviews and games, join Stoneham Recreation and area businesses on the Town Common for pumpkin decorating, festive crafts, activities and more! This event is FREE and open to the public. See the Chamber's website for more information.*



Stoneham Reads Movie Viewing.

Saturday, October 26th @ 11 AM
The Stoneham Public Library, Marcy Room

Join Stoneham Reads and the Stoneham Public Library for a movie event to round out this year's theme; celebration and recognition of the LGBTQ community: *Small Town Gay Bar*. Join us for the viewing and a brief discussion following! Snacks provided!

OCTOBER 2024

ADULT PROGRAMS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1
Creative Writing
11:30 am

2
50+ Job Seekers Networking Group
9:30 am

3
Mysteries Around the World Book Group
7 pm

4
Documentary Wow! Dogtown & Z Boys
1 pm

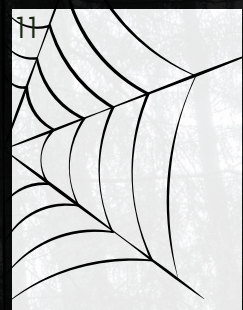
5
FOSL Youth Books & Craft Sale
10 am

7
Gentle Yoga
6 pm

8
Art with Erica
7 pm

9
Documentary Wow! Discussion
6:30 pm

10
Creative Writing
7 pm



12
Bullet Journal Club
10:30 am

14
CLOSED FOR COLUMBUS DAY



16
50+ Job Seekers Networking Group
9:30 am

17
Read It & Eat Cookbook Club
7 pm
Chess Club
7 pm

18
Friday Movie Matinee: Licorice Pizza (2021)
1 pm

19
Gentle Yoga
10:30 am

21
Monday Movie Night: Licorice Pizza (2021)
6:30 pm



23
Film Club Discussion
6:30 pm



26
Embroidery with Yu-Chin
11 am

28
Monday Night Book Group
7 pm



31
The Enchanted Pages Society
7 pm



OCTOBER 2024

MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS

Mondays

Gentle Yoga

October 7th at 6 pm | The Library Lawn

Join us for gentle yoga with Joanna Kent! Joanna utilizes yoga to ground herself and strengthen her mental health. Her goal as a yoga teacher is to empower her students to feel good in their mind and bodies. She believes yoga should be accessible and inclusive to all. Her gentle yoga class includes breathwork, slower paced movements and lots of relaxation! Please bring your own yoga mat.

Registration required.



Monday Movie Night

October 21st at 6:30 pm | The Marcy Room

We will hold a viewing of this month's Film Club choice, *Licorice Pizza* (2021). "The story of Alana Kane and Gary Valentine growing up, running around and going through the treacherous navigation of first love in the San Fernando Valley, 1973."

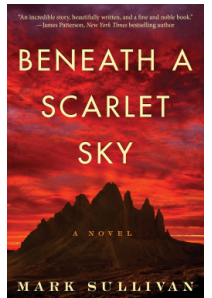


Rated: R | Run Time: 2h 13m | Genres: Comedy, Drama, Romance | Directed by: Paul Thomas Anderson | Written by: Paul Thomas Anderson | Starring: Alan Haim, Cooper Hoffman, Sean Penn. **All film screenings are free and open to the public. Registration not required. Snacks will be provided.**

Monday Night Book Group

October 28th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

The group's August selection is *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark T. Sullivan. Based on the true story of a forgotten hero, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* is the triumphant, epic tale of one young man's incredible courage and resilience during one of history's darkest hours. We are ready to welcome you to the discussion. If you have questions, contact Maureen: (781) 438-1324; saltzman@noblenet.org. **Registration not required.**



Tuesdays

Creative Writing for Adults

October 1st 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 Matthew at msowyrda@noblenet.org. **Registration not required.**



Art with Erica

October 8th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join this arts & crafts program for adults 18+, led by local artist, Erica Flores. Come hang out and get creative. This month's craft is apple print tea towels. We meet monthly in the Marcy Room at 7 PM. All supplies are provided. **Registration required.**



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Wednesdays

Documentary Wow! Discussion

October 9th at 6:30 pm | GoToMeeting

Join us to discuss this month's Documentary Wow! selection, *Dogtown & Z Boys* (2001). Dave will send out the GoToMeeting link on the day of the discussion. **Registration required.**

