

Calista

Fablehaven by Brandon Mull

Kendra and Seth are shipped off to Fablehaven, a wildlife sanctuary owned by their grandparents, while their parents go on vacation. The first rule when they arrive is not to go into the woods under any circumstances. However, breaking the rules is just too tempting for Seth and he soon discovers that their grandpa is hiding many secrets. All of which are magical, and some that could be very dangerous. Together the kids discover many amazing creatures, but what turns out fun and exciting at first, ends up being quite the opposite.

**Platforms:** book, Libby (ebook), hoopla (ebook)

Eileen

Remember: the science of memory and the art of forgetting by Lisa Genova

In Remember, neuroscientist and acclaimed novelist Lisa Genova delves into how memories are made and how we retrieve them. It's fascinating, isn't it, what we can remember and how frequently we forget? There's a lot that goes into a memory: meaning, emotion, context, practice. I haven't read this book in two years, but I remember how intriguing it is. Lisa Genova is also the author of several novels about people with neurological disorders— these are also worth a look!

**Platforms:** book

Kelly

Watercolour Lessons by Emma Lefebvre

In celebration of our BPL Watercolor Workshop 1st anniversary (we meet Mondays at 2 p.m. folks!) this month I chose to recommend one of the best basic how-to watercolor books BPL has available for checkout. I first got to know the author via YouTube and Instagram. She decided to film her first art tutorial on watercolor only back in 2017 and was very surprised at the response. This basic beginner book is just as captivating and a wonderful tool. She not only has clear and concise instructional text and wonderful watercolor artwork but also has many QR codes to scan throughout the book that provide quick instructional videos!

From what to use for tools from brushes to paint and paper to simple projects that help you build your skills this book is a great connection to someone who continues to generously share online videos regularly. So if you're looking to "finally try watercolor" (many of us literally took years to give it a try) at home borrowing this book is a good way to start. If you think you'd enjoy joining us for a very lowkey group painting experience come join us at the library Mondays at 2 p.m. We supply everything, but if you have your own favorite paintbrush or paper you are welcome to bring them along.

**Platforms:** book

Linda

The Museum of Failures: A Novel

Thrity Umrigar

If you are familiar with the storytelling of Thrity Umrigar, you know you are in for a delightful romp. Once readers open the book, it is as if someone else is doing the reading: nothing to labor through! Umrigar excels in transporting readers to another place and time. Readers will come to know Remy Wadia, his wife Kathy, and Shirin, Remy's mother. The family secret is true-to-life as is Remy's reaction and the actions he takes.

Umrigar's stories do not conclude with all in order but the resolution is enough. The story lingers after the last page is turned. This reader wonders if the author may expand upon this novel.

Words are sculpture to Umrigar. Her stories and characters come to life. From your cozy reading place, the sights, sounds, and mystique of India will surround you. When you close the cover, you look forward to reading her next novel.

**Platforms:** book, Libby (ebook)

Rebecca

The Lying Game by Ruth Ware

In this world, young adults are all too often wanting to become something they are not. Ruth Ware showed how that cycle can pave the way for horrible decisions - and how they can shape the adult lives we have.

The four girls in this story all grow uniquely from their summer and time in Salten, the small English Coastal town that sets our novel. Although they all love each other and will do anything for one another, the trust they have within their small circle is put to the ultimate test. I definitely recommend this book to anyone looking for a nice mystery/thriller book to read.

4.5/5 stars. Great thriller to start the new year! Read with the blankets pulled all the way up.

**Platforms:** book, Libby (Audiobook)