

**Shannon** only reads books for kids and teens, always keeping an eye out for cross-over titles that will appeal to adult readers.

**Blood Water Paint**

Joy McCullough  
TEEN MCC



A painful, searing verse novel about the life of Renaissance artist Artemisia Gentileschi, a brilliant painter who faced horrific consequences for bringing charges against her rapist in 1611.

**The Journey of Little Charlie**

Christopher Paul Curtis  
KIDS CUR



Charlie, a white boy growing up in the American Deep South in 1858, finds himself working with a notoriously wicked and brutal plantation overseer to track down escaped slaves. Curtis is a master storyteller, finding humour in totally unexpected places at one moment, and making readers cry or gasp in horror the next. A timeless, moving book for anyone ages 10 and up.

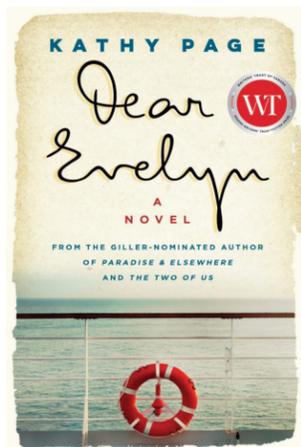
**Lynn** likes variety in her reading, but especially favours stories about creative and courageous people.

**Anatomy of a Scandal**

Sarah Vaughan  
FICTION VAU



When ambitious British MP James Whitehouse is accused of rape by a colleague, a scandal explodes that stretches back to his university days. A portrait of an arrogant, privileged man and the women who have been his victims—including his wife. Clean, unadorned prose keeps the tension alive in this timely psychological thriller.



**Dear Evelyn**  
Kathy Page  
FICTION PAG



Winner of the 2018 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, this tender portrait of a 60-year marriage exquisitely captures the significant details, as well as the bigger picture of a lengthy, loving relationship. Inspired by the wartime love letters of her own parents, Page skillfully weaves a story of first love through family life and final parting.

**Sue** enjoys engaging novels, humorous travel and interesting memoirs.

**Sapiens**

Yuval Noah Harari  
909 HAR



Witty, erudite and provocative. With a certain chutzpah, Yuval Harari tackles the history of the human race since the so-called "cognitive revolution" 70,000 years ago to the present, examining the relationship between biology and history. Harari's central thesis is that myths have the power to drive alignment and collaboration across communities that are much larger than the extended family or tribe. This peculiarity of sapiens, coupled with the technological power unleashed by the 17th century scientific revolution, explains the world we live in today. The arguments and insights flow with such rapidity that you will not be able to put the book down. *Sapiens* has all the excitement of a mystery novel: but the overarching question is not "Who dunnit?" but "Who are we?"

**Tara** reads whimsical books and anything that sheds light on the human condition.

**There There**

Tommy Orange  
FICTION ORA



Tommy Orange is a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, but he grew up in Oakland, CA, which is where he sets *There There*. The propulsive narrative of this novel connects a dozen unforgettable multi-generational Indigenous characters as they travel to the cinematic last scene at the first Oakland Powwow. *There There* is an exceptional debut novel by Tommy Orange that deserves all the superlatives, praise and critical acclaim it has received.

**Saeyong** likes wildlife documentaries, nonfiction books on odd subjects and children's fiction for 11-year-olds.

**Antarctica: A Year on Ice**

DVD 919.89 ANT



This award-winning documentary follows a year in the lives of the wintering crew at McMurdo Station and Scott Base in Antarctica. In winter, when most personnel return to their home countries, the bases are maintained by a handful of staff who must endure (or enjoy) the endless night. An affectionate look at communal life in extreme conditions. (They have a trash bin for "Hopes and Dreams".) Stunning visuals.