Film Club Discussion

October 23rd at 6:30 pm | GoToMeeting

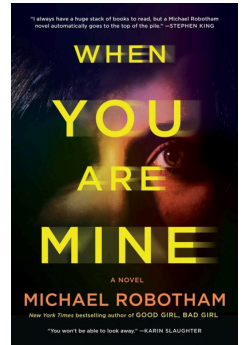
Join the Film Club to discuss this month's selection, *Licorice Pizza* (2021). Dave will send out the GoToMeeting link on the day of the discussion. **Registration required.**

Thursdays

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

October 3rd at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

This month's selection is *When You Are Mine* by Michael Robotham. The author is described as "brilliant in his ability to render complex characters, both good and bad, keep readers sympathetic, yet unsure of whom to trust". The group reads a wide assortment of choice from the mystery and thriller genre. We are ready to welcome you to the discussion. If you have any questions, contact Maureen at saltzman@noblenet.org. **Registration not required.**



Creative Writing for Adults

October 10th at 7 pm | 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, discussing articles about creative writing skills, and writing sessions. All skill levels are welcome. If you are interested, contact Matt at msowyrda@noblenet.org. **Registration not required.**

Chess Club for Adults (NEW!)

October 17th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

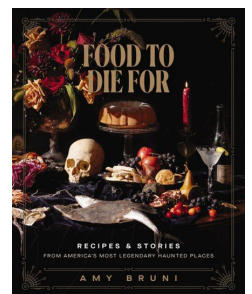
Are you interested in learning how to play chess? Looking for something new and fun to do? Do you like to play chess, but don't have anyone to play chess with? Chess players of all kinds -- beginners and experts, casual and serious -- are welcome to attend the Stoneham Public Library's new program, Chess Club for Adults! For more information, see below. **Registration not required.**



Read It & Eat: A Cookbook Club

October 17th 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 this month's title *Food to Die For: Recipes and Stories from America's Most Haunted Places* by Amy Bruni at the main circulation desk. Select a recipe from the book, and cook it to share with the rest of the group! Questions? Contact Anna at apowers@noblenet.org. **Registration required.**

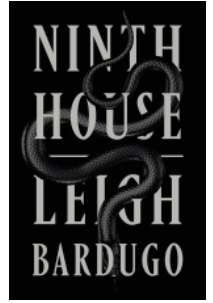


OCTOBER 2024

The Enchanted Pages Society

October 31st at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join our newest book club, The Enchanted Pages Society, where fantasy lovers unite to explore magical worlds and unforgettable adventures. Pick up a copy of this month's title, *Ninth House* by Leigh Bardugo, at the main circulation desk. Contact Anna at apowers@noblenet.org. **People ages 16 and up are welcome. Registration required.**

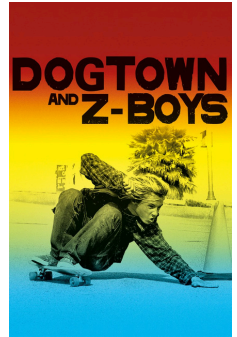


Fridays

Movie Matinee: Documentary Wow! *Dogtown & Z Boys* (2001)

October 4th at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

We will hold a viewing of this month's Documentary Wow! choice, *Dogtown & Z Boys* (2001), a documentary about the pioneering 1970s Zephyr skating team. All film screenings are free and open to the public. **Registration not required.**



Rated: PG-13 | **Run Time:** 1h 31m | **Genres:** Documentary, Sport | **Directed by:** Stacy Peralta | **Starring:** Sean Penn, Jay Adams, Tony Alva

Movie Matinee: *Licorice Pizza* (2021)

October 18th at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

We will hold a viewing of this month's Film Club choice, *Licorice Pizza* (2021). "The story of Alana Kane and Gary Valentine growing up, running around and going through the treacherous navigation of first love in the San Fernando Valley, 1973." All film screenings are free and open to the public. **Registration not required.**

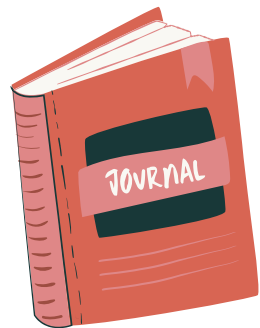


Saturdays

Bullet Journal Club

October 12th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

Join us for the Bullet Journal Club for Adults on the second 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 10:30 am and 12:30 pm and the materials will be set out. **Registration not required.**



