



Need Research Help?
[Chat With A Librarian!](#)
[Hiram College](#)
[Library Staff](#)
[Library Catalog](#)
[Library Hours](#)
[Databases/Indexes](#)
[Library Account](#)
[How Do I...?](#)

Book 'Em



Books and Publishing News for the Hiram College Library Community August 2011

Any comments, questions, or requests can be sent to [Jessica Olin](#).

Fiction			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
E. L. Doctorow	<i>All The Time in the World</i>	F D6591a	A brand new collection of short stories.
Jennifer Egan	<i>A Visit from the Goon Squad</i>	F Eg13v	See extended review below.
Amelia Gray	<i>Museum of the Weird</i>	F G7912a	Winner of FCW's Ronald Sukenick/American Book Review Innovative Fiction Prize.
Deborah Harkness	<i>A Discovery of Witches</i>	F H2261d	This novel about the discovery of a magical document in amongst the archives of Oxford University is both historic and fantastic in scope.
Howard Norman	<i>The Bird Artist</i>	F N783b	The protagonist commits murder, and the book is about discovering why.
Juvenile			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Marc Aronson and Marina Budhos	<i>Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science</i>	J 664.109 Aro	Engaging, well-researched, and age appropriate nonfiction isn't common, but this is an example. (Reading level: young adult.)
			Gardner is a leading expert on Lewis Carroll. I hope I'm

Lewis Carroll (Introduction & Notes by Martin Gardner)	<i>The Annotated Alice: The Definitive Edition</i>	823.8 Car 2000	safe in assuming that you already know about <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> and <i>Through the Looking-Glass</i> and <i>What Alice Found There</i> .
David Levithan	<i>Boy Meets Boy</i>	JF L5792b	It's a love story, and the boys in question are Paul and Noah. (Reading level: young adult.)
Cheryl Rainfield	<i>Scars</i>	JF R135s	The protagonist of this work is a teenager who is cutting herself in secret. Dark? Yes. Frightening? Certainly. Necessary? Without a doubt (despite what that Wall Street Journal article might have said). (Reading level: young adult.)
Lee Wardlaw	<i>Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku</i>	JF W2196w	It wouldn't really be an issue of <i>Book 'Em</i> without an example of kitty cat lit, would it? The cat in this book reminds me so much of a good friend's cat that I bought her a copy of <i>Won Ton</i> for her birthday. Illustrated by Eugene Yelchin. (Reading level: ages 4-8.)

Graphic Novels

Author/Artist	Title	Call #	Comments
Lynda Barry	<i>Picture This</i>	741.5973 Bar 2010	Although I'd normally try to avoid such an obvious cliché, there's no other way to describe this book quite as succinctly: Barry is pushing the envelope in a format that already defies definition. This book is part fiction, part memoir, part "how to," and part artist's statement. One of the best graphic novels I've read in a long time.
Hervé Bouchard and Janice Nadeau	<i>Harvey: How I Became Invisible</i>	JF B6603h	A young boy's father dies of a heart attack. Translated by Helen Mixer. Winner of the Governor General's Award for both text and illustration .
Evan Dorkin (story) and Jill Thompson (art)	<i>Beasts of Burden: Animal Rights</i>	JF D734b	Imagine if the "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" gang had been animals, or if the heroes of <i>Homeward Bound</i> had been ghost hunters, and you'll come close to the story here. If you're looking for a fun read, pick this one up.
Hope Larson	<i>Mercury</i>	JF L3295m	From the dust jacket: "A compelling combination of history and romance, marked with Larson's signature touch of magical realism, <i>Mercury</i> is a remarkable depiction of two girls tied by blood and separated by time." Larson is an Eisner award winning graphic novelists.
Eric Liberge	<i>On the Odd Hours</i>	E L6155m	Another graphic novel from the Louvre's series, this work examines the museum at night as seen through the eyes of a deaf night watchman.
Joann Sfar (Adapted from the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)	<i>The Little Prince</i>	JF Sf16p	I was skeptical when I first heard about this book. Why adapt a book that already has wonderful illustrations? I was wrong - it's very well done.

Memoir/Biography

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
John Gribbin	<i>The Scientists: A History of Science Told Through the Lives of Its Greatest Inventors</i>	509.22 Gri	The text is organized chronologically, and grouped into commonly acknowledged eras (such as Renaissance and the Enlightenment). The back has blurbs from prestigious reviewers and seems like it will be both educational and fun to read.
William Poy Lee	<i>The Eighth Promise: An American Son's Tribute to His Toisanese Mother</i>	973.04951 Lee	A highly praised memoir about the Chinese-American immigrant experience.

