

JUNE 2026

ILLUMINATED STACKS

The Stoneham Public Library's monthly newsletter

Stoneham Public Library

431 Main Street
Stoneham, MA 02180

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

In this issue:

- [The Month at a Glance](#)
- [Adult programs](#)
- [Youth services](#)
- [June displays](#)
- [Staff reviews](#)

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THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Monday, June 8th @ 7 pm

The Board of Library Trustees will meet in the library's Stoneham Room. All members of the public are welcome to attend to comment or listen to the proceedings. If you wish to attend but are unable to make it in person, [click](#)

[here for the virtual option \(Zoom\)](#). You can also call in at: +1 (646) 931-3860, then type in the following:

Meeting ID: 876 9866 6972 / Passcode: 823496



Saturday, June 13th @ 9:15 am

The [Friends of the Stoneham Library \(FOSL\)](#) will hold their monthly meeting in the library's Stoneham Room. All members of the public are welcome to attend to comment and listen to the proceedings. If you are unable to make it in person, a virtual option is available,

by which you can join by [clicking here](#)! Or, you can dial in (audio only):

(US) +1 347-384-7785 / PIN: 357 135 204#



Also on Saturday, June 13th 12-2 pm

Come find us at the Pride Day celebration on the Town Common!



Friday, June 19th

The library will be closed for Juneteenth

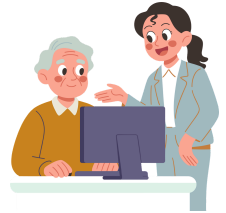


ADULT PROGRAMS

Mondays

Tech Support @ 10 am | The Stoneham Room

This drop-in program is open to anyone looking for help with technology. Designed as a judgment-free space, library staff are here to assist with any questions you may have about your devices—laptops, tablets, smartphones, and more. We're also happy to help with general tech topics like email, filling out online forms or applications, and anything else you might be curious about. If you have questions about a specific device, please bring it with you if you're able. Questions? Email Anna at apowers@noblenet.org



Sky View: A Presentation of Aerial Photographs June 8th @ 6 pm | The Marcy Room

This photography presentation offers images from a unique point of view – the “Sky View.” We are accustomed to viewing buildings, historic sites and colorful venues by looking at them straight ahead. What if you could see those same familiar sites from above, from a Sky View? The presentation includes aerial photographs of historic buildings, houses of worship, parks, light houses, and other colorful sites. The presentation is compelling because most have never seen views like this before, from an aerial photographer’s viewpoint. The program demystifies the use of drones, illustrates the variety of drone uses in the public sector and highlights FAA’s emphasis on safety. This program has been presented to colleges, civic organizations, senior living centers, art associations, libraries, camera clubs and houses of worship. No registration required.

Mid-Summer Makers

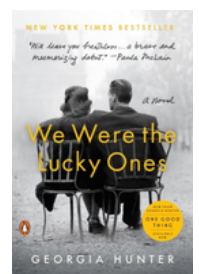
June 29 @ 7pm | The Marcy Room

Calling all fairytale lovers! Are you gearing up for our Mid-Summer Faire on July 18th? Or maybe you can't go but this theme is right up you alley? Come make some magical wands and shields with us! Supplies are limited, [sign ups are required](#).



Monday Night Book Group | June 29th at 6 pm | The Stoneham Room

Join us as we discuss [We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter](#). If you are interested in becoming a member of this group, contact Maureen Saltzman at saltzman@noblenet.org. No registration required.



ADULT PROGRAMS

Tuesdays

Virtual Author Talk with Sana Javeri Kadri & Asha Loupy

June 23rd @ 2 pm on Zoom

Join us as we chat with Sana Javeri Kadri and Asha Loupy about *The Diaspora Spice Co. Cookbook*, which celebrates beautiful, simple, and seasonal cooking with 85 recipes adapted from India and Sri Lanka's best family spice farms. . [Register now to learn more about Diaspora Spice Co., the progressive spice company rooted in flavor and equity.](#)



Virtual Author Talk with G.G. Silverman

June 30th @ 2 pm on Zoom

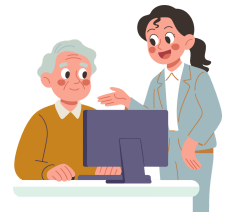
Join us as we welcome former Stoneham resident G.G. Silverman as she discusses her early love of horror, how outsider-ness and her Italian heritage shape her perspective and work, and *The Blood Year Daughter's* evolution. Q&A will follow after the presentation, come with questions! G.G. Silverman's debut fairytale horror collection, [The Blood Year Daughter](#), came out this April 2026! [Register now](#) to receive the Zoom link via email.



