

ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF

February 2015
(Books purchased for January 2015)

FEATURED SELECTION

SAINT KATHARINE

CORDELIA FRANCES BIDDLE

Biography of Philadelphia socialite Katharine Drexel, who used her incredible inheritance to aid the Catholic Indian Missions and established her own religious order. She was canonized in 2000. 276 p., ill.

ART, ARCHITECTURE, & DESIGN

ART DECO MAILBOXES

KAREN GREENE & LYNNE LABELLE

Gorgeous photographs adorn the pages of this guide to the seemingly insignificant yet undeniably beautiful architectural feature that is the mailbox. Specifically, this book looks at the history of the Art Deco style mailbox, featuring pictures and details on boxes that still survive in buildings across America. 155 p., ill.

CULTURE AND ART – MUSEUM DESIGN

CHIEF EDITOR: SYLVIE WANG, DING XIAOJAUN

This richly illustrated book provides a look at the architecture and design of modern museum buildings across the world. **(Does not circulate by mail)** 375 p., ill.

LEGACY IN TIME

HENRY VAUX, JR.

In this stunning collection of mountain photography, Henry Vaux, Jr., has compiled a mesmerizing assortment of original photos all from Vaux family members' travels in the Canadian West at the turn of the twentieth century, which he has paired with his own modern photos taken precisely in the same locations. 125 p., ill.

WASHINGTON AND BALTIMORE ART DECO

RICHARD STRINER AND MELISSA BLAIR

Though the architectural style of Art Deco is commonly associated with cities like New York or Paris, its buildings are found throughout America. Researchers Striner and Blair bring light to the structures of Washington D.C. and Baltimore, studying the economic differences between the two cities and their architectural similarities. 243 p., ill.

LOCAL INTEREST

EMILIE DAVIS'S CIVIL WAR

EMILIE DAVIS

By 1861, Emilie Davis was twenty-two and a free Black woman living in a free state. Within these pages are her diary entries while living in Philadelphia from 1863-1865. 211 p.

LEGENDARY LOCALS OF CENTER CITY PHILADELPHIA PENNSYLVANIA

THOM NICKELS

From Edgar Allen Poe to Grace Kelly, discover the various talents who have lived in Philadelphia throughout the city's history. 127 p., ill.

OLD PHILADELPHIA HOUSES ON SOCIETY HILL

ELIZABETH B. McCALL

Explore Society Hill through photographs and diagrams of the Colonial and Early American buildings that adorn this historic part of Philadelphia in this work that was originally published in 1966. 192 p., ill.

SAINT KATHARINE

CORDELIA FRANCES BIDDLE

Biography of Philadelphia socialite Katharine Drexel, who used her incredible inheritance to aid the Catholic Indian Missions and established her own religious order. She was canonized in 2000. 276 p., ill.

BIOGRAPHY

DON'T GIVE UP, DON'T GIVE IN

LOUIS ZAMPERINI AND DAVID RENSIN

The inspirational Louis Zamperini, the subject of Laura Hillenbrand's bestselling book *Unbroken* and December's major motion picture, reflected on his extraordinary life, from being an Olympic athlete to his harrowing experiences during World War II in this book, which was completed shortly before his death. **Also available as an [ebook](#).** 238 p., ill.

NAPOLEON: A LIFE

ANDREW ROBERTS

In the first complete biography of Napoleon Bonaparte's life to draw from of the recent publication of his 33,000 letters, a new window is offered into France's legendary icon. (*The New York Times Book Review 100 Notable Books of 2014*) 926 p., ill.

PENELOPE FITZGERALD: A LIFE

HERMIONE LEE

Lee, who has previously written on Edith Wharton and Virginia Woolf, now brings to light the life of yet another extraordinary novelist and winner of the Booker Prize, Penelope Fitzgerald. A masterfully crafted telling of the career and personal life of Fitzgerald, this biography delivers unique insight about the passionate writer from a passionate writer. (*The New York Times Book Review 100 Notable Books of 2014; Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2014, Nonfiction*) 488 p., ill.

SHACKLETON: BY ENDURANCE WE CONQUER

MICHAEL SMITH

In a page-turning narrative, the epic story of polar explorer Ernest Shackleton comes to life, discussing his ambition, courageous acts, ability to inspire, and enduring determination in the face of hopelessness. 443 p., ill.

VICTORIA: A LIFE

A.N. WILSON

Wilson presents a powerfully rich and thoroughly researched biography of England's longest-reigning monarch, discussing everything from Queen Victoria's childhood to her death in 1901, and the events that shaped the passionate individual she was. **Also available as an [ebook](#).** 642 p., ill.

WILDE IN AMERICA

DAVID M. FRIEDMAN+

When Oscar Wilde came to America in 1882, he had an important mission: fame. Though hired to give lectures on interior design throughout the country, Wilde's priority was to make himself a celebrity, and Friedman tells the tale of his success in this captivating look at stardom in the Gilded Age. 316 p., ill.

