

Illuminated Stacks

The official newsletter of the Stoneham Public Library

Stoneham Public Library

431 Main Street Stoneham, MA 02180

[Please note the slight reduction in
our operating hours:](#)

Adult Services | (781) 438-1324

Mon., Thu.: 10 am - 9 pm

Tues., Wed., Fri.: 9 am - 5 pm

Children's Services | (781) 438-1325

Mon., Thu.: 10 am - 7 pm

Tues., Wed., Fri.: 9 am - 5 pm

Contents:

The Month at a Glance

Donations Update

Induction Cooktop

Notary Service Update

Adult Services

- Summer Reading Guide
- Regular Programs
- Special Programs

Youth Services

- Summer Programs (Kids, Teens/Tweens)

Book Lists

Staff Reviews

[Click here to visit our website!](#)

Follow us on social media:



The Month at a Glance



The Trustees of the Library

Will meet at 7 PM on Monday, July 14th, in the Stoneham Room. A hybrid option is also available. All members of the public are

welcome to attend to comment or listen to the proceedings.

If you are interested in view the meeting virtually, use the following link to join: <https://bit.ly/SPLTrustees> or call in at +1 (646) 931-3860.

Meeting ID: 876 9866 6972

Passcode: 823496

[Click here to learn more about our Trustees,](#)
[as well as to view minutes from past meetings.](#)

Holidays & Special Closures

Friday, July 4th (Independence Day)

As always, [our digital resources](#) will be available outside library hours!



Donations Update

These are the types and conditions of items we will now accept as donations.



BOOK/CD-DVD DONATIONS

Books must be gently used:

- No torn, missing, or written in pages
- Covers and spines intact
- No water damage, mold, or strong odors

We accept:

- Fiction
- Non-fiction
- Children's and Young Adult (YA)

We do not accept:

- Textbooks
- Encyclopedias
- Technical manuals
- Technology (published before 2022)

Induction Cooktop

It's the middle of summer -- prime time for Independence Day celebrations and weekend barbecues. If you're hosting a cookout this year, you might want to check out the [BergHOFF Induction Cooktop from our Library of Things](#)! Looking for some recipes to try out? See our cookbook-themed list for July: [A Midsummer Night's Supper](#)!



Notary Services

An Important Announcement:

Do you have a document that needs to be notarized? The Stoneham Public Library has been offering **free** notary services, administered by library staff!



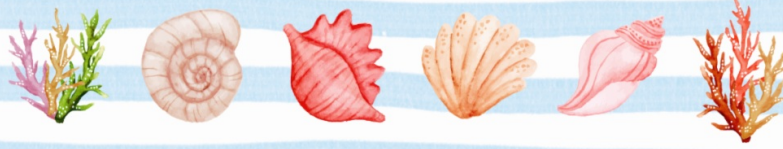
Because the service has become so popular with the community, and because we provide it on select days at select times, we strongly encourage patrons/clients to make an appointment. We cannot guarantee that walk-ins will receive service. Also, please arrive at least 10 minutes before your appointment, and bring a form of ID along with proof of your current address. [Click here to view our Notary Services page](#), which contains more details, such as notary schedules and a registration form.

Adult Services

Summer Reading Guide

The images in this section are hyperlinked. Click on each image to be directed to a curated list of those titles in our catalogue!





STONEHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY'S

Summer Reading Guide 2025



Scan this code to
access these books in
our catalog!



