

May 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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MAY 2024

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Community Narcan Training

Monday, May 13th @ 6:30 PM

The Marcy Room

Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, May 13th @ 7:00 PM

The Stoneham Room

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

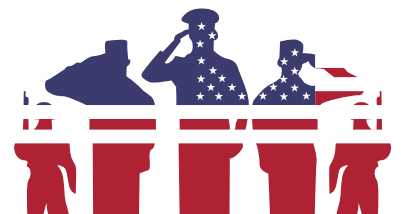
[Click here to learn more about the trustees
and view minutes from their past meetings.](#)

Closures



Friday, May 24th (Staff Meeting)

Monday, May 27th (Memorial Day)



ART DISPLAYS



The Stoneham Public Library is excited to host artist Don Hammontree this month! He is an artist, photographer, musician and writer based in Salem, Massachusetts. His excellent photographs and colorful paintings focus on cityscapes, architecture, and vintage automobiles.

This artist's technique with perspective is remarkable. Don's artwork has been shown in numerous libraries and venues in Massachusetts and New England. Hammontree is a regular presence on the local music circuit, performing across Massachusetts and throughout New England.

He is currently the guitarist/singer for the Cambridge-based power-pop trio BadFogelberg. Enjoy viewing Don's art show in the library's Exhibit Hallway.

MAY 2024

ADULT PROGRAMS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2
**Mysteries
Around the
World Book
Club
7 pm**

3

4
**Bullet Journal
Club for
Adults
11 am**

6

7
**Creative
Writing
11:30 am**
**Arty Party
7 pm**

8

9
**Creative
Writing
7 pm**

10

11
**Unlaunch'd
Voices with
Walt
Whitman
11 am**

13
**Community
Narcotics
Training
6:30 pm**
**SPL Trustees
Meeting
7 pm**

14
**Senior
Center Talk
10:30 am**
**Pioneering
Women of
Early Rock &
Roll 7 pm**

15

16
**Read It & Eat
Book Club
7 pm**

17
**Friday Movie
Matinee:
*The Big
Parade*
1 pm**

18
**Gentle Yoga
10:30 am**

20

21
**True Crime
Series:
The Sacco-
Vanzetti
Case
7 pm**

22
**Film Club
Discussion
6:30 pm**

23
**"I AM..."
w/ Scott
Maloney
7 pm**
**Monday
Night Book
Club 7 pm**

24
**CLOSED
FOR
STAFF
MEETING**

25
**Saturday
Movie
Matinee:
Mean Girls
11 am**



28
**Gentle Yoga
7 pm**

29

30
**Frances
Perkins:
Part 2
7 pm**
**Queer
Reader Book
Club 7 pm**

31



MAY 2024

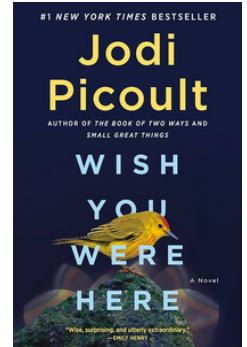
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Mondays

Monday (on Thursday) Night Book Group

Thursday, May 23rd at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

This month the Monday Night Book Group will meet on a Thursday Night. Our choice for May is *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult. "She is a master of wading through the darkness to find the light ...It is a powerfully evocative story of resilience and the triumph of the human spirit." Questions? Contact Maureen at saltzman@noblennet.org. or (781) 438-1324. **No registration required.**



Tuesdays

Creative Writing for Adults

May 7th 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@noblennet.org



Arty Party

May 7th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

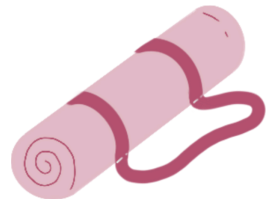
May's craft will be Needle Felted Spring Blossom Hoops with Lara from Pop Up Art School! All supplies are provided. Questions? Contact Rachel at roverbeck@noblennet.org or (781) 438-1324. [Registration required.](#)



Gentle Yoga

May 28th 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.](#)



Wednesdays

Film Club Discussion

May 22nd at 6:30 pm | GoToMeeting

Join the Film Club to discuss its May selection, *The Big Parade* (1925). 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.](#)



