

ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF

December 2016
(Books purchased for November 2016)

FEATURED SELECTIONS

THE PEOPLE AND THE BOOKS

The author explores eighteen classics of Jewish literature including *The Book of Esther* and *Tevye the Dairyman*. ***The New York Times* 100 Notable Books of 2016.**

ADAM KIRSCH

407 p., ill.

TODAY WILL BE DIFFERENT

Eleanor Flood sets some modest goals to improve her life. Little does she know that even those will be unobtainable as her life spirals out of control in this comic novel by the author of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*. ***The New York Times* 100 Notable Books of 2016, *The Washington Post* Notable Fiction in 2016.**

MARIA SEMPLE

259 p.

ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

AFTER THE FIRE

This year marks the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire of London, and this book is a look at the churches that were built in the sixty year period following, including masterpieces by Christopher Wren and Nicholas Hawksmoor.

ANGELO HORNAK

384 p., ill.

THE PAST AND FUTURE CITY

"How historic preservation is reviving America's communities."

STEPHANIE MEEKS WITH KEVIN C. MURPHY

334 p., ill.

BIOGRAPHY

AL CAPONE

The biographer attempts to get behind the public image of the legendary mobster and reveal the man behind Public Enemy Number One.

DEIRDRE BAIR

395 p., ill.

EVELYN WAUGH

A new biography of the celebrated author of *Brideshead Revisited*.

PHILIP EADE

403 p., ill.

HOMEWARD BOUND

A biography of singer-songwriter Paul Simon.

PETER AMES CARLIN

415 p., ill.

MY OWN WORDS

Justice Ginsburg gives her opinions on a variety of topics in her first book since joining the Supreme Court. ***The Washington Post* Notable Nonfiction Books in 2016.**

RUTH BADER GINSBURG WITH MARY HARTNETT AND WENDY W. WILLIAMS

371 p., ill.

THE QUARTERMASTER

A biography of Montgomery C. Meigs, Lincoln's quartermaster, who oversaw the massive provisioning system required to supply the Union Army during the Civil War.

ROBERT O'HARROW, JR.

304 p., ill.

HISTORY & POLITICS

CITY OF DREAMS

"The 400-year epic history of immigrant New York." *The New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2016.* 738 p., ill.

TYLER ANBINDER

LES PARISIENNES

"How the women of Paris lived, loved, and died under Nazi occupation."

ANNE SEBBA

457 p., ill.

TRUE BELIEVER

The story of State Department employee Noel Field, who was a committed Communist and spy for Stalin.

KATI MARTON

289 p., ill.

TRAVEL

ATLAS OBSCURA

"An explorer's guide to the world's hidden wonders."

JOSHUA FOER, DYLAN THURAS & ELLA MORTON

470 p., ill.

OMAN, UAE & ARABIAN PENNINSULA (LONELY PLANET)

479 p., ill.

ROME (DK EYEWITNES TRAVEL)

440 p., ill.

MISCELLANEOUS

COLONIAL SPIRITS

"Being: a revolutionary drinking guide to brewing and batching, mixing and serving, imbibing and jibing, fighting and freedom in the ruins of the ancient civilization known as America."

STEVEN GRASSE ; ILLUSTRATED BY MICHAEL ALAN

216 p., ill.

THE PEOPLE AND THE BOOKS

The author explores eighteen classics of Jewish literature including *The Book of Esther* and *Tevye the Dairyman*. *The New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2016.*

ADAM KIRSCH

407 p., ill.

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSE

Leading astrophysicists give us an introduction to astronomy.

NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON, MICHAEL A. STRAUSS, J. RICHARD GOTT

470 p., ill.

AUDIOBOOKS

THE PERFECT HORSE

While Adolph Hitler's ideas about an Aryan "master race" are well-known, fewer people are aware that the Nazis had similar views about horses. The Third Reich actively gathered some of the finest horses in Europe for a breeding program, including beautiful white Lipizzaner stallions from the famed Spanish Riding School in Vienna. Near the end of the war the U.S. military got wind of the program, and executed a rescue program to save the horses from being slaughtered for food.

ELIZABETH LETTS

10 discs, 13 hours

THE WHISTLER

Florida investigator Lacy Stoltz is assigned a case that appears to involve massive judicial corruption.

JOHN GRISHAM

11 discs, 13 hours

DVDS

THE BOYS OF '36

A documentary about the team of American working-class rowers who captured an upset gold in the men's eights at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

1 disc, approx. 60 minutes

FICTION

THE BALLROOM

In 1911, two patients at an English asylum form a tenuous bond during weekly dances in the grand ballroom.