Gentle Yoga

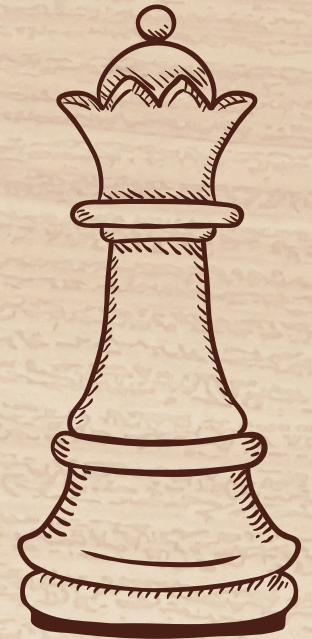
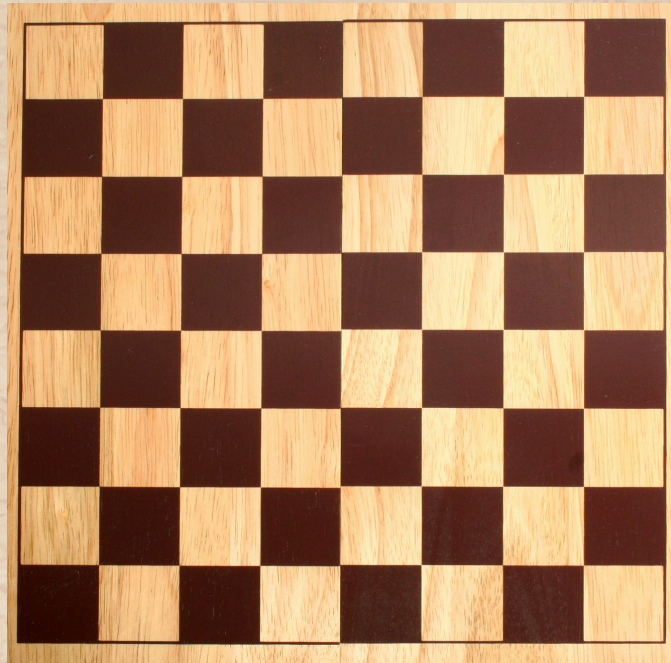
October 19th at 10:30 am | The Marcy Room

Join us for gentle yoga with Joanna Kent! Joanna utilizes yoga to ground herself and strengthen her mental health. Her goal as a yoga teacher is to empower her students to feel good in their mind and bodies. She believes yoga should be accessible and inclusive to all. Her gentle yoga class includes breathwork, slower paced movements and lots of relaxation! Please bring your own yoga mat. **Registration required.**



OCTOBER 2024

INTRODUCING: CHESS CLUB FOR ADULTS!



Are you interested in learning how to play chess? Looking for something new and fun to do? Do you like to play chess, but don't have anyone to play chess with? Chess players of all kinds -- beginners and experts, casual and serious -- are welcome to attend the Stoneham Public Library's new program, *Chess Club for Adults!* Meetings will take place at 7 pm on the third Thursday of every month in the Stoneham Room. While some chess boards will be provided, players are also encouraged to bring their own boards. The first meeting will be held on October 17th at 7 pm in the Stoneham Room.

Questions? Contact Matthew Sowyrda:
msowyrda@noblenet.org | 781-438-1324

OCTOBER 2024

CALLING ALL JOB SEEKERS 50+!

Are you aged 50 years or older? Still looking to stay in the work force, or to re-enter it at full force? Then the Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group is for you! This networking group is facilitated by Deborah Hope, MBA, PCIC, an experienced executive career coach. Join Deborah on Zoom as you confer with peers in a safe and comfortable environment that is conducive to developing new relationships, skills, and strategies to help in your career transition.

With

Deborah
Hope



Activities include presentations, interactive workshops, guest speakers, access to hiring managers, small group breakout rooms, and one-on-one guidance. Meetings will be held August-December 2024.

If this program is what you've been looking for, sign up! Meetings will be held August-December 2024. Registration required. All meetings are *virtual*. The two meetings this month will take place on **Wednesday, October 2nd** and **Wednesday, October 16th** - both at 9:30 am.

