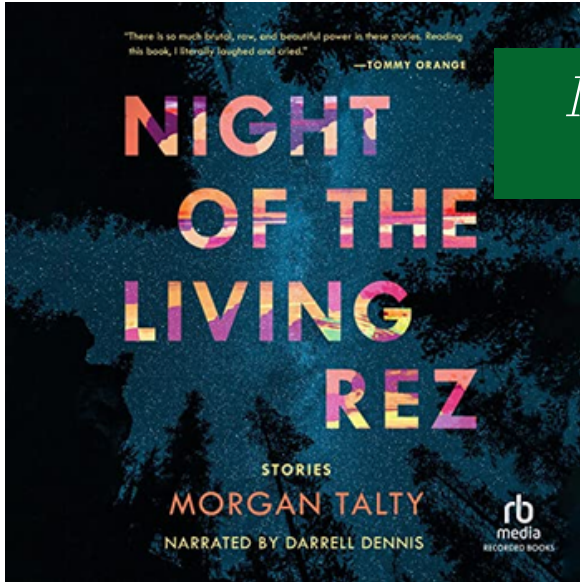




2024 In Review!

SELECTIONS

Monthly Adult Recommendations from the Staff at Deerfield Public Library



Night of The Living Rez

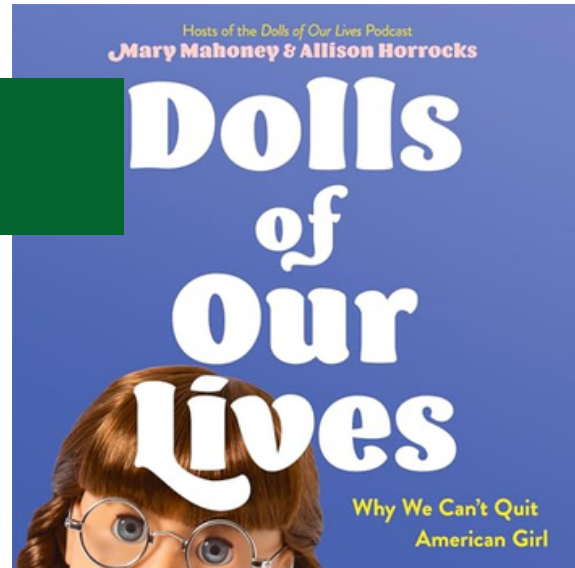
Morgan Talty

Phenomenal storytelling and perfectly crafted characters with voices, intentions, etc. that read and feel SO real. It is unique in that the short stories that make up each chapter follow one Penobscot man's life living on the Reservation, but are told nonlinearly. ~Caitlin N.
(CW: substance abuse, childhood trauma, alzheimer's)

Dolls of Our Lives

Mary Mahoney & Allison Horrocks

Are you a Molly or a Samantha? Former kids like me who are still obsessed w/ American Girl and the historical dolls will enjoy this read. You'll learn new things about The Pleasant Company and how one woman was determined to get kids interested in history through 18-inch dolls. ~Zoe G



MONSTERS

A Fan's Dilemma

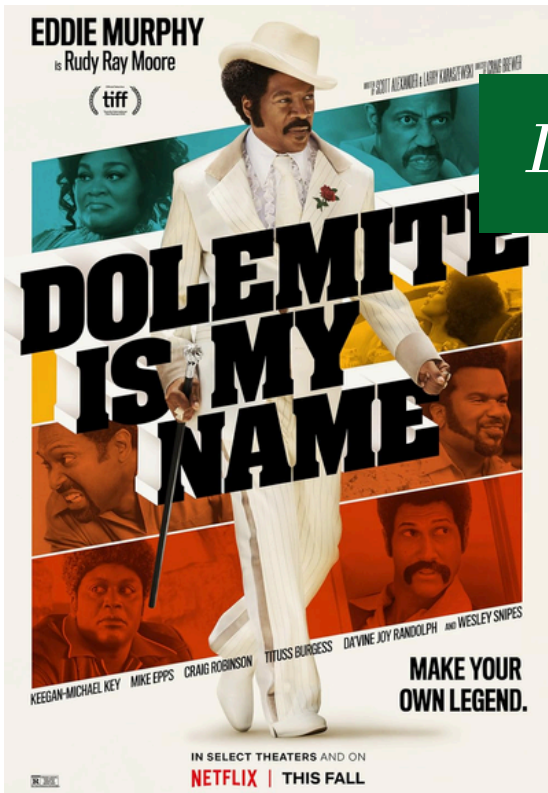


CLAIRE DEDERER

Monsters: A Fan's Dilemma

Claire Dederer

This very personal book examines artists whose actions overshadow their work, impacting our ability to enjoy their once-loved art. In a twist, this author diverts the lens from reprehensible men and considers our most villainized female monsters: absent mothers, herself included.
~Stephanie K. (CW: reports of abuse, rape).



