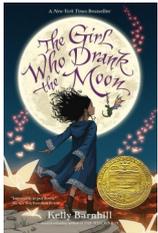


Best of Lists

The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill



[view in catalog](#)

Winner of the 2017 Newberry Medal, *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill is a must read for any fans of fairy tales and fantasy. Barnhill weaves together pieces of many genres, creating a story reminiscent of classic fairy tales, yet at the same time all its own. The many elements this story explores are difficult to adequately explain, but let it suffice to say that at its heart, *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* is a story about the power of love and family (both born and chosen) and illustrates the very best that fairy tale and fantasy storytelling has to offer. [Read more](#)

Posted by Sam O. on January 25, 2017

- [The Girl Who Drank the Moon](#)
- [Adventure](#)
- [Award Winner](#)
- [Best of Lists](#)
- [Dragons](#)
- [Fairy Tale](#)
- [Fantasy](#)
- [Magic](#)
- [Newbery Award](#)
- [Witches](#)
- [Teens - The Ground Floor](#)
- [Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

[Sam O.'s blog](#)

Scythe by Neal Shusterman



[view in catalog](#)

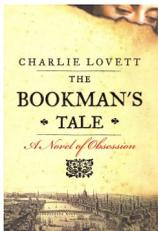
Death has been defeated and world peace achieved. With the guidance of Artificial Intelligence, humanity has ushered in a utopia?. mostly. In *Scythe*, Neal Shusterman posits that AI has evolved into an omniscient (and omnibenevolent) force called the Thunderhead, through which the world has achieved a true and lasting peace. The Thunderhead controls everything, but unlike many dystopian works, this is a miraculous and profoundly beneficial event. The only power that the Thunderhead does not possess is the ability to take life. [Read more](#)

Posted by Sam O. on January 24, 2017

- [Scythe](#)
 - [Adventure](#)
 - [Award Winner](#)
 - [Best of Lists](#)
 - [Coming of Age](#)
 - [Science Fiction](#)
-
- [Teens - The Ground Floor](#)

[Sam O.'s blog](#)

Recommended Reads from Library Staff



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It's that time of year again when lots of publications and websites publish their recommended books of the year. This year I polled library staff to see what some savvy readers had discovered in 2013. MCPL folks had lots of nifty recommendations. So whether you are looking for books to help you through the long dark nights of winter or searching for that perfect gift for a loved one or friend, here are some suggestions from some local book people. We do have paper copies of this list and other 2013 favorite book lists available at the Information Desk at the main ILibrary.

FICTION

And Everyday Was Overcast by Paul Kwiatkowski FICTION Kwiatkow

Described on the cover as an illustrated novel, this work is more a scrapbook interspersed with stories detailing the author's coming of age in southern Florida. The photos don't match the stories exactly and are stronger as a result. They cover drug use, adolescent violence, and teenage sexuality.

The Bookman's Tale: a novel of obsession by Charles C. Lovett FIC10N Lovett

Anyone who loves the hunting, buying and selling of rare and old books should read this. Filled with emotion, intrigue, mystery, suspense, and tragedy, it also covers love lost and gained as well as the quest for Shakespeare and his writings. Very well written and hard to put down! [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on December 10, 2013

- [Recommended Reads from Library Staff](#)

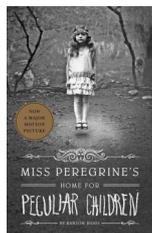
- [Best of Lists](#)

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Library Staff Recommended Books for 2012



[view in catalog](#)

I love the long winter nights of December and January for reading. You can start a book at dusk, and if you're lucky and don't get distracted, finish it before bedtime. It's also a good time of year to discover new authors, subjects you've never investigated, and different formats. (Power up that e-reader!) Magazines, newspapers, and websites also offer their best book lists this time of year.

Librarians have the advantage of being able to browse the stacks and the new book section often. Frequently, they employ the magic of serendipity, accidentally discovering that dynamic cover that draws one inside a book, or they notice a title on the cart they've seen reviewed, or find themselves staring at a never-read classic that's been on their lists for years. It's also a great place to overhear book gossip, "That's the best book I've read in months."

In the spirit of sharing new authors and titles, I asked our staff members to recommend a favorite book of the year. Most recommended fiction but the nonfiction reads looked just as interesting--everything from visual essays about daily life in Christoph Niemann's *Abstract City* to Susan Cain's account of introverts in a book titled appropriately enough *Quiet: the Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking*. Also, recommended was Ian Frazier's *On the Rez*, an absorbing description of current life on an Indian reservation. Not to be left out is the terrifying *Escape from Camp 14*--a young man's account of growing up in a brutal labor camp in North Korea and after living through countless horrible events, he escaped and experienced an outside world that he

did not even know existed.

The fiction includes such enticing titles as *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs, *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet* by David Mitchell and Alan Campbell's *Damnation for Beginners* (about life in Hell, where else?). There's much more from mysteries to sci-fi and young adult fantasy. Thanks to everyone who contributed. Here's the link if you would like to examine the whole [list](#). And we'd love to hear what books you liked this year. Posted by Dory L. on December 10, 2012

- [Library Staff Recommended Books for 2012](#)

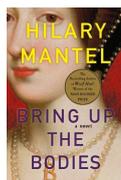
- [Best of Lists](#)

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Best Books of 2012



I love making lists, reading lists and cross referencing lists. I especially love December

when many journals publish their year-end best-of lists. The [New York Times](#) has a top ten list, as does [Publisher's Weekly](#) and Amazon's Editors chose 20 books that they considered the best for 2012. The only book to make it to all three lists? *Bringing up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel. This is the follow up novel to *Wolf Hall*, about Thomas Cromwell and Henry the VII. Both books won the Man Booker Prize and a third book is in the works.

Other than Mantel's struck-it-gold novel, there isn't a whole lot of other crossover. [Publisher's Weekly](#) and the [New York Times](#) both list *Building Stories* by Chris Ware. This graphic novel is really an unusual collection of printed material, collected in a large box, which shares the stories of the residents of one building. Tackling a wide range of themes, the [New York Times](#) calls it "simultaneously playful and profound". [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on December 10, 2012

- [Award Winner](#)

- [Best of Lists](#)

- [Fiction](#)

- [Nonfiction](#)

- [For the Love of Reading](#)

- [Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

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Books Plus Holiday Tea--Dec. 2nd at 2 p.m.

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." Anna Quindlen spoke about the importance of books in *How Reading Changed My Life*.

Whether you're reading about Antarctica or Vinegar Hill, Bloomington, Indiana, books teach us about the world and its interesting and quixotic people. Through books we expand our horizons and experience many lives in one. We're captivated by each of these created worlds for a few hours.

So please come to our annual Books Plus Holiday Tea and Open House on Sunday, December 2nd. The Friends of the Library will provide delectable treats, and we will also have two booklists to hand out: one of nationally recommended books of 2012, and another of library staff's favorite books of the year. Whether you're giving gifts, choosing next year's reads for your book club, or just want to gather a batch of good books before winter storms slam in, these lists will help.

You can meet and chat with other book lovers. Please come and share your favorite books of the year with us and each other.

Posted by Dory L. on November 21, 2012

- [Best of Lists](#)
- [Book Clubs](#)

- [For the Love of Reading](#)
- [Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

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