Wednesdays

Tech Support @ 10 am | The Glass Office

This drop-in program is open to anyone looking for help with technology. Designed as a judgment-free space, library staff are here to assist with any questions you may have about your devices—laptops, tablets, smartphones, and more. We're also happy to help with general tech topics like email, filling out online forms or applications, and anything else you might be curious about. If you have questions about a specific device, please bring it with you if you're able. Questions? Email Anna at apowers@noblenet.org



ADULT PROGRAMS

Wednesdays (cont'd)

Virtual Author Talk with Mary Savig

June 3rd @ 2 pm | Zoom

Join us for a fascinating discussion with Smithsonian Curator Mary Savig on the history and significance of craft at state fairs—from blue-ribbon quilts to sculpted butter cows, and so much more! [State Fairs](#) has a little something for everyone. This book features more than 100 photos of extraordinary and unconventional crafts, including needlework, basketry, jewelry, ceramics, crop art, butter sculpture, and saddles. [Register now to hear about the fascinating \(and often surprising\) world of American state fair crafts!](#)



Documentary Wow! Discussion: *The Times of Harvey Milk* (1984)

June 10th @ 6:30 pm | Zoom

Join us as we discuss this month's Documentary Wow! selection, *The Times of Harvey Milk* (1984). [Click here to register for this program.](#)



Film Club Discussion: *Victim* (1961)

June 17th @ 6:30 pm | Zoom

Join the Film Club to discuss this month's selection, *Victim* (1961). Dave will send out the Zoom link on the day of the discussion. [Click here to register for this program.](#)



Thursdays

Chess Club Drop-in

Every Thursday @ 7 pm | [Check our calendar for the location](#)

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 skills and ages are welcome to attend! Chess boards will be available for those who do not have their own. Clocks are also available upon request. If you have questions, email Matt at msowyrda@noblenet.org.



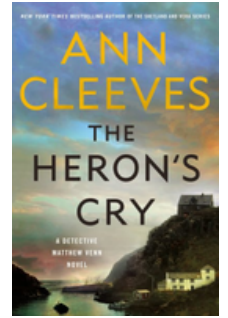
ADULT PROGRAMS

Thursdays (cont'd)

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

June 4th @ 7 pm | The Marcy Room

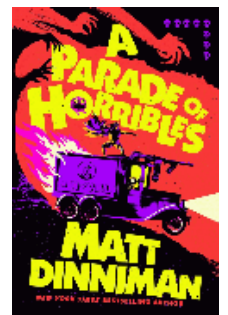
Join us as we discuss [*The Heron's Cry* by Ann Cleeves](#). The Mysteries Around the World Group reads mysteries and meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Stoneham Room, unless otherwise noted. We look forward to welcoming you as a member. No registration required. If you are interested in joining this book group, contact Maureen Saltzman at saltzman@noblenet.org



Virtual Author Talk with Matt Dinniman

June 11th @ 7 pm | Zoom

Hold onto your heart-patterned boxers! Matt Dinniman, New York Times bestselling author of the wildly popular (and just plain wild) *Dungeon Crawler Carl* series, joins us to chat about his latest book, *A Parade of Horribles*. [Register now for a fun-filled discussion you won't want to miss!](#)



Virtual Author Talk with Ted Page

June 18th @ 2 pm | Zoom

Join us in conversation with storyteller and popular blogger Ted Page as we chat about his journey to bring together the stories and wisdom of grandfathers from all walks of life, all with a mission to nurture the next great generation. [Register today and find out why Ted Page says "our greatest generation is to come."](#)



