

Astrid & Veronika

[Astrid and Veronika](#) ^{own} This lovely book describes a friendship between a septuagenarian and a woman of 30. Veronika, the younger woman, has spent a lifetime moving, first accompanying her father to his foreign service assignments, then on her own to Stockholm and London before impetuously following a boyfriend to Auckland, New Zealand.

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Posted by Dory L. on February 13, 2011

[Astrid & Veronika](#)

[Female Friendships](#)

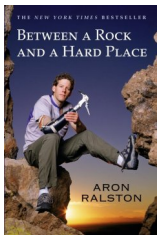
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From Book to Movie to Award Nomination



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Where does Hollywood get many of their ideas? Comic books? Yes. TV shows from the 1970s? **Sigh** - yes. But also from books! Real books! This year's Academy Award nominations were announced this week, including 5 films for Best Adapted Screen Play - 4 of which are based on books. The fifth film, Toy Story 3 is based on a original treatment of the first movie (or something).

If you liked these movies - you might try the original too! I know I am adding several of these to my to-read list.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place by Aron Ralston

This memoir is the basis for Danny Boyle's film 127 Hours and tells the amazing true story of a hiker who had to make a terrible decision after being trapped and injured alone in the desert for over five days. As a sometimes solo hiker, I am intrigued by this story. Both movie and book are on my list. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on January 27, 2011

[Between a Rock and a Hard Place](#)

[The Accidental Billionaires the Founding of Facebook: A Tale of Sex, Money, Genius and Betrayal](#)

[Winter's Bone: A Novel](#)

[True Grit](#)

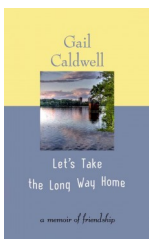
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Let's Take the Long Way Home



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What an incredibly moving testament to women's friendship. Two Boston area writers who met at a reading but only came to know each other when they were raising puppies at the same time and their dog trainer suggested that they would hit it off.

Caroline was a rower and essayist; Gail, a swimmer and book critic. Both were determined, competitive, tough, and shy. One of Gail's friends nicknamed her "the gregarious hermit." Caroline's dog was a shepherd mix. Gail finally adopted the pristine white samoyed she had always longed for. Caroline stayed in the Cambridge area where she had grown up, while Gail had left her beloved high-country Texas although she still pined for it. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on January 25, 2011

[Let's Take the Long Way Home: A Memoir of Friendship](#)

[Female Friendships](#)

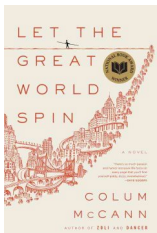
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Let the Great World Spin



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Frank McCourt had this to say about this National Book Award winner, "trust me, this is the sort of book that you will take off your shelf over and over again as the years go along. It's a story of the early 1970s, but it's also the story of our present times. And it is, in many ways, a story of a moment of lasting redemption even in the face of all the evidence....I didn't want to stop turning the pages. I'm really not sure what McCann will do after this, but this is a great New York book, not just for New Yorkers but for anyone who walks any sort of tightrope at all. And yes, it doesn't surprise me that it takes an Irishman to capture the heart of the city." This novel captures the spirit of America in a time of transition, promise, and soon-to-be-ended innocence. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on January 18, 2011

[Let the Great World Spin: A Novel](#)

[Library Program](#)

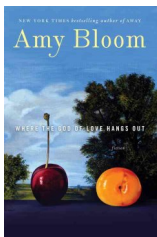
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Where the God of Love Hangs Out



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Amy Bloom, who used to be a practicing psychotherapist, has won many awards for her short stories. Her latest collection Where the God of Love Hangs Out examines love in many aspects. Bloom shows how it's possible to fall for an older man with a beer belly who suffers from gout and a life-threatening heart condition. The book features two sets of interrelated stories, the first about two couples--close, long-term friends--whose lives are broken apart and rearranged in new and unconventional ways. The second set of stories explores the lives of a jazz musician's widow and her young adult son, Lionel. These four stories reveal how grief makes some people emotionally vulnerable and susceptible to poor life choices.

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Posted by Dory L. on January 12, 2011

[Where the God of Love Hangs Out: Fiction](#)

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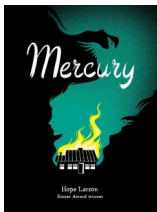
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Graphic Novels for The Afraid



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I will come right out and say that I do not like superheroes (movie or print) and I didn't read comic books as a kid, so I am not naturally drawn to the graphic novel format. Because I'm kind of a nerd, what I do like is big fat novels and dusty historical non-fiction. So color me surprised when recently I've been enjoying more graphic novels. Last night as I finished Mercury by Hope Larson I began to wonder and hope that the reason went beyond the fact that I can read on in a single sitting -- though that is very satisfying too! My rationale is that I've been craving something different. I have read enough fiction to be somewhat bored with a traditional storyline. I want to think while I read -- to be engaged! And picking up some graphic novels has been the way to do that recently. I've tried to compile a list of graphic novels for the hesitant -- for anyone who thought that they weren't interested. Give one a try, you might be pleasantly surprised. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on January 4, 2011

[Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History](#)

[Mercury](#)

[Persepolis](#)

[Stitches: A Memoir--](#)

[The Arrival](#)

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