OCTOBER 2024

**Cash
only!**



stoneham
public library

**Friends of the
Youth Book &
Craft Sale**

Stoneham Library

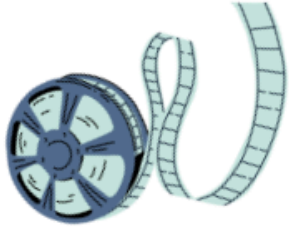
The Friends of the Stoneham Library will be hosting a sale of youth books and craft materials! Stop by with a reusable bag and fill it for just \$5!

**OCTOBER
5TH**

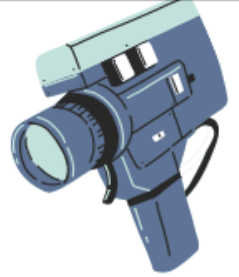
**10:00 AM
UNTIL
1:30 PM**

**MARCY ROOM
STONEHAM
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

OCTOBER 2024



Movie Viewing



Saturday
October 26th, 11-12:30
Stoneham Public Library

**Followed
by
Discussion**



**Stoneham
Reads™**

building community: one book at a time



**stoneham
public library**

The lives of gays in the Deep South are explored in this documentary, which looks at two bars in rural Mississippi that cater to a homosexual clientele. 🍅 100%

Join Stoneham Reads and the Stoneham Public Library for a movie event to round out this year's theme; celebration and recognition of the LGBTQ community: *Small Town Gay Bar* on October 26th from 11-12:30 in the Marcy room.

Small Town Gay Bar is a documentary film that focuses on two gay bars in the rural deep south US. It follows their personal struggles with being openly gay in the south, including the ignorance, hypocrisy, and oppression they face in every day life.

Join us for the viewing and a brief discussion following! Snacks provided!

OCTOBER 2024

BREAKING NEWS! BREAKING NEWS! BREAKING

YOUTH PROGRAMMING BREAK!

**FOR THE PREPARATION AND
DURATION OF THE CARNEGIE
WING RENOVATION**

**ESTIMATED AUGUST 17TH
THROUGH MARCH 2025**

youth services

To our wonderful library community,

I would like to update you that the Youth Services department will be having an extended break in programming, beginning August 17, 2024, through March 2025. This timeline is an estimate.

Why is this happening? The library's historical Carnegie Wing (the Junior Library) has received ARPA funds from the town to address interior updates such as abating our current flooring, installing new flooring, fixing water damaged walls and repainting, and installing new custom shelving. This will mean temporarily closing the Junior Room. We are so excited for this refresh to our beloved Junior Library and are so grateful to the community for investing in this much needed update.

Why can't we offer programs? The Youth Services staff has many tasks we need to take care of prior to the temporary closure of our wing and the complete overhaul of our library collection. A small example of these tasks: preparing everything in the Junior Room, including all furniture, toys, books, computers, etc., for storage, choosing items from our collection for a smaller, browsable collection that will be available during our closure, and moving the rest of the collection out of the Junior Library. These time consuming projects will prevent staff from having the time to prepare for and host programs. Once the wing closure is in effect for renovation (start date TBD), the department will be relocated within the library (area TBD) and will have a condensed collection for patrons to browse through. We will lose programming space due to the temporary relocation of our collection.