ADULT PROGRAMS

Thursdays (cont'd)

Embroidery with YuChin

June 18th @ 7 pm | The Teen Zone

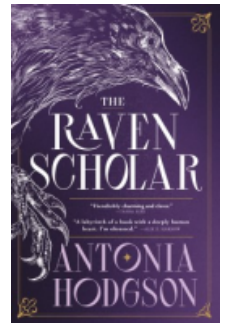
Beginner and new members are encouraged to join this monthly workshop, with hours for new members from 7:45 pm - 8:30 pm. Please stop by to learn more about embroidery. Age limit: 15 years and older. Note: Capacity is limited to six seats and [registration is required](#). Materials will be provided in class by the instructor. Do not attend the workshop if you're experiencing any sick symptoms.



The Enchanted Pages Society

June 18th @ 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

Join our most magical 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, *Raven Scholar* by Antonia Hodgson, at the main circulation desk. [Registration is encouraged](#), but not required. People ages 16 and up are welcome. Questions? Contact Anna: apowers@noblenet.org.



Smart 3.0 and the Beautiful Earth Movement

June 25th @ 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Come and learn about the Massachusetts 3.0 program and the Beautiful Earth Movement! Registration not required, but encouraged.

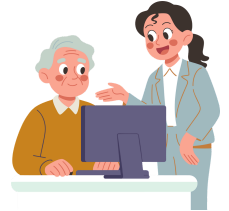


ADULT PROGRAMS

Fridays

Tech Support @ 10 am | The Stoneham Room

This drop-in program is open to anyone looking for help with technology. Designed as a judgment-free space, library staff are here to assist with any questions you may have about your devices—laptops, tablets, smartphones, and more. We're also happy to help with general tech topics like email, filling out online forms or applications, and anything else you might be curious about. If you have questions about a specific device, please bring it with you if you're able. Questions? Email Anna at apowers@noblenet.org



Documentary Wow! Screening: *The Times of Harvey Milk* (1984)

June 5th @ 1 pm | Stoneham Room

Summary: "A documentary of the successful career and assassination of San Francisco's first elected gay city supervisor." Rated: PG-13 | Run Time: 1h 47m | Genres: Military Documentary, Political Documentary | Directed by: Errol Morris | Starring: Robert McNamara, John F. Kennedy, Fidel Castro

All film screenings are free and open to the public. Registration not required. If you are unable to attend the public viewing, you can pick a copy of the film at the main circulation desk.

Friday Movie Matinee: *Victim* (1961)

May 15th @ 1 pm | Marcy Room

Summary: "Following World War II, a one-armed stranger arrives in a tiny California desert town, but finds the residents hostile and protecting a terrible secret they want to keep hidden, by violent means if necessary." Rated: Approved | Run Time: 1h 21m | Genres: Crime, Mystery, Thriller

Directed by: John Sturges | Written by: Millard Kaufman, Don McGuire, Howard Breslin | Starring: Spencer Tracy, Robert Ryan, Anne Francis

All film screenings are free and open to the public. Registration not required. If you are unable to attend the public viewing, you can pick a copy of the film at the main circulation desk.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Mondays

Finals Frenzy

June 15th (all day) | Teen Zone

SHS students: Let us support you during the craziest time of the school year! This finals week we are here to help you get through the stress and chaos of final exams. Visit Katie in the Teen Zone to get your finals support pack with goodies and supplies. We have our Marcy room reserved for mediation, quiet time, or to just take a break. Katie will be available to support you in your studying endeavors (with snacks, of course!) Sign up is not required! However, a certified therapy dog will be visited the library between 2 and 4pm. [Registration for that is appreciated, but not required.](#)

Craft Quest

June 29th @ 3:30 pm | Marcy Room

Are you ready to enter on a quest to creativity? Be ready to brave the chaos of glue and paint! **For ages 7+. Supplies limited, [sign up required!](#)**



Mid-Summer Makers

June 29th @ 5pm | Marcy Room

Calling all fairytale lovers! Are you gearing up for our Mid-Summer Faire on July 18th? Or maybe you can't go but this theme is right up your alley? Come make some magical wands and shields with us! Supplies are limited, [sign ups are required.](#)