Fiction



♦ **The Names,**
Florence Knapp

♦ **The Original Daughter,**
Jeremiah Wei

♦ **The View From Lake Como,**
Adriana Trigiani

♦ **Three Days in June,**
Anne Tyler

♦ **Food Person,**
Adam Roberts

♦ **Story She Left Behind,**
Patti Callahan Henry

♦ **Harlem Rhapsody,**
Victoria Christopher Murray

♦ **The Emperor of Gladness,**
Ocean Vuong

♦ **The Stolen Queen,**
Fiona Davis

♦ **Happy Land,**
Dolen Perkins-Valdez

♦ **Let's Call Her Barbie,**
Renee Rosen

♦ **Homeseeking,**
Karissa Chen



★ Non-Fiction



★ **Original Sin,**
Jake Tapper & Alex Thompson

★ **Empire of AI,**
Karen Hao

★ **Murderland,**
Caroline Fraser

★ **The Raider,**
Stephen R. Platt

★ **Everything is Tuberculosis,**
John Green

★ **The Book of Alchemy,**
Suleika Jaouad

★ **Sucker Punch,**
Scaachi Koul

★ **John & Paul,**
Ian Leslie

★ **The Wager**
David Grann

★ **The Divorce Colony,**
April White

★ **The Art Spy,**
Michelle Young

★ **We Can Do Hard Things,**
Abby Wambach, Amanda Doyle,
Glennon Doyle



Mystery



✦ **This is Not a Game,**
Kelly Mullen

✦ **Famous Last Words,**
Gillian McAllister

✦ **The Missing Half,**
Ashley Flowers

✦ **This Book Will Bury Me,**
Ashley Winstead

✦ **With a Vengeance,**
Riley Sager

✦ **The Tenant,**
Freida McFadden

✦ **The Note,**
Alafair Burke

✦ **The Woman in Suite 11,**
Ruth Ware

✦ **Don't Let Him In,**
Lisa Jewell

✦ **It Happened on the Lake,**
Lisa Jackson

✦ **The Perfect Divorce,**
Jeneva Rose

✦ **Coram House,**
Bailey Seybolt



Romance



◆ **Dream On, Ramona Riley,**
Ashley Herring Blake

◆ **Great Big Beautiful Life,**
Emily Henry

◆ **Say You'll Remember Me,**
Abby Jimenez

◆ **One Golden Summer,**
Carley Fortune

◆ **Swept Away,**
Beth O'Leary

◆ **Cover Story,**
Celia Laskey

◆ **Summer in the City,**
Alex Aster

◆ **Sounds Like Love,**
Ashley Poston

◆ **Atmosphere,**
Taylor Jenkins Reid

◆ **Earl Crush,**
Alexandra Vasti

◆ **Problematic Summer
Romance,** Ali Hazelwood

◆ **The Love Haters,**
Katherine Center



Fantasy & Sci-Fi



♦ **The Sirens,**
Emilia Hart

♦ **The Bewitching**
Silvia Moreno-Garcia

♦ **The Sun Blessed Prince,**
Lindsey Byrd

♦ **Gifted & Talented,**
Olivie Blake

♦ **The Raven Scholar,**
Antonia Hodgson

♦ **City of All Seasons,**
Oliver K. Langmead & Aliya Whiteley

♦ **When We Were Real,**
Daryl Gregory

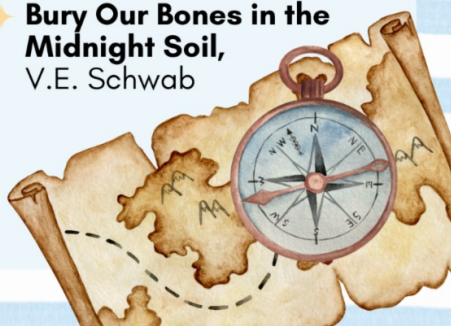
♦ **Where the Axe Is Buried,**
Ray Nayler

♦ **The Ephemera Collector,**
Stacy Nathaniel Jackson

♦ **The Amalfi Curse,**
Sarah Penner

♦ **Terrestrial History,**
Joe Mungo Reed

♦ **Bury Our Bones in the
Midnight Soil,**
V.E. Schwab

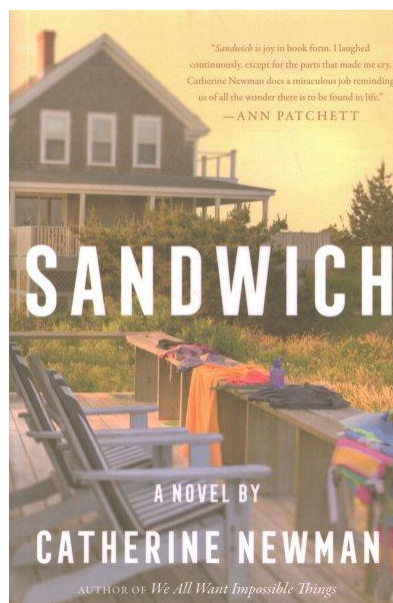


Mondays

Monday Night Book Group
July 28th @ 7 pm
The Stoneham Room

This month's selection is [*Sandwich* by Catherine Newman](#). The novel is described as "joy in book form". A vacation week on [*Cape Cod*](#) that sparks interesting family dynamics. The time spent together also evokes the "tenderness and sorrow of a handful of long-ago summers."

The group always looks forward to welcoming new members to the conversation. Registration not



required.

