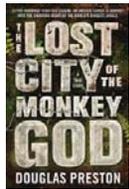


A Colony in a Nation by Chris Hayes

An exploration of policing and democracy in America examines how aggressive policing combined with racial inequality has created conditions resembling a police state, and argues for a more democratic and sympathetic justice system.



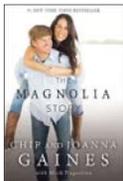
Lost City of the Monkey God: A True Story by Douglas Preston

Recounts how the author and a team of scientists discovered a legendary sacred city, the Lost City of the Monkey God, hidden deep in the Honduran jungle.



This Close to Happy by Daphne Merkin

A former *New Yorker* staff writer draws on her journalistic essays on depression to trace her life-long battle with the disease, marked by her wealthy but inconsistent family and her numerous pursuits in therapy and hospitalization.



The Magnolia Story by Chip and Joanna Gaines

The husband-and-wife stars of the popular "Fixer Upper" television program share the story of their life together, from how they met in Waco, Texas, to their success as entrepreneurs and television personalities.



A \$500 House in Detroit: Rebuilding an Abandoned Home and an American City by Drew Philp

A man describes his experiences buying a house in Detroit in 2009 for \$500 and rebuilding it himself, and shares the struggles, pain, and joy of being part of the rebirth of a city in massive decline.

Adult Summer Reading List

Build a Better World Through Reading

All selected titles concern individual or collective efforts to improve one's quality of life, issues that affect our community, or the challenges and thrills of starting over.



Fiction

Secrets in Summer by Nancy Thayer



Spending her days at the library and her nights stargazing and contemplating a new relationship, Darcy is unexpectedly drawn into the summertime dramas of three families, including those of her recently married ex, a situation that compels Darcy to consider what she truly wants.

Requiem, Mass. by John Dufresne



Struggling with his mother's latest delusions, his father's absence, and his sister's social withdrawal, young Johnny becomes increasingly obsessed with saving his family. Written by a Worcester, MA native, set in the Grafton Hill neighborhood.

Exit West by Mohsin Hamid



Presents the story of two young lovers whose furtive affair is shaped by local unrest on the eve of a civil war that erupts in a cataclysmic bombing attack, forcing them to abandon their previous home and the lives they once knew.

Ghana Must Go by Taiye Selasi



The sudden and unexpected death of a renowned surgeon in Ghana has rippling repercussions on his family, both from his first marriage and his second, as truths are uncovered and betrayals are exposed, ultimately bringing everyone closer together.

Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English by Natasha Solomons



After Jack and Sadie Rosenblum and their baby daughter escape Berlin at the beginning of World War II, they settle in England, where Jack discovers that he is barred from joining a golf club, after which he hatches a plan to start his own.

Adult Summer Reading Program

June 23 - August 19, 2017

Registration Begins June 1, 2017

BUILD A BETTER WORLD



Read and have fun making a difference this summer!

- Read for your own pleasure OR aloud to a child or friend in need
- Get involved by joining a WPL Community Conversation
- Learn something new by attending a class or program (i.e., arts, gardening, wellness)

Track your own reading, classes, and/or event participation at mywpl.org and win prizes!

Bronze Level Prize: 3 books, classes, or events

Silver Level Prize: 6 books, classes, or events

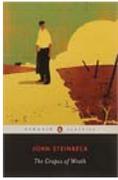
Gold Level Prize: 9 books, classes, or events

All prizes may be collected at the Main Library or any Branch. For more information visit mywpl.org or call 508-799-1655 ext. 3.



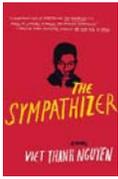
3 Salem Square • Worcester, MA • 508-799-1655 x3 • mywpl.org

5-10-17



The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Depicts the hardships and suffering endured by the Joads as they journey from Oklahoma to California during the 1930s Depression.



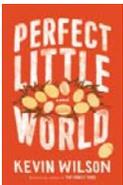
The Sympathizer by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Follows a Viet Cong agent as he spies on a South Vietnamese army general and his compatriots, as they start a new life in 1975 Los Angeles.