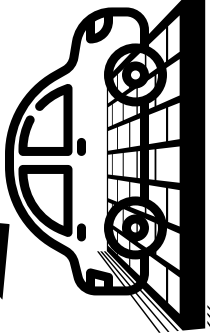
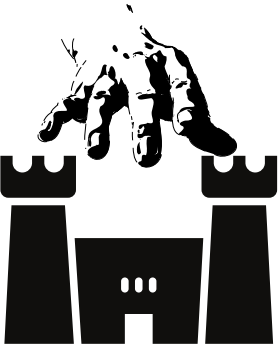
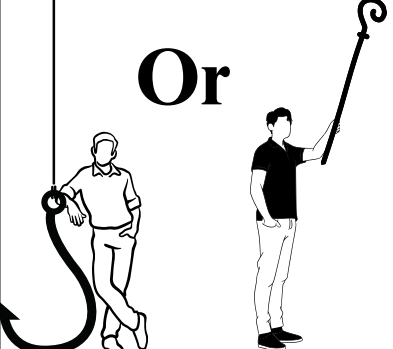
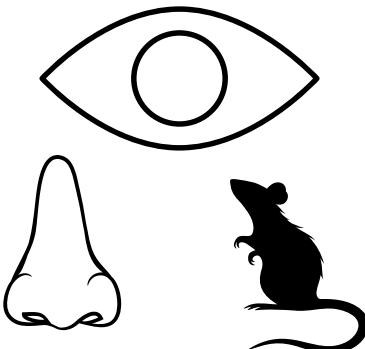
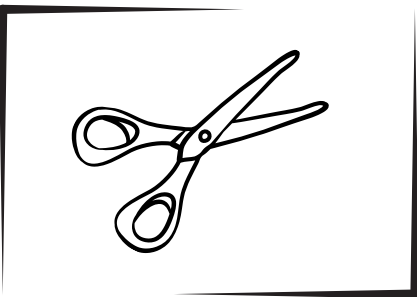
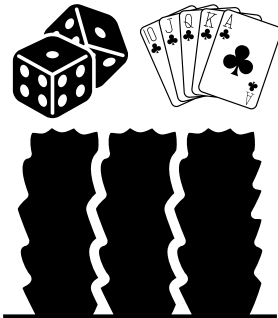
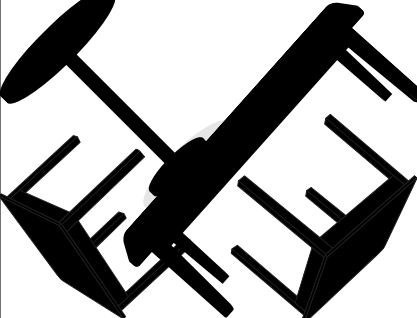
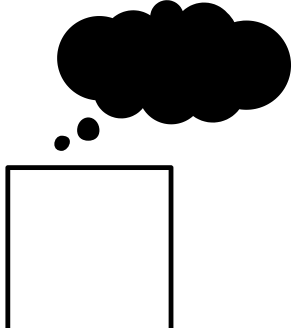
Our Youth Services staff would like to thank you for your continued support of our library and its programs. We will miss our storytimes and programs, but are so excited to share the many changes to come! Staff will be happy to help you find library programming in the area to support you during our break, to assist you in any way that we can, and to place as many holds as you'd like!

Don't forget to stop in to say hi and get a sticker!

Thank you for your support and understanding,

Kathleen Bardascino
Head of Youth Services
Stoneham Public Library

Rebus Puzzle #1

CLOSECOMFORT COMFORTCOMFORT COMFORTCLOSE	You Me 	
	Or 	
		HA HA 
		
		RIP 

Answers:

Too close for comfort	(You're) driving me up a wall	Follow suit
Hold(ing) down the fort	By hook or by crook	I smell a rat
Cutting corners	Time slip (or, time slips away)	A barrel of laughs
Hedge your bets	Conducting electricity	The tables have turned
Walking between the raindrops	Think(ing) outside the box	(In) grave danger



STAFF REVIEWS

The Original Information Highway

Recommendation | Melissa Jackson

Information and how to get it, and how reliable is your source is a question for the ages. Today we have massive amounts of media streaming services at our fingertips, telling us (and showing us) so many ideas and points of view that it can be overwhelming.



I am quite intrigued at the idea of how long information would take to reach a person in the days before the invention of the computer, the television, the telephone, and even the telegraph. In a world where planes did not fly, cars did not drive, and trains did not run, how could you find out the answer to a question when the information was halfway around the world? And how long would it take for an answer to get back to you? **Here is a fabulous article** that chronicles the journey of a Bible from its printing in Antwerp, Belgium, to its current home in Peru. What an amazing journey for this book and for all of us to ponder.

Licorice Pizza (2021)

Review | David Huygens

Licorice Pizza (2021) is the most recent film by writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson (*Boogie Nights*, *Magnolia*, *There Will Be Blood*). It's all about the offbeat relationship of a confident teenager, Gary Valentine (Cooper Hoffman) and a twenty-something woman, Alana Kane (Alana Haim), in California's San Fernando Valley in 1973.