For information, contact Maureen:
(781) 438-1324 saltzman@noblenet.org.

Tuesdays

Creative Writing for Adults

July 1st @ 11:30 am
The Stoneham Room

Do you like to write? Want to get into writing? Need some inspiration? Whether you're struggling to complete your first novel, trying to make your poetry collection sing to the world, or just want to write for fun, everyone aged 18 and older has the opportunity to share their current writing projects and receive feedback. The group also engages in writing exercises as well as discussions about writing. Registration not required.

If you are interested in attending this program, or have questions related to writing, contact Matthew: msowyrda@noblenet.org or call 781-438-1324.

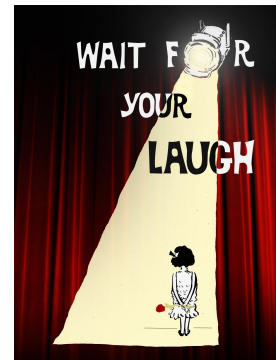


Wednesdays

Documentary Wow! Discussion

Wait for Your Laugh (2017)
July 23rd @ 6:30 pm
Zoom

Join us as we discuss this month's Documentary Wow! selection, *Wait for Your Laugh* (2017). [Registration required.](#)



Film Club Discussion

North by Northwest (1959)
July 30th @ 6:30 pm
Zoom

Join the Film Club to discuss this month's selection, *North by Northwest* (1959). Dave will send out the Zoom link on the day of the discussion. [See our calendar, where you can register for this program.](#)



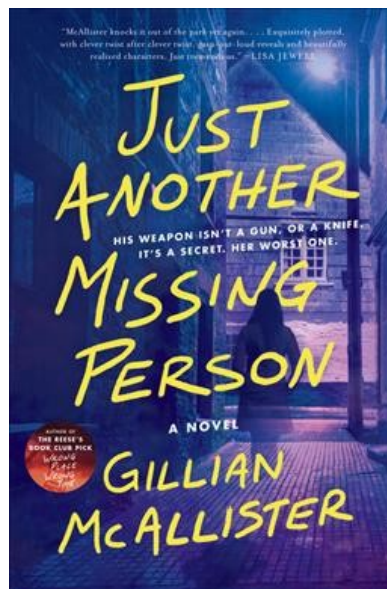
Thursdays

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

July 10th @ 7 pm
The Marcy Room

This month's selection is [Just Another Missing Person](#) by Gillian McAllister. The story is described as a "heart-stopping thriller ...that unravels deeper, darker secrets for the detective and an impossible moral choice".

The Mystery group always looks forward to welcoming new members to the conversation. Registration not required.



For information, contact Maureen:
(781) 438-1324 | saltzman@noblenet.org.

Chess Club for Adults

Every Thursday @ 7 pm
The Stoneham Room OR
The Marcy 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 with? Chess players of all kinds -- beginners and experts, casual and serious -- are welcome to attend the Stoneham Public Library's Chess Club for Adults! This is a drop-in style program, and takes place every Thursday at 7 P. M in either the Stoneham Room or the Marcy Room. While chess boards will be provided, players are encouraged to bring their own. Chess clocks will also be available.

No registration required. Age demographic is for individuals who are 18 years or older. See [our calendar](#) or our programming board in the library lobby for each evening's location.

Contact Matthew:
msowyrda@noblenet.org
781-438-1324

Chess Club Drop-in

Every Thursday @ 7 pm

The Stoneham Room OR
The Marcy Room

This drop-in program is for anyone looking to play chess with others. **There will not be a staff member leading the meeting.** Meetings will take place at 7pm on every Thursday of the month in the Marcy Room, except the Thursday on which Chess Club for Adults is held. While some chess boards will be provided, players are also encouraged to bring their own boards.



No registration required. Age demographic is for individuals who are 18 years or older. See [our calendar](#) or our programming board in the library lobby for each evening's location.

Contact Matthew:
msowyrda@noblenet.org
781-438-1324

Embroidery with YuChin

July 17th @ 7 pm
The Marcy Room



"Embroidery with YuChin" is a monthly workshop held at the Stoneham Library. The 1.5 hour event takes place from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month (though the date may change due to holiday or weather conditions). Since its inception in October 2024, many members have found it a source of fun and joy. Beginner and new members are encouraged to join, with hours for new members from 7:45 pm - 8:30 pm. [Registration is required.](#)

Age limit: 15 and older.