THE WOMAN I WANTED TO BE

DIANE VON FURSTENBERG +

Diane Von Furstenberg became a fashion icon in the 1970s with her invention of the wrap dress, and since then has become a global figure in the industry. Here, she reminisces over a life of grand adventure and meaningful lessons, discussing her successes and failures and all that she's learned from them. 239 p., ill.

TRAVEL

PRAGUE

ANDREW BEATTIE

Discover the best places to visit in the city of Prague and learn about its rich cultural heritage. 246 p., ill.

HISTORY & POLITICS

FACTORY MAN

BETH MACY

Here is a look into how John Bassett III fought to save his family's furniture company from being beaten by offshore competition. (*The New York Times Book Review 100 Notable Books of 2014*; *Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2014, Nonfiction*) (Gift of Rev. J. Michael Pulsifer) 451 p., ill.

THE FIRST FAMILY DETAIL

RONALD KESSLER+

In the past, the private lives of American presidents seemed firmly hidden, except to the eyes of the agents responsible for their protection. Kessler breaks through the secrecy and gives us a look at presidents and their families, as well as presidential candidates and former presidents, from the perspective of the Secret Service. 258 p., ill.

THE GEORGETOWN SET

GREGG HERKEN

The drama of post-war Washington unfolds in this history of the government officials, journalists, professors, and countless others who influenced American policy behind the scenes. 494 p., ill.

THE LOST TRIBE OF CONEY ISLAND

CLAIRE PRENTICE

In 1905, showman Truman K. Hunt opened a new attraction at Luna Park in New York's Coney Island, bringing the Igorrotes, tribespeople from the Philippines, to entertain the American public. Rather than a cultural celebration, it turned into an experience of exploitation for the Filipinos. 388 p., ill.

MISCELLANEOUS

BEING MORAL: MEDICINE AND WHAT MATTERS IN THE END

ATUL GAWANDE +

Dr. Gawande, writing with his own experience and thorough research, discusses the relationship between doctors and their dying patients, addressing the difficult decisions and conversations that occur, and how we can improve how life is lived, even as the end draws closer. (*The New York Times Book Review 100 Notable Books of 2014, The Washington Post Ten Best Books of 2014*) 282 p.

BOHEMIANS, BOOTLEGGERS, FLAPPERS, & SWELLS

ED. BY GRAYDON CARTER WITH DAVID FRIEND

Carter sheds light on the golden age of *Vanity Fair* magazine in celebration of its 100th anniversary, in this collection of pieces from the magazine's early writers, including Dorothy Parker, P.G. Wodehouse, Colette, and others. 420 p.

FINDING YOUR ROOTS

HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. offers this companion book to the popular PBS television series. He looks into the family histories of various well-known people using genealogical research and DNA testing. 330 p.

FICTION

THE ANTIQUARIAN

GUSTAVO FAVERÓN PATRIAU

In this debut novel, psycholinguist Gustavo's best friend Daniel has been committed to a psychiatric ward for murder. While Gustavo is trying to piece together an understanding of the crime, a woman in the same ward is murdered and Daniel is the chief suspect. (*Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2014*) 209 p.

ARCTIC SUMMER

In 1912, author E. M. Forster traveled to India on what this fictional biography shows to be a journey of self-discovery. 339 p.

DAMON GALGUT

THE BOSTON GIRL

The author of *The Red Tent* tells the story of Addie Baum, a young Jewish woman whose story begins in 1915 and follows her throughout years of growing up in the North End of Boston. An emotionally stirring and historically truthful tale, *The Boston Girl* divulges an intriguing look at one woman finding her place in a changing America. 322 p.

ANITA DIAMANT +

THE BREWER OF PRESTON

The author of the Inspector Montalbano mysteries has created a tale of late nineteenth century Sicily. When a new government attempts to put on a second-tier opera, an eclectic group of people set out to derail the attempt. 245 p.

ANDREA CAMILLERI

THE FORGERS

A rare book collector is found dead, and his bookseller sister and her lover (an occasional literary forger) soon begins receiving threats in the mail, that have the appearance of being sent by deceased authors. **Also available as an [eBook](#).** 242 p.

BRADFORD MORROW

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN

Every morning and night, Rachel commutes on the same train and gazes out the window as scenery zooms past her. Each ride she sees a couple having breakfast on their deck, and is delighted by the charming sight, until one day she sees something disturbing that changes everything. **Also available as an [ebook](#).** 323 p.

PAULA HAWKINS+

INTO THE WAR

Calvino's trilogy of autobiographical short fiction presents a glimpse not only into his young life but also the despair of a war-torn country. In these stories set during World War II, Calvino delivers his experiences, when he was too young for Mussolini's army, but old enough for the Italian youth brigades. 90 p.

ITALO CALVINO

THE LIGHTKEEPER'S WIFE

Hannah Snow rescues a shipwrecked sailor just before unexpectedly becoming a widow. As she runs her husband's lighthouse on her own, the mysterious sailor helps her heal. 298 p.

