

May



at KFL



May 2024 | Volume 31, Issue 5

LIBRARY NEWS AND EVENTS

May Day Book Sale!



The Friends of the Kennebunk Free Library will have a book sale on Saturday, May 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Town of Kennebunk's May Day Festival.

The sale will be held in Hank's Room and outside (weather permitting), and feature adult hardcovers for \$2 and paperbacks for \$1. Children and young adult books are all 4 for \$1. Puzzles are \$1.

Friends support the library by raising funds that help sponsor library programs and materials including passes to local museums and parks, summer reading programs, Kanopy streaming service, OverDrive e-content, and large print books.

Library Closed on Thursday, May 23

Please note that the library will be closed all day on Thursday, May 23, 2024 to accommodate staff training. We will resume regular hours on Friday, May 24 at 9:30. The book drop will be available



Registration is now open!

Registration for our 27th Edition 5K is now open! This year's race is Friday, July 12 at 6:00 p.m. Register early to ensure that you are among the 200 lucky participants to claim one of our fabulous goodie bags, including a 5K t-shirt!

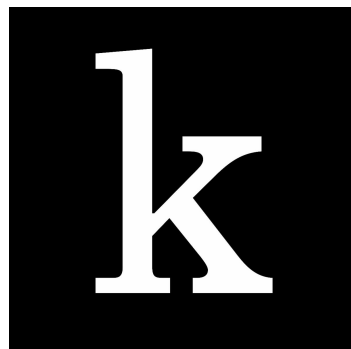
Our scenic, USATF-certified course begins and ends in the library parking lot, winding through peaceful local neighborhoods and the beautiful and perfectly-maintained Hope Cemetery and Woods trails.

Following the race, join us for a party on the library lawn, with live music, food, and a beer tent!

Prizes will go to the top male and female finisher in each of nine age categories.

Please [email us](#) or call us at (207) 985-2173 if you have any questions .

REGISTER NOW!



Library Tidbits: Video Streaming

We added [Kanopy](#), a video streaming service, to our offerings in the early days of the pandemic when people were stuck at home. Each patron has access to 14 credits per month. Movies are worth differing amounts of credits. On average, each movie you watch will "cost" 2 of your credits.

How does Kanopy work on our end? With e-books, we pay a fixed amount for a book and then have a certain number of uses. With Kanopy, the more you use it, the more it costs us. That level of uncertainty about the budget got some larger libraries in trouble when streaming services were first introduced and proved more popular than expected. So we put a cap on the amount Kanopy can charge us each month.

We pay the platform a set amount per month. Each credit that you use costs us \$1.00, so about \$2.00 for every movie watched. That gets deducted from our monthly fee until the money runs out. When we hit our cap, that's when you start seeing notices that the service is unavailable.

With very few exceptions, the cap we've committed to has been enough for everyone to access what they want. When it falls short, Kanopy reaches out to ask if we want to send more money. If it is the last day or two of the month, we typically decline - it resets on the first of the month anyway. If there are several days left, we might send a supplemental amount.

One annoying quirk of the system is that the platform considers a movie "watched" after 3 seconds

of viewing. Because of this, we recommend that you check reviews and make sure that it's something you want to watch before committing your credits.



Monthly Phone Wallpaper

Looking to change up your phone background? Like our Newsletter Banner? [Download](#) our monthly phone wallpaper and match with us! New backgrounds every month! [E-mail Amelia](#) for assistance.



A Message from the Friends

The Friends look forward to seeing you at the May Day book sale on May 4 from 9:00 - 1:00! We appreciate you bringing your own reusable grocery bags to fill, but we will have bags available too.

We have a great selection of sorted kids and young adult books, puzzles, CDs and DVDs as well as books, books, books! And weather permitting, look for Friends of KFL in the parade too! Thank you volunteers, you make it all possible.

ADULT PROGRAMS



Don Crisman Super Bowl Stories - May 1

On Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., KFL is delighted to host Don Crisman as he discusses his experience as one of only three people to have attended every single Super Bowl! Crisman will share an assortment of stories and photos from his adventures.

