

Calista

The Wicked Ones by Robin Benway

The Wicked Ones is a retelling of the classic Disney tale Cinderella, but this time from Drizella and Anastasia's point of view. Growing up as daughters of a miserable, manipulative, selfish mother was far from easy. Lady Tremaine's only goal in life is to find them rich husbands to support them all. Drizella and Anastasia are insulted and berated daily by their mother, dashing their self esteem and hopeful dreams of the future, while Ella (Cinderella) is disregarded as a pesky dolt of a servant. Even the most downtrodden try to find a shining light somewhere : Drizella with her love of science, Anastasia with her secret flame, and Ella with the hope of finding Prince Charming. Who will come out on top? The girls or the most wicked of all mothers?

Platforms: hoopla (ebook)

Eileen

The Cuckoo's Calling by Robert Galbraith

What do you do after creating the world's most famous boy wizard? You start a series about a down-on-his-luck amputee trying to make it as a private detective. Cormoran Strike and his temporary assistant Robin Ellacott have nothing going for them when they're handed a case about a famous model who committed suicide – or did she?

Publishing under a pseudonym, JK Rowling displays her astonishing attention to detail, penchant for outlandish names, and deep plotting skills. The first three books in the series were made into an excellent TV series – which the library also owns. Book 7 just came out!

Platforms: print, Libby (ebook and audio), hoopla (ebook and audio)

Kelly

The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson

Ever wondered about the details of the Blitz that killed 45,000 Britons in the early days of WWII? Learn about Winston Churchill, his family at the time (he still had a teenaged daughter at home), and his personal idiosyncrasies – right down to the need to have two baths a day. I have read several books on WWII but this one really digs deep into Churchill, including just about everyone in his inner circle (family and professional). I found it fascinating. Larson also provides great background on Germany and the major personalities within that country.

From the German pilots to the Londoners and people in the countryside, relive the thought processes and the personal experiences of not only the powerful people, but the everyday folks experiencing the Blitz. Larson's ability to toggle from one scene to the next and paint the whole picture is amazing. This was a book that I expect to re-explore in years to come as a great reference.

Platforms: print, Libby (ebook and audio),

Linda

12 Mighty Orphans: The Inspiring True Story of the Mighty Mites Who Ruled Texas Football (DVD)

This is a story of Rags to Riches which garnered the attention of the nation including President Roosevelt. The setting...the Masonic School for Orphans in Fort Worth, TX and the time period, the Great Depression, converged and the rag-tag orphans represented the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of the nation.

The coach and teacher, Rusty Russell, felt a calling to help these boys and chose to teach at the Fort Worth Masonic Home and School. He declined an offer to coach at a prestigious high school. Guaranteed recognition and a larger paycheck did not divert him from his aspirations. Coach Russell literally built the team from the ground up! The lack of shoes and a football did not stand in the way of his goal: To have each boy see himself as a person of value and possibilities. The Mighty Mites went from obscurity to playing for the Texas State Championship. Coach Russell enabled the players to recognize their individual and collective talents and to see themselves as winners. Russell's strategies continue to shape coaching.

The movie is based on the non-fiction book by Jim Dent

Platforms: DVD

Rebecca

The Secret World of Arrietty
(Director) Hiromasa Yonebayashi

The Clock family are four-inch-tall people who live anonymously in another family's residence, borrowing simple items to make their home. Life changes for the Clocks when their teenage daughter Arrietty is discovered. 5/5 stars. Rich in Autumn colors! This is a fantastic movie to watch with the whole family and be thankful for your time together.

Platforms: DVD

Rebekah