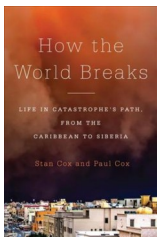


For the Love of Reading

How the World Breaks: Life in Catastrophe's Path from the Caribbean to Siberia



[view in catalog](#)

Anyone following the news these days sees far too many disasters: from wildfires to typhoons, mega-rain storms to landslides, tornados to earthquakes. This book examines how humans react to disasters, what is causing them, and what the future may bring.

Written by the father/son team of Stan and Paul Cox, this book looks at twelve major disasters in depth including some still in progress. The chapter "Atlantis of the Americas" covers the flooding of Miami, Fl. that happens now even on clear days, and is expected to eventually make the city uninhabitable.

In "Gray Goo: East Java, Indonesia," the Coxes examines an event that caused massive amounts of mud to erupt over what was once a crowded middle class area. The authors believe that a mining operation triggered this extremely destructive mud volcano. As in many disasters, the authors show how the government got stuck with a huge bill while powerful companies got off the hook. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 4, 2016

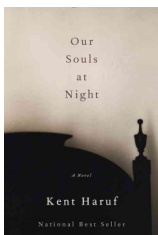
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Our Souls at Night



[view in catalog](#)

This moving book describes a love affair late in life. It's set in the fictional county of Holt, Colorado. One day Addie Moore visits her neighbor Louis. Louis almost falls off his chair when she asks him if he will come to her house and sleep with her that night. To share conversation, Addie adds, "not sex." Shortly after their night visits have begun (pajamas and toothbrush, paper bag will travel), Louis asks Addie, "Why me?" She answers with a question, do you think I'd just invite anyone. Because you're a good man, that's why I chose you.

Haruf, writes laconically, the kind of conversation you might expect from a man raised in a small agricultural town two hours east of Colorado Springs. Yet he succeeds masterfully at tackling the deep subjects: love, death, marriage, the friction between adult children and their parents. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on July 27, 2016

[Our Souls at Night](#)

[Friendship](#)

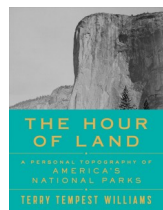
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Happy Birthday, National Park Service, 100 Years!



[view in catalog](#)

Terry Tempest Williams writes passionately about our natural world in the tradition of Thoreau, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Annie Dillard, and Edward Abbey.

This book--timed to come out with the hundredth year anniversary of the National Park System--argues strongly about the necessity of keeping our park lands protected. It also reinforces why we need them in our modern world.

"Whenever I go to a national park, I meet the miraculous," she writes in the opening section.

She also says that our national parks "are blood. They are more than scenery, they are portals and thresholds of wonder." Having just returned from Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons, I heartily second that.

Although she has visited many parks, and some, over and over, she has chosen twelve to highlight here. And I love how she does it. Not only does she share personal anecdotes about each of the twelve, but she uses various formats to do so. For example, in the Big Bend section, she includes journal entries she wrote while there. Through riffs, all on a color theme, she shares what she saw and experienced there. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on July 22, 2016

[The Hour of Land: a personal topography of America's national parks](#)

[Nonfiction](#)

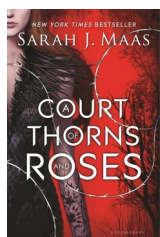
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A Court of Thorns and Roses, Sarah J. Maas



[view in catalog](#)

This romantic, fantasy retelling of Beauty and the Beast is sure to make your heart skip a beat. Feyre is a young woman, struggling to support her family. They once lived the lives of prosperous merchants, but now have lost everything and are starving in a hovel. Feyre has taught herself to hunt and spends her time out in the dangerous winter woods. After taking down a deer and an enormous wolf, Feyre finally has food for her family and some extra money from selling the wolf's pelt. Just when she's feeling a little comfortable, an enormous wolf-like creature bursts into her family's home, demanding she pay the price for killing a fairie. It turns out the wolf was actually a fairie in disguise and now Feyre must either forfeit her life, or go with the creature to the fairie lands of Prythian forever.

Feyre goes with the creature across the border that keeps the mortals safe from the powerful immortal fey and into the land of Prythian. She discovers that the wolf is actually a High Fey male named Tamlin who can change his shape. He tells Feyre that his estate in the Spring Lands is her home now, but Feyre knows that this beautiful place is not all it seems to be. Dangerous creatures roam the woods and an unknown terror is gaining strength across the land. Feyre's story will be familiar to readers as well as new and exciting. She is a strong young woman with a mind of her own who refuses to give up who she is. Sarah J. Maas is a wonderful new voice in YA fantasy with both this series and her Throne of Glass series. She writes unforgettable characters who will inspire readers. Her worlds are easy to lose yourself in and will feel very real. Some of the content of this particular series is mature so it's recommended for older teen readers. If you've already read, and loved, this book, then you should pick up A Court of Mist and Fury. The sequel is even better than the first one! Happy Reading!

Posted by Becky F. on July 22, 2016

[A Court of Thorns and Roses](#)

[Teens](#)

[Romance](#)

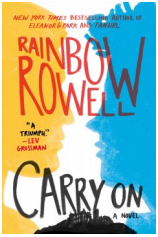
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[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Teens - The Ground Floor](#)

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Carry On, Rainbow Rowell



[view in catalog](#)

"Simon Snow is the worst Chosen One who's ever been chosen."

Simon has been sent to save the World of Mages, but he's actually not very good at magic. He can't control his power and spends most of his time worrying about the location of his probably a vampire roommate, Baz. Simon is a wonderfully flawed character who is only a little bit like another famous chosen magic user...coughhackHarryPottercough. He's adrift in a world of magic with his friend, Penny, his girlfriend, Agatha, and his nemesis/roommate, Baz. The Insidious Humdrum is draining magic and threatening everything Simon holds dear. He's been attacking Simon regularly since he was 11 and started at Watford School of Magicks, but now, in his last year, their conflict is set to come to an epic conclusion.

For readers who are feeling lost without Harry Potter (at least until the end of the month, come on [Cursed Child!](#)) this will be a welcome treat. Watford is just different enough from Hogwarts to be new and exciting, while being similar enough to feel like coming home. The World of Mages is an interesting one and the rules of magic are very different from the Wizarding World. For Simon and the other mages, it's all about the words you use. A turn of phrase that "normals" use can hold strong power for a mage. Not every mage uses a wand to focus their power either - some use rings, swords, or even belt buckles!

Pick up this excellent fantasy adventure if you're in the mood for some great summer reading. Don't forget to sign up for the [Teen Summer Reading Program](#) to earn points for all that reading. Grand prizes are Beats headphones, a GoPro, and a bluetooth speaker!

Posted by Becky F. on July 11, 2016

[Carry On](#)

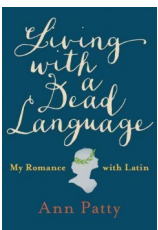
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Living with a Dead Language



[view in catalog](#)

They say that you really learn about a people only when you learn their language. Multiply that for a culture long gone, say, that of the Romans.

This book by a former editor describes her love for Latin-- how she went back to college to study it after thirty-five years in New York City publishing. I can't believe I even picked it up after all my complaints about being forced to take Latin in high school. But the fact that I continued studying the language after the mandatory first two years tells you something.

But this is a book about much more than Latin. It's about following one's passion. Along the

way, Ann Patty reveals much about her life. She describes sharing a home with a man entirely opposite herself. Her partner, an arborist, lives for the outdoor life. He hikes and skis, even on the coldest days. She's definitely a city person even though she now lives in upstate New York, often rushing back to the city for cultural events. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on July 11, 2016

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