"Only Alana could play this part," Anderson said of Haim. "The movie doesn't exist without her. The movie was written for her." But the movie is also about Gary, a character based on producer Gary Goetzman (Charlie Wilson's *War*, *Mamma Mia!*). Gary's youthful exploits as an actor and entrepreneur bring the leads into contact with some colorful celebrities, including "Lucy Doolittle" (Christine Ebersole doing a take-off on Lucille Ball), "Jack Holden" (Sean Penn as a movie star based on William Holden), and Barbra Streisand's movie-producer boyfriend, former hairdresser Jon Peters (Bradley Cooper), a crazy, intense guy who buys a waterbed from Gary and develops an instant crush on Alana.

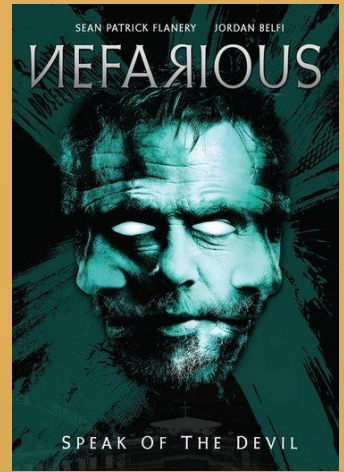
LA City Councilman Joel Wachs (Benny Safdie) is another based-on-real-life character who figures in the story when Alana goes to work on his campaign for mayor. Wachs at the time was a closeted gay man; he allowed the film to use his story because he wanted younger people to see how much things have changed in 50 years.

Penn, Cooper, and the rest of Anderson's veteran cast (Tom Waits, John Michael Higgins, Harriet Samson Harris) shine in their roles, but the movie is really all about Gary and Alana, played by two newcomers: Cooper Hoffman, son of the late Philip Seymour Hoffman (who starred in five Paul Thomas Anderson movies), and Alana Haim, lead singer of the band Haim. With cameos by John C. Reilly, Maya Rudolph and others, *Licorice Pizza* is a free-wheeling, unique, romantic comedy-drama and a nostalgic look back at a bygone era.

Nefarious (2023)

Review | Matthew Sowyrda

Inspired by the novel, *A Nefarious Plot* by Steve Deace, *Nefarious* (2023) was directed and written by Chuck Konzelman and Cary Solomon, and stars Sean Patrick Flanery (*The Boondock Saints*), who also won the award for Best Actor at the International Christian Film Fest (2024), Jordan Belfi, and Tom Ohmer (*The Dark Night Rises*), with a cameo by Glenn Beck.



Psychiatrist Dr. James Martin (Belfi) has just been assigned to evaluate serial killer Edward Wayne Brady (Flanery), who is facing the death penalty. With mere hours to work with, it is Dr. Martin's job to determine whether Brady is mentally stable enough for execution, or the man's apparent delusions, personality changes, and psychopathic behavior prove him to be legally insane - thus freeing him from responsibility for the murders he has committed. The interview takes a bizarre turn when Brady declares that he is actually a demon, and that he is willing to go ahead with the execution. To twist matters further, Brady (or the demon that is possessing Brady) states with certainty that Dr. Martin himself will have committed three murders before the interview is over. Doubtful of the whole "supernatural" ordeal, Dr. Martin must apply all of his professional training and rational faculties to deal with a manipulative and unpredictable person.

Nefarious is not run-of-the-mill horror. Unlike most films of its kind, such as *The Exorcist* (1973), the cinematography is simple, involving minimal violence and special effects. The story is driven by character development, as well as by dialogue about modern culture, morality, and the demonic, which highlights the clash of opposing worldviews. This gives the film a strong philosophical element, which seems to mitigate the "scare" factor. While it may interest viewers who like serious and intelligent plotlines, the pacing does move quickly at times, and the content may be too heady for those who are unfamiliar with psychiatry and the theology of demons, especially from a Catholic perspective. People who want to learn more about these subjects can consult the following resources: *The Iceman and the Psychiatrist* (2002), a documentary detailing a psychiatrist's interview with ex-Mafia hit man Richard Kuklinski; the *DSM-5*, which contains information about the symptomology of all presently known psychiatric conditions; *Demonic Foes* by psychiatrist Dr. Richard Gallagher, who charts his 25 years of research into and experience with cases of demonic possession; *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis, who gives a comical, yet insightful and thought-provoking, portrayal of demons; and *Hostage to the Devil* by Malachi Martin, who presents five cases of demonic possession (and their subsequent exorcisms) that took place in the 1960s and '70s.