Please stop by to learn more about embroidery. Note: Materials are not provided for this program. Do not attend the workshop if you're experiencing any sick symptoms.

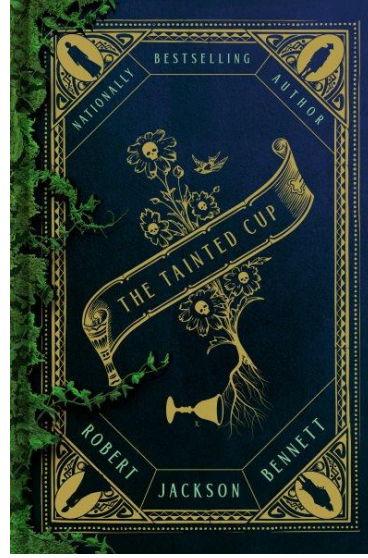
The Enchanted Pages Society

Reads: [The Tainted Cup](#) by Robert
[Jackson Bennett](#)

July 31st @ 7 pm

The Stoneham Room

Join our newest book club, The Enchanted Pages Society, where fantasy lovers unite to explore magical worlds and unforgettable adventures. Dive into spellbinding books, discuss captivating plots, and connect with fellow readers! We meet on the last Thursday of the month! Pick up a copy of this month's title, [*The Tainted Cup* by Robert Jackson Bennett](#), at the main circulation desk. **Registration is required.** People ages 16 and up are welcome.



[Click here](#) to learn more about this title, and to register for this program.

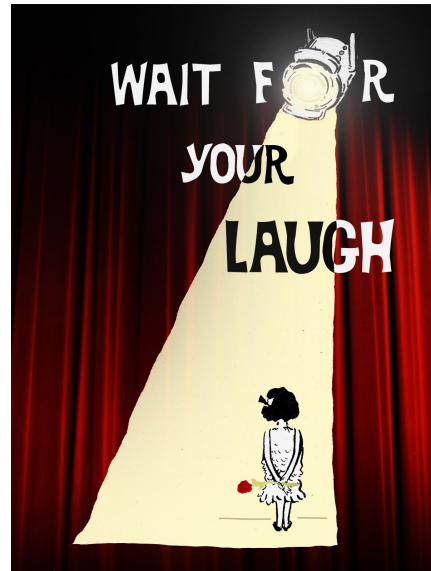
Questions? Contact Anna:
apowers@noblenet.org.

Fridays

Documentary Wow!
Screening
Wait for your Laugh (2017)
July 18th @ 1 pm
The Stoneham Room

This month's selection is *Wait for Your Laugh* (2017).

"Rose Marie, the untold story of fame, love, tragedy and 90 years of American entertainment through the eyes of the woman who did it all."



All film screenings are free and open to the public. Registration not required. Due to budget cuts, we can no longer provide snacks. See Dave's review of the documentary in the Staff

Rated: Not Rated | Run Time: 1h 25m | Genres: Documentary, Comedy, Biography | Directed by: Jason Wise | Written by: Christina Wise, Jason Wise | Starring: Rose Marie, Peter Marshall, Carl Reiner

Friday Movie Matinee
North by Northwest (1959)
July 25th @ 1 pm

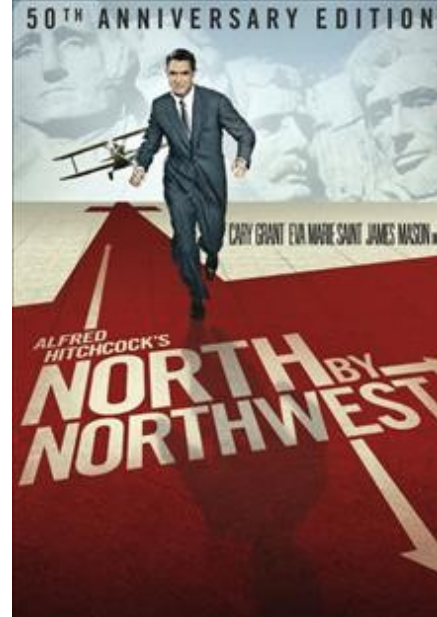
The Marcy Room

We will hold a viewing of this month's Film Club choice, *North by Northwest* (1959).

"A New York City advertising executive goes on the run after being mistaken for a government agent by a group of foreign spies, and falls for a woman whose loyalties he begins to doubt."

