

ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF

December 2014
(Books purchased for November 2014)

FEATURED SELECTIONS

[THE REPUBLIC OF IMAGINATION](#)

AZAR NAFISI

The author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran* challenges us to rediscover American literature. In a day where education in America is very controlled, she calls for her readers to broaden their horizons with classics such as *Huckleberry Finn*, *Babbitt*, and *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*. 338 p.

[WRAPPING WITH FABRIC](#)

ETSUKO YAMADA

Learn the beautiful Japanese art of furoshiki, wrapping fabric for presents, decoration, and functionality. 112 p., ill.

ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

[BREAKFAST AT SOTHEBY'S](#)

PHILIP HOOK

Breakfast at Sotheby's provides an insider's guide that reveals how the financial value of a work of art is determined, examining various artists and styles, as well as what Hook terms "wall-power." 347 p., ill.

[THE LANGUAGE OF HOUSES](#)

ALISON LURIE

A Pulitzer Prize-winning author looks at how houses and public buildings influence us, and how they reveal things about us as well. 308 p., ill.

[MANHATTAN CLASSIC](#)

GEOFFREY LYNCH

A tour of many of New York's most legendary apartments built from the 1880s-1930s. 223 p., ill.

[SELLING THE DWELLING](#)

RICHARD CHEEK

Cheek organizes a fascinating compilation of prints and items from the Grolier Club's exhibition on "the books that built America's houses, 1775-2000." Stunning photographs and artwork are scattered vibrantly throughout the book, revealing the vast culture behind the American home. 286 p., ill.

[TIKI POP](#)

SVEN A. KIRSTEN

A richly illustrated look at how Polynesian imagery, especially Tiki figures, became a cultural phenomenon in the United States. Includes an image from the Athenaeum's collection. (Gift of the Publisher. **This oversized book does not circulate by mail**). 383 p., ill.

[WRAPPING WITH FABRIC](#)

ETSUKO YAMADA

Learn the beautiful Japanese art of furoshiki, wrapping fabric for presents, decoration, and functionality. 112 p., ill.

BIOGRAPHY

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS

DICK CAVETT

Honest and personal, former talk show host Dick Cavett recounts his most memorable encounters with icons from entertainment, sports, business and more. 267 p.

CHARLIE CHAPLIN

PETER ACKROYD+

The award-winning biographer chronicles the sometimes controversial life of one of Hollywood's greatest stars. 289 p., ill.

GEORGE MARSHALL

DEBI AND IRWIN UNGER

An account of the life of George C. Marshall, chief of staff for the U.S. Army during World War II, including his famous Marshall Plan, for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize. 552 p., ill

GI BRIDES

DUNCAN BARRETT AND NUALA CALVI

This book tells the stories of four of the more than 70,000 British women who married American soldiers and sailors of the Second World War and moved to the United States as war brides. 361 p., ill.

NOT MY FATHER'S SON

ALAN CUMMING

The acclaimed actor recounts his past, including pain and hardships growing up, and also investigates mysteries that reach into his family's past in this blend of autobiography and family history. **(This title is also available to borrow as an ebook on the [Athenaeum's ebook site](#).)** 294 p., ill.

THE SEARCH FOR ANNE PERRY

JOANNE DRAYTON

Best-selling author Anne Perry, previously known as Juliet Hulme, was convicted of assisting in the murder of her best friend's mother in a notorious case in New Zealand while still a teenager. Joanne Drayton recounts how this event altered Perry's life and influenced her work. 352 p., ill.

AUDIOBOOKS

THE INNOVATORS

WALTER ISAACSON

From the author of Steve Jobs comes this exploration of the lives of the pioneers who revolutionized our lives through computers, computer programming and the Internet 15 CDs, 17 hrs., 30 min.

HISTORY & POLITICS

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

RENEE C. FOX

Sociologist Renée C. Fox details the history of Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders.) With twenty years of broad research covering the organization's development, challenges, and culture, Fox presents an in-depth look into MSF's effort to people in need. 316 p.

LAWRENCE IN ARABIA

SCOTT ANDERSON

A new look at T.E. Lawrence and the Arab Revolt in World War I, including other key players in the region. **(Gift of Rev. J. Michael Pulsifer)** 577 p., ill.