Tuesdays

Finals Frenzy

June 16th (all day) | Teen Zone

SHS students: Let us support you during the craziest time of the school year! This finals week we are here to help you get through the stress and chaos of final exams. Visit Katie in the Teen Zone to get your finals support pack with goodies and supplies. We have our Marcy room reserved for mediation, quiet time, or to just take a break. Katie will be available to support you in your studying endeavors (with snacks, of course!) Sign up is not required!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Tuesdays (cont'd)

Summer Kick-off on the Common

June 23rd @ 10:30 am | Stoneham Town Common

Summer Kick-off is happening! Join us on the town common. Vinny the Bubble Guy will be there leading kids into soapy chaos, we'll have summer reading sign-ups, and more fun! Sign-up is not required, but if it rains, [check the calendar](#) to see if we cancel/move!



Bubble Babies

June 30th @ 9:30 am | Library Lawn

Who doesn't love bubbles?? Bring your baby, whether they're walking or just learning to open their eyes, to our lawn. We have tons of bubble sets for you to use and for the little ones to see some new faces! This is a drop-in program to encourage child and caregiver socialization, there is no staff instruction. If it rains, we cancel!

Little Planters

June 30th @ 3:30 pm | Marcy Room

Who doesn't love bubbles?? Bring your baby, whether they're walking or just learning to open their eyes, to our lawn. We have tons of bubble sets for you to use and for the little ones to see some new faces! This is a drop-in program to encourage child and caregiver socialization, there is no staff instruction. If it rains, we cancel! [Click here to register.](#)



Petit Artiste

June 30th @ 4 pm | Marcy Room

Bring in your little artist to create something new! Kiddos ages 1-4 can come in to make a simple craft. Staff will be there to lead your and your kiddo through a toddler-friendly art project. Supplies are limited, [sign up is required!](#) Wear clothes that can get paint or glue on them!



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Wednesdays

Finals Frenzy

June 17th (all day) | Teen Zone

SHS students: Let us support you during the craziest time of the school year! This finals week we are here to help you get through the stress and chaos of final exams. Visit Katie in the Teen Zone to get your finals support pack with goodies and supplies. We have our Marcy room reserved for mediation, quiet time, or to just take a break. Katie will be available to support you in your studying endeavors (with snacks, of course!) Sign up is not required! However, a certified therapy dog will be visited the library between 2 and 4pm. [Registration for that is appreciated, but not required.](#)

Little Sprouts Storytime

June 24th @ 10 am | Library Lawn

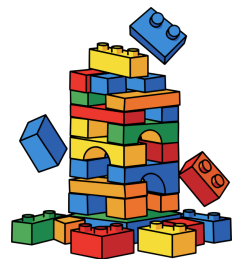
Join Melissa on the library lawn for some stories, songs, and fun! Feel free to bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on. Don't forget your sunscreen and water (though the lawn is mostly shaded!) If there's rain, we'll move inside! No registration required.



Lego Club

June 24th @ 3 pm | Children's Library Reading Room

Are you a master Lego builder? Or maybe just someone who likes to create? Spend the afternoon making your creations in the library! No registration required.



Thursdays

Finals Frenzy

June 18th (all day) | Teen Zone

SHS students: Let us support you during the craziest time of the school year! This finals week we are here to help you get through the stress and chaos of final exams. Visit Katie in the Teen Zone to get your finals support pack with goodies and supplies. We have our Marcy room reserved for mediation, quiet time, or to just take a break. Katie will be available to support you in your studying endeavors (with snacks, of course!) Sign up is not required!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Thursdays (cont'd)

Farmer's Market Storytime

June 25th @ 4pm | Stoneham Town Common

We'll be visiting the Stoneham Farmer's Market on the Town Common! Join us for some storytime fun in the sun! If it rains, we cancel! No registration required.



