Staff Picks Meeting: Saturday, September 21, 2024 | 1:15 PM

Nonfiction

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing

(Regular print, eAudiobook)

Summary: In August of 1914, the British ship Endurance set sail for the South Atlantic. In October, 1915, still half a continent away from its intended base, the ship was trapped, then crushed in the ice. For five months, Sir Ernest Shackleton and his men, drifting on ice packs, were castaways in one of the most savage regions of the world. Lansing describes how the men survived a 1,000-mile voyage in an open boat across the stormiest ocean in the world and an overland trek through forbidding glaciers and mountains. The book recounts a harrowing adventure, but ultimately it is the nobility of these men and their indefatigable will that shines through.

Being Henry: The Fonz...and Beyond by Henry Winkler

(eAudiobook)

Summary: From Emmy-award winning actor, author, comedian, producer, and director Henry Winkler, a deeply thoughtful memoir of the lifelong effects of stardom and the struggle to become whole.

Funny Farm: My Unexpected Life with 600 Rescue Animals by Laurie Zaleski

(Regular print)

Summary: Funny Farm is an inspiring and moving memoir of the author's turbulent life with 600 rescue animals.

Fiction

The Fellowship of the Puzzlemakers by Samuel Burr

(Regular print)

Summary: "Clayton Stumper might be in his twenties, but he dresses like your grandpa and fusses like your aunt. Abandoned at birth on the steps of the Fellowship of Puzzlemakers, he was raised by a group of eccentric enigmatologists and now finds himself among the last survivors of a fading institution. When the esteemed crossword compiler and main maternal presence in Clayton's life, Pippa Allsbrook, passes away, she bestows her final puzzle on him: a promise to reveal the mystery of his parentage and prepare him for life beyond the walls of the commune. So begins Clay's quest to uncover the secrets surrounding his birth, secrets that will change the Clay--and the Fellowship--forever. The Fellowship of Puzzlemakers is pure joy, a story about love and family and what it means to find your people--no matter what age you are"-- Provided by publisher.

The Saturday Night Ghost Club by Craig Davidson

(Regular print)

Summary: "A short, irresistible, and bittersweet coming-of-age story about a group of misfit kids who spend an unforgettable summer investigating local ghost stories and urban legends"-- Provided by publisher.

Smoke and Mirrors by M. E. Hilliard

(Regular print)

Summary: While inventorying the personal collection of a deceased magician in NYC, librarian-turned-sleuth Greer Hogan, determined to solve her husband's murder, finds her investigation has struck a

nerve when she's attacked and turns to a magician named Grim to shine a spotlight on a killer before she's next.

The Library of the Dead by T.L. Huchu

(Regular print, eAudiobook, eBook)

Summary: Ropa dropped out of school to become a ghost talker, and she now speaks to Edinburgh's dead - carrying messages to the living - but when she learns someone is bewitching children she investigates and discovers an occult library, a taste for hidden magic, and a wealth of Edinburgh's dark secrets.

Real Americans by Rachel Khong

(Regular print)

Summary: "An exhilarating novel of American identity that spans three generations in one family, and asks: What makes us who we are? And how inevitable are our futures?"-- Provided by publisher.

Lies & Weddings by Kevin Kwan

(Regular print)

Summary: In a globetrotting tale that takes us from the black sand beaches of Hawaii to the skies of Marrakech, from the glitzy bachelor pads of Los Angeles to the inner sanctums of England's oldest family estates, Kevin Kwan unfurls a juicy, hilarious, sophisticated and thrillingly plotted story of love, money, murder, sex, and the lies we tell about them all"-- Provided by publisher.

Arsenic and Adobo by Mia P. Manansala

(Regular print)

Summary: When Lila Macapagal moves back home to recover from a horrible breakup, her life seems to be following all the typical rom-com tropes. She's tasked with saving her Tita Rosie's failing restaurant, and she has to deal with a group of matchmaking aunties who shower her with love and judgment. But when a notoriously nasty food critic (who happens to be her ex-boyfriend) drops dead moments after a confrontation with Lila, her life quickly swerves from a Nora Ephron romp to an Agatha Christie case. With the cops treating her like she's the one and only suspect, and the shady landlord looking to finally kick the Macapagal family out and resell the storefront, Lila's left with no choice but to conduct her own investigation. Armed with the nosy auntie network, her barista best bud, and her trusted Dachshund, Longanisa, Lila takes on this tasty, twisted case and soon finds her own neck on the chopping block..."--Provided by publisher.

Sweetness in the Skin by Ishi Robinson

(Regular print)

Summary: To free herself from her dysfunctional family in Kingston, Jamaica, and join her beloved aunt in Paris, 13-year-old Pumkin Patterson turns her passion for baking into a way to raise money for her French exam, but when word gets out, she stands to lose everything she's worked so hard for.

Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers by Jesse Q. Sutanto

(Regular print, eBook, eAudiobook)

Summary: "Knives Out meets Kim's Convenience in this captivating mystery by Jesse Q. Sutanto, bestselling author of Dial A for Aunties. Vera Wong is a lonely little old lady--ah, lady of a certain age-who lives above her forgotten tea shop in the middle of San Francisco's Chinatown. Despite living

alone, Vera is not needy, oh no. She likes nothing more than sipping on a good cup of Wulong and doing some healthy detective work on the Internet about what her college-aged son is up to. Then one morning, Vera trudges downstairs to find a curious thing--a dead man in the middle of her tea shop. In his outstretched hand, a flash drive. Vera doesn't know what comes over her, but after calling the cops like any good citizen would, she sort of...swipes the flash drive from the body and tucks it safely into the pocket of her apron. Why? Because Vera is sure she would do a better job than the police possibly could, because nobody sniffs out a wrongdoing quite like a suspicious Chinese mother with time on her hands. Vera knows the killer will be back for the flash drive; all she has to do is watch the increasing number of customers at her shop and figure out which one among them is the killer. What Vera does not expect is to form friendships with her customers and start to care for each and every one of them. As a protective mother hen, will she end up having to give one of her newfound chicks to the police?"--Provided by publisher.

Lunar New Year Love Story by Gene Luen Yang—Graphic Novel (Regular print)

Summary: "Graphic novel superstars Gene Luen Yang and LeUyen Pham join forces in this heartwarming rom-com about fate, family, and falling in love"-- Provided by publisher.