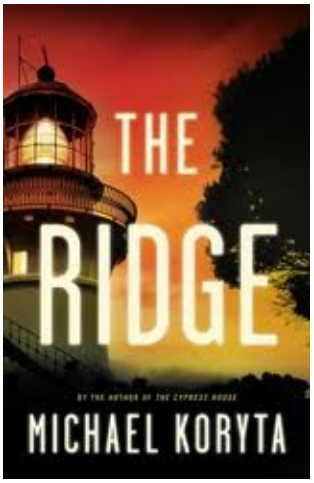
Award Winner

Authors in the News



Lauren Myracle writes about being un-nominated for the National Book in the Huffington Post. Put in a really tough position, Myracle comes across as funny, tender and sympathetic. And apparently I wasn't the only one who added *Shine* to my Goodreads list.

Earlier this week, local law enforcement in Ohio was forced to shoot 49 large animals after their owner opened gates and cages prior to killing himself. As a follow up, NPR interviews local author Michael Koryta, the author of *The Ridge* which includes a significant plot line involving a large cat sanctuary in Kentucky. The interview covers challenges of regulating exotic animal ownership.
For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward WinnerThe ridge

Posted by Sarah B. on Oct 21, 2011 Sarah B.'s blog Add new comment

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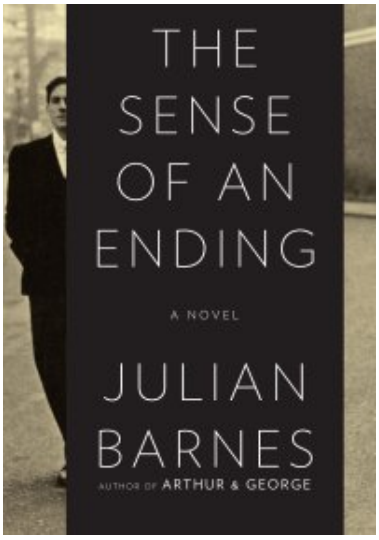
Man Booker Prize



Julian Barnes was awarded the Man Booker prize this week for his recent short novel, *The Sense of an Ending*. Reviews of the book include key words like "compelling", "memorable" and "dexterously crafted".
Barnes is well known in Britain, and has made the Booker short list three times in the past. He was the front runner going into the final days of the Booker, a prize awarded to British authors and authors from the Commonwealth. Usually considered one of the more prestigious literary awards, the Booker prize wasn't without it's own controversy this year. Critics complained that the short list was less literary in an effort to be more accessible and reward popular titles.
Can a book be accessible and popular while also being literary? Color me intrigued - I've just added this to my to-read list.
For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward WinnerFictionThe sense of an ending

Posted by Sarah B. on Oct 19, 2011 Sarah B.'s blog Add new comment

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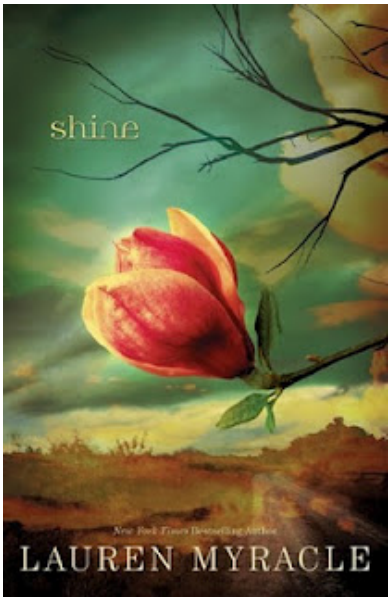
National Book Awards Controversy



The National Book Award finalists were announced last week and cover fiction, non-fiction, poetry and young adult literature written by an American author. In the original announcement, Lauren Myracle's *Shine* was mistakenly announced as a finalist for the young adult literature category instead of *Chime* by Franny Billingsley. The National

Book Awards admitted to the mistake right away and made an announcement that *Shine* would remain on the list due to it's literary strength. But in a new shocking twist this week, The National Book Awards has asked Myracle to withdraw from the shortlist.

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Posted by Sarah B. on Oct 18, 2011 Sarah B.'s blog Add new comment

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Dead End in Norvelt

Jack Gantos is one of my favorite authors, especially when I'm in the mood for a quirky, darkly funny read. Dead End in Norvelt is no exception - in fact, it had me laughing out loud in several places about the (fictional?) escapades of the protagonist, also named Jack Gantos! I wish I'd been witness to the real-life childhood of Gantos, to see exactly which of the characters and situations in this novel occurred exactly as he describes. So many favorite scenes - one where Jack is enlisted to dress as the Grim Reaper to determine whether an old person is dead or not, another when his nose bleeds AND he faints after seeing what he thinks is a woman stripping the skin off her arm with her teeth.

Read more »

Oh, the Thinks You Can ThinkAward WinnerDead end in NorveltFiction

Posted by Ellen A. on Oct 15, 2011 Ellen A.'s blog Add new comment

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Heavens to Betsy

Betsy Blessing is an interim reverend at Church of the Shepherd in Nashville, TN, but when the senior pastor retires without warning the church reluctantly turns

the reigns over to her. The board, for the most part, is not fully supportive of Betsy because she's a female and Edna Thompkins, Betsy's nemesis, knows just how to get under Betsy's skin. Little does the congregation or Betsy's best friends, LaRonda and David, know that Betsy is planning to go to law school in the fall. All she has to do is get through a few months and she's free...or so she thinks.