MAY 2024

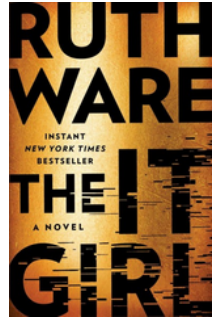
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Thursdays

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

May 2nd at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

The group will meet to discuss Ruth Ware's *The It Girl*. "April Clarke-Cliveden... was vivacious, bright, occasionally vicious, the ultimate It girl at Oxford. By the end of the year, April was dead. This propulsive mystery will keep you on the edge of your seat." Questions? Contact Maureen at saltzman@noblenet.org or (781) 438-1324. **No registration required.**



Creative Writing for Adults

May 9th 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, 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

May 16th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

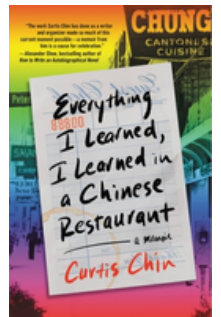
Do you love cooking and trying new recipes? If so, register for "Read It and Eat"! Come by and pick up a copy of the latest title at the main circulation desk. Select a recipe from the book, and cook it to share with the rest of the group! Contact Anna at apowers@noblenet.org. **Registration required.**



Queer Reader: An LGBTQ+ Book Club

May 30th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

The May book is *Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant* by Curtis Chin. "This memoir tells the story of Curtis Chin's time growing up as a gay Chinese American kid in 1980's Detroit." Pick up your copy at the circulation desk! Questions? Contact Lily at (781) 507-2489 or lmysona@noblenet.org. **No registration required.**



Fridays

Movie Matinee: The Big Parade (1925)

May 17th at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

We will hold a viewing of this month's Film Club choice, *The Big Parade* (1925), in which a young American soldier witnesses the horrors of the Great War. No registration required. All film screenings are free and open to the public.

Directed by: King Vidor, George W. Hill | Starring: John Gilbert, Renee Adoree, & Hobart Bosworth | Written by: Laurence Stallings, Harry Behn, Joseph Farnham



MAY 2024

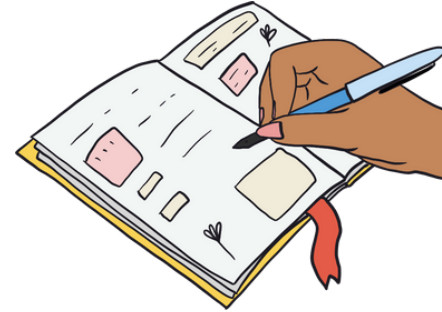
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Saturdays

Bullet Journal Club for Adults

May 4th at 11 am | The Marcy Room

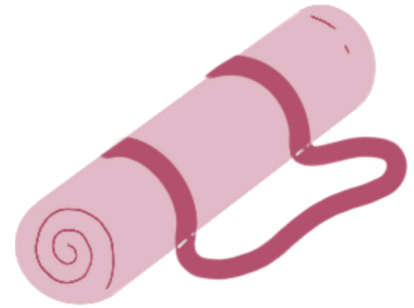
Join us for the Bullet Journal Club for Adults on the first Saturday of each month! We will have stencils, markers, washi tape, and stickers for you to use (supplies are not take home, please leave them at the library). Bring your own journal and imagination! This is a drop-in style program, meaning 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

May 18th 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 this year. She utilizes yoga to ground herself and strengthen her mental health. Joanna's goal as a yoga teacher is to empower her students to feel good in their mind and bodies. 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 is not required, but appreciated as space is limited. [Registration required.](#)



Saturday Movie Matinee

May 25th at 11 am | The Marcy Room

Join us to watch *Mean Girls* (2024)! "New student Cady Heron navigates the thorny jungles of teenage and high school drama. Led by Regina George, the elite clique The Plastics welcomes Cady into their exclusive group. When she falls for Regina's ex, Aaron Samuels, Cady risks her social status and faces Regina's wrath. With the help of her socially shunned friends Janis and Damian, Cady must survive high school, the most dangerous mission of her life. The film is a remake of the 2004 comedy of the same name." **No registration required.** All film screenings are free and open to the public. Snacks are provided.

