

Book Recommendations from USNA 66 Ladies Group

January 2023

Topic	Title	Author
NOVELS		
It's 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Behind the wheel is the young Dust Bowl rowdy Woodrow. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes.	West with Giraffes: A Novel	Lynda Rutledge
HISTORICAL FICTION		
A Princeton librarian in 1905 learns that John Pierpont Morgan, the famous financier, is looking for someone to take control of the vast collection of art and manuscripts he has collected. The librarian returns to New York where her mother and siblings are living in a small apartment and barely making ends meet. Her family has a secret. They are light-skinned Black people living as White.	The Personal Librarian	Marie Benedict
The book evokes the frantic, nervy, exuberant world of the Enigma codebreakers through the eyes of three extraordinary women who work in tireless secrecy to defeat the Nazis.	The Rose Code	Kate Quinn
HISTORY/NONFICTION/BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY		
A president who governed a divided country has much to teach us in a twenty-first-century moment of polarization and political crisis. Hated and hailed, excoriated and revered, Abraham Lincoln was at the pinnacle of American power when implacable secessionists gave no quarter in a clash of visions bound up with money, race, identity, and faith. In him we can see the possibilities of the presidency as well as its limitations.	And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle	Jon Meacham
Speck (a dog) arrived in Rick's life at a moment of looming uncertainty. A cancer diagnosis, chemo, kidney failure, and recurring pneumonia had left Rick lethargic and melancholy. Speck helped, and he is helping, still, when he is not peeing on the rose of Sharon. Written with Bragg's inimitable blend of tenderness and sorrow, humor and grit, The Speckled Beauty captures the extraordinary, sustaining devotion between two damaged creatures who need each other to heal.	The Speckled Beauty...A Dog and His People	Rick Bragg
Your boxes of photos, family's china, and even the kids' height charts aren't just stuff; they're attached to a lifetime of memories - and letting them go can be scary. With empathy, expertise, and humor, the book helps you sift through years of clutter, let go of what no longer serves you, and identify the items worth keeping so that you can focus on living in the present.	Keep the Memories, Lose the Stuff: Declutter, Downsize, and Move Forward with Your Life	Matt Paxton

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Inclusion		
<p>A new children’s book co-authored by a Barton College autism expert and her educator mother delivers the message that “Together, we can be different and still belong.”</p> <p>“Being Charley: Embracing Differences” relates the story of a Canada goose who is unlike his siblings. Geared for children ages 4-8 it is really a story for all ages. Charley’s story will provide opportunities for teachers, parents, therapists, physicians, friends, families, counselors, etc., to spark discussion about acceptance, about diversity, about inclusion, and kindness</p>	Being Charley: Embracing Differences	Morghan and Karen Bosch
Spiritual		
<p>An instant New York Times best seller! Journey with Kathie Lee Gifford and Messianic Rabbi Jason Sobel into Israel and explore the deep roots of the Christian faith.</p>	The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi: My Journey into the Heart of Scriptural Faith and the Land Where It All Began	Kathie Lee Gifford and Jason Sobel
<p>We often think about prayer as a wish list, with God as Santa Claus. The reality is that the power of prayer reminds us not only how small we are, but also how big God is. Prayer is hope put into action. And prayer works. Along with stories of God’s presence, the book includes newly written prayers. Created to reflect the current times, these prayers provide a road map for putting the lessons of these stories into action.</p>	Faith Still Moves Mountains: Miraculous Stories of the Healing Power of Prayer	Harris Faulkner
<p>The book offers comfort and encouragement through biblically based insights, pulling back the curtain on the hope that all Christians have in heaven and the life that is to come.</p>	The Gift of Heaven	Charles Stanley
Children’s Literature		
<p>A poem written in 1922 by Robert Frost and published in 1923 in his New Hampshire volume. Imagery, personification, and repetition are prominent in the work. In a letter to Louis Untermeyer, Frost called it "my best bid for remembrance". Book features lush illustrations.</p>	Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening	Robert Frost
<p>Show your little one you're “berry” proud of them with a sweet read aloud you'll love to share together again and again! Filled with adorable food illustrations, funny wordplay, and a heartfelt message of positivity and encouragement, Donut Give Up introduces growth mindset to little ones and inspires them to believe in themselves.</p>	Donut Give Up: A Cute and Funny Affirmations Board Book for Babies and Toddlers	Rose Rossner