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For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward WinnerHeavens to Betsy InspirationalRomance

Posted by Kristin M. on Oct 8, 2011 Kristin M.'s blog Add new comment

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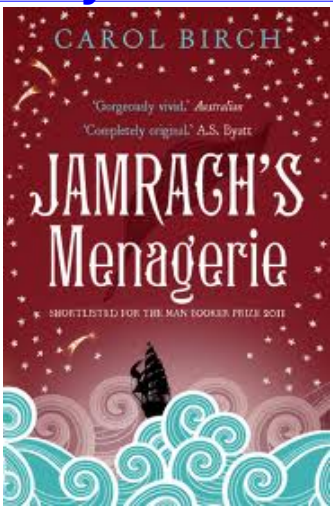
"Why Do We Care About Literary Awards?"



Asking that question is Mark O'Connell at The Millions. He makes a good point: it is kind of ridiculous how seriously people take these things, how offended people can get if their favorite isn't chosen. There's no way for one award to please everyone, to choose the one book that is truly, objectively the best--there is very little "objective" anything when it comes to art. However, for librarians these awards are pretty indispensable. You'll see plenty of posts on this blog, for example, about winners and shortlists. We use them when deciding what to buy, what to recommend to people, what to read ourselves. Maybe it would be better if everyone read all of the books and judged every one for themselves, but that's never going to happen. **Read more »**
For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward Winner

Posted by Meg K. on Aug 9, 2011 Meg K.'s blog Add new comment

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2011 RITA Award Winners

The 2011 RITA Awards were announced last week for excellence in the romance genre by recognizing outstanding published romance novels awarded by the Romance Writers of America.

Some of winning titles that MCPL owns include:

REGENCY HISTORICAL ROMANCE: *The Mischief of the Mistletoe* by Lauren Willig

HISTORICAL ROMANCE: *His at Night* by Sherry Thomas
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For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward WinnerFictionRomance

Posted by Sarah B. on Jul 6, 2011 Sarah B.'s blog Add new comment

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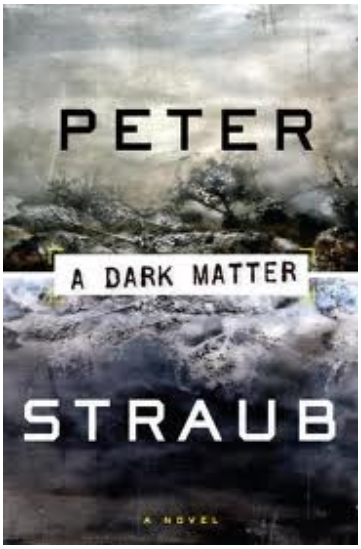
2010 Bram Stoker Award Winners



The Horror Writers Association works to "raise the profile of the horror genre in the publishing industry and among readers in general." In an effort to support their mission, The Horror Writers Association every year awards prizes for the best in the horror genre.
Last week the Bram Stoker Award Winners were announced.
Read more »
For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward WinnerHorror Fiction

Posted by Sarah B. on Jun 21, 2011 Sarah B.'s blog Add new comment

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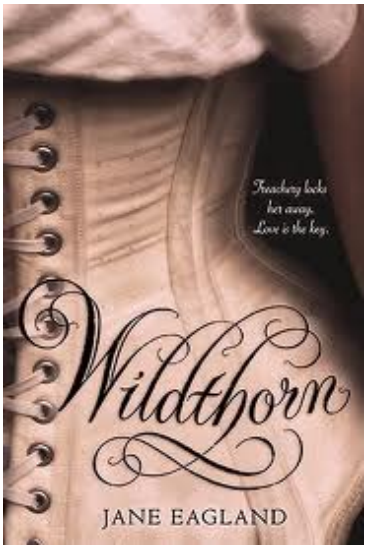
2011 Lambda Literary Awards



The 2011 Lambda Literary Awards were announced last week for excellence in lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans literature available in the United States.

A sample of winning titles published in 2010 that MCPL owns include:

TRANSGENDER ? Fiction
Holding Still for As Long As Possible, by Zoe Whittall
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For the Love of ReadingInformation, Answers & ReviewsAward WinnerGLBTQ

Posted by Sarah B. on May 29, 2011

Sarah B.'s blog Add new comment

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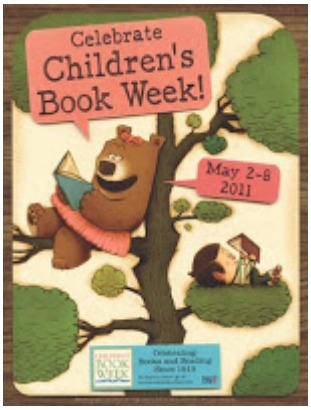
Celebrate Children's Book Week: May 2-8



This week is national Children's Book Week - a time to celebrate all the marvelous books for children you can find at your library! More than 500,000 people voted for their favorite children's book, author and illustrator.

The 2011 Children?s Choice Book Award winners are:**Author**: Rick Riordan for The Lost Hero
Illustrator: David Wiesner for Art and Max
Kindergarten to 2nd Grade Book of the Year: Little Pink Pup
Third to Fourth Grade Book of the Year: Lunch Lady and the Summer Camp Shakedown
Fifth to Sixth Grade Book of the Year: The Red Pyramid
Teen Choice Book of the Year: Will Grayson, Will Grayson **Read more »**
Oh, the Thinks You Can ThinkAward Winner

Posted by Lisa C. on May 3, 2011 Lisa C.'s blog Add new comment

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