1950 Marine Drive, West Vancouver  
604.925.7403 [westvanlibrary.ca](http://westvanlibrary.ca)

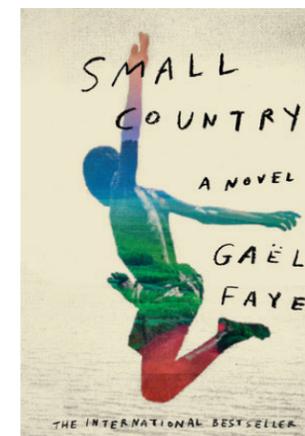
**Steve** likes to read fiction, sci-fi, fantasy, paranormal thrillers and the occasional paranormal romance.

**Bandwidth**

Eliot Peper  
SCIENCE FICTION PEP



A techno, eco-thriller set in a future where everyone has their own digital feed. Dag Calhoun, a powerful lobbyist for oil executives, has his feed compromised and manipulated by a hacking group intent on recruiting him in order to pass a global carbon tax. The plot is rife with twists, turns and ethical dilemmas pitting profits against the fate of the planet, leaving Dag unsure of whom to trust.



**Small Country**

Gaël Faye  
FICTION FAY



Set in the early-mid 90s, Gabriel, a 10-year-old boy living in Bujumbura, (Burundi's capital) enjoys time with his friends. His childhood changes with the onset of political instability in Burundi and Rwanda and ethnic tension between Tutsis and Hutus. His parents' marriage break-up mirrors the growing upheaval in his world. Hatred and tribalism invade his neighbourhood

as his friends become militants. A short and powerful novel of a childhood lost to violence.

**Ehlam** enjoys reading Young Adult novels, historical and gothic fiction, as well as novels involving magic realism.

**Penance**

Kanae Minato  
FICTION MIN



In this award-winning novel, Minato tells the story of four young women haunted by their shared childhood trauma. When they are children, a mysterious stranger tricks them into stealing away their friend, later found assaulted and murdered. As a result, these four women struggle their entire lives to deal with the painful memories and find a way to rectify their mistakes. Beautifully written, this novel provides a sensitive portrayal of the complex and unexpected ways in which psychological trauma can affect individuals.

**The Alice Network**

Kate Quinn  
FICTION QUI



This thrilling novel follows the story of two indomitable women whose lives intertwine as they both search for someone they had lost in the past. The book smoothly switches back and forth between two timelines: in 1947, Charlie St. Clair requests help from Eve Gardiner, a war veteran, to find her lost cousin Rose who disappeared during WWII; in 1915, Eve Gardiner gets recruited to fight against the Germans as a spy for the English, gathering information for the Alice Network. As the story unfolds, the connection between the two timelines becomes clear, revealing a mystery that will compel you to read to the end!



**Cathy** likes to read non-fiction, interspersed with literary novels and popular culture titles.

**Samba**

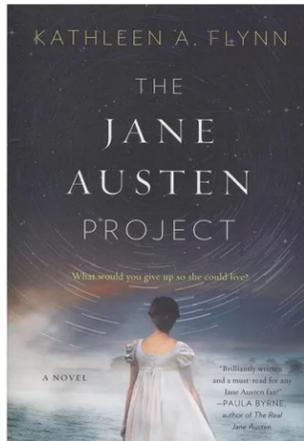
DVD FOREIGN SAM



Samba is an uplifting French movie with engaging dialogue and interesting characters. The always lovely Charlotte Gainsbourg plays a caseworker helping illegal immigrants, while the dashing Omar Sy plays the migrant worker whom she assists. Their relationship grows and each helps the other in unexpected ways. The central themes in this film are migration, community, friendship, love and understanding. If you like this movie, you will also enjoy *The Intouchables*.

SYMBOL CHART

- Audiobook CD
- Book
- Downloadable Audiobook
- DVD
- eBook
- Large Print
- Talking Book



**The Jane Austen Project**  
Kathleen Flynn  
FICTION FLY



Rachel Katzman is a medical doctor in the near future who works in emergency medicine in war-torn countries. She is also a devoted fan of Jane Austen's works. Because of these skills and knowledge, she is chosen to participate in a time travel mission. Rachel is to return to 1815, infiltrate Austen's inner circle and come back with a complete manuscript of Jane Austen's (uncompleted/lost) novel, *The Watsons*. This is a fun read for fans of Jane Austen, adventure stories or time travel.