All film screenings are free and open to the public. Registration not required. Due to budget cuts, we will no longer be able to provide snacks. See Dave's review of the film in the Staff Reviews section below.

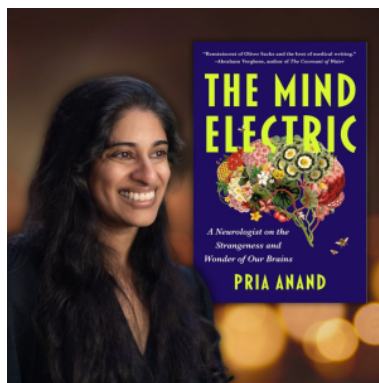
Rated: Approved | Run Time: 2h 16m | Genres: Drama, Mystery, Thriller | Directed by: Alfred Hitchcock | Written by: Ernest Lehman | Starring: Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint, James Mason



Special Programs

Author Talk with Pria Anand

Thursday, July 31st @ 2 pm (Virtual)



You're invited to a fascinating conversation with neurologist and author Pria Anand to chat about her new book, [*The Mind Electric: A Neurologist on the Strangeness and Wonder of Our Brains*](#) (forthcoming June 10, 2025).

In *The Mind Electric*, neurologist Pria Anand reveals—through case study, history, fable, and memoir—all that the medical establishment has overlooked: the complexity and wonder of brains in health and *in extremis*, and the vast gray area between sanity and insanity, doctor and patient, and illness and wellness, each separated from the next by the thin veneer of a different story.

[Click here to register for this program.](#) You will receive the link in the confirmation and reminder emails - make sure to check your spam folder for them if they do not appear in your inbox. The email will be coming from Zoom.

Pria Anand is a neurologist at the [Boston Medical Center](#) and an Assistant Professor at the [Boston University School of Medicine](#). She is a graduate of [Yale University](#) and [Stanford Medical School](#), and she trained in neurology, neuro-infectious diseases, and neuroimmunology at the [Johns Hopkins Hospital](#) and the [Massachusetts General Hospital](#).

*PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A VIRTUAL PROGRAM. See our calendar for more details. This program is funded by [the Friends of the Stoneham Library](#). You can donate to the organization by [clicking here](#).

Author Talk with Raúl the Third

Tuesday, July 8th
2 pm (Español/Virtual)
4 pm (English/Virtual)



Join author and illustrator Raúl The Third as he discusses his book [¡Vamos! Let's Go Read!](#) Meet Little Lobo and friends as they explore their library's Libro Love Book Festival! From cookbook demonstrations and comics workshops to mask making and language classes, this library has something for everyone and Little Lobo can't wait to show you.

Raúl the Third uses his culture and his experience growing up on the US and Mexico border to inspire his art and his storytelling. Students will be encouraged to explore their world through a creative lens. A draw-along is planned, drawing supplies and paper are recommended.

Please note that we will be hosting Raúl the Third twice on this date. The first session is in Spanish, and the second session is in English. Be sure that you are registering for your preferred format. [Click here to register for the English session](#).

Si quieres mirar la programa en español, [¡Regístrate aquí!](#)

[Raúl The Third](#) is a New York Times bestselling and three-time [Pura Belpre](#) award-winning illustrator, author, and artist living in Boston. His work centers around the contemporary Mexican-American experience and his memories of growing up in El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. He is currently adapting his world of *Vamos!* books into an animated television series with

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Author Talk with Rex Ogle

Wednesday, July 23rd @ 4 pm (Virtual)

You're invited to join us online with award-winning author Rex Ogle as he talks to viewers about his struggles to navigate sixth grade as written about in his book, [Free Lunch](#).



Instead of giving him lunch money, Rex's mom has signed him up for free meals. As a poor kid in a wealthy school district, better-off kids crowd impatiently behind him as he tries to explain to the cashier that he's on the free meal program. The lunch lady is hard of hearing, so Rex has to shout.

Free Lunch is the story of Rex's efforts to navigate his first semester of sixth grade—who to sit with, not being able to join the football team, Halloween in a handmade costume, classmates and a teacher who take one look at him and decide he's trouble—all while wearing secondhand clothes and being hungry. His mom and her boyfriend are out of work, and life at home is punctuated by outbursts of violence. Halfway through the semester, his family is evicted and ends up in government-subsidized housing in view of the school. Rex lingers at the end of last period every day until the buses have left, so no one will see where he lives.