Directed by: Samantha Jayne

Starring: Reneé Rapp, Angourie Rice, Tina Fey, Angourie Rice, Ashley Park

Written by: Tina Fey, Rosalind Wiseman

Film Rating: PG-13



MAY 2024

UNLAUNCH'D VOICES:

AN AFTERNOON WITH WALT WHITMAN

Saturday, May 11th
11 AM | The Marcy Room



Unlaunch'd Voices: An Afternoon With Walt Whitman opens with the elderly Whitman on the evening of his seventieth birthday. The audience is a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce and to question his success as a man and a poet. He tells us his work has proved to be "less than a failure..." He remembers a mystical experience he had in his thirty-seventh year that inspired him to write poetry.

During the telling, Whitman transforms into his young vibrant self and we begin to trace back along with him the experiences that led to the creation of *Leaves Of Grass*, his lifetime work. The first part of the performance explores Whitman's preoccupation with the self and his resolve to write with "free and brave thought..." We revel with him as he celebrates his body and himself and are confidants as he shares his struggle with his sexual self.

In the second part of the performance, Whitman's life is changed forever by the occurrence of the Civil War. It is here that he finds "... the most important work of my life..." nursing the wounded soldiers in the hospitals. Through poetry and readings of actual letters, we experience Whitman's movement from selfishness and selflessness and his growth into a mature artist who is at peace about "himself, God and death."

Unlaunch'd Voices: An Afternoon With Walt Whitman, was conceived and performed by Stephen Collins, written and directed by Michael Keamy. *Unlaunch'd Voices* strives to capture what we interpret to be the most vital contributions of the man.

No Registration Required

MAY 2024

FREE LEARNING SERIES
FOR SENIORS

Library Resource: Engaging with Your Local Library

Stoneham Senior Center
136 Elm St., Stoneham, MA 02180
Tuesday, May 14th, 10:30 – 12:00

Calling All Seniors!

Discover a variety of library services including digital books, audiobooks and more. Explore customized programs and events designed to enhance your library experience. Plus, lunch is on us!



RSVP Required by Tuesday May 10th

Call the Stoneham Senior Center at (781) 438-1157 to secure your spot!

SIGN UP FOR
Stoneham Coalition
News and future
events here.

Featured Speaker:

Maureen Saltzman
Reference Librarian,
Stoneham Public Library

Lily Mysona
Assistant Director
Stoneham Public Library



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For a Safe & Healthy Community



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MAY 2024

THE RETRO POLATIN TRIO PRESENTS

Pioneering Women of Rock & Roll



**Tuesday, May 14th
7 PM | The Marcy Room**



This program is supported in part by a grant from the Stoneham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

When it comes to the early days of rock 'n' roll, some of the most pioneering and powerfully influential figures were women. In this one hour program Dave Polatin and Jill Goldman of the Polatin Duo will show just how underrepresented women are in the music industry, and will play a selection of songs by different female artists.

MAY 2024

TRUE CRIME SERIES

WITH
CHRISTOPHER DALEY

"VIVA L'ANARCHIA"

THE SACCO-VANZETTI CASE

Two Italian anarchists. A robbery and murder.
The case that gripped the world.

TUESDAY, MAY 21ST

6 PM | THE MARCY ROOM



This program is supported in part by a grant from the Stoneham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

No Registration Required.

MAY 2024

"I AM..."

WITH MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, SCOTT MALONEY

Thursday, May 23rd
7 PM | The Marcy Room

This interactive program is for anyone who wants to make a change in his or her life, big or small. It will be presented by Massachusetts native Scott Maloney. Scott has been a comedian, teacher, television reporter and - for almost 20 years - a motivational speaker, sharing stories throughout the country.



"I AM...". Those two little words are the preamble to the most powerful phrase in the world. Scott gives methods to maintaining focus on positive energy and avoiding negative thoughts in difficult situations, while learning from the past and preventing future mistakes.

No registration is required.