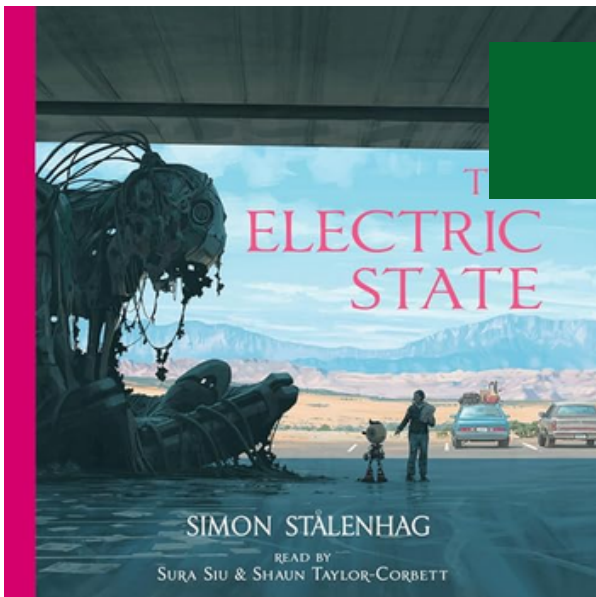
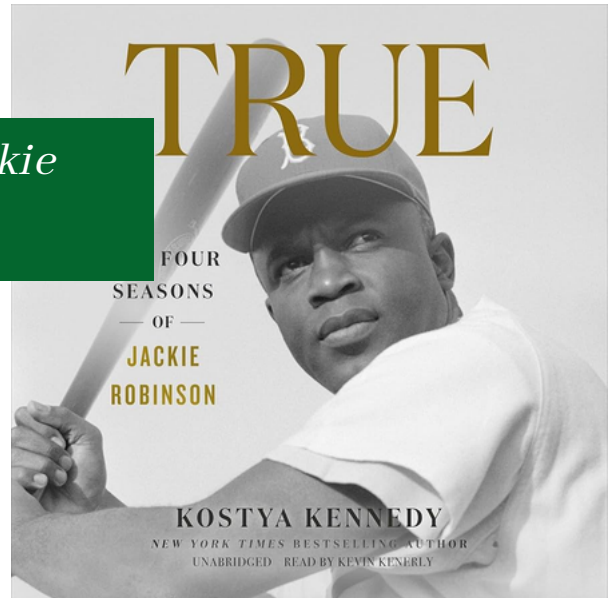
Dolemite Is My Name

This is Eddie Murphy's best movie in years. I also love movies about artists making art. You really root for these characters to reach their goals. This movies is available on Netflix ~Joseph G. (CW: language, violence)

True: The Four Seasons of Jackie Robinson

Kostya Kennedy

Jackie Robinson is brought to life here, perhaps better than in any other biography, as evident from this excerpt: "None of Robinson's contemporaries displayed his ability to start and stop...to jink his way past fielders and potential tags, to rattle, embarrass and elude." ~Stuart O.



The Electric State

Simon Stalenhag

Filled with stunning graphics and a gripping post-apocalyptic narrative, this book fills you with a creepy sense of awe. What strikes me the most is the attention to detail the world the author builds. Great for anyone who likes sci-fi/fantasy +postapocalyptic (non-jumpy) horror ~Sam R. (CW: violence, explicit imagery, violence).