Unsparring and realistic, *Free Lunch* is a story of hardship threaded with hope and moments of grace. Rex's voice is compelling and authentic, and *Free Lunch* is a true, timely, and essential work that illuminates the lived experience of poverty in America.

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

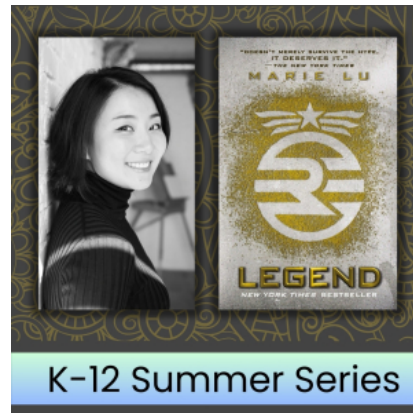
Rex Ogle is the author of *Free Lunch*, winner of the [YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Award](#); *Punching Bag*, a New York Public Library Best Book; *Abuela Don't Forget Me*, finalist for the YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Award; and *Road Home*, which received a [Printz Honor](#) and a Stonewall Book Award Honor. He lives in Los Angeles, California.

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Author Talk with Marie Lu

Thursday, July 17th @ 4 pm (Virtual)

Explore the intricate world of *Legend* with Marie Lu as she encourages readers to look beyond the surface and reveal hidden secrets. Explore the depths of deceit, battle for power, and the lengths characters will go to unmask the Truth.



Legend is a dystopian novel in which two unlikely characters, June and Day, cross paths in search for the Truth. Can they set aside their differences and preconceptions for the greater good? Readers will devour Marie Lu's words as they are challenged to think critically about the world around them and reminded to never judge a book by its cover. [Register now for an event you don't want to miss!](#)

Marie Lu is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the [Legend trilogy](#) and [The Young Elites](#) trilogy. She graduated from [the University of Southern California](#) and jumped into the video game industry, working for Disney Interactive Studios as a Flash artist. Now a full-time writer, she spends her spare time reading,

drawing, playing [Assassin's Creed](#), and getting stuck in traffic. She lives in Los Angeles, California (see above: traffic), with one husband, one Chihuahua mix, and two Pembroke Welsh corgis.

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Youth Services

Kids' Summer Program

It is that time again! Stoneham Public Library's Kids' Summer Program will begin June 23rd, and will run until August 13th. This year's theme is "Level Up at Your Library", and the prize is free admission to the [Topsfield Fair](#)* in the fall,



which includes a food and drink voucher, and two ride tickets. Children under 8 years old already have free admission.

Kiddos up until grade 6 can sign up in the Junior Room, where you will also receive an activity log. If you lose your printout at any point during the summer, [you can view and print out a copy by clicking here](#). Teens and tweens should see below for information about their respective summer reading program.

*Due to cuts to the library budget, our schedule and Summer Program will be a bit different this year. We appreciate the generous support of Topsfield Fair for providing our prizes this year at no cost to Stoneham. Thank you for your flexibility and understanding. Also, please keep in mind that August 13th is a

firm deadline for kiddos to have their log checked by staff, as we need to submit our prize winners to the Topsfield Fair in order to receive our prizes on time.

T(w)een Summer Program

The theme ("Level Up at Your Library") and timeline for the T(w)een Summer Program is the same as the Kids' Program (June 23rd-August 13th). However, upon completing the activity log, winners will be entered into a raffle in which they have the chance of taking home a Kindle Fire 7, courtesy of [ABDO Publishing!](#)



T(w)eens in grades 7-12 can participate by signing up in the Junior Room, where you will also receive an activity log. If you lose your printout at any point during the summer, [you can view and print out a copy by clicking here.](#)

Book Lists



A Midsummer Night's Supper

Materials for planning barbecue and weekday menus

Everybody's Talking

World language materials & foreign films



Shore Thing!