Junk Journal

June 25th @ 6pm | Teen Zone

Have plans, big or small, for summer? Start a junk journal with us! No need to be precise or crafty; just glue in ticket stubs, wrappers, pictures, and more from your summer adventures. We have fun paper, stickers, and supplies for you to use. Come in after a long day, and enjoy our A/C while you craft. [Registration requested](#), but last minute drop-ins are welcome!



Fridays

Toddler Turnout

June 26th @ 10 am | Library Lawn

It's the end of the week and your toddlers still have energy! Bring them to our library lawn for a drop-in playtime. We'll have chalk, games, bubbles, and more for them to explore with new friends! Drop-in playgroup with no direct instruction. If it rains, we cancel! No registration required.



STEM Club

June 26th @ 3 pm | Marcy Room

Unleash your inner scientist! This week we will be creating an invention for an egg drop! Wear clothes that can get messy from glue or goo! Supplies are limited, so [sign ups are required](#)! For kiddos 8+!



Main Floor



He's a 10 but...

Romance and Fantasy

Pride month



Summer Blockbuster

A book-versus-film matchup! Take home a book and its film adaptation, then tell us which is better--the book or the movie? Write your responses on a sticky note, and cast the vote into one of the two trays on the display stand's top shelf.



JUNE DISPLAYS

Adult Nonfiction Mezzanine



Father Figures

A celebration of
fatherhood and Fathers
Day

Fun 'n' Games

Summer sports, outdoor
activities, and travel



Juneteenth

African-American
voices & Black History

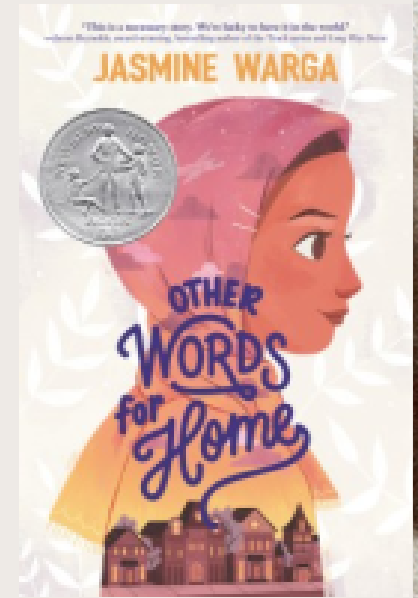




STAFF REVIEWS

[Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga](#)

Last month, the Bookworm Book Club read Jasmine Warga's Newbery honor-winning *Other Words for Home*, a beautifully written account of a young woman's journey to the USA from her native Syria following the 2011 uprising. Written in verse, this accessible book captures the emotions in a heartfelt and lyrical way. All our young readers enjoyed the book and I personally was amazed at the depth but light-handedness of the writing on this difficult subject. This is one that you will definitely want to read alongside your child, and you will both love it equally.

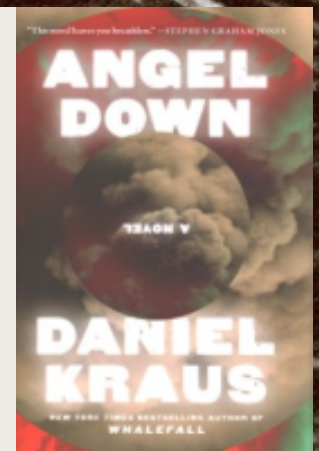


The Bookworm Book Club is open to readers Grade 3-5, and takes place monthly on a Monday at 4pm. Please [see our calendar](#) or ask at Jr circulation for details.

--Deb W.

[Angel Down by Daniel Kraus](#)

Angel Down, a 300-page, single-sentence book about the horrors and travesty of WWI trench warfare, might not seem like a good time. However, this moving and surprising novel really deserved the Pulitzer it won in May 2026. This experimental book written by Daniel Kraus, an author more well known for horror writing, does a great job of detailing the agony and absurdity of war. The story



follows a soldier who is surviving the french front with a combination of cons, hustle and dumb luck. When asked to dispatch a 'shrieker' in no-man's-land, with some fellow outcasts he discovers a fallen angel. Part allegory, part horror novel, this book is not easy to read literally or mentally. However it is worth it. It's likely to be a contemporary classic and will stay with you for a long time.

--Deb W.

