

WHAT TO READ NEXT

PRESENTED BY THE ESSEX LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

March 2019

EMILY: Since **John Hodgman** writes as though he's having a conversation with the reader, I imagine that including him at a dinner party would surely have the entire table chortling at his antics and anecdotes. I'd also include **Sebastian Junger**, who sees and writes about what few of us would dare to imagine. To complete the list, I'd invite **Louise Erdrich** who is adept at weaving Native-American folklore and the history of the Chippewa with contemporary issues.



EMILY recommends *Vacationland: True Stories from Painful Beaches* by John Hodgman; *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging* by Sebastian Junger and *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich.

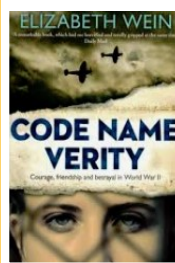
WHO WOULD BE YOUR IDEAL LITERARY DINING COMPANIONS? AND WHY?

NEED A LIFT? TRY UP LIT!

Known as "Uplifting Literature," Up Lit is a genre that has become quite popular. These books tend to be meaningful and optimistic as they celebrate everyday heroes and human connection.



MONTHLY STAFF FAVORITES



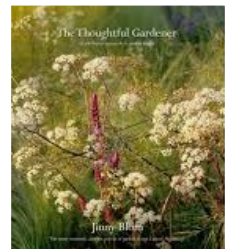
ANNA: *CODE NAME VERITY* BY ELIZABETH WEIN. 1943: A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. When "Verity" is arrested by the Gestapo, she's sure she doesn't stand a chance. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution.

RICHARD: *THE SECRET SCRIPTURE* BY SEBASTIAN BARRY. Sligo, Ireland: As Roseanne McNulty's hundredth year draws near, she decides to record the events of her life, hiding the manuscript beneath her floorboards. Doctor Grene, Roseanne's caretaker, takes a special interest in her case and discovers a document written by a local priest that tells a very different story of Roseanne's life than what she recalls.



REAGAN: *INVISIBLE MAN* BY RALPH ELLISON. As he journeys from the Deep South to the streets and basements of Harlem, from a horrifying "battle royal" where black men are reduced to fighting animals, to a Communist rally where they are elevated to the status of trophies, Ralph Ellison's nameless protagonist ushers readers into a parallel universe in this classic.

ANN: *THE THOUGHTFUL GARDENER* BY JINNY BLOM. Jinny Blom shares insight into the creative process she has developed while designing more than 250 gardens around the world. Jinny believes that garden design should lead from a house and its context. For her, design is more a matter of intelligence and appropriateness than imposing a particular style.



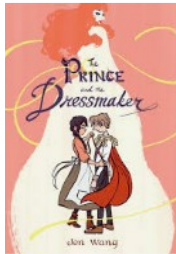
ESSEX LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

HAVE A QUESTION, COMMENT OR SUGGESTION? CONTACT US!

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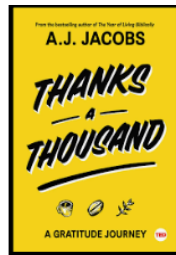
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MONTHLY STAFF FAVORITES CONTINUED...



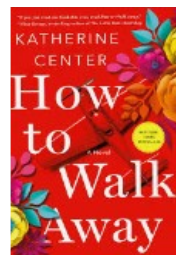
JANA: *THE PRINCE AND THE DRESSMAKER* BY JEN WANG. Prince Sebastian is looking for a bride—or rather, his parents are looking for one for him. Meanwhile, Sebastian is too busy hiding his secret life from everyone. At night, he puts on daring dresses and takes Paris by storm as the fabulous Lady Crystallia who is the hottest fashion icon in the world capital of fashion!

SUE: *THANKS A THOUSAND: A GRATITUDE JOURNEY* BY A.J. JACOBS. The idea was deceptively simple: *New York Times* bestselling author A.J. Jacobs decided to thank every single person involved in producing his morning cup of coffee. The resulting journey takes him across the globe, transforms his life, and reveals secrets about how gratitude can make us all happier.



JESSICA: *THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED* BY KODY KEPLINGER. In the three years since the Virgil County High School Massacre, a story has grown up around one of the victims, Sarah McHale, that says she died proclaiming her Christian faith. However, Leanne Bauer was there and knows what happened. She has a choice: stay silent and let people believe in Sarah's martyrdom, or tell the truth.

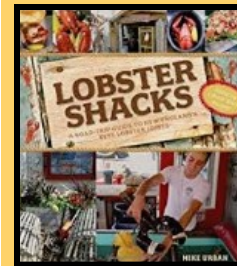
DIANE: *HOW TO WALK AWAY* BY KATHERINE CENTER. On what should have been one of the happiest days of her life, everything Margaret Jacobsen worked for is taken away in a brief, tumultuous moment. Forced to face the possibility that nothing will ever be the same again, Maggie grows more resilient when her physical therapist, Ian, won't let her wallow in pity.



UPCOMING AUTHOR TALKS:



MARY MCAULIFFE
March 2 at 1:30 p.m.
 Mary McAuliffe returns to the Essex Library to discuss her latest book:
Paris On The Brink.



MIKE URBAN
March 7 at 7:00 p.m.
 Mike Urban is coming back to the Essex Library to talk about *Seafood Shacks*. He's the author of guide books, as well as cook books that provide recipes from lobster and clam shacks, diners and more. Check out this one: *Lobster Shacks: A Road Trip Guide to New England's Best Lobster Joints.*

FOLLOW US!

We frequently post updates on **FACEBOOK**, **PINTEREST**, **TWITTER**, and **INSTAGRAM**.



ELA BOOK GROUPS

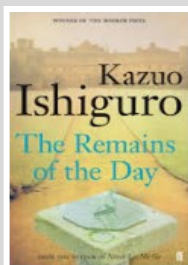
Book Groups:

If you enjoy lively chats with other book enthusiasts, please join us!



First Thursday
 March 7
 4:00 PM

The Remains of the Day



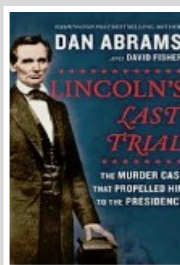
Third Wednesday
 March 20
 10:30 AM

The Secret Scripture



American History
 March 21
 5:00 PM

Lincoln's Last Trial



Classics Book Group
 March 28
 5:30 PM

Buddenbrooks



Historical Fiction
 April 2
 10:30 AM

The Last Days of Night



Check our website for more information or reading suggestions! Read our "What to Read Next" webpage to learn more about the services Essex Library offers, as well as what our librarians are reading: www.youressexlibrary.org/what-to-read-next/



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