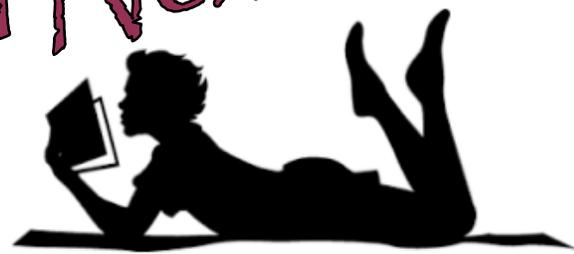
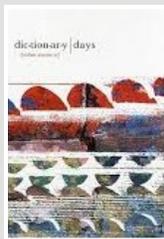
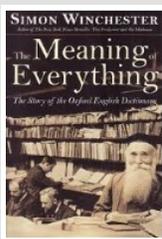
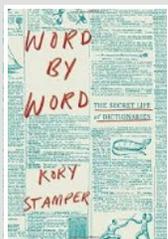


# What to Read Next



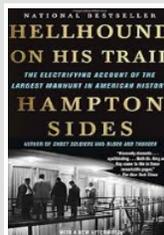
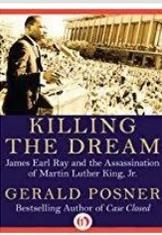
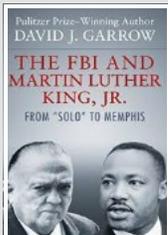
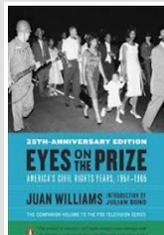
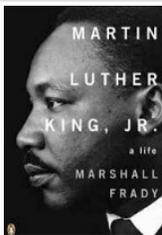
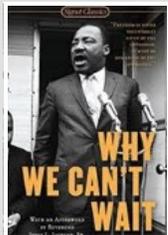
## Lexicography Books

Do you get excited when you learn a new word? We do too! Because we enjoy uncovering new vocabulary, the Essex Library offers several books dedicated to lexicography, which the Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines as: "The editing and making of a dictionary." 2018 is a great time to explore the unexpected nuances of our language.



## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Coretta Scott King wonderfully describes why we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, "The Holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate as well the timeless values he taught us through his example — the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership." To further your knowledge about Dr. King, we have selected the following books.



## Who's Your Favorite Author?

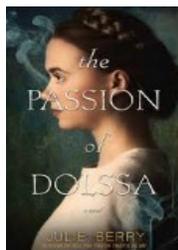


**Richard:** "When it comes to fiction, I'm as likely as anyone else to pick up a light read for an airplane flight or trip to the beach. I prefer more serious novels, though, and I find these authors

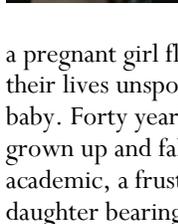
consistently provide me with new perspectives on how we all cope with life." Richard particularly enjoys books written by **John Irving**, **Richard Russo** and **Ken Kesey**. If you also enjoy his favorite authors and are looking for similar writing, he suggests reading books by the following authors: **Kazuo Ishiguro**, **David Mitchell**, **Annie Proulx**, **Cormac McCarthy**, **T. C. Boyle** and **Jane Smiley**.

Richard recommends these novels: *Sometimes a Great Notion* by **Ken Kesey**, *Last Night in Twisted River* by **John Irving**, and *Bridge of Sighs* by **Richard Russo**.

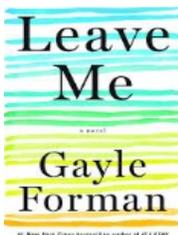
## Monthly Staff Favorites



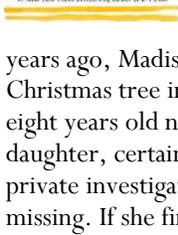
**Anna:** *The Passion of Dolssa: A Novel* by **Julie Berry**. In mid-thirteenth century Provence, Dolssa de Stigata is a fervently religious girl who feels the call to preach, and she's condemned by the Inquisition as an "unnatural woman." Botille is a matchmaker trying to protect her sisters from being branded as gypsies or witches, but when she finds the hunted Dolssa dying on a hillside, she feels compelled to protect her—a decision that may cost her everything.



**Emily:** *Happy Family* by **Tracy Barone**. In 1962, a pregnant girl flees a health clinic after giving birth. An unlikely couple, their lives unspooling from the recent death of their infant, adopts the baby. Forty years and many secrets and lies later, Cheri Matzner is all grown up and falling apart. She's a former cop-turned-disgruntled academic, a frustrated wife trying to get pregnant, and an iconoclastic daughter bearing war-wounds from her dysfunctional family.



**Diane:** *Leave Me* by **Gayle Forman**. For every woman who fantasizes about driving past her exit on the highway instead of going home to make dinner, meet Maribeth Klein, a working mother who's so busy taking care of her husband and twins, she doesn't even realize she's had a heart attack. When her recuperation seems to be an imposition on those who rely on her, she packs up. Far from the demands of family and career, she is finally able to own up to her harbored secrets.



