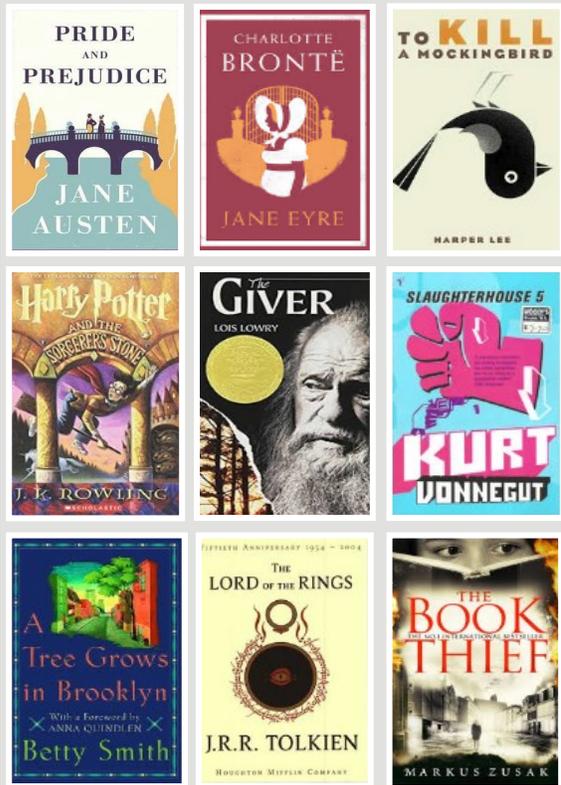


# What to Read Next



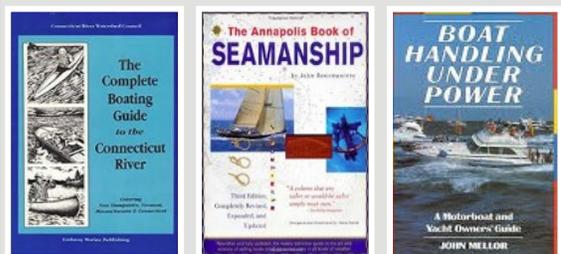
## The Great American Read

Have you voted on the list of **100** books selected by **Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)** and the **American Library Association (ALA)** for the **Great American Read**? Below, you will find some of our most cherished reads. Occasionally, we preferred an alternative book written by a selected author. Essex Library staff also enjoy recommending books that may have been overlooked on this list.



## Boating Books

Are you a boating novice? We have many books to answer your boat related questions. Bon voyage!



## Who's Your Favorite Author?



**Emily** reads across many genres, which is reflected by her favorite authors. "When I am looking for historical fiction that has some humor, I always enjoy **Beatriz Williams**. Her characters are delightful and often reappear in other novels. If I am in the mood for a thriller, I have been enthralled consistently by **Kelley Armstrong's** Rockton Series, which takes place in the Yukon. **Bill Bryson** has never failed to make me laugh as I quickly escape into his hilarious travelogues."

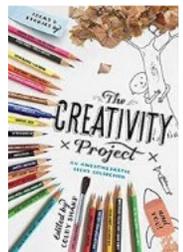
Emily recommends *The Secret Life of Violet Grant (Schuyler Sisters #1)* by **Beatriz Williams**, *City of the Lost* by **Kelley Armstrong** and *A Walk in the Woods* by **Bill Bryson**.

## Monthly Staff Favorites



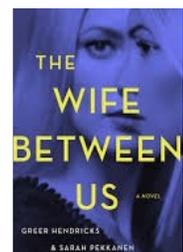
**Anna:** *Truly Devious: A Novel* by **Maureen Johnson**. Ellingham Academy is a famous private school in Vermont for great thinkers, inventors, and artists. It was founded by Albert Ellingham, an early twentieth century tycoon, who wanted to make a wonderful place full of riddles, twisting pathways, and gardens. Shortly after the school opened, his wife and daughter were kidnapped. The only clue was a mocking riddle listing methods of murder signed by "Truly Devious."

**Sue:** *The Creativity Project: An Awesometastic Story Collection* by **Colby Sharp**. Colby Sharp invited more than forty authors and illustrators to provide story starters for each other: photos, drawings, prose, or anything they could dream up. When they received their prompts, they responded by transforming these seeds into any form of creative work they wanted to share. The result is a stunning collection and includes inspiring story starters for the reader.



**Ann:** *The Gardens of Arne Maynard* by **Arne Maynard**. Arne Maynard is known for his award-winning gardens at the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Flower Show (2000 and 2012,) as well as for his beautiful and sympathetic gardens for private houses across the world. Central to his work as a designer is his ability to identify and draw out the essence of a place, something that gives his gardens a particular quality of harmony and belonging.

