

Readers' Advisory News
from Stickney-Forest View
Public Library

In this Issue...

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Audit your reading year
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Stickney-Forest View
Public Library District

EVERYBODY LOVES READING

Reading Brightens
Your Day

Adult Winter Reading
Challenge 2023



January 3 through February 25

Log 3 books, win a book light!



Brighten Your Day with a Book

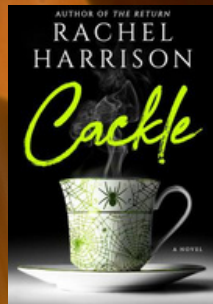
Favorite winter activity-- Ice skating? Building a snowman? Sledding? Making hot cocoa or a winter stew? How about a walk in the snow while listening to an audiobook (one of my favorite activities)?

This year we are thinking about how books can brighten the cold, gray days of winter. It's a new year, do you have reading goals? These can be simple (finish one book a month) or challenging (you keep an excel sheet with all genres, award lists and book topic rubrics to check off). Here's a tip: *You have to take time to read, don't wait for a free hour to magically appear.* (When was the last time that happened?) Thankfully, audiobooks can save the day: get those chores done and read (listen) at the same time! To motivate you, we are giving away prizes to every reader who logs at least three books by February 25.

WINTER 2023

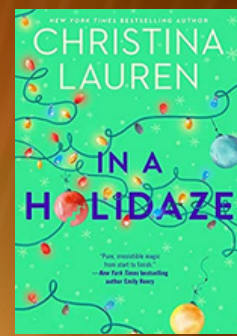
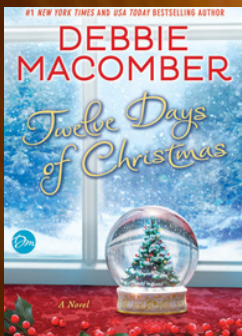
Everybody Loves Book Talks

Books for Halloween

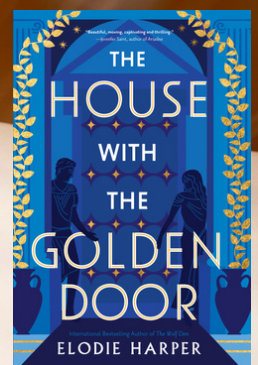
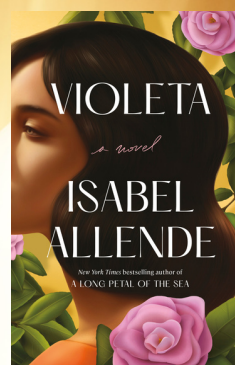
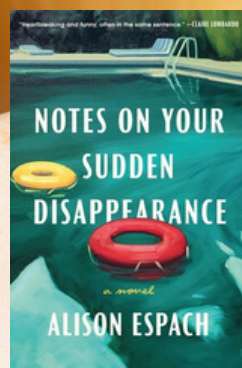
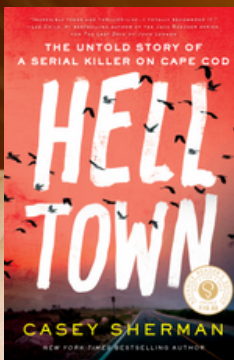


Find all of the library's BookTube videos at bit.ly/SoniasBookTalks

Christmas Romance



Sonia's Favorites of 2022



Another year has come and gone, that means a booktalk of my personal favorites of 2022.

Helltown is a fascinating True Crime book. In the 1960s, a serial killer lived in the same east coast town as Kurt Vonnegut and Norman Mailer, whose dramas play out alongside the killer's story and sometimes overlap. I loved the fabulous depiction of Cape Cod in the '60s and how this case was brought to justice.

Notes on Your Sudden Disappearance is a bittersweet Coming-of-Age set mostly in the 1990s, a story about sisters and heartbreak.

Violeta is a dramatic Historical Fiction about a South American woman who lives and thrives through wars, the depression, scandalous love affairs and more.

The House with the Golden Door, a sequel to one of my favorites of 2021, set in ancient Greece, is about a smart and resourceful courtesan who has to deny her heart's desires in order to succeed independently.

Everybody Loves Reading Audits

It's January so I am doing my yearly reading audit. I like to see my **reading trends** from year to year. In 2022 I read **67** books. 42 were new, 25 were backlist titles. I count books as new if they were published within the year prior to when I read them.

The big surprise: I read equally between male and female authors! In past years I've read more female authors than male. In 2022 I read 33 by a female, 33 by a male, and 1 co-written by a man and woman couple (a self-help/marriage book). Another surprise: I didn't read any YA (teen) or middle grade fiction, which is unusual for me, but last year I read less YA than years prior, so it looks like I'm moving away from YA.

I always read more fiction than non-fiction, so no surprise that 45 books were fiction, 22 were non-fiction. Here's the breakdown:
(The graph does not include 1 children's book I read).