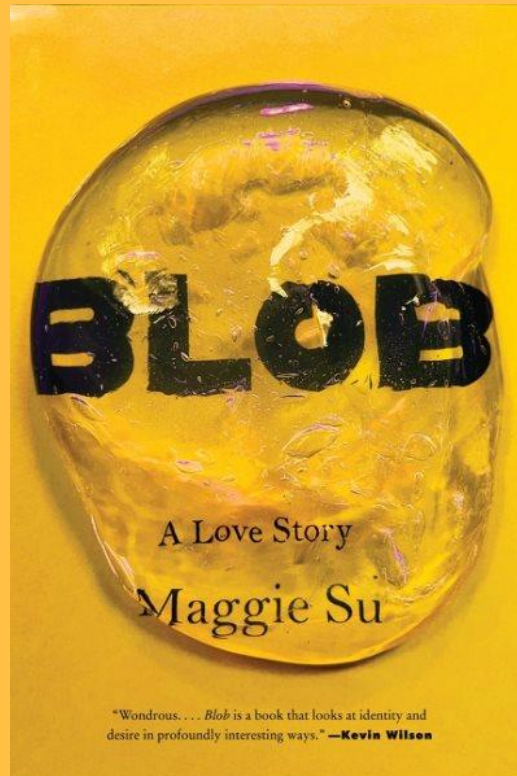
Materials about bodies of water and
marine wildlife

Staff Reviews

[Blob: A Love Story by Maggie Su](#)

Debbie W.

Despite being someone who actively dislikes and avoids romance novels, when I spotted the cover art and title of this debut novel by Maggie Su, I was intrigued. Recovering from a breakup, drinking too much, Vi stumbles upon a literal blob in the back alleyway of a bar. She decides to take the goop home, and slowly, the blob begins to change. During the blob's journey to sentience, we flash back to the main character's upbringing in the midwest as a lonely bi-racial kid.



Their journeys parallel one another in an interesting way. The main character is rather unlikable and mostly unrelatable. The blob is naive (and equally unrelatable - a blob!) and struggles to make sense of what it's like to be human. Surprisingly, you might find yourself rooting equally for both. In the end, the real love story here is each character growing to love and accept themselves despite their flaws. With an ending you might not expect, this offbeat book is definitely worth a read.

[North by Northwest \(1959\)](#)

David Huygens

In creating the screenplay for *North by Northwest* (1959), [Ernest Lehman](#) said his goal was to write "the Hitchcock picture to end all Hitchcock pictures." Indeed, this



stunning suspense film does seem like a culmination of many of director [Alfred Hitchcock's](#) most familiar tropes. The wrongly-accused man, the foreign spies, the chase, the cliffhanger climax in a famous setting. Yet Hitchcock and Lehman also managed to come up with something fresh and original, that still entertains audiences as much as it did over 65 years ago.

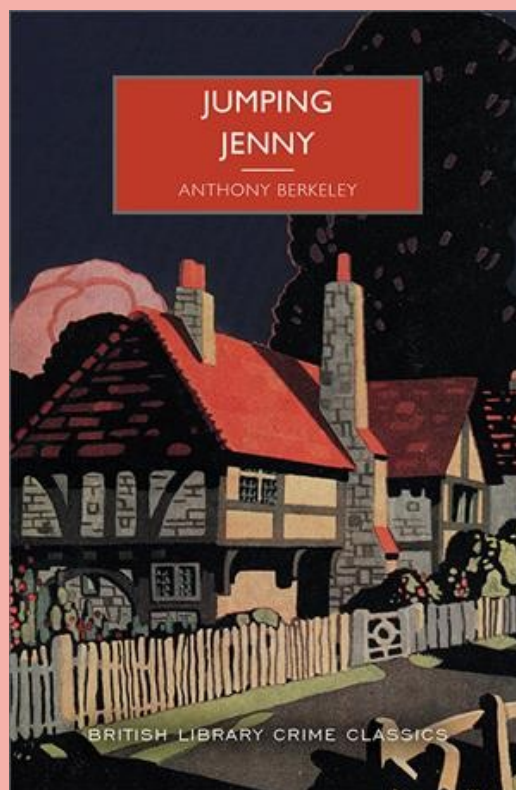
Roger Thornhill ([Cary Grant](#)) is a gray-suited Madison Avenue advertising executive whose seemingly mundane meeting with some colleagues at the Oak Bar of the Plaza Hotel leads to a misunderstanding that has dire consequences. Thornhill, mistaken for a government agent, is caught in a complex web of international intrigue that leads him across the continent, from New York to Chicago (on [the 20th Century Limited](#)), to a desolate cornfield in Indiana, and eventually to [Mount Rushmore](#). Eva Marie Saint co-stars as the beautiful and sympathetic woman he meets on the train, and James Mason is suave and mysterious as one of Hitchcock's most effective villains.