Kelly McMasters	<i>Welcome to Shirley: A Memoir from an Atomic Town</i>	974.725 Mem	McMasters grew up in Shirley, NY, and she lived there before, during, and after the nuclear laboratory problems.
Robert Shail	<i>Stanley Baker: A Life in Film</i>	791.4302809 Bak-S	This book considers both his public and his private life: his acting career, his political beliefs, and his family.
C. A. Tripp	<i>The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln</i>	973.7 Lin-T 2005	This work is another instance where I could never top the dust jacket: "The late C. A. Tripp, a highly regarded sex researcher and colleague of Alfred Kinsey, and author of the runaway bestseller <i>The Homosexual Matrix</i> , devoted the last ten years of his life to an exhaustive study of Abraham Lincoln's writings and of scholarship about Lincoln, in search of hidden keys to his character."

Nonfiction

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Douglas Brinkley	<i>The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast</i>	363.34922 Bri	A day by day examination of the events. This work starts with August 27 and goes through September 3.
Henry A. Giroux	<i>The Mouse That Roared: Disney and the End of Innocence</i>	384.809794 Wal-G	This book is part of Rowman & Littlefield's "Culture and Education" series.
Harold Goldberg	<i>All Your Base Are Belong to Us: How Fifty Years of Videogames Conquered Pop Culture</i>	794.8 Gol	If you've ever played video games, chances are high that one of your favorites is discussed in this book.
Jason Johnson	<i>Political Consultants and Campaigns: One Day to Sell</i>	324.70973 Joh	Political campaigns as seen through the eyes of consultants. (And yes, that's our very own Jason Johnson.)
Richard Todd	<i>The Thing Itself: On the Search for Authenticity</i>	179.9 Tod	Ever feel like "there's no THERE there" when you look around? So does Todd. This work could be seen as navel-gazing, but at the same time it's an insightful examination of US culture.
Sherry Turkle	<i>Alone Together: Why We Expect More From Technology and Less From Each Other</i>	303.4833 Tur 2011	The title says it all.

Awards

Award	Details	Comments
Man Booker International Prize	Philip Roth	From the press release : "The Man Booker International Prize, worth £60,000, is awarded for an achievement in fiction on the world stage. It is presented once every two years to a living author for a body of work published either originally in English or widely available in translation in the English language." Most of his works are available in our library.
Man Booker Prize	The long list of finalist has been announced and includes two first time novelists.	If there's something on the list that you'd like me to add to the collection, just let me know.
Boston Globe-Horn Book Award: Fiction	<i>Blink & Caution</i> by Tim Wynne-Jones	We'll be adding it now that the new fiscal year has come around. If you want it right away, there are copies available in OhioLINK .
Boston Globe-Horn Book Award: Nonfiction	<i>The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, & Treachery</i> by Steve Sheinkin	This is another one that we'll be adding to the collection. OhioLINK can, once again, help you if you don't want to wait.
		I am 0 for 3 with this year's BGHB awards, so once again

Boston Globe-Horn Book Award: Picture Book	<i>Pocketful of Posies: A Treasury of Nursery Rhymes</i> by Sally Mavor	you're going to have to wait or turn to OhioLINK . (We do own one of the titles that was named an Honor Book in this category: <i>Dark Emperor and Other Poems of the Night</i> written by Joyce Sidman and illustrated by Rick Allen.)
Michael L. Printz Award	<i>Ship Breaker</i> by Paolo Bacigalupi	We also own one of the honor books : <i>Stolen by Lucy Christopher</i> .
Geisel Award	<i>Bink & Gollie</i> written by Kate KiCamillo and Alison McGhee, illustrated by Tony Fucile	We don't own either of the honor books , but if you would like to see them in the Hiram College Library, let me know .
Newberry Medal	<i>Moon Over Manifest</i> by Clare Vanderpool	We also own all of the honor books: <i>Turtle in Paradise</i> by Jennifer L. Holm, <i>Heart of a Samurai</i> by Margi Preus, <i>Dark Emperor and Other Poems of the Night</i> by Joyce Sidman, and <i>One Crazy Summer</i> by Rita Williams-Garcia.
Caldecott Medal	<i>A Sick Day for Amos McGee</i> illustrated by Erin E. Stead and written by Philip C. Stead	We have both of the honor books: <i>Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave</i> illustrated by Bryan Collier and written by Laban Carrick Hill; and <i>Interrupting Chicken</i> written and illustrated by David Ezra Stein.
Eisner Awards	The winners were announced during San Diego Comic Con this summer.	We have quite a few of the winners, including <i>It Was the War of the Trenches</i> and <i>Blacksad</i> .
Hugo Awards	The Hugo Award winners were announced in late August.	We don't have a lot of these, but if please let me know if you'd like to see something from this list added to our collection. (We do have some of Shaun Tan's work , though.)

Obituaries

Lilian Jackson Braun, 97	The well-known author of "The Cat Who..." series of mysteries died at the beginning of June. The <i>New York Times