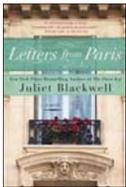
Challenger Deep by Neal Schusterman

A brilliant but troubled high school student pretends to engage in sports activities and uses his artistic talents to document his voyage to the world's most southern point while his friends observe his increasingly unbalanced behavior.



Perfect Little World by Kevin Wilson

Joining a psychologist's utopian experiment involving children collectively raised apart from their biological families, a pregnant teen struggles with the group's growing hostilities and funding challenges while fighting her feelings for the doctor.

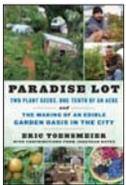


Letters from Paris by Juliet Blackwell

Returning to the Louisiana hometown she fled as a young woman, Claire unearths an antique sculpture in an ancestor's attic that inspires her to learn about the centuries-old art of Parisian maskmaking and the story of a woman immortalized in a beautiful work of art.

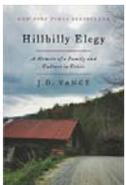
Non-Fiction

Paradise Lot: Two Plant Geeks, One-Tenth of an Acre, and the Making of an Edible Garden Oasis in the City by Eric Toensmeier; with contributions from Jonathan Bates



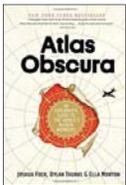
Packed full of useful info about designing a productive permaculture garden, this title is also a charming story of two single guys, both plant nerds, with a wild plan: to realize the garden of their dreams and meet women with whom to share it.

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

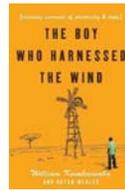


Shares the poignant story of the author's family and upbringing, describing how they moved from poverty to an upwardly mobile clan that included the author, a Yale Law School graduate, while navigating the demands of middle-class life.

Atlas Obscura by Joshua Foer



Offers a tour of the world's most unique and amazing places, highlighting natural wonders, weird and magical structures, and mind-boggling events from around the globe, from New Zealand to Turkmenistan to Virginia.



The Boy who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

This immensely engaging tale relates how an enterprising teenager in Malawi builds a windmill from scraps he finds around his village and brings electricity, and a future, to his family.



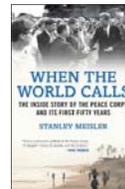
Clean: Overcoming Addiction and Ending America's Greatest Tragedy by David Sheff

Combines personal stories and experiences with cutting edge research to describe a new way of treating substance addiction as well as accompanying mental illnesses.



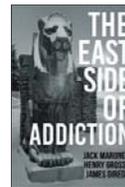
When I Was Puerto Rican: A Memoir by Esmeralda Santiago

Magic, sexual tension, high comedy, and intense drama move through an enchanted yet harsh autobiography, in the story of a young girl who leaves Puerto Rico for New York's tenements and a chance for success.



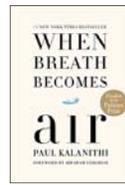
When the World Calls: The Inside Story of the Peace Corps and its First Fifty Years by Stanley Meisler

The first complete look at the Peace Corps's first 50 years, Stanley Meisler's engaging narrative exposes Washington infighting, and the Volunteers' unique struggles abroad. Meisler starts with the historic first contingent of Volunteers to Ghana in 1961.



The East Side of Addiction by James DiReda, Henry Grosse, and Jack Maroney

A gritty depiction of a Worcester, MA neighborhood's descent into addiction and the collateral damage suffered by their families and the community at large. Written to give hope to a generation devastated by the current opioid epidemic.



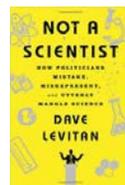
When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi

A young neurosurgeon faced with a terminal diagnosis describes his examination into what truly makes a meaningful life.



Savor: Mindful Eating, Mindful Life by Thich Nhat Hanh and Dr. Lilian Cheung

A Buddhist leader and a Harvard nutritionist offer cutting-edge science and deep Buddhist wisdom on the subject of eating with one's health and the welfare of the planet in mind.



Not a Scientist: How Politicians Mistake, Misrepresent, and Utterly Mangle Science by Dave Levitan

Examines the methods used by elected officials to distort and subvert scientific progress to promote non-scientific agendas and rationalize misconduct.