MAY 2024

FRANCES PERKINS: THE UNSUNG HERO BEHIND THE NEW DEAL (PART II)

**Thursday, May 30th
7 PM | The Marcy room**

Join us for *The Unsung Heroine Behind the New Deal: Part II*, an [historical portrayal by Lady J.](#)

The one person in his administration FDR said he could trust was the only woman in his cabinet: Frances Perkins. The first woman to serve in the US Cabinet, Frances returns to the Stoneham Public Library to tell "the rest of the story.". Come hear stories of her trials, trip-ups, and triumphs in the FDR administration during the tumultuous years that encompassed the

Depression, New Deal, and World War II. Discover the stories behind topics that include the list of demands she presented to FDR before accepting the Secretary of Labor appointment; professional and personal repercussions of The Depression and World War II; Frances' role re New Deal programs; her near impeachment; the anti-immigrant movement, and gender bias and more. You will come to understand the reasons Frances Perkins is referred to as one of the most influential women of the first half of the 20th century.



No Registration Required.

MAY 2024

YOUTH PROGRAMS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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!

1
Babytime
9:30 am

2
Toddler Tales
10:30 am

3
Baby Bumble
9:30 am
Home School Social
12:30pm

4
Lego Club
11 am



7
Toddler Time
10 am
Silly Storytime
4 pm

8
Babytime
9:30 am

9
Toddler Tales
10:30 am

10
Baby Bumble
9:30 am
Home School Social
12:30pm

11
Chess Club
10:30 am
Lego Club
11 am

13
Quick Stitch Club
4:30 pm

14
Toddler Time
10 am
Musical Mornings
10:30 am
Silly Storytime
4 pm

15
Babytime
9:30 am

16
Toddler Tales
10:30 am
Kiddo Creations
6 pm

17
Baby Bumble
9:30 am
Home School Social
12:30pm

18
Lego Club
11 am



21
Toddler Time
10 am

22
Babytime
9:30 am

23
Toddler Tales
10:30 am

24
CLOSED FOR A STAFF MEETING

25
Lego Club
11 am
Crochet Club
12 pm

27
CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

28
Toddler Time
10 am
Graphic Novel Club
6 pm

29
Babytime
9:30 am

30
Toddler Tales
10:30 am
Bullet Journal Club
6 pm

31
Baby Bumble
9:30 am
Home School Social
12:30pm
Teen & Tween Craft Collective
3:30 pm



MAY 2024

weekly:

Tuesdays

Toddler Time at 10 am

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

Silly Storytime 4pm ✓

Get ready to laugh along to some silly stories with Miss Melissa! **For all ages; intended for ages 1.5-5.**

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 ✓

Miss Melissa is so excited to welcome our toddler friends to the library for a fun storytime! She'll be sharing some of her favorite stories with you!

May 16th: 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. [Click here to register for this program.](#)

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 at 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.**



= Sign up Required

MAY 2024

Quick Stitch Club

May 13th 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

May 14th 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.**

[Click here to register for this program.](#)