ANNA HOPE

320 p.

DO NOT SAY WE HAVE NOTHING

The powerful story of two generations of a Chinese family, from the Cultural Revolution through Tiananmen Square. Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2016. *The New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2016.*

MADELEINE THIEN

473 p.

THE ENGLISH TEACHER

In this thriller, a bestseller in Israel, a Mossad agent intentionally disappears. The agency, fearing her intentions, sets out to locate her. *The Washington Post Best Mystery Books and Thrillers of 2016.*

YIFTACH REICHER ATIR

260 p.

THE FALL GUY

In this thriller, Charlie may regret inviting his cousin to visit him and his wife for the summer in their upstate New York retreat.

JAMES LASDUN

245 p.

THE GIRL FROM VENICE

In this combination love story/thriller, a fisherman rescues a young Jewish girl in 1945 and proceeds to help her evade the Nazis.

MARTIN CRUZ SMITH

308 p.

HAG-SEED

Atwood brings us a new version of Shakespeare's classic *The Tempest*.

MARGARET ATWOOD

301 p.

MISTER MONKEY

In this humorous novel, actress Margot's career has stalled, leaving her stuck in an unfulfilling role in a long-running children's musical, *Mister Monkey*. **The New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2016.** 285 p.

FRANCINE PROSE**NAPOLEON'S LAST ISLAND**

Napoleon Bonaparte develops a friendship with a young English girl when he is exiled to St. Helena. This novel is inspired by a true story, and written by the Booker Prize-winning author of *Schindler's List*. 423 p.

THOMAS KENEALLY**PUBLIC LIBRARY AND OTHER STORIES**

A short story collection about libraries and books.

ALI SMITH

219 p.

THE RECKONING ON CANE HILL

A thriller involving accident or murder victims and the loved ones left behind, searching for the truth. 344 p.

STEVE MOSBY**THE SECRETS OF ROSCARBURY HALL**

When one of two elderly Irish sisters turns part of their home into a café to stave off financial ruin they are drawn back into the life of the local village. Part of the area's painful past includes an international adoption scandal involving the local convent. 322 p.

ANN O'LOUGHLIN**TODAY WILL BE DIFFERENT**

Eleanor Flood sets some modest goals to improve her life. Little does she know that even those will be unobtainable as her life spirals out of control in this comic novel by the author of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*. **The New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2016, The Washington Post Notable Fiction in 2016.** 259 p.

MARIA SEMPLE**THE WHISTLER**

Florida investigator Lacy Stoltz is assigned a case that appears to involve massive judicial corruption. **The Washington Post Best Mystery Books and Thrillers of 2016.** 374 p.

JOHN GRISHAM**DETECTIVES****COFFIN ROAD**

A mystery centered on Scotland's Outer Hebrides.

PETER MAY

303 p.

THE CORNISH COAST MURDER

This tale of murder in a Cornish village was originally published in the 1930s and is being reissued now as part of the *British Library Crime Classics* series. 252 p.

JOHN BUDE**DEADLY THAW**

A man believed to have been murdered by his wife in 2004 turns up dead in 2016. Who was the earlier corpse? By the author of *In Bitter Chill*. 377 p.

SARAH WARD**LET THE DEVIL OUT**

Maureen Coughlin is a rookie cop in New Orleans ordered to work with the FBI on a case. 304 p.

BILL LOEHFELM**THE LOST BOY**

Swedish detective Patrik Hedstrom investigates the murder of a well-known man, who no one seems to have really known. 493 p.

CAMILLA LÄCKBERG

MURDER AT ROUGH POINT

An artist is murdered at a Newport, Rhode Island "cottage" in 1896.

ALYSSA MAXWELL

295 p.

PRECIOUS AND GRACE

The newest entry in the *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series*.

ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH

227 p.

SANTORINI CAESARS

Greece's political troubles are the backdrop for this mystery.

JEFFREY SIGER

238 p.

SMOKE AND MIRRORS

A British mystery that takes place during Christmastime in Brighton.

ELLY GRIFFITHS

338 p.

THE TRESPASSER

In the murder case of a picture perfect woman in her beautiful home, Detective Antoinette Conway is hesitant to take the easy path of arresting the woman's boyfriend, feeling there is more to the case. *The Washington Post*: **The 10 Best Books of 2016**.

TANA FRENCH

449 p.

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