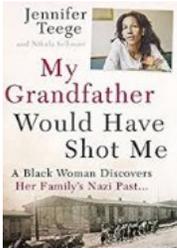
**Sue:** *The Child Finder* by **Rene Denfeld**. Three years ago, Madison Culver disappeared when her family was choosing a Christmas tree in Oregon's Skookum National Forest. She would be eight years old now—if she has survived. Desperate to find their daughter, certain someone took her, the Culvers turn to Naomi, a private investigator with an uncanny talent for locating the lost and missing. If she finds Madison, will she unlock the secrets of her own life?





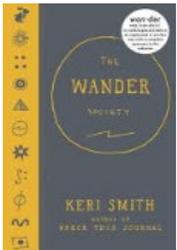
# What to Read Next

## Monthly Staff Favorites Continued...



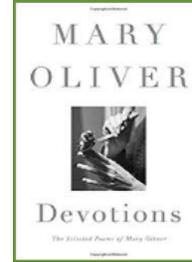
**Norma:** *My Grandfather Would Have Shot Me: A Black Woman Discovers Her Family's Nazi Past* by Jennifer Teege. At age 38, Jennifer Teege discovered a horrifying fact: Her grandfather was Amos Goeth, a vicious Nazi commandant reviled as the "butcher of Płaszów," and he was executed in 1946. The more she learned about him, the more certain she became that if he had met her, a black woman, he would have killed her. Why did her birth mother withhold this chilling secret?

**Ann:** *The Antiques* by Kris D'Agostino. On the night of a massive hurricane, three estranged siblings learn that their father is dying. For the first time in years, they convene at their childhood home in upstate New York where the storm has downed power lines, flooded houses and destroyed the family's antique store. Amid the storm, they come together to plan their father's memorial service. As their failures are laid bare, they discover that hope often lurks in the darkest of places. And so, too, can hilarity.



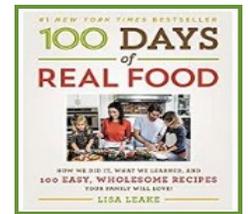
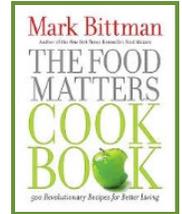
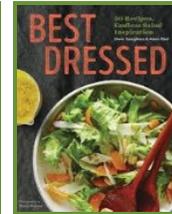
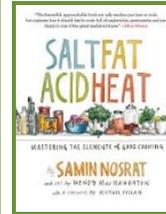
**Jessica:** *The Wander Society* by Keri Smith. When Smith found cryptic notations in a tattered book by Walt Whitman, her curiosity was piqued. Subsequently, she spent a year researching The Wander Society and wrote a guide about this secretive group. The Wander Society holds up the act of wandering or unplanned exploring as a way of life. You'll learn about the group's mysterious origins, discover how wandering feeds the creative mind, and learn how to best practice the art of wandering.

**Jana:** *Devotions: The Selected Poems of Mary Oliver* by Mary Oliver. Throughout her celebrated career, Mary Oliver has touched countless readers with her brilliantly crafted verse, expounding on her love for the physical world. She now returns with a stunning and definitive collection of her writing from the last fifty years. Carefully curated, these 200 plus poems feature work from her very first book of poetry, through her most recent collection, published in 2015.



## Healthy Choices for 2018!

Have you made a New Year's Resolution to eat healthier in 2018? While diet fads come and go, the Essex Library maintains an abundance of contemporary cookbooks, including many that offer helpful solutions to your dietary needs. If you are looking for some inspiration, check these out!



## Follow Us On Twitter!

Along with our Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest pages, the Essex Library is now using Twitter. We regularly tweet our book recommendations! If you need a book suggestion after-hours, please check out our staff picks by following us at <https://twitter.com/sxlibrary>.



## ELA Book Groups:

### Book Groups:

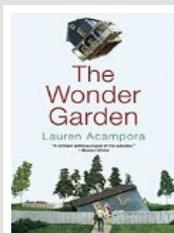
If you enjoy lively discussion with other book enthusiasts, please join us!



Book Group

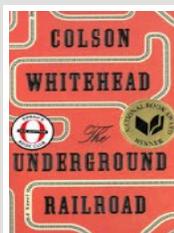
**First Thursday**  
January 4  
4:00 PM

*The Wonder Garden*



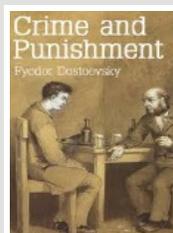
**Historical Fiction**  
January 9  
10:30 AM

*Underground Railroad*



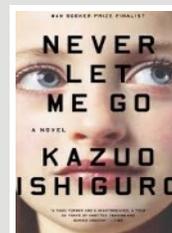
**Classics Book Group**  
January 11  
5:30 PM

*Crime and Punishment*



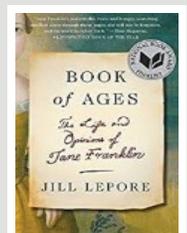
**Third Wednesday**  
January 17  
10:30 AM

*Never Let Me Go*



**American History**  
January 18  
5:00 PM

*Book of Ages: Jane Franklin*



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/](http://www.youressexlibrary.org/what-to-read-next/)



ESSEX LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Have a question, comment, or suggestion? Contact us!

Call us at 860-767-1560, or drop by the Essex Library at 33 West Avenue in Essex, CT.