SARAH ANNE JOHNSON

LOUISE'S BLUNDER

In the midst of WWII, a Government girl becomes involved with another woman in the OSS Reading Room, and innocent but controversial conversations about segregation and feminism threaten to turn sinister. 182 p.

SARAH R. SHABER

MR. BOARDWALK

Jason Benson fell in love with Atlantic City at seven years old, wanting to make the magical place his home. However, as an adult, he is living in New York and hiding his past from his family, setting the intriguing question: what happened to his youth's desires? 309 p.

LOUIS GREENSTEIN

NOWHERE FAST

A collection of short prose poetry by William Kulik. 69 p.

WILLIAM KULIK

THE PROFESSOR AND THE SIREN

From the renowned author of *The Leopard* comes this collection of three of his shorter works, completed in the last two years of his life. 69 p.

GIUSEPPE TOMASI DI LAMPEDUSA

SKYLIGHT

JOSÉ SARAMAGO +

From the winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, *Skylight* tells the story of an apartment building's residents in 1940s Lisbon, who struggle with day to day hardships, disappointments, and foul relationships. 299 p.

VANESSA AND HER SISTER

PRIYA PARMAR+

It's 1905 in London and sisters Vanessa Bell, the painter, and Virginia Woolf, the writer, find themselves stepping into life's great struggles as well as its joys, before their ultimate fame and success. 348 p.

WHERE'D YOU GO, BERNADETTE

MARIA SEMPLE

As Bee prepares to leave on a trip to Antarctica, her mother Bernadette disappears, leaving Bee to piece clues together to uncover the secrets her mother has been hiding in this delightfully, twistedly humorous novel. **(Gift of Rev. J. Michael Pulsifer)** 330 p.

DETECTIVES

THE BEST AMERICAN MYSTERY STORIES OF THE 19TH CENTURY

ED. BY OTTO PENZLER

In this mighty compilation, Penzler has selected a series of works from the century's leading authors. It includes some who are well known in the genre, such as Edgar Allan Poe, and others, such as Louisa May Alcott and Edith Wharton, whose mystery tales have been relatively unnoticed until now. 604 p.

BRYANT & MAY AND THE BLEEDING HEART

CHRISTOPHER FOWLER

When two London teenagers witness a corpse rising from a cemetery's grave, detectives Arthur Bryant and John May are tasked with investigating. Laced with dark humor and gripping suspense, the plot grows more sinister when one of the teenagers is found dead, and the detectives realize these mysteries are far more complex than they had initially suspected. 383 p.

DEATH COMES TO LONDON

CATHERINE LLOYD

Sisters Lucy and Anna Harrington leave their village for a luxurious vacation in London, but amidst the grand parties and formal occasions, the dowager Countess of Broughton drops dead, poisoned. Fingers are pointed at several people, including Anna, and Lucy becomes determined to find the real culprit and clear her sister's name. 259 p.

DEEP SHELTER

OLIVER HARRIS

When Detective Nick Belsey's date mysteriously disappears while they are exploring an abandoned London bomb shelter, he knows he'll be the prime suspect if he reports it, so he must investigate on his own. 423 p.

ENTER PALE DEATH

BARBARA CLEVERLY

When Lady Truelove meets her gruesome demise after a violent encounter with one of her estate's horses, Scotland Yard Detective Joe Sandilands deems her tragic death as no accident, and soon risks his chances with the woman he loves in order to understand the truth. 358 p.

THE FIREBIRD'S FEATHER

MARJORIE ECCLES

It is the time of King George V's coronation, and Kitty Challoner finds her excitement about her upcoming debut in society derailed by her mother's murder. Questions abound, and Kitty sets out to investigate. 219 p.

MURDER AT MARBLE HOUSE

ALYSSA MAXWELL

A murder and a disappearance at the Vanderbilt's Newport residence may be related. 330 p.

MURDER AT THE CHASE

ERIC BROWN

Crime writer Donald Langham is asked to investigate what happened to a friend's father, who seems to have disappeared from the small town of Humble Barton, potentially from digging too deep into the life of a notorious Satanist. 218 p.

THE MURDER OF HARRIET KROHN

KARIN FOSSUM +

Former gambler Charlo Torp believes the only way to return to a happy life and earn his daughter's forgiveness is to pay off his debts, which he plans to do by robbing an old woman, Harriet Krohn, of her silver collection. To his chagrin, she fights back, and things go awry when suddenly Charlo becomes a killer. **Also available as an ebook.** 242 p.

THE SKELETON ROAD

VAL McDERMID

Human remains that may be from as far away as Yugoslavia are found in a building about to be demolished in Edinburgh. 406 p.

THOSE WHO FEEL NOTHING

PETER GUTTRIDGE

Bob Watts gets thrown into the thick of things as he starts his new job as Brighton's first Police Commissioner, when an investigation uncovers looted treasures and a recently buried body. 215 p.

+ McNAUGHTON RENTAL

HOW TO USE THE MAIL SERVICE OF THE CIRCULATION LIBRARY

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