Crisman's first Super Bowl – *the* first Super Bowl – was in Los Angeles in 1967. This year, he headed to Las Vegas for Super Bowl LVIII. Crisman met Tom Henschel at the Super Bowl in 1983 and met Gregory Eaton more than a decade ago. Together, the friends form an extremely exclusive club: the only people to have

Reader's Choice Book Club

Monday,
May 6th
2:00 - 3:00

This month's theme...
'A Book about a Book'



Reader's Choice Book Club - May 6

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on Monday, May 6 at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Room at the library, and our theme will be: *A Book About a Book*.

How does this book club work? You choose your own book to read, based on the monthly theme, and then join us for a casual and fun conversation. Everyone is welcome!



Spanish Language Discussion Group - May 6, 13, 20

TIME CHANGE!!

Stop by the Kennebunk Free Library from **5:30 to 6:30** on Monday evenings for an opportunity to practice conversational Spanish with educator and native Spanish-speaker Eva Hernandez.

In Stitches
Fiber Arts Group

Meets every Tuesday
at 11:00AM

Come and craft with us!

In Stitches - May 7, 14, 21, 28

Do you love to knit? Crochet? Sew? Have you always wanted to learn? Do you have an unfinished project hidden on the closet shelf? Then join us every Tuesday at 11:00 for "In Stitches", our weekly handicrafts group! Grab that half-finished project and enjoy the company of others while you work; all skill levels are welcome. Feel free to stop by for a few minutes or stay the whole hour.

Cybersecurity Education - May 7



Fraud, cybersecurity, and identity theft crimes are on the rise. Join us Tuesday, May 7, 2024 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. as Mark S. Foster, Vice President, from M&T Bank discusses how you can protect yourself from these threats. Following the presentation, we will have a Question and Answer discussion.

Foster has over 20 years' experience in the banking industry delivering fraud and cybersecurity education for both business and consumer clients. He currently is working in the Kennebunk and Kennebunkport markets for M&T Bank.

M&T Bank Corporation is a financial holding company headquartered in Buffalo, New York. M&T's affiliates offer advice, guidance, expertise and solutions across the entire financial spectrum, combining M&T Bank's traditional banking services with the wealth management and institutional capabilities offered by Wilmington Trust. M&T Bank has a network of over 1,000 branches and 2,200 ATMs that span 12 states from Maine to Virginia and Washington, D.C.



Ukulele Group - May 8 and 22

The Ukulele Group is back! We'll continue to meet twice a month: the 2nd Wednesday at 3:30 and the 4th Wednesday at 5:30. We will be playing the same music at both sessions. You can join us for both or either. Whatever works for you!

The 2nd Wednesday Group will meet in person at the library. That session will focus on the songs for the month in greater detail. It will provide an opportunity to answer any questions you may have from your practice and learn from each other. The 4th Wednesday Group will meet via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. Here we'll just strum and pluck and yuck it up in the privacy of home — where no one else can hear you making ukulele fun and no one cares about bloopers & errors! Less talk and more play. If you are not already on the music mailing list, please [email Allison](#) to register.

Evening Readers Choice Book Club - May 8

The Evening Reader's Choice Book Group is celebrating spring by reading books on Gardening! Select any book on gardening: This can be gardening guides, a photograph collection of famous gardens, novels with gardening as a theme, and anything else that you can think of! We'll meet

on Wednesday, May 8 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. All are welcome, even if you don't have a book to share..



Trivia Night - May 15



The third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 is trivia night at KFL! Bring a team, join one of our friendly teams of regulars, or take on the challenge solo. Light refreshments will be served.



Fix-a-Bike - May 20

KFL is pleased to welcome back the Bicycle Coalition of Maine who will be presenting their Fix-A-Bike program on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. From the Coalition: "Be your own mechanic! Learn how to maintain your bike, fix a flat, pump up a tire, change a chain or cable, make shifting adjustments, and more in a hands-on learning experience." Participants should bring their bicycles and be prepared to get dirty.