Victim (1961)

Victim is a gritty 1961 British suspense film directed by Basil Dearden, starring Dirk Bogarde as Melville Farr, a barrister who was once involved with other men prior to his marriage to Laura (Sylvia Syms). One of



those men, a young construction worker, Jack "Boy" Barrett (Peter McEnery), has been trying to get in touch with Farr. The well-to-do Farr suspects blackmail--a fairly common practice in Great Britain at the time, when homosexuality was illegal. But it's Barrett who's being blackmailed, with a photo taken of the two men together in a car on a quiet road after dark.

As the police begin to investigate, we're led into London's pubs and shops, down its side streets and back alleys, and into the homes of some of its most prominent citizens. We meet a wide variety of suspects and victims, seeing the real fear that many people lived with in the repressive atmosphere of England in the early 1960s.

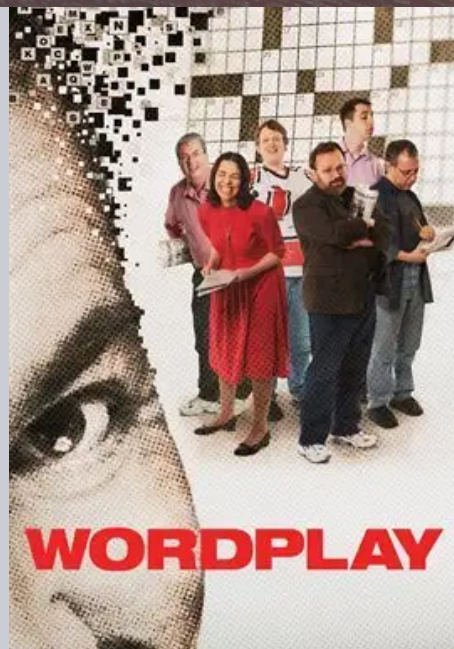
As the barrister who decides to risk his reputation to expose the blackmail situation, Bogarde gives a terrific performance. Syms is excellent as the loyal but tormented Laura, and there's a nice turn by Dennis Price as a closeted West End actor. The black-and-white cinematography in urban locations gives the action a raw, immediate quality.

I caught this movie on TV a few years ago. Since then, four of the director's films have been collected by Criterion in a set called Basil Dearden's *London Underground*. Though sometimes referred to as a "poor man's Hitchcock," Dearden carved out his own niche, having his finger on the pulse of England at the time. In the case of *Victim*, a huge hit, he actually helped change society by forcing the British legal system to take a look at its antiquated laws against homosexuality. *Victim* is one of Dearden's best movies--a groundbreaking, entertaining thriller with a social conscience.

-- Dave Huygens

[Wordplay \(2006\)](#)

Ever since I began designing crossword puzzles two years ago, library patrons and staff alike have enjoyed them (and their titles). This popularity--born immediately after the release of my first puzzle, "Going Global" (a play on "Going Mobile" by The Who)--puzzles me somewhat. I have never been much of a "crossworder"; I probably could not finish one made by someone else. Furthermore, I often wonder what causes the craze that continually sweeps the nations. My meager knowledge about crossword rules and mechanics came mostly from skimming through a few books on the subject (available from the NOBLE collection), as well as from working out of a [New York Times puzzle collection](#) that I purchased from [The Book Oasis](#).



While searching for something to watch on [Hoopla](#), I recently came across *Wordplay* (2006), a cinematic celebration of the crossword puzzle. Directed by Patrick Creadon, the documentary is comprised primarily of interviews with crossword constructors like Will Shortz of *NYT* fame, and puzzle enthusiasts--a fanbase that includes television personalities, political figures, musicians, professional athletes, and average Americans. In addition, Creadon presents footage from crossword tournaments, hosted by Shortz himself at a Marriott Hotel in Stamford, Connecticut, in which contestants race to complete crossword puzzles in the least amount of time. The last sequence follows a trio of elite contestants on their way to the top of the rankings, leading up to the championship round; the intensity and drama that occurs between these competitive cruciverbalists gets the point across that crossword puzzles are a serious matter, for some.