RUSSIAN ROULETTE

The story of a daring group of British spies, including W. Somerset Maugham and Sidney Reilly, fighting to stop the spread of Vladimir Lenin's power. 378 p., ill.

GILES MILTON

THE WARS OF THE ROSES

Dan Jones follows his *The Plantagenets* with this history of the fifteenth century struggle for power between the houses of Lancaster and York. 392 p., ill.

DAN JONES

WHEN BRITAIN BURNED THE WHITE HOUSE

A compelling retelling of the British invasion of Washington, D.C. during the War of 1812, 308 p., ill.

PETER SNOW

WHEN LIONS ROAR

Maier delivers a comprehensive story that traces Winston Churchill's complex relationship with the Kennedy family over a period of thirty years. **(This title will also be available to borrow as an ebook on the [Athenaeum's ebook site](#).)** 767 p., ill.

THOMAS MAIER

MISCELLANEOUS

THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC 2015

Your source for weather forecasts and other "new, useful & entertaining matter." **(This title will also be available to borrow as an ebook on the [Athenaeum's ebook site](#).)** 304 p., ill.

THE REPUBLIC OF IMAGINATION

The author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran* challenges us to rediscover American literature. In a day where education in America is very controlled, she calls for her readers to broaden their horizons with classics such as *Huckleberry Finn*, *Babbitt*, and *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*. 338 p.

AZAR NAFISI

LOCAL INTEREST

DR MÜTTER'S MARVELS

A biography of physician Dr. Thomas Dent Mütter, from childhood through his pioneering surgeries on severely deformed patients, to his teaching collection of medical oddities, which became the foundation for Philadelphia's well-known Mütter Museum. 371 p., ill.

CRISTIN O'KEEFE APTOWICZ

PHILADELPHIA'S OLD SOUTHWARK DISTRICT

A photographic look at Old Southwark, which includes such present day areas as Queen Village and East Passyunk, from the *Images of America* series. 127 p., ill.

HEATHER GIBSON MOQTADERI and MEHRON MOQTADERI

TRAVEL

SCOTLAND'S BEST CASTLES AND STATELY HOMES

Explore Scotland in Coventry's detailed guide to the architecture and history of over eighty castles and grand homes. 206 p., ill.

MARTIN COVENTRY

FICTION

BLACK VODKA

DEBORAH LEVY

The ten stories in this slim volume show the struggles behind the pursuit of happiness in the modern world.
125 p.

CLOSE CALL

STELLA RIMINGTON

With rumors of al-Qaeda gaining strength, MI5's counter-terrorism unit is investigating the illicit international weapon's market, tracing a source to Western Europe.
344 p.

DEADOUT

JON MCGORAN

Detective Doyle Carrick and his girlfriend, organic farmer Nola Watkins take a vacation to Martha's Vineyard but are alarmed to discover that honeybees that are vital to the island's farms are dying. A large corporation steps in to offer genetically modified superbees – bringing with them political struggles and possibly devastating consequences.
397 p.

THE DROP

DENNIS LEHANE

The author of *Gone, Baby, Gone* and *Mystic River* takes the reader into the Boston underworld where a bartender is in over his head.
207 p.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

CHARLIE LOVETT

Antiquarian bookstore worker Sophie Collingswood is finding it difficult to choose between two men in her personal life, while professionally being drawn to the mystery of whether Jane Austen really created the plot of *Pride and Prejudice* on her own.
308 p.

GRAY MOUNTAIN

JOHN GRISHAM

After the 2008 recession, Wall Street lawyer Samantha Kofer loses her job but is offered another, unpaid opportunity: as a lawyer in the small, Appalachian coal mining town of Brady, Virginia. (**This title is also available to borrow as an ebook on the [Athenaeum's ebook site.](#)**)
368 p.

GUTENBERG'S APPRENTICE

ALIX CHRISTIE

In this debut historical novel a young scribe becomes an apprentice to Johann Gutenberg as he begins creating Bibles on his new invention, the printing press.
406 p.

LILA

MARILYNNE ROBINSON

After a nomadic life Lila finds herself in Gilead, Iowa adjusting to life as a minister's wife in this 2014 National Book Award finalist. (**This title is also available to borrow as an ebook on the [Athenaeum's ebook site.](#)**)
261 p.