We will be holding this event outdoors but may move inside in case of inclement weather. Should this program need to move inside, please be prepared to share a bike with another person for the hands-on portions. This program is offered for youth aged 13+ and adults. Space is limited. Please [register](#) through the library calendar.



Writer's Group - May 21

Whether you are looking for feedback on your writing or encouragement to keep writing, join us on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. for a meeting of the new KFL Writers' Group! Bring a 500 - 1,000 word piece of work to share with the group. We hope to see you there!



Monica Wood - May 21

Kennebunk Free Library is very excited to announce that bestselling Maine author Monica Wood will be visiting on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 to discuss her new novel *How to Read a Book*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

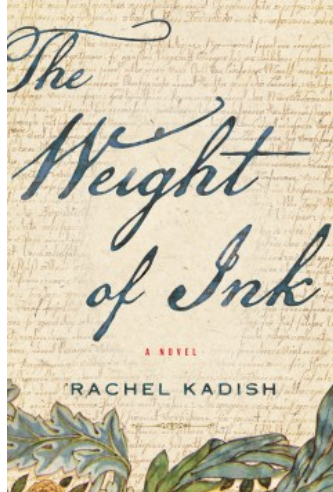
Because space is limited, please [register](#) to reserve a seat. Standing room will be available for those who have not registered.

Monica Wood is a novelist, memoirist, and playwright, recipient of the Carlson Prize for contributions to the public humanities in Maine, and the Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance Distinguished Achievement Award for *contributions to the literary arts*. Her new novel, *How to Read a Book*, has already secured translation rights in five countries. Her new play, *Saint Dad*, debuted in October 2023 at Portland Stage. Her previous novel, *The One-in-a-Million Boy*, was translated into 20 languages in over 30 countries. She is also the author of *When We Were the Kennedys*, a New England bestseller, *Oprah* magazine summer-reading pick, and winner of the May Sarton Memoir Award. Her other fiction, *Any Bitter Thing*, *Ernie's Ark*, and *My Only Story*, have also won awards and made bestseller lists. Her short stories have been widely anthologized and featured on Public Radio International. Her nonfiction has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Literary Hub*, *Oprah Magazine*, *Down East*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Martha Stewart Living*, *Parade*, and many other publications. Her play *Papermaker*, which broke attendance records for its debut at Portland Stage, has enjoyed many subsequent productions, and *The Half-Light*, which also broke attendance records, had its second production in October 2023 at Theatre 40 in Beverly Hills. She lives in Portland, Maine.

Fiction Book Discussion - May 28

Join us on Tuesday, May 28 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish.

“Like A.S. Byatt’s *Possession* and Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia*, this emotionally rewarding novel follows the familiar pattern of present-day academics trying to make sense of a mystery from the past. Helen



Watt, a British historian facing retirement, and her much younger American assistant, Aaron Levy, are asked to examine a cache of documents found in a London townhouse, purported to be the work of a blind rabbi in 1661 and written out by a copyist known only as Aleph. Aaron is brash and right from the outset rubs prickly, Parkinson's-suffering Helen the wrong way. But they are forced to work together after Helen realizes that Aleph was most probably a Jewish woman—unheard-of for the 17th century. In alternating chapters, we see life of the copyist, Ester Velasquez, as an immigrant from Amsterdam, her friendship with a wealthy Jewish merchant's daughter, her attempts to survive the plague and the Great Fire of London, and her covert correspondence with the preeminent minds of the period, including rogue philosopher Benedictus de Spinoza. Meanwhile, in the present, Helen and Aaron overcome academic infighting, rival historians, and greedy house owners to uncover Ester's fate. What they find out about her life informs what they ultimately learn about themselves. Ester's story illuminates the plight of London Jews in the 17th century, and Helen and Aaron's sparking relationship is vivid and memorable, as the two historians discover how desire can transcend time." – Publishers Weekly



Mah Jongg - Mondays and Wednesdays

Everyone is invited to drop in on Mondays from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. or Wednesdays from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. to play Mah Jongg. The library has 3 sets available for use or you are welcome to bring your own. Don't know how to play? Members of our friendly group were all beginners themselves just a couple of months ago. You're welcome to watch and learn. We can also share some resources for learning on your own. Please [email the library](#) with any questions.



