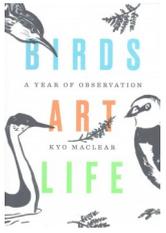


Birds, Art, Life: a Year of Observation



[view in catalog](#)

If you love the natural world, this little book about birding will entice you. It's also about much more: how to be in the world, parenting, partnering, creativity, and friendship. She also explores the first books people fell in love with, celebrity eyebrows, art, and especially how to make peace with the roaring, anxious self inside you.

Maclear, a Canadian author of children's books, decides after a heavy stint caring for her aged father after suffering two strokes that she needed to take up a hobby for herself. She is also a mom raising two young boys, the younger of which, has the weird propensity for falling, resulting in emergency room visits.

First, she plans to take up drawing again. But the renowned teacher she interviews about lessons seemed too structured for her. As you can see in the beautiful line drawings, she also spent a year with pen and ink.

One night her husband suggests that she look at some bird photographs taken by the musician who scored his latest film. These bird pictures wowed Kyo. So much so, that within a few days, she'd contacted the musician and asked if he would be her guide to the world of birding for an entire year. What she liked about her guru, who she simply calls 'The Musician' throughout the book was that he was 'fervent about birds without being reverential.' [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on February 8, 2017

[Birds, Art, Life: A Year of Observation](#)

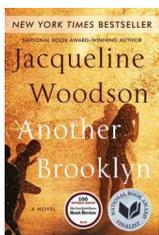
[Nonfiction](#)

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Another Brooklyn



[view in catalog](#)

The helplessness and friendships of childhood are topics that many writers have tackled. Fewer have written about African-American girlhood, as Woodson does here. The book centers on August, the intelligent young girl who leaves the lush south for the vibrant and dangerous streets of Bushwick, Brooklyn.

'For a long time my mother wasn't dead yet.' This sentence opens the novel, which doesn't proceed chronologically, but follows an inner lyric pulse. Throughout, the whereabouts of August's missing mother haunt the story.

August's family lived in Tennessee on a farm called SweetGrove land. It was inherited from her grandparents. After their uncle, Clyde, a Vietnam soldier dies, her mother begins to unravel. Soon, her

father rushes north with August and her little brother to Brooklyn, his home town.

It's summer--so for safety, August's father locks her and her little brother, who is only five, inside their third-story apartment. They spend long summer days watching children play on the street: double-Dutch, stick ball games and splashing under open fire hydrants. A colorful parade of adults wearing dashikis and other colorful outfits weave past. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on January 31, 2017

[Another Brooklyn](#)

[African American](#)

[Female Friendships](#)

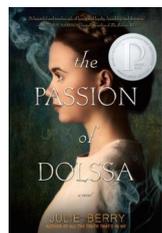
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The Passion of Dolssa by Julie Berry



[view in catalog](#)

This morning (1.23.17) the American Library Association announced the winners of the Youth Media Awards for 2017! Check out the full list [here](#). One of the honor books chosen for the Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults was The Passion of Dolssa by Julie Berry.

The Passion of Dolssa is historical fiction set in 13th century Provence, following the Albigensian Crusade. There is an uneasy peace and the church has now turned it's eye to rooting out the last remaining vestiges of heresy in the region. Dolssa de Stigata is a young woman with deep religious convictions and a very close, personal relationship with Jesus. For this she is considered a heretic and sentenced to death by burning. [Read more](#)

Posted by Becky F. on January 23, 2017

[The Passion of Dolssa: A Novel](#)

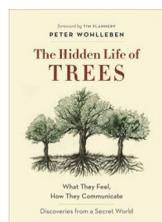
[Teens](#)

[Teens](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Becky F.'s blog](#)

The Hidden Life of Trees: what they feel, how they communicate: discoveries from a secret world



[view in catalog](#)

I have always felt a strong connection to trees; I love them in all seasons and am fascinated by their intricacies, their shapes, varieties of bark, leaves and shapes, the patterns they make interplaying with

light.

This biography of a forest, so to speak, fills you in on a forester's own passion for trees. He uses the language of a nature lover and also that of a scientist to describe the myriad connections trees have to each other in a healthy forest.

A connection that made him refuse to bring huge modern machinery into a forest and only use horses and saws when a tree needed cutting, an amazing evolution for a trained forester. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on January 10, 2017

[The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate: Discoveries from a Secret World](#)

[Nonfiction](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[Dory L.'s blog](#)

Don't Miss These "Best of 2016" Book Lists

The wave of best-of-2016 lists on the internet has subsided, leaving recommendations for book lovers of all reading interests to wade through and enjoy. You've probably seen a number of this year's must-read lists in the usual places ([Recommended Reads for 2016 by Library Staff](#), anyone?); **here's a list of lists from sources you may not have considered.** [Read more](#)

Posted by Ryan S. on January 9, 2017

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Ryan S.'s blog](#)

Britt-Marie Was Here

[view in catalog](#)

Confession: I'm not much of an audio book junkie. In fact, I seldom listen to one unless it is the only copy of a book available, but Joan Walker's funny and poignant rendition of this Scandinavian novel entranced me.

I couldn't wait to get back to the poor, out of the way Swedish town of Borg--football crazy and poor--where most of the inhabitants were racing to sell their homes and leave after the 2008 financial crises. How did a middle-aged wife who had not worked outside the home or travelled anywhere end up in Borg?

Well, first her husband of four decades began an affair with a much younger woman. So Britt-Marie decided to leave him. When she went to the employment agency, there were no jobs, so she returned the next day and cooked for the young lady who worked there a lovely salmon dinner. Britt was nothing if not persistent. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on December 19, 2016

[Britt-Marie Was Here](#)

[Fiction](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[Dory L.'s blog](#)