MR. BONES

PAUL THEROUX

The author of *The Great Railway Bazaar* presents a collection of short stories about the bizarrely unexpected, revenge, and other dark compulsions.
359 p.

SANDALWOOD DEATH

MO YAN

This historical novel by a Nobel Prize-winning author follows a young woman through the Boxer Rebellion.
(**Anonymous Gift.**)
409 p.

SPLIT THE DIFFERENCE

SUSAN HAUSMAN

An arrogant, power-hungry man from the Main Line must find a balance between his selfish behavior and the woman he loves.
239 p.

TROUBLED DAUGHTERS, TWISTED WIVES

ED. BY SARAH WEINMAN

A collection of domestic suspense stories by women authors, including Patricia Highsmith and Shirley Jackson.
(Gift of the publisher) 356 p.

UNMANNED

DAN FESPERMAN

A former drone “pilot” teams up with journalists to uncover the identity of the person who directed his last, disastrous mission. 315 p.

WE ARE NOT OURSELVES

MATTHEW THOMAS

Post World War II America is seen through the eyes of Eileen Tumulty, the daughter of Irish immigrants in Queens, as she marries and tries to maintain stability while pursuing her vision of the American dream.(Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2014, Fiction) 620 p.

THE ZONE OF INTEREST

MARTIN AMIS

A vivid love story surrounding a haunting magic mirror that shows the reality of one’s soul. Can love survive in the face of such knowledge? 306 p.

DETECTIVES

THE BUTTON MAN

MARK PRYOR

In this prequel to the Hugo Marston novels, Marston is tasked with providing security for a movie-star couple in England, but when one of them turns up dead the body count is just beginning. 269 p.

A DEMON SUMMER

G.M. MALLIET

Father Max Tudor is called on to investigate the attempted poisoning of the Earl of Lislelivet. The search leads to the St.Lucy of Monkbury Abbey, the source of the treat that contained the poison. 382 p.

DESIGNATED DAUGHTERS

MARGARET MARON

North Carolina Judge Deborah Knott’s elderly aunt starts a lively stream of cryptic comments while in her final days in hospice. Was something revealed by the rambling fragmented stories from years ago that caused someone to hasten her demise? 308 p.

THE DEVIL TAKES HALF

LETA SERAFIM

A seemingly insignificant archaeological dig on a Greek island becomes a murder scene in this debut mystery. 245 p.

FIGHTING CHANCE

JANE HADDAM

Gregor Demarkian returns to the Armenian community in Philadelphia where he grew up and must get to the bottom of a murder that appears to have been committed by his childhood best friend, now the local parish priest. 311 p.

THE GIRL NEXT DOOR

RUTH RENDELL

During WWII a group of children found adventure and escape in a series of underground tunnels in their suburban London neighborhood. Now, years later, the discovery of two skeletal hands in the same area brings the now-adult group back together. 272 p.

I CAN SEE IN THE DARK

KARIN FOSSUM

A man who is guilty of a crime is arrested for another, one he didn't commit, in this stand-alone novel by the author of the Konrad Sejer mysteries. (**This title is also available to borrow as an ebook on the [Athenaeum's ebook site.](#)**)

210 p.

THE LOW ROAD

A.D. SCOTT

John McAllister's peaceful life in the Scottish Highlands is threatened when he becomes enmeshed in the hunt for a friend with gang ties..

326 p.

MURDER AT THE BRIGHTWELL

ASHLEY WEAVER

In this debut mystery set in 1930s England Amory Ames agrees to help a former flame convince his sister that her planned marriage is a mistake, but instead she finds herself entangled in a murder mystery when the would-be groom is found dead.

325 p.

SCANDAL IN SKIBBEREEN

SHEILA CONNOLLY

A pub owner from Boston, Maura, is still adjusting to her new life in Ireland when Althea Melville crosses her path. Althea is searching for a lost work of art, and Maura decides to help her in her quest. Things take an interesting turn when a local gardener is found dead. Is the murder connected to the missing Van Dyke painting?

294 p.

+ McNAUGHTON RENTAL

HOW TO USE THE MAIL SERVICE OF THE CIRCULATION LIBRARY

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