Tech Time - Wednesdays & Thursdays

Are you stuck on a technology question that might need some extra help to be solved? Whether it be trying to use one of the library's digital services, making heads or tails of a new device, or just having a second pair of eyes help troubleshoot a piece of software, don't worry, the library is here to help!

To sign-up for one of our Tech Time appointments, please visit the front desk to be placed on our scheduling sheet.

Appointments to meet one-on-one with our Technology Educator can be scheduled **Wednesdays** from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., and **Thursdays** from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Appointments are 45 minutes long, but there is always an opportunity to schedule a follow-up appointment if we run over our time limit. When setting up the appointment, help us to better assist you by describing the issue you want to discuss. If possible, also make sure to bring your charged

device with you along with any needed usernames and passwords. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to visit us at the desk, call (207) 985-2173, or email our technology educator at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org so we can help you further.



May Take and Make: Wine Cork Plant Holder Magnets

Add a tiny pop of green to your fridge! May's take-and-make will contain supplies to make two wine cork magnets that can contain a small air plant, succulent or wildflower cuttings, artificial plant, or anything else you'd like to see inside! Note that the kits do not contain plants, just the material to make the magnet holders themselves. Kits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies last starting on Tuesday, May 7.

TEEN PROGRAMS



Dungeons and Dragons - May 6, 13, 20

Welcome young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Open to new and experienced players alike, we will meet on the following Mondays: **May 6, May 13, and May 20** from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. You're welcome to bring in a character from a previous game, to make a new one, or to use one of the pre-made

characters provided in the starter set. All other supplies will be provided, just bring your imagination! This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Chill Gaming - May 9

Ready to chill, eat snacks, and play some games? Come hang out with friends, test out your gaming card decks, play on our Nintendo Switch, try out new RPG board games, or anything else in between! Anything that relaxes you is welcome and encouraged! We will meet on the second Thursday

of the month, **May 9**, from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. The library will provide games, but players are free to bring their own games, learn new games at their own pace, or you can just come to hang out, eat snacks, and have a good time listening to some Lo-fi beats! This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Rubik's Cube Club - May 11

Join in on the fun with our new Rubik's Cube Club! Learn how to solve problems, share some tips, or practice speed cubing with friends. Open to beginner and advanced solvers, our first meeting will be held on **May 11** from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. You're welcome to bring a Rubik's Cube from home, or to use one of the cubes that we have available here at the library. This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. Let's cube!



Anime Club - May 16

Join us for Anime Club on the third Thursday of the month, **May 16**, downstairs in Hank's Room from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to craft samurai swords from recycled materials and spend time with friends! Supplies will be available to make your sword at the library, just bring your imagination to craft your blade! This program is designed for dedicated and new fans interested in learning more about the fandom. This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207)

985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!

CHILDRENS PROGRAMS

Beadcraft - May 1

In the mood to get creative? Perler Beads - tiny plastic beads that can melt - were first introduced as a craft in Sweden in the 1950's, and we still love them! Children ages 6 and up, or age 5 with a caregiver, are invited to join us for an afternoon of beading fun on Wednesday,



May 1, at 1 p.m. What a great way to spend an early release afternoon! Design suggestions will be offered, but creativity is encouraged! All craft materials will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended but not required.



Faerie Festival! - May 4

The days are getting longer and warmer, which can only mean one thing – it's time to welcome the faeries back to Kennebunk Free Library! Join us on Saturday, May 4, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. for faerie crafts and fun! Did you submit a faerie house to the library by Wednesday, May 1? See a library staff member during Faerie Festival for your certificate! Wear your faerie finery!



Furry Tales - May 10

What's better than sharing stories? Sharing stories with a furry friend! Come to Kennebunk Free Library on Friday, May 10, at 11:30 a.m. for our monthly Furry Tales Storytime with Animal Welfare Society. Miss Amanda from AWS will bring an animal friend plus lots of songs, stories, and fun! Which animal will we meet this month? Join us and find out! All ages are welcome to attend. No registration required.