**Jordan is into gritty black and white photo books and non-fiction concerning drug crime, '70s subculture, maligned sports icons and boxing.**

**Chualo: A Fighters Life: The Story of Boxing's Last Gladiator**  
George Chualo  
796.83 CHU



The life of a boxer is fraught with hard knocks — George Chualo's autobiography proves that. In spades. The former Canadian heavyweight champ never got knocked down, or out. Ali called him "The toughest guy I ever fought." Chualo went 15 rounds with Ali. After the bout, George and his wife went dancing; Ali, who won on points, went to the hospital. Beyond the ring, Chualo was riddled by blows more devastating than any left, right or uppercut he ever faced. He lost three sons to heroin. In despair, his

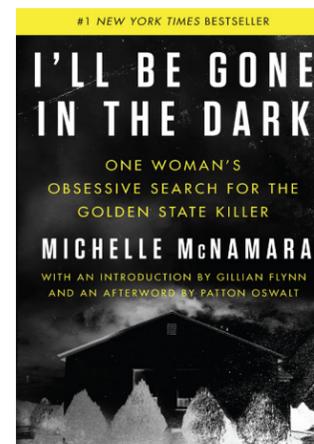
wife took her own life. Chualo battled on, forming the Fight Against Drugs Foundation.

**Ingrid spends too much time reading and worrying about other people's (often fictional) lives.**

**City of Thorns: Nine Lives from the World's Largest Refugee Camp**  
Ben Ransome  
967.73053 RAW



This book highlights an international humanitarian crisis by offering the true stories of nine peoples' struggles to survive in the world's largest refugee camp. *City of Thorns* is a heart-wrenching exploration of how people live in Dadaab, a settlement in Kenya of over half a million people. Through in-camp violence, precarious food rations and government scorn, we see the repercussions of political forces that cause hundreds of thousands of people to spend their entire lives in a state of limbo. A profound and intriguing read.



**I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer**  
Michelle McNamara  
364.1532 MCN



McNamara's meticulously researched true crime novel is a fascinating hunt for the identity of the Golden State Killer, as well as an in-depth exploration of the writer's mind. Detailing her research step-by-step, journalist McNamara paints a chilling portrait of California's most notorious serial killer while

outlining her process of investigating through interviews and archived police reports, drawings, visits and even eBay purchases. While the identity of the killer was discovered by DNA analysis in the spring of 2018, sadly McNamara passed away without finishing this book, or knowing for sure the identity of her obsession.

**Sarah F. loves reading science fiction and fantasy as well as non-fiction books about technology and mythology.**

**Spinning Silver**  
Naomi Novik  
FICTION NOV



A stunning take on a Rumpelstiltskin-like fairy tale. The novel follows three women with very different lives as they work to protect their families against a backdrop that includes fairies, magic and promises. Recommended for those who enjoy atmospheric fantasy, beautiful settings and fairy tales.

**Welcome to the Goddamn Ice Cube: Chasing Fear and Finding Home in the Great White North**  
Blair Braverman  
798.83 BRA



An engaging memoir by a young woman who falls in love with the North and discovers her calling as a sled dog racer. Set primarily in Norway and Alaska, the differences in culture, relationships and history are deftly written about through the author's adventures. Braverman's style is funny and modern, and confronts the fear and danger that young women encounter when travelling alone as well as in remote areas.

**Pat is an avid reader of Canadian fiction but enjoys any story that is well told. Memoir is her favourite non-fiction genre and she has recently discovered the joys of audiobooks.**

**Us Against You**  
Fredrik Backman  
FICTION BAC



This story picks up where Backman's bestselling novel *Beartown* leaves off.

A riveting novel about hockey rivalry in small-town Sweden, it is about so much more than hockey. The obsession with the sport is a backdrop for a nuanced exploration of human behaviour, family, love and community. Backman's unique style will keep you turning the pages right to the end.