Leo G. Carroll as a government agent, Martin Landau as Mason's right-hand man (who talks about his "women's intuition") and Jessie Royce Landis as Thornhill's sarcastic mother are among the wonderful actors in this big, beautiful VistaVision production from MGM, that followed [Vertigo \(1958\)](#) and preceded [Psycho \(1960\)](#) in the Hitchcock canon. It was the director's final romantic suspense film and arguably his greatest. I wholeheartedly recommend *North by Northwest*.

[Jumping Jenny](#) by [Anthony Berkeley](#)

Matthew Sowyrda

Crime writer and amateur detective Roger Sheringham has been invited to stay for a weekend at the house of his friend, Ronald Stratton, who is throwing a British murderer-themed costume party. For added effect, Ronald even set up on his roof a gallows, decorated with three straw effigies. While everyone is dressed up and having a good time, the party's flow is constantly being broken up by one guest -- Ena, the wife of Ronald's brother, David. Despite her unpredictable, attention-seeking behavior, everyone is surprised when, after threatening to commit suicide numerous times throughout the night, she ends up hanging from the gallows on Ronald's roof. Although it appears



that Ena did it to herself, some of the circumstances lead Sheringham to wonder whether this supposed suicide was really a murder. If murder is the crime, then who did it, and why?

One of the things I liked about this novel was Berkeley's typically English sense of humor -- dry and understated. For example, when another guest tells Sheringham that he lost a chunk of his shoulder from a gunshot wound in a war, Sheringham returns with: "Did you? That must be rather a nuisance to you, isn't it?" Clearly, the whole novel is chock-full of gallows humor, starting with its title, which is supposed to be the female version of a "Jumping Jack" (British slang for a hanged man). Then there is the fact that every character is either relieved that Ena met her death, or is indifferent to it. Readers who appreciate deadpan (no pun intended) humor like this will be reminded of the arrogant, knucklehead rockstars from [*This is Spinal Tap* \(1984\)](#), and the "It's just a flesh wound" scene from *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* (1975).

The other thing I enjoyed was the novel's departure from murder mystery formulae. Rather than a "Great Detective", such as the infallible Sherlock Holmes with his inflexible logical deductions, Roger Sheringham is more of a layman, like [Dorothy Sayers' well-to-do lay-about, Lord Peter Wimsey](#), who "learns as he goes", and makes many blunders that land him close to trouble with the law. Furthermore, instead of trying to solve a murder, Sheringham is trying to prove that the victim committed suicide, as he works mostly without police help -- other times, he works against it -- in order to (literally) save the neck of David Stratton, who, being Ena's husband, is the prime suspect. However, Sheringham doesn't know for certain if David would have done such a thing, and we are given the impression early on that another character may have accidentally caused Ena's death. With all of its twists and turns, *Jumping Jenny*, like Ena Stratton herself, is far from being predictable.

[Wait for Your Laugh \(2017\)](#)

Dave Huygens

Wait for Your Laugh (2017) is an award-winning documentary

about the life and times of Rose Marie, who is best remembered today as Sally Rogers on [*The Dick Van Dyke Show*](#). But actually, Rose Marie's career spanned over 90 years. It began when she was four years old and won an amateur singing contest, which led to radio fame and eventually, vaudeville (she went on the road to prove to audiences that the mature voice they were hearing on the radio belonged to a child). Her father (who had mob connections -- and another family) pocketed her earnings, and introduced her to [Al Capone](#). During the war, Rose Marie met a trumpet player,





[Buddy Guy](#), and told her best friend he was the man she was going to marry. But her father got in the way, so Ro and Buddy eloped and had their honeymoon along Route 66 while driving to LA. There, they both got work, and hers led her to Las Vegas, where she worked for another mobster, [Bugsy Siegel](#).

There is much more to the story—motherhood, her husband’s mysterious illness, a conflict during the Van Dyke show, and a whole other third act to her life and career, which included *The Hollywood Squares*, [The Doris Day Show](#), and the hit stage act, *4 Girls 4*, with Rosemary Clooney, Helen O’Connell, and Margaret Whiting. Along the way, Ro rubbed elbows with [Frank Sinatra](#), Jerry Lewis, [Johnny Carson](#) and many others. Most of this fascinating stuff is narrated by Rose Marie herself, who comes across as genuine, likeable, pragmatic—and sometimes, surprisingly sentimental. Friends interviewed include [Dick Van Dyke](#), [Carl Reiner](#), Peter Marshall (who also narrates) and [Tim Conway](#) (who Rose Marie discovered). It’s a unique portrait of a wonderful entertainer--and a survivor. Highly recommended.

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