

June 2022 Staff Picks

Author: Susan Cain Title: Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking

Superbly researched, deeply insightful, and a fascinating read. This is a great resource for parents, teachers, and anyone who wants to understand the gifts of the introverted half of the population. It can change how we see introverts and, equally important, how they see themselves.

Author: Cara Sue Achterberg Title: One Hundred Dogs & Counting

This book grabbed my attention immediately, left me with so many emotions: bittersweet, anger, joy & really just inspired by this call-to-action story. The story offers not just the entertaining stories of plenty of loveable good dogs, but the real problem of unwanted animals in our rural shelters, and how the reader can be part of the solution. It was good to recognize the author and so many other inspirational people full of passion and compassion that truly care for so many dogs left in shelters across the country.

Author: Sami Tamimi & Tara Wigley Title: Falastin

I expected delicious recipes from this Mediterranean region but was also captivated by the lovely excerpts celebrating the culture of Palestine. From refugee-camp cooks to the home kitchens of Gaza and the mill of a master tahini maker, the culinary traditions of a dynamic cuisine and people are shared in more than 130 transporting photographs and 120 recipes. A James Beard Award Nominee cookbook.

Author: Alyssa Cole Title: When No One is Watching

Excellent psychological thriller with great character development. Described as *Rear Window* meets *Get Out*, this book is about the gentrification of a Brooklyn neighborhood that takes on a sinister new meaning. It was an instant 2020 New York Times Bestseller.

Author: Liz Moore Title: Long Bright River

This book immediately grabs you and doesn't let go even after you finish reading. There are big plot twists and character development that is thoughtful and powerful. The author is precise with descriptions of police procedurals and the ramifications of loving a family member with addiction. I can see why this was on all the 2020 Bookclubs and Bestseller lists.

Author: Laurie R. King Title: Castle Shade

For historical mystery fans. A queen, a castle, a dark and ageless threat—all await Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes in this chilling adventure. This is part of a series, so there may be some references that make more sense if you have followed since the start, but overall the story does stand alone. This is great for historical mystery fans. It really explores vampires, folk tales, European politics, and Marie of Roumania.

Author: Elizabeth Berg Title: The Story of Arthur Truluv

A troubled girl and a widower strike up a friendship in this heartfelt novel. This novel makes a solid case for the power of inter-generational friendships and communities. Unwed and pregnant, Maddie spends a lot of her time in cemeteries where widower Arthur Truluv has lunch every day. Truluv has an uncanny of peering into the lives of the departed. Mostly, however, he goes to spend time with his late wife's grave. In her own life, Maddie has a difficult relationship with her father, a deceased mother, and a boyfriend who breaks up with her and takes no responsibility for their child. Just when things seem hopeless, Maddie and Truluv comes up with a remarkable solution.