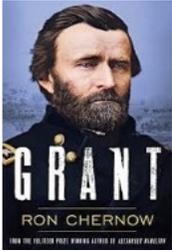
**Diane:** *The Wife Between Us: A Novel* by **Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen**. When you read this book, you will make many assumptions. You will assume you are reading about a jealous wife and her obsession with her replacement. You will assume you are reading about a woman about to enter a new marriage with the man she loves. You will assume the first wife was a disaster and that the husband was well rid of her. You will assume you know the motives and the history. Assume nothing!





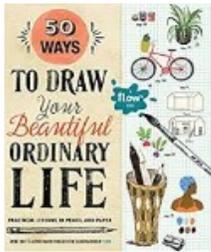
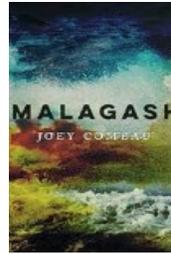
# What to Read Next

## Monthly Staff Favorites Continued...



**Richard:** *Grant* by **Ron Chernow**. Ulysses S. Grant's life has often been misunderstood. All too frequently, he is caricatured as a chronic loser and inept businessman, fond of drinking to excess; or as the triumphant but brutal Union general of the Civil War; or as a hapless president whose tenure came to symbolize the worst excesses of the Gilded Age. These stereotypes don't come close to capturing adequately his spirit and the sheer magnitude of his monumental accomplishments.

**Jana:** *Malagash* by **Joey Comeau**. Sunday's father is dying of cancer, and they've come home to Malagash, on the north shore of Nova Scotia, so he can die where he grew up. She doesn't have time for devastation because she has a plan, which includes recording everything her father says: every "I love you" right alongside every "Could we turn the heat up in here?" It's all important because she's writing a computer virus that will live secretly on the hard drives of millions of people all over the world. Her father is going to live forever.



**Jessica:** *50 Ways to Draw Your Beautiful Ordinary Life: Practical Lessons in Pencil and Paper* by **Irene Smit and Astrid van der Hulst**. Here are 50 easy, illustrated step-by-step lessons on how to draw a whimsically curated list of the things we see and interact with every day: a bouquet of flowers, a watering can, a cat, a cup and saucer, a seagull, an apple tree and more. The lessons take us line by line from early sketch to finished drawing, with space alongside for the reader to draw the same.

## Changes to the Online Catalog:

Along with all of the other member libraries of Libraries Online, Inc. (LION), the Essex Library recently launched a new online catalog, Pika. We are happy to help you navigate it and to teach you how to place holds from the convenience of your home via <https://ex.catalog.lionlibraries.org/> **Check it out!**



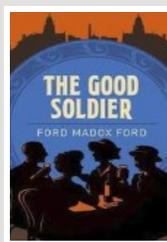
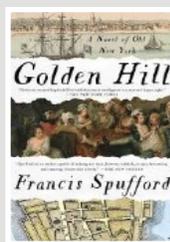
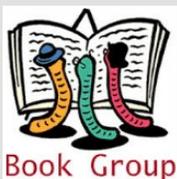
## ELA Book Groups:

**Book Groups:**  
If you enjoy lively discussion with other book enthusiasts, please join us!

**First Thursday**  
July 5  
4:00 PM  
*Exit West*  
*West*

**Historical Fiction**  
July 10  
10:30 AM  
*Golden Hill*

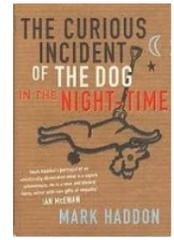
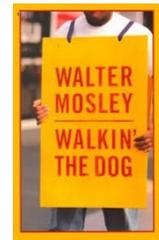
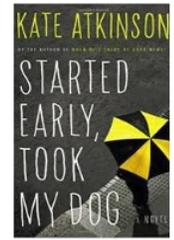
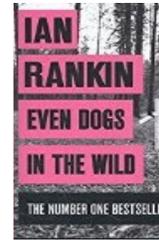
**Classics Book Group**  
September 27  
5:30 PM  
*The Good Soldier*



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/)

## Are You Ready for the Dog Days of Summer?

Whether you read these books at the beach or with a tall glass of cold lemonade, each short story collection, mystery, drama, or science fiction novel will entertain you throughout the hot summer months. You are always welcome to relax in our air conditioned library too!



Access Magazines, eBooks and Audiobooks 24/7

Essex Library offers its patrons **RB digital**, which "delivers your favorite titles right to your smartphone or tablet including digital magazines, audiobooks, eBooks, and more. Download now to listen, read, learn, and enjoy!" **Overdrive** enables users to borrow, listen to or read, as well as return eBooks and audiobooks 24/7. Try these services by clicking on the icons on our homepage: [www.youressexlibrary.org](http://www.youressexlibrary.org)

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