Kindness Crew - May 14

In a world where you can be anything, be kind! Join us for our next meeting of Kindness Crew on Tuesday, May 14, at 3:45. Come hear a story about kindness and make a craft! This program is open to ages 6 and up; registration is appreciated but not required! Kindness has no age requirement – if a friend younger than 6 would like to join in, please reach out to Miss Maria at

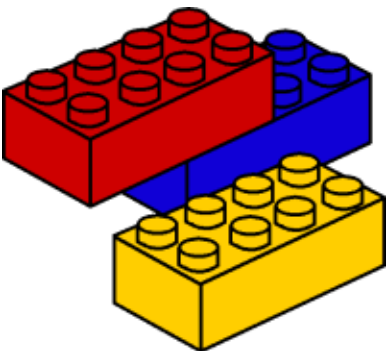


mrichardson@kennebunklibrary.org, or 985-2173 x 105. Caregivers are encouraged to join in! When your little sees you talking about and practicing kindness, they will want to join in even more!



Junior Science - April 25

Calling all scientists ages 5 and up! Our monthly Junior Science program is Tuesday, May 21, at 3:45 pm. This month's theme is geology. Join Miss Aspen for experiments about rocks and the earth! For ages 5+, registration required.



Lego Club - May 30

Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on Thursday, May 30, from 3:45-4:30 p.m. Come and build new and imaginative creations or ask the librarian for a challenge to complete. All Lego blocks will be supplied; please leave yours at home. Registration is appreciated.



Storytime - Mondays

It's time for Storytime! Come to the library for stories, songs, and fun with Miss Maria! We'll even get to say hello to our puppet friend, Ami the bunny. On most Mondays in May at 10:00 a.m., Storytimes will be held in the amphitheater outside the Children's Room at Kennebunk Free Library. In case of inclement weather, we will be in Hank's Room inside the library. Because of the holiday closure, we will have Storytime on **Tuesday, May 28**. We can't wait for you to join us! Upcoming

Storytime dates include:

- May 6
- May 13
- May 20
- **Tuesday, May 28**



Thursday Family Fun Play - Weekly

Have a morning of play at the library! On Thursday mornings in February, Kennebunk Free Library will bring out the toys for a library play date. These toys are best enjoyed when the whole family plays together! Before we say goodbye until next time, Miss Maria will read a story. Come play and make new friends at the library! All programs will run from 10 am to 11 am. Thursday Family Fun Play is for children

ages 0-5 and their grown-ups. No registration is required. Note: the library is closed on Thursday, May 23, for staff development. Upcoming Thursday Family Fun Play dates:

- May 2
- May 9
- May 16
- May 30

SPEERS GALLERY



May Artists: School Around Us and The New School

The Kennebunk Free Library presents the exhibit "Mixed Media Art" by students at School Around Us and The New School. The exhibit will run May 1-30 in the library's Speers Gallery.

The art exhibit reflects the incredible talent of the learners that attend PreK-8 at School Around Us (SAU) and High School at The New School (TNS). At SAU and TNS art is integrated into their curriculum and is seen as an essential component in developing one's whole sense of self. TNS and SAU encourage their students to follow their passions where art is often at the heart of that. Throughout the school year learners create art from a variety of mediums like watercolor, acrylic, pencil, and digital art. The learners self-select the pieces that are

represented in the show.

Two pieces that will be in the show are a watercolor of koi fish, and a pencil drawing of a jungle cat. The watercolor of the Koi Fish is by Seraphina Flewelling, age 7. Seraphina is a talented young artist. When she begins to do any type of art she will immediately become absorbed in her work. Creating art is a way Seraphina fully expresses how she sees the world. She has developed her own style and creates pieces of work that have depth of thought and details that are beyond her years.

The pencil drawing of the Jungle Cat is done by Teegan Donadini age 13. Art has always been one of Teegan's favorite subjects. As an artist she takes her time to think deeply about her art piece and works with care to fulfill her desired outcome. She is often found in the art studio at SAU working on a drawing and doing artwork with her friends.