**First Snow, Last Light**  
Wayne Johnston  
FICTION JOH



Imagine coming home from school one day to discover that your parents had disappeared without leaving a trace or explanation. Ned Vatcher spends his life trying to unravel the mystery of why this happened to him. With memorable characters and a rugged Newfoundland setting, Johnston weaves a complex, compelling story where long-held secrets and family betrayals are revealed. You may recognize some of the characters from the bestselling, *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams*.

**Fiona enjoys beautiful writing on pretty much any topic. She is also a sci-fi fan with a soft spot for historical and travel fiction.**

**The Nightingale**  
Kristin Hannah  
FICTION HAN



Viann and Isabel are sisters living through the Second World War in occupied France. Their tale tells of two different responses to the impossible choices that arise during war time. Isabel, fiery and impetuous, is drawn

to the Resistance, while Viann is most concerned with protecting her family. For both sisters, the war pushes them to their limits and they discover exactly how far they would go to preserve their own humanity. An absorbing and richly characterized story.

**Amanda gravitates to coming-of-age stories, unique writing styles and original voices.**

**Queenpin**  
Megan Abbott  
MYSTERY ABB



In this fresh, Edgar Award-winning noir, a young woman idolizes legendary mob queen Gloria Denton, who gives her such a taste for the good life that her "tongue would never stop buzzing." Addicted to the thrill of the heist, the glamour of the casinos and the thick stacks of cash boosting her cleavage, she becomes Gloria's chief accomplice. The trick is to think steps ahead of the other players, evade the cops and avoid falling in love. Alive with mid-20th century slang and a tight, twisting plot.

**Allison enjoys a wide variety of books, but her passion is speculative fiction (fantasy, science fiction, horror, etc.) that introduces interesting new takes on the genre.**

**Furiously Happy: A Funny Book About Horrible Things**  
Jenny Lawson  
921 L425

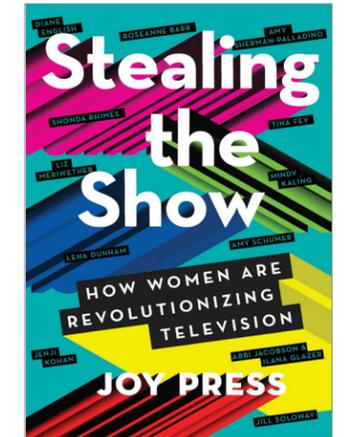


In Jenny Lawson's second book of humorous memoirs, she dives deep into her own struggle with depression and other conditions, and how by fighting them she has come to appreciate joy—and to commit herself to being furiously happy.

**Six Wakes**  
Mur Lafferty  
PB SCIENCE FICTION LAF



A thrilling science fiction tale where the clones of a murdered crew wake to find that they have been murdered. The six must find out who among them is the murderer... before they strike again.



**Sara K. is primarily drawn to non-fiction, but will read the odd novel if it is set in a locale where she plans to travel.**

**Stealing the Show: How Women Are Revolutionizing Television**  
Joy Press  
791.456522 PRE



Joy Press takes us on a journey behind the scenes of the TV industry with a focus on the women who not only made a place for themselves within it, but changed the landscape in the process. From the creators of *Murphy Brown* to *Gilmore Girls* to *Orange Is the New Black*, all of them faced an uphill battle getting their projects made in a predominantly male world. While there are more and more shows created and directed by women, we still have a long way to go. Reading about these bold women's journeys is not only inspiring but also highly entertaining.

**Michelle enjoys reading about quirky characters with a strong voice and believable dialogue.**

**Next Year, for Sure**  
Zoey Leigh Peterson  
FICTION LEI



The first book in a fascinating new sci-fi trilogy. Kel Cheri is a disgraced soldier given the task of reclaiming a tactically important fortress for the Hexarchate, a massive space empire that controls most of the known universe. In order to do so, she is forced to rely on the knowledge and skill of the great strategist Shuos Jedao, who has never lost a battle but is also insane.