

In The News

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration



Do you have Martin Luther King Jr. Day off of school? Spend this January 15th at the Main Library for a day ON as we celebrate the birthday of the American Civil Rights icon. [Read more](#)
Posted by Lizzie F. on January 2, 2018

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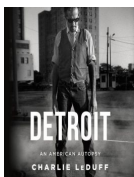
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Detroit: An American Autopsy



Leading the news today is the announcement that Detroit filed for bankruptcy. They aren't the first municipality to file, but they are the largest. What this means for residents, city workers, retirees and the state of Michigan remains to be seen. 20 billion dollars is hard to wrap my mind around, and is a figure without names and faces.

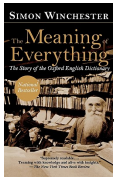
Hoping to personalize this story is native son Charlie LeDuff. His recent nonfiction work is called *Detroit: An American Autopsy*. LeDuff is a journalist who left Detroit at an early age and traveled the world covering international conflicts and won a Pulitzer for his contributions at the New York Times. He returns to Detroit to work for The Detroit News.

This book covers a variety of stories, including the fall of ex-Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, city council corruption, the crumbling auto industry implications, and the struggles of a local fire station. You also meet LeDuff's family and follow them while they are coping (or not) with living in and near Detroit. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on July 19, 2013

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The Oxford English Dictionary

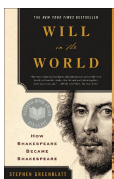


The Oxford English Dictionary is the premier dictionary of the English language. It is famous for its easy-to-understand definitions and word etymology, which strives to record the earliest known usage. The seemingly simple verbs *set*, *make* and *put* vie with each other for the longest entries - over 60,000 words each to describe all of the uses and senses! The current editor of the OED, as it is commonly known, is set to retire later this year. John Simpson was briefly interviewed on [Morning Edition on NPR](#) yesterday. What makes his position newsworthy is that he is only the seventh editor of the dictionary since the project's beginning in 1879 and has been working in this high profile position of the world's most famous dictionary for more than 35 years. In addition to some specialized copies of the Oxford dictionaries for [foreign languages](#) and [picture dictionaries](#), MCPL owns a [compact version](#) of the Oxford English Dictionary. The print is so tiny, you need a zoom text reading machine (which MCPL also owns!) to really read any parts of this mammoth book. [Read more](#)

Posted by showman on April 27, 2013

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Shakespeare's Birthday and the Lizzie Bennet Diaries



Today is Shakespeare's birthday and to celebrate a Goodreads contributor created a great [infographic](#) to help you select your next read. A comedy? A tragedy? MCPL has [works](#) by Shakespeare, [books to help you get through the plays](#) and of course [biographies](#). One of the best biographies is Stephen Greenblatt's [Will in the World](#). Shakespeare expert and Harvard historian, Greenblatt does an excellent job of integrating a basic biography with the sights, sounds and feel of Elizabethan England. This book is dense with detail, but also entirely

readable is a great choice for both self professed Shakespeare know-it-alls and newcomers alike. Seeing as it is a classics sort of day, I thought I would also link to the [Lizzie Bennet Diaries](#). This fictional video blog chronicles the modern day Lizzie Bennet, her sisters Lydia and Jane, and her best friend Charlotte Wu as they navigate between the pressure of their parents and potential boyfriends including the new-to-the-neighborhood Bing Lee. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on April 23, 2013

[Classics](#)

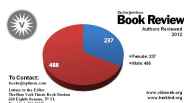
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The Count 2012



Every year [VIDA Women in Literary Arts](#) conducts a survey to count female author representation in major literary periodicals. This survey isn't about quality or good reviews, but just about the representation, number of reviews or general press coverage that women authors are getting. The results can be viewed through a wide variety of lenses, but the graphs are admittedly a little shocking.

It would be interesting to know how the publishing numbers break down, but a quick peek at the [New York Times Best Sellers](#) hardcover list of the top 16 titles shows an exact 50/50 female to male representation. Which to me (unsing completely unscientific methods) shows that books written by women are just as popular or being read in the same numbers as books written by men. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on March 5, 2013

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