Kennebunk Free Library is pleased to welcome back these talented young artists.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from May 1-30 at 112 Main St., Kennebunk, Maine during regular library hours when the gallery is not in use for library programs. Please check the library website for current hours and gallery access, www.kennebunklibrary.org.

NEW BOOKS, AUDIO BOOKS & DVDS

Please note that the new items lists below are updated regularly, but through a quirk of the system, the newest items go to the end of the list. If you want to see the newest arrivals, start on the last page and work your way backward.

[Click here](#) for a look at books that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for audio/video that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for new children's items that arrived in the last month

[Click here](#) for new teen items that arrived in the last month

Want to know if we have this week's New York Times bestsellers available in our various collections (print, large print, audio, ebook, eaudio)?

[Click here](#) to see the fiction and nonfiction best seller list.

Books on order for May

May 6

[The 24th Hour](#) – James Patterson

May 7

[I Will Ruin You](#) – Linwood Barclay

[Long Island](#) – Colm Toibin

[The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying Club](#) – Helen Simonson

May 14

[Think Twice](#) – Harlan Coben

[The Shadow of War](#) – Jeff Shaara

May 21

[You Like It Darker](#) – Stephen King

[Mind Games](#) – Nora Roberts

[One Perfect Couple](#) – Ruth Ware

[Butcher](#) – Joyce Carol Oates

[Death Behind Every Door](#) – Heather Graham

[Evergreen Christmas](#) – Janet Dailey

May 28

[Camino Ghosts](#) – John Grisham

[First Frost](#) – Craig Johnson

[Southern Man](#) – Greg Iles

[Devil's Fortress](#) – Dale Brown

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



"Solve Parking Needs" was our first objective listed under Strategic Priority #2 in our 2019-2024 strategic plan. In our February 2024 community survey for our 2025-2030 strategic plan, parking remained a large concern. We recognize your concern and have done our very best to mitigate the issues. In 2019, the Board's Facilities Committee conducted a parking assessment which can be found at [this link](#). We will continue to assess parking as we move into the future and try to identify new solutions. I will add that there were ten parking spots that came with the purchase of 1 Fletcher. However, since we still rent that facility, those spots belong to the current tenants.

Pictured: Max got *Hello Dinosaurs!* By Holub and Dickason for his birthday.

STAFF PICKS

Kat, Substitute Library Assistant

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

This work of historical fiction takes the reader to a place and time where we get to know a community of various cultures coming to Pennsylvania in the 1920s and continues into the

1970s. Very strong character development draws you into their world where kindness and compassion collide with prideful ego-driven villains. An old mystery appears early in the story and weaves throughout. Complex though simple, joyful though sad and makes sense but still surprising. My vote is for you to add this to your hold list. (Available from KFL as a book, Libby as audio and eBook, and Minerva as a book and audio cds)

How to be An Adult in Relationships – The Five Keys to Mindful Loving by David Richo

Originally published in 2002, and republished in 2022, I am very grateful to Mayim Bialik for bringing it to my attention. The author provides clear and relatable guidance on how to become a more loving and realistic person in relationships with others. Every aspect of accepting your own childhood, being a good enough parent most of the time, romance and sexuality, commitment, and mindful loving. Starting with these 5 basic needs of humans in relationships: attention, acceptance, appreciation, affection and allowing makes this book powerful. To see the interview with the author on Mayim Bialik's blog Breakdown:

<https://youtu.be/qa9IX9ko8sQ?si=Y5Bjh8UoIZSreVX1>

(Available on Minerva, search by the author's name: Richo, David)

The Woman in Me by Britney Spears

NPR reviewed this book, and I got on the waiting list to hear it on Libby. Though I have never followed the career of Britney Spears nor been a fan, I was intrigued to learn of her experience as a child star stalked by the paparazzi and used by adults and men she trusted. I look forward to seeing what she does as a talented woman taking control of her own life. (Available from KFL as a book and on Libby as audio and from Minerva as a book, audio cd and large print.)

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