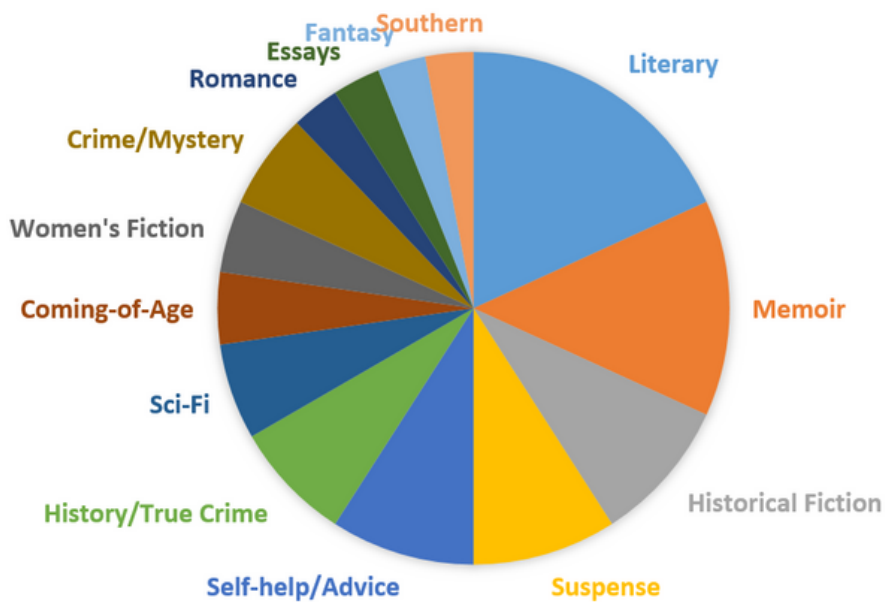
Nonfiction:

Memoir **9**,
Self-Help/Advice **6**,
History **3**,
True Crime **2**,
Humorous Essays **2**.

Fiction:

Literary **12**
Historical fiction **6**
Suspense **6**
Sci-fi **4**
Coming-of-Age **3**
Women's lives **3**
Crime/Mystery **4**
Romance **2**
Fantasy **2**
Southern **2**
Childrens **1**

GENRES I READ IN 2022



Backlist/New



■ New ■ Backlist

authors



■ male ■ female

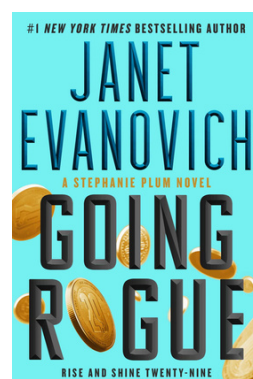
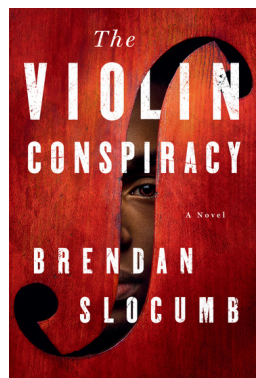
Everybody Loves Book Club

The historical fiction *Violeta*, by Isabel Allende, was a big hit with our book club. Everyone loved it! Rarely does everyone in a book club agree about a book, but in this case it was unanimous: 5 stars!

There were mixed feelings about our November pick, *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy* by Jamie Ford, but most of us were disappointed with the confusing timeline jumps and multiple characters, which were hard to keep track of.



Everybody Loves Staff Picks: Favorites of 2022



Sienna's picks: ***The Violin Conspiracy***, by Brendan Slocumb, ***I'm Glad My Mom Died*** by Jennette McCurdy, and ***How to Excavate a Heart*** by Jake Maia Arlow

Kate's picks: ***The Paris Apartment*** by Lucy Foley, and ***Going Rogue*** (from the Stephanie Plum series) by Janet Evanovich. Kate says, "I love this series. It's silly and fun."

Ron's pick: ***Wish You Were Here*** by Jodi Picoult, a psychological book about human lives and how we change and adapt.

Margaret's picks: ***Wish You Were Here***, by Jodi Picoult, ***And There Was Light*** by Jon Meacham, and Viola Davis's memoir, ***Finding Me***.

Verna's pick: ***The School for Good Mothers*** by Jessamine Chan. "I love it because it explores the power of forgiveness and what it means to be a good mom."

Sonia's pick: ***Violeta*** by Isabel Allende, a dramatic historical fiction with a strong female character.

Geralyn's pick: ***The Very Merry Poop Christmas***, by Samanta Berger, illustrated by Manny Galan. She says, "It's awesome! I bought it for my nieces."

Ivan's favorite movie of the year: **Nope**

Ivan's favorite album of the year:

The Loneliest Time by Carly Rae Jepsen

Tell us what your favorites of 2022 are!