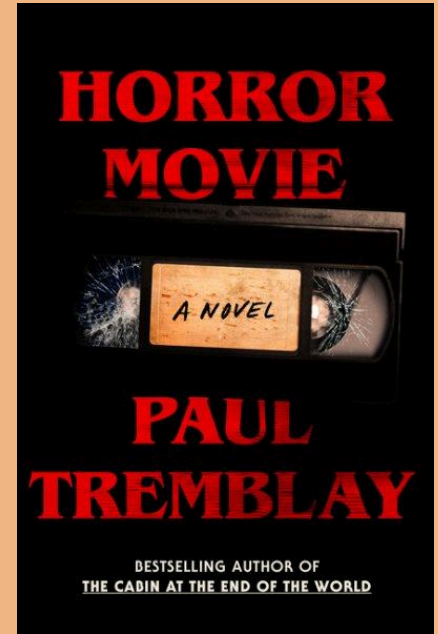
Horror Movie by Paul Tremblay

Review | Anna Powers

Horror Movie by Paul Tremblay starts first in June of 1993, when aspiring filmmakers Valentina and Cleo recruit friends and acquaintances to create a low-budget horror movie. However, due to a tragic incident on set, the film is completed but never released, becoming a source of morbid curiosity and rumor. Fifteen years later, after three scenes and the full script leak online, Hollywood shows interest in a reboot. The only surviving cast member, known only as the "Thin Kid," starts making the convention circuit and meeting with key players in LA as a consultant for the new version of *Horror Movie*. Throughout the book we follow Thin Kid as he remembers the hidden secrets of the original screenplay, the bizarre incidents during filming, and the dangerous boundaries crossed on set that led to tragedy. Determined to help remake the film, Thin Kid must navigate his past traumas from the original film and encounter the demons that follow this cursed film.

As a horror movie fanatic, I was thrilled to dive into Paul Tremblay's latest chilling book, *Horror Movie*. I expected it to be deeply haunting, but I was a bit let down. For me, the pace felt slow, and being inside the Thin Kid's head was a tough ride. His "woe is me" attitude made it hard for me to care about what happened to him (maybe that was the point) and not trust him to share truthfully what happened on set of the film in 1993. Throughout the story, I found myself trying to piece together the mystery of the film set, and when the truth finally emerged, it felt somewhat underwhelming after such a long buildup. By the end of the book, I would say that I was disturbed rather than utterly spooked.

That said, I appreciated the dual timelines and the screenplay format woven throughout the book; they helped me visualize the film and added a layer of realism. Tremblay skillfully blurs the boundaries between reality and fiction, encouraging readers to question who are the true monsters of horror film making.



Dogtown and Z-Boys (2001)

Review | David Huygens

Dogtown and Z-Boys (2001), is an acclaimed documentary about the origins of the modern era of skateboarding in Southern California in the 1970s. It inspired the popular 2005 feature film, *Lords of Dogtown*. But you don't have to know anything about the sport to become thoroughly involved in this absorbing and engaging film.



Dogtown was a depressed area that straddled Santa Monica and Venice, California, where a group of teenagers surfed the dangerous waters around the abandoned Pacific Ocean Park Pier. They were regulars at Jeff Ho's Surf Shop & Zephyr Productions, in Venice Beach, where a skateboard team was formed (The "Z-Boys"). These rough-and-tumble teens applied their surfing moves to skateboarding, a sport that was taking off due to the invention of urethane wheels, replacing the old wheels that were tough and hazardous to skate on. At the very first Del Mar Nationals skate competition, over half the finalists were Z-Boys, thanks to their new style and approach compared to other competitors. When a drought hit the Los Angeles area in 1975, the Z-Boys started riding the sides of empty swimming pools, often jumping fences to do it--and invented the thrilling flying-through-the air style of bowl skating.

Before long, most of the original skaters were pros, but not all of them had an easy time of it or made it big. Through contemporary interviews and archival footage, their fascinating personal stories are revealed, juxtaposed against moving images of their younger selves.

Directed and co-written by former Z-Boy Stacy Peralta, narrated by Sean Penn, with a surging rock soundtrack--and featuring interviews with most of the original skaters and organizers, including Peralta, Tony Alva, Jay Adams, Jeff Ho, Skip Engblom, Peggy Oki and others, *Dogtown and Z-Boys* is a wild, moving, human chronicle of a group of friends from the wrong side of town--who gave birth to a new sport.