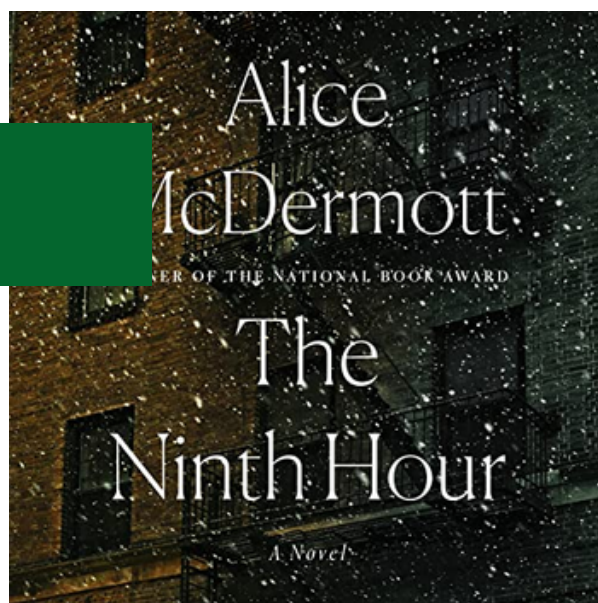
Formula 1: Drive to Survive

Drive to Survive is a fascinating look at the exhilarating world of Formula One racing. Each of the six seasons covers the drivers, teams, and team principals who make up the F1 world as they race to claim the coveted Drivers' and Constructors' Championships. ~Kary H.

The Ninth Hour

Alice McDermott

The Ninth Hour is the tale of a personal traumatic event and the ripple effects it sends through a local community. Earthy and beautiful, The Ninth Hour forces the reader to wrestle with the dirtiness of the hands which try to heal the wounds of others. ~Chase S. (CW: suicide)



Brooms

Jasmine Walls



Underground broom racing, a diverse cast of witches, an alternate fantasy version of 1930's Mississippi... need I say more? Brooms is one of those rare graphic novels that captures everything about itself perfectly and respectfully. A truly spellbinding underdog story. ~Kelly G. (CW: racism)



Air

This is a glimpse back into the business world in the mid-1980's when athletes were just starting to sign promotional shoe contracts. The movie follows the companies competing to sign Michael Jordan and develop a shoe for him. The soundtrack is a great musical flashback!
~Pam S. (CW: bullying, explicit language)

Bad Summer People

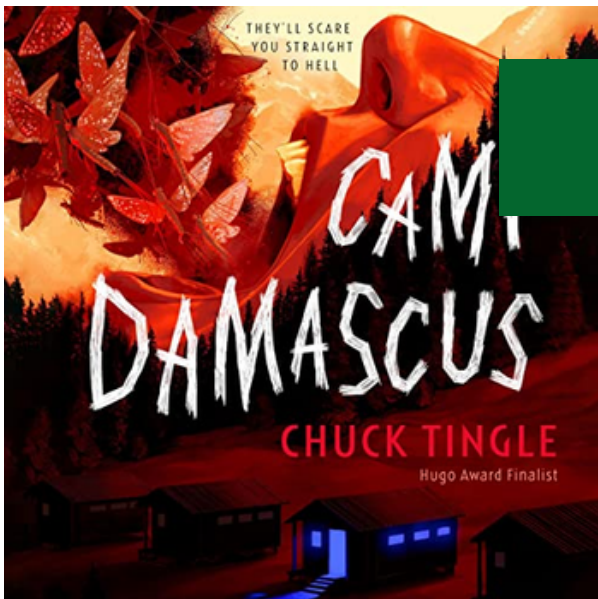
Emma Rosenblum

If you were a fan of HBO's White Lotus series, this is the book for you. A small community of wealthy New Yorkers who spend their summers on Fire Island are embroiled in drama, affairs, a mysterious death, and a ridiculous amount of tennis. ~Melissa S.