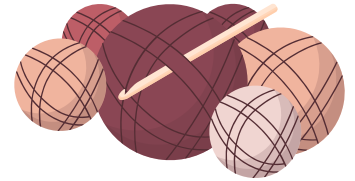


Crochet Club

May 25th 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

May 28th 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

May 30th 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.**



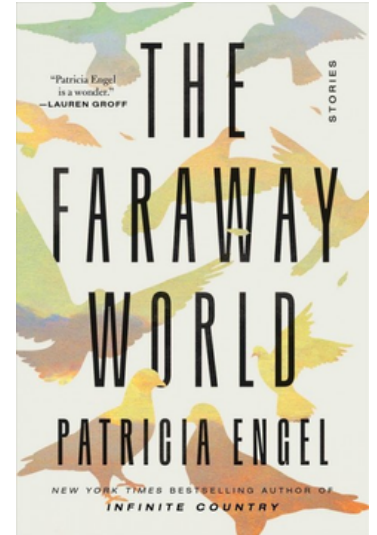
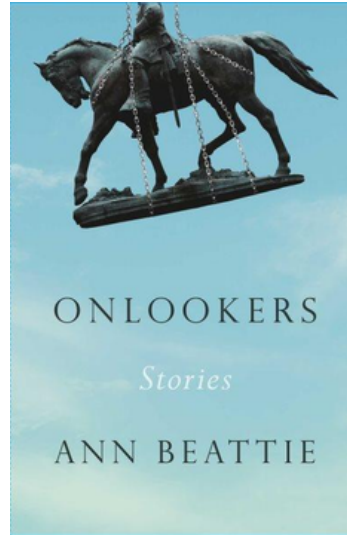
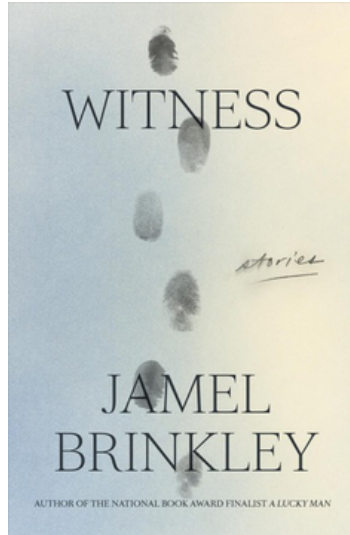
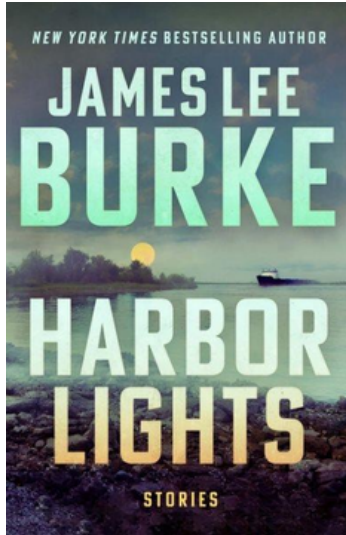
✓ = Sign up Required. Click a logo to register for that program.

MAY 2024

MAY BOOK LISTS

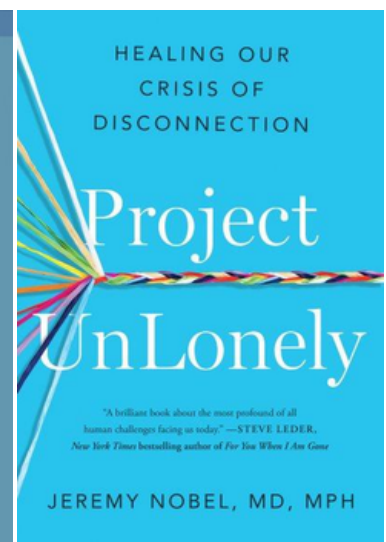
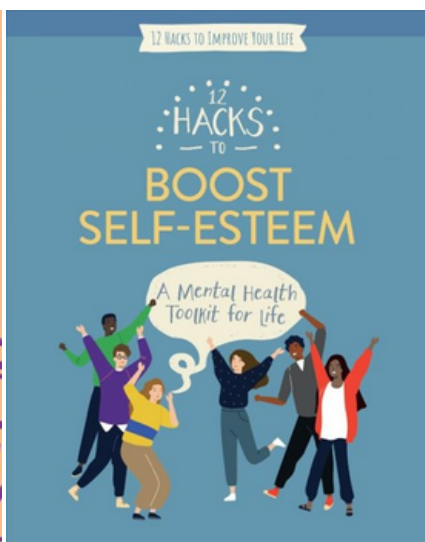
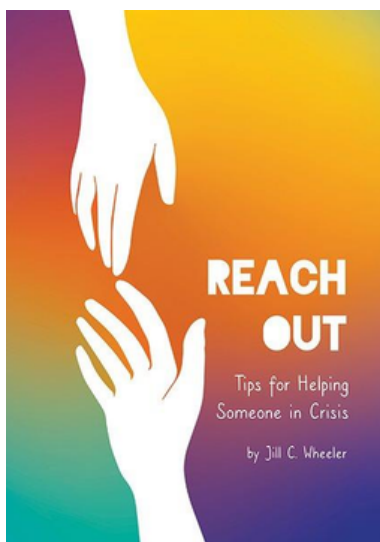
Slices of Life