Wordplay is an interesting documentary. It unveils the mystery of crossword puzzles, showing us how they are generally made--at least, according to *New York Times* standards (which are pretty black and white when it comes to acceptable versus unacceptable clues). It captures the nerdy, quirky psychology of crossword puzzle-makers and solvers. It also poses the fundamental question: "Why crossword puzzles?" The answers given by interviewees range from "it's just for fun", to the fact that it is an intellectually challenging activity that promises to increase cultural knowledge and improve vocabulary, to downright obsession. Brainiacs, lovers of *Jeopardy!*, chess players, avid book readers, and, of course, crossword puzzle fans, will want to cross swords with this film.

-- Matthew Sowyrda

Everything You Left Me by Paige Classey

If you're looking for a book to reflect your teenage struggles, this is the book for you. The overwhelming sense of curiosity that fills us when we are young. The family struggles of a high school teen navigating family trauma. The growth to find oneself and forge your own path to a bright future for yourself. This novel written in verse is a fast piece and easy to connect with. Macbeth is a figure balancing loyalty, fear and the possibility of someone she loves lying to her. This book

turns away from the adult perspective and shows Maybeth's inner conflict during the whole investigation surrounding her father.

-- Maisie, Teen Reviewer

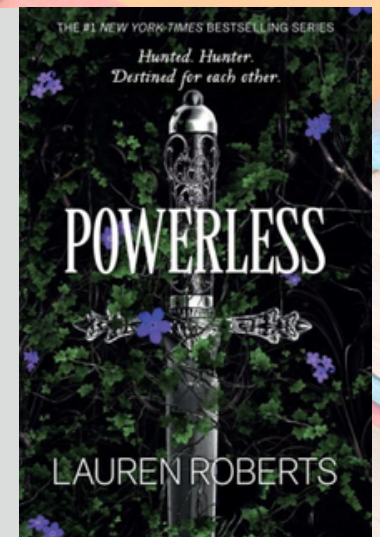


Powerful by Lauren Roberts

Powerful by Lauren Roberts is an emotional fantasy novel that transports the reader into a world that feels both exciting and treacherous at the same time. The story follows Adena as she deals with friendship, loyalty, and tough choices while navigating a difficult world filled with pressure and conflict. Adena tries to survive in the city of Loot after her best friend Paedyn is taken away for the Purging Trials. Adena faces lots of

danger, forms new relationships, and discovers hidden secrets. As the story goes on, you become more connected to Adena and start to really understand what she's going through and relate to her struggles. Overall, Lauren Roberts' vivid description and powerful emotional writing makes for a great story that sticks with you, even after you finish reading it.

-- Andrew, Teen Reviewer



[The Times of Harvey Milk \(1984\).](#)

The Times of Harvey Milk (1984) documents Harvey Milk's rise from a San Francisco neighborhood activist to the city's first openly gay supervisor. He died less than a year later, along with Mayor George Moscone, on the steps of City Hall—shot by fellow supervisor Dan White.



Born and raised on Long Island, Harvey Milk tried several careers in various parts of the US before he settled in San Francisco, where he bought a camera shop in the Castro district. The shop became a refuge for the neighborhood's gay population, and Milk finally found his calling: as an advocate and politician. But it took several tries before he was elected, at age 47, to the city's Board of Supervisors in 1977. It was a history-making election that also saw several other minority candidates voted into office for the first time. Part of the reason for Milk's win was the newly-zoned District Five, that covered the Haight Ashbury and Castro districts. It brought hope to the gay community, who now had an official voice in city politics.

Harvey Milk's life and death was also the subject of Gus Van Sant's 2008 film, [Milk](#), starring Sean Penn. But this is the original documentary, and, as the title suggests, it's as much about the times Milk lived in as it is about the man himself. The final part of the film covers several events that evoke strong emotions, including the enormous, unplanned candlelight vigil the night of Milk's death, the trial of Dan White, and the riots that followed White's controversial sentencing. Directed by Rob Epstein and narrated by Harvey Fierstein, *The Times of Harvey Milk* is an intelligent biography of a man who, in his short life, made a big difference.

-- Dave Huygens