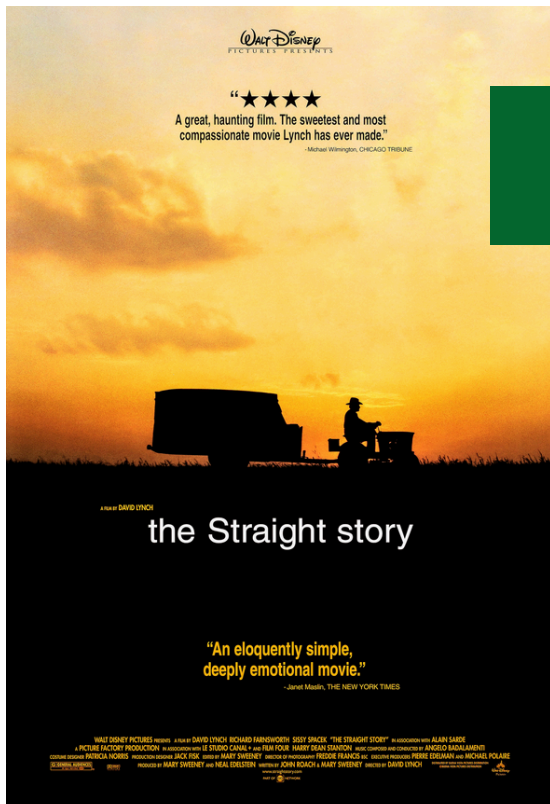


Camp Damascus

Chuck Tingle

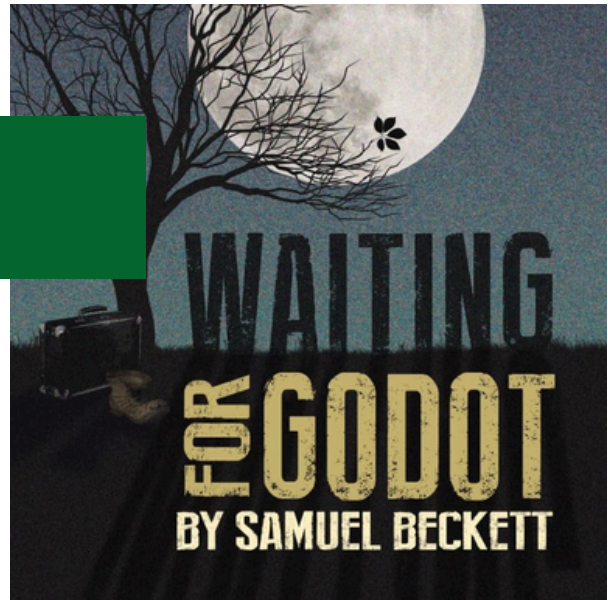


Camp Damascus is straight up horrifying both biblically and morally. I recommend this to anyone who likes a "good for them" type revenge narrative and those marginalized who may need to hear, "nothing is wrong with you; you are loved."
~Jasmine H. (CW: homophobia, violence, body horror, vomiting)



The Straight Story

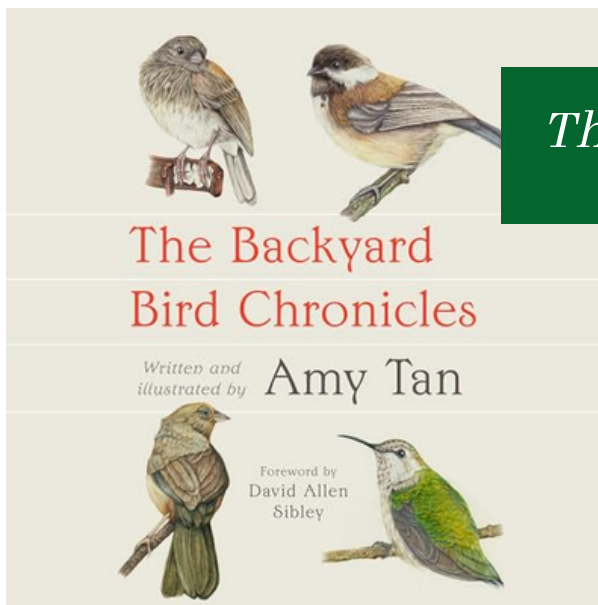
For years, all I knew about this film was that it was David Lynch's sole G-rated title. I finally watched it, and I was captivated. The film follows the true story of 73-year-old Alvin Straight, who travels across Iowa on a riding lawnmower to visit his estranged brother. ~Tom W. (CW: animal death)



Waiting for Godot

Samuel Beckett

This play is strange and confusing, but that's what I like about it. It made me want to learn more about it. It made me want to look for more absurdist plays ~Joseph G. (CW: suicide attempt)



The Backyard Bird Chronicles

Amy Tan

You may know Amy Tan for her famous novels, like The Joy Luck Club, but this book gives a peek inside her nature journal. Tan is a wonderful artist, capturing birds in their various shenanigans. I appreciated her observations and learning a few new things about birds, too. ~Megan S.



