

FALL 2020

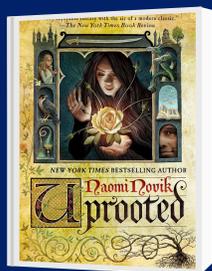
Staff Picks: Adults



Aurora
Public
Library
District

Uprooted, by Naomi Novik

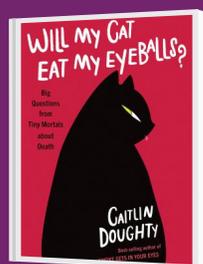
Adult Services Librarian
Yiota says:



A retelling of fairy tale - for adults! Every ten years, a wizard known as "The Dragon" selects a young woman to serve him in his tower for a decade, and when she returns, she is irreparably changed. This is his price for protecting the citizens of the village. The writing is phenomenal, and although a longer book, you will be completely sucked in to the amazing world and Eastern Europe mythology that Novik paints so well.

Will My Cat Eat My Eyeballs?, by Caitlin Doughty

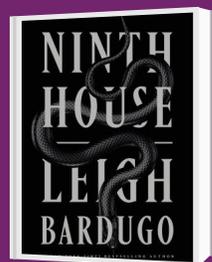
Library Assistant
Caitlin says:



Mortician Caitlin Doughty answers 50 of the most pressing questions from children on the topic of death in a way that is informational and enjoyable as well as a bit morbid at times. Doughty brings humor into a typically depressing topic to increase understanding of death, dying, and the funeral industry in all three of her books and her YouTube channel, Ask a Mortician. Perfect for anyone who is not comfortable with their mortality or that have questions about death they want answered.

Ninth House, by Leigh Bardugo

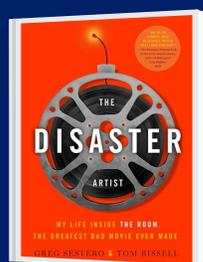
Library Assistant
Caitlin says:



After being the sole survivor of a multiple homicide, a troubled young woman is recruited into attending Yale in order to keep the activities of the 8 secret societies in check. But things get a lot more complicated when a local woman ends up murdered on campus. Recommended if you love your murder mysteries with a side of the supernatural.

The Disaster Artist, by Greg Sestero & Tom Bissell

Adult Services Librarian
Megan says:



As a struggling young actor, Greg Sestero befriended an eccentric man named Tommy Wiseau, who cast Sestero in his debut film. That film turned out to be awful - so awful that it became a cult hit and continued to screen in indie movie theaters for years. Turns out the making of The Room is even crazier than watching The Room itself! An astonishing true story of filmmaking hubris and unlikely empathy.

Soulless, by Gail Carriger

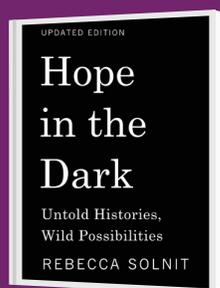
Adult Services Librarian
Yiota says:



Alexia Tarabotti has no soul. She's also considered a spinster in her 20s and she wants to work. How terribly unconventional! Alexia has the ability to negate any supernatural power when she touches them, which makes her very useful when going against werewolves & vampires that want to cause harm. She also has to deal with grumpy but adorable Lord Maccon. If you're looking for something different romance (a steampunk, British, supernatural, alternate-London, uber-polite) this is your book! First in a series that only gets better.

Hope in the Dark, by Rebecca Solnit

Adult Services Librarian
Caitlin says:



I recommend anything by Rebecca Solnit, but particularly valuable right now is her book, Hope in the Dark. Solnit makes the case for hope in times of uncertainty by arguing that it leaves room for action and possibility. She points out that despair and optimism are two sides of the same coin - both claim to know what the future holds and therefore lead to complacency. Even though the book was written nearly two decades ago, its central premise that what we do matters, even though we may not know how or when it will matter, is a fitting reminder today.

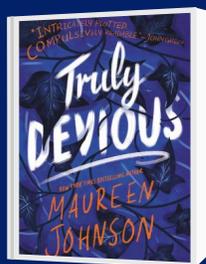
FALL 2020 Staff Picks: Teens & Kids



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Truly Devious, by Maureen Johnson

Library Assistant
Caitlin says:



An elite boarding school is haunted by the crime that made it a household name in the early twentieth century: the kidnapping of the founder's wife and daughter by someone calling themselves Truly Devious. Decades later, a teen obsessed with the case enters the specialized school to attempt to solve this famous case. As a story told both through the past as well as the present, it is recommended for fans of murder mystery writers like Agatha Christie.

In Real Life, by Cory Doctorow

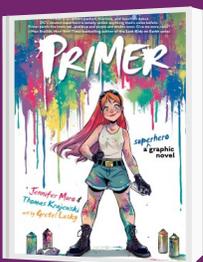
Teen Librarian
Phoebe says



Anda joins an MMORPG and quickly finds her place with a new group of friends. Things become a lot more complicated when Anda befriends a gold farmer--a poor Chinese kid whose avatar in the game illegally collects valuable objects and then sells them to players from developed countries with money to burn. Questions of right and wrong are a lot more complicated when people's lives are at stake in real life. Recommended for anyone with an interest in graphic novels, video games, or human rights.

Primer, by Thomas Krajewski and Jennifer Muro

Selection Specialist
Vita says:



A new super SHERO is in town. Thirteen year old Ashley is a tagger and self proclaimed bad girl. Ashley has been placed with a new foster family. When her new foster dad catches her tagging, he does not punish her. Instead, he shows her his art studio as a safe place to create graffiti. Her foster mom, Yuka, is a geneticist for Zecromax Labs, where a top secret government project is happening. Ashley snoops in Yuka's bedroom and discovers colorful tools created at Zecromax Labs. Ashley is "primed" to find out how to experiment with these tools. Read to uncover how the adventure continues!

Small Spaces, by Katherine Arden

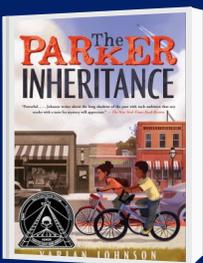
Library Assistant
Caitlin says:



Mourning the loss of her mother, Ollie comes across a frantic woman trying to toss a book into the local lake and without thinking, Ollie steals it before it can be destroyed. Within its pages, Ollie reads a chilling story about a girl named Beth and two brothers who grow up together. Later, during a field trip at a local farm, Ollie discovers it may not be a story at all. An unexpectedly spooky middle grade novel perfect for anyone afraid of what could be lurking in the woods at night.

The Parker Inheritance, by Varian Johnson

Library Assistant
Caitlin says:



Candice doesn't want to believe that her parents may get divorced but when her mother announces the plan to spend the summer in South Carolina away from her father, it doesn't seem like a good sign. They have not visited since her grandma died but the town hasn't forgotten the fact that in her role as city manager, she dug up the tennis court in search of treasure. When Candice comes across the letter that started it all, she drags along her new friend, Brandon, to solve the mystery and discover the history wrapped up in the treasure itself.