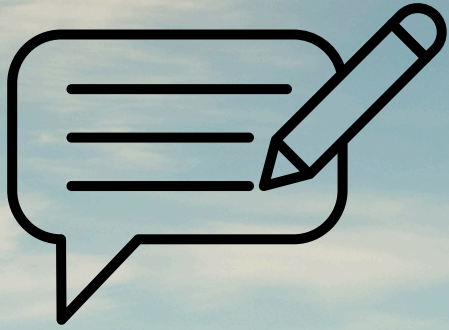
Short stories & novellas



The Mind in the Matter

Mental health & Psychology





STAFF REVIEWS

The Big Parade

Review | David Huygens

One of the great films of the silent era, *The Big Parade* (1925) tells the story of Jim Apperson (John Gilbert), a well-off but seemingly unfocused

young man, dismissed by his industrialist father until, goaded by his friends, he joins the US Army's Rainbow Division to fight in World War One. In France, Jim befriends two other recruits, both working class guys: a riveter and a bartender in civilian life (Karl Dane, Tom O'Brien). On a farm where they're billeted, they meet a lovely girl with whom Jim ends up falling in love (Renee Adoree). The first part of the film is a somewhat idyllic prelude to the dramatic events of the second half, as Jim faces the horrors of war head-on.

John Gilbert was fast becoming known as the Great Lover of the silent screen, after a series of intense roles in exotic films. Considered an unlikely choice to play an inexperienced American doughboy, Gilbert excels in the role, one of his finest. The film's writer was Laurence Stallings (himself a WWI vet and the author of the famous play about the war, *What Price Glory?*). The director was King Vidor, considered by some to be perhaps the greatest silent film director, and one of the most successful of the sound era, with such classics to his credit as *The Crowd* (1928), *The Champ* (1931), *The Citadel* (1938), *Northwest Passage* (1940), *Duel in the Sun* (1946), *Ruby Gentry* (1952), and *War and Peace* (1956). After his retirement from Hollywood, he wrote two autobiographies, taught, lectured, worked on experimental films, and was awarded an honorary Oscar in 1979.

The fates of the film's stars were less happy. John Gilbert died of a heart attack in 1936, at the age of 38, after failing to make it in talking pictures (for reasons which are disputed to this day). Renee Adoree was successfully navigating the early part of the talkie era when she was stricken with tuberculosis in 1930, dying of the disease in 1933.

The Big Parade was one of the newly-formed Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's first productions and proved to be hugely successful, becoming one of the big hits of the 1920s. It played in some cities for over a year and was a world-wide smash. A rare film experience and a chance to see a movie about WWI crafted by the generation who lived it, *The Big Parade* has stood the test of time as both a fine piece of entertainment and a work of art.



"Half a Minute's Silence" and Other Stories by Maurice Baring
Review | Matthew Sowyrda

Although he was apparently a prolific author, little seems to be written – and therefore little is known – about Maurice Baring. Born in England in the late 19th Century, he wore many hats – a diplomat, a journalist, later a correspondent in the East, and served in World War I. Finally, Baring took up his pen to compose novels and stories, as well as scholarly works, especially on Russian literature ([see the Britannica article](#)). As an author, he brought to the table echoes of his own wartime and international experiences, carrying with him the spirit of Russia's great pre-revolutionary writers.

Many entries in this short story collection are set during or around the Revolution, and offer subtle commentary on the society and politics of the time. "What is Truth?" probes the questions that those on both sides of the political spectrum fail to ask themselves. In "A Police Officer", perhaps as an answer to the inquiry, Baring shows the dangers of revolutionary political causes that go unquestioned through the indoctrination of youth and blind obedience to radical ideas.

Other stories contain mysterious or supernatural elements. "The Island" tells of two scientists who disembark on a seemingly uninhabited island, where one meets his end when he meets one of the inhabitants. In "The Shadow of a Midnight", a man recounts a vision he had had years before that appears to have prophesied the recent murder of his friend. "The Ikon" shatters, in more ways than one, not only human pride and religious skepticism, but also the images of pagan deities when in the presence of truly holy relics. "Russalka" is Baring's eerie take on the siren-like creature from Russian folklore. A third class of stories calls readers to introspection, like "Half a Minute's Silence", or are just beautifully moralizing, such as "The Man Who Gave Good Advice", and "The Brass Ring".

Maurice Baring is succinct, but personable. He never tells the reader what to feel or think about his stories, nor does he make the meanings obvious. Rather, he ends a story by leaving the reader to wonder about its implications. At the last word, one may close the book, and ponder the impression that Baring has just made upon one's heart and soul.