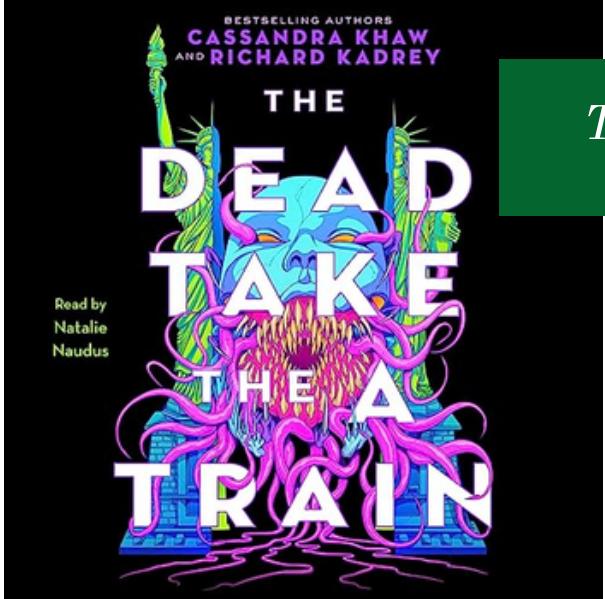
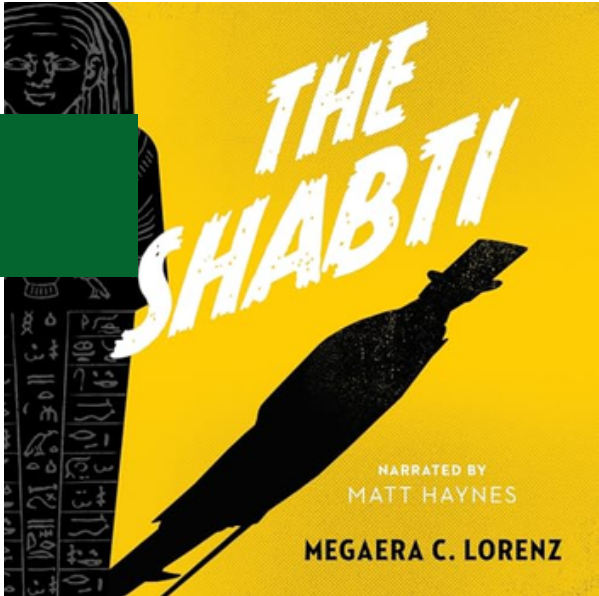
Your Name

When I first saw this film I was expecting a campy, silly teenage love story, but what I got was a larger than life, highstakes, intensely romantic, magical story that makes me tear up just thinking of the film's climax. It's also just a visual feast for the eyes.
~Steph M.

The Shabti

Megaera Lorenz

Egyptologist Hermann asks former fake medium Dashiell for help in handling a haunted figurine in this queer paranormal historical romance set in 1934 Illinois. The romance is low stakes and understated: the ghost is not. ~Trisha R.



The Dead Take the A Train

Cassandra Khaw & Richard Kadrey

I love horror, especially when written from marginalized perspectives. This book was disgusting, funny, full of heart, and so much more. The characters are messy, the plot is messy, and it's so much fun. Can't wait for book 2. ~Dylan G. (CW: murder, body horror, sexual assault, drug use, self harm, suicide).



Perfect Days

Perfect Days is a film that will shape the way you see the world. It presents a genuine appreciation for the small details in life. With few words and a classic soundtrack, award-winning Koji Yakusho is remarkable in delivering the poetic beauty of this Japanese drama. ~Alice H.

The Lost Story

Meg Shaffer

If you loved Chronicles of Narnia as a child, this is for you! Two teen boys go missing in a state park in West Virginia and when they turn back up, one has no memories of where they've been. Twenty years later, they have to return to wherever they went to reunite two sisters. ~Anne J. (CW: parental abuse).



Cosmic

Red Velvet

Red Velvet celebrate their 10th anniversary with the ethereal summer album Cosmic! The 6 track album features their brightly layered vocals over catchy pop beats. The album is recorded as a thank you to their fans for a decade of fun and joy! (Favorite Tracks: "Cosmic" & "Last Drop") ~Kerstin V.



Bad Poetry

Langston Kerman

Langston Kerman's debut stand up had me practically crying with laughter! He's brilliantly funny, with fantastic writing as the special revolves around a few key ideas. Plus, he's from Oak Park and this special is filmed in a historic Chicago location, the Green Mill! ~Emily K.

Death Note

Tsugumi Ōba

High schooler Light Yagami stumbles across the Death Note, a book granting the user the ability to kill anyone whose name is written in it. Death Note is a massively suspenseful tale of power, corruption and morality that will leave you at the edge of your seat! ~Zach K. (CW: violence, murder, physical and mental abuse)



The Lost Ticket

Freya Sampson



This story of found family and missed connections captured my attention. It reminds us that everyone has a story to tell. ~Amy F.