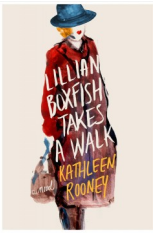
For the Love of Reading

Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk



view in catalog

Solvitur Ambulande, solved by walking, could be the motto of this novel. And if you, like me, process the world while strolling through town or the woods, you?ll love this book.

Two alternating stories thread through it. In one, it?s the 1980s, and New York City still has a crime problem, so people fear walking at night. Most, that is, except for Lillian Boxfish, an octogenarian advertising maven (retired) and a poet. It?s New Year?s 1985, and a ten-mile, round trip walk from upper Manhattan to the Bowery and the Village is no big deal for her.

The second story first-time novelist Kathleen Rooney weaves tells Lillian?s history in the Big Apple. After moving to New York from D.C. in the roaring twenties, Lillian immediately felt at home. She began living in Manhattan in a sheltered rooming house with strict curfews and rules against male visitors. Lillian and her childhood girlfriend got around these rules by organizing Shakespearean theater pieces to which they invited eligible bachelors. Later, they?d head out on the town with them, and coming back hours after curvew, they?d tip the front desk person, and steal back to their rooms. Read more

Posted by Dory L. on March 1, 2017

Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk

Fiction

For the Love of Reading

Information, Answers & Reviews

Dory L.'s blog

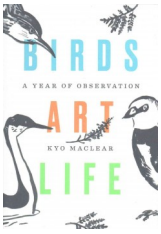
Caraval by Stephanie Garber

view in catalog

Scarlett has been writing to Legend every year for the past 7 years, but this year, she finally got the letter right. Legend is the master of Caraval, a magical, mysterious game where the winner's get fame, glory, and, this time, a wish. Scarlett and her sister Tella have been invited to Caraval, but Scarlett is about to marry a Count and finally take her sister away from their tiny island and

their abusive father. If she leaves to play the game, she could ruin everything. Read more
Posted by Becky F. on February 14, 2017
Caraval
Teens
Teens
For the Love of Reading
Becky F.'s blog

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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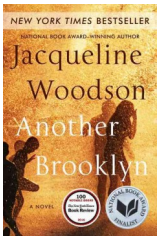
Information, Answers & Reviews
Dory L.'s blog

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
Fiction
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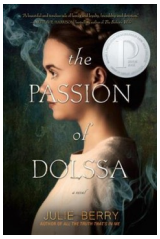
The Passion of Dolssa by Julie Berry



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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

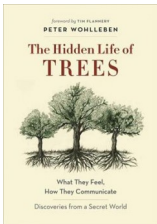
Teens

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

Nonfiction

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Information, Answers & Reviews

Dory L.'s blog