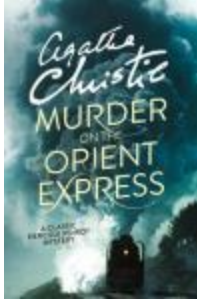


March Staff Picks

Eileen



***Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie & one of the movie adaptations.**

"Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the Orient Express in its tracks" and the "perfect murder" reveals its secrets to the little gray cells of Hercule Poirot. Read the book - then watch David Suchot as Poirot and not Kenneth Branagh. I re-read Agatha Christie regularly.

Linda



***The Big Dark* by Rodman Philbrick**

"What would happen if electricity suddenly failed? If every cell phone, computer, car engine, battery, and electrical circuit stopped functioning?" Enjoy the twists and turns of this New Hampshire place-based tale. An award-winning novelist and Newbury Honor author, Philbrick is a writer that knows what readers want. People and their quirks and foibles take center stage. Characters become individuals and readers develop a keen sense of each character's personality. His characters make choices that define them and establish their place on the moral spectrum. As with True Life, all may not be 100 percent perfect but life goes on and goodness in its various guises endures. There is a sprinkling of Yankee Wit and Grit throughout. Perhaps that cannot be helped as the author is a native New Englander. The target audience may be younger readers but the content and writing will appeal to readers of all ages. This book is shelved on the lower level.

Sarah



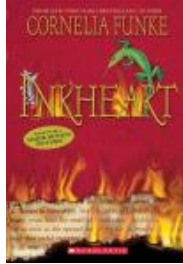
***The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and one of the movie adaptations**

Set in a fictionalized and decadent 1920s New York City, Nick Carraway takes up residence in a house next to the mysterious millionaire, Jay Gatsby. Gatsby's parties are unparalleled but no one knows his origins. Is he new money? Old money? What's his motive? Rumors abound as Gatsby pulls Nick into his circle only to reveal his painful secret. This story has layers and heart. I would also recommend watching one of the movie adaptations, there are four. BPL owns the most recent in which Leonardo DiCaprio played a convincing Jay Gatsby. This version of the movie is heavily stylistic and drives home the glamour and debauch of the New York City during the Roaring Twenties.

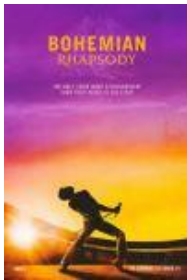
March Staff Picks

Calista

***Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke**



Amelia



Bohemian Rhapsody

Queen is personally one of my all-time favorite bands and if it's one of your favorites as well, you need to watch this movie. *Bohemian Rhapsody* takes it back to the beginning. How the band Queen became Queen. From the romance, to the drama, to the singing, and to the friendship that these men formed, this movie is a perfect match for when you need something to cry, laugh, and remember. The recreation of the original band is so well done and the instrumentals and music part of the movie are fabulous. Seeing this movie not only connects you to the past, but it also helps you understand what these men went through and how they started and continued their fame. Grab your popcorn, a blanket, another Queen lover, and happy watching!

Kelly



***The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schlitz**

Written in diary style by 14-year-old Pennsylvania farm girl Joan Skraggs who is exhausted mentally and physically by the workload she endures daily. After her mother dies she is the “woman of the house” and her father and three brothers not only expect too much of her but do not give her the emotional love and support she enjoyed from her mother. She finally has enough of it all and makes plans to run away to the big city of Baltimore. She successfully runs away without her family knowing and within 24 hours finds herself in the big city, alone and scared in a city park late the next night without a place to stay and no idea what to do. Fortunately for her a kind young man talks her into coming to his parents’ home which gives her a place to stay temporarily and the promise of work as a maid. Being a Catholic young woman in a strict Jewish household creates a few problems along with just trying to fit in and keep a roof over her head, all while pretending to be 18 years old. The author was inspired by her grandmother’s journal giving her wonderful first person knowledge of the early

twentieth century. I enjoy historical fiction and this one really fit the bill. I also enjoy reading novels written in diary style.