

# SPECIAL ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF

## OLDER FAVORITES:

### LIBRARIES

### BIOGRAPHY

#### [AN ILLUMINATED LIFE](#)

**HEIDI ARDIZZONE**

A biography of Belle da Costa Greene, J.P. Morgan's personal librarian and later the first director of the Morgan Library. In addition to her professional accomplishments she was known for her beauty and fashion sense. Throughout her remarkable career Greene hid the fact that she was a Black woman passing as white.

580 p., ill.

### HISTORY

#### [AMERICAN LIBRARIES 1730-1950](#)

**KENNETH BREISCH**

A look at library architecture, including the Carnegie libraries and the Library of Congress.

314 p., ill.

#### [AMERICA'S MEMBERSHIP LIBRARIES](#)

**ed. by RICHARD WENDORF**

A look at sixteen membership libraries still operating in the United States.

354 p., ill.

#### [THE COUNTRY HOUSE LIBRARY](#)

**MARK PURCELL**

A look at country house libraries in Great Britain and Ireland.

352 p., ill.

#### [INFORMATION HUNTERS](#)

**KATHY PEISS**

Librarians, soldiers, and spies worked to collect information during World War II in Europe, including obtaining Nazi publications in neutral countries and getting it back to the allies. After the war they dealt with looted Jewish books.

277 p., ill.

#### [THE LIBRARY BOOK](#)

**SUSAN ORLEAN**

The bestselling author of *The Orchid Thief* weaves together the story of a devastating fire at the Los Angeles Public Library, with the larger history of the library over many decades.

317 p., ill.

#### [PHILADELPHIA VICTORIAN](#)

**ROGER W. MOSS**

A history of the building of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia written by Roger W. Moss, who served as the long-term Executive Director.

158 p., ill.

## EBOOKS

EBooks are digital books that may be read on a device that takes apps, like a tablet (iPad or Kindle Fire) or a smartphone. They are not physical books.

### THE CASE OF THE MISSING BOOKS

IAN SANSOM

Israel Armstrong must discover who is stealing all the books from an Irish mobile library.

### A DELAYED LIFE

DITA KRAUS

A memoir by the real-life Librarian of Auschwitz.

### INFORMATION HUNTERS

KATHY PEISS

Librarians, soldiers, and spies worked to collect information during World War II in Europe, including obtaining Nazi publications in neutral countries and getting it back to the allies. After the war they dealt with looted Jewish books.

### THE LIBRARY AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

FELICITY HAYES-McCOY

Hanna Casey retreats to running a mobile library on the coast of Ireland after her marriage falls apart.

### THE LIONS OF FIFTH AVENUE

FIONA DAVIS

Parallel stories involving the wife of a New York Public Library superintendent in 1913 whose family lives in the library, and her granddaughter who is a librarian there decades later. By the author of *The Chelsea Girls* and *The Address*.

### LITTLE COMFORT

EDWIN HILL

A Harvard librarian researches missing persons on the side.

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## AUDIOBOOKS

### THE HISTORIAN

ELIZABETH KOSTOVA

Libraries and mysterious books feature in this creepy bestselling novel of a man investigating Dracula in the 1950s, and his daughter, who picks up the research in the 1970s, with the possibility that Dracula is still alive.

10 CDs

## FICTION

### THE AFFLICTIONS

VIKRAM PARALKAR

A library contains a book of amazing diseases, such as amnesia that makes other people forget you. A magical book written by a real-life physician.

175 p.

### **THE HISTORIAN**

Libraries and mysterious books feature in this creepy bestselling novel of a man investigating Dracula in the 1950s, and his daughter, who picks up the research in the 1970s, with the possibility that Dracula is still alive.  
642 p.

**ELIZABETH KOSTOVA**

### **THE LIONS OF FIFTH AVENUE**

Parallel stories involving the wife of a New York Public Library superintendent in 1913 whose family lives in the library, and her granddaughter who is a librarian there decades later. By the author of [The Chelsea Girls](#) and [The Address](#).  
354 p.

**FIONA DAVIS**

### **THE LOST BOOK OF THE GRAIL, OR, A VISITOR'S GUIDE TO BARCHESTER CATHEDRAL**

While researching in the Barchester Cathedral library Arthur meets a kindred spirit who is also obsessed with the Holy Grail.  
320 p.

**CHARLIE LOVETT**

### **PUBLIC LIBRARY AND OTHER STORIES**

Short stories about books and libraries and their roles in our lives.

**ALI SMITH**

219 p.

### **THE STARLESS SEA**

A rare book leads to a magical subterranean library in this fantasy from the bestselling author of [The Night Circus](#).  
498 p.

**ERIN MORGENSTERN**

### **THE STRANGE LIBRARY**

A slim work of fantastical fiction involving three people trapped in a mysterious library.  
1 volume (unpaged)

**HARUKI MURAKAMI**

### **THE UNCOMMON READER**

In this novella the Queen of England stumbles upon a mobile library and borrows a book. A favorite of Athenaeum members.  
120 p.

**ALAN BENNETT**

## **DETECTIVES**

### **BY ITS COVER**

The theft of pages from rare books features in this Venetian mystery.

**DONNA LEON**

237 p.

### **THE LIAR IN THE LIBRARY**

An author event at a library results in murder.

**SIMON BRETT**

183 p.

### **MURDER AT THE 42ND STREET LIBRARY**

A murder at the New York Public Library.

**CON LEHANE**

307 p.

### **MURDER IN THE MANUSCRIPT ROOM**

The second 42nd Street Library Mystery.

**CON LEHANE**

305 p.

### **MURDER OFF THE PAGE**

The third 42nd Street Library Mystery.

**CON LEHANE**

323 p.

### **THE PARIS LIBRARIAN**

A murder at the American Library in Paris.

**MARK PRYOR**

263 p.

## A SLIP OF THE TONG

Staff members in the Asian section of a Washington, D.C. library are being murdered.

CHARLES A. GOODRUM

180 p.

**The Athenaeum's catalog is now part of the University of Pennsylvania's Catalog, Franklin.**

**You may search Franklin here: <http://www.library.upenn.edu/>**

Athenaeum Shareholders are now eligible to borrow items from the University of Pennsylvania libraries. You may also set up an online account to manage renewals from both the Athenaeum and Penn. At present all requests for items to be picked up at the Athenaeum must be done through the Librarian. Only requests for curbside pickup at Van Pelt may be completed through your Franklin account at this time.

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For those members who wish to receive books by mail, please let us know your selections by email or telephone. [To better serve our members, please limit the number of books that you request to a reasonable number, in keeping with your reading pace.](#)

Email: [jilly@philaathenaeum.org](mailto:jilly@philaathenaeum.org).

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### **Picking up Books at the Library**

Members are always welcome to pick up their books at the Athenaeum. Please provide us with an **email address** so that we can alert you when a book is waiting for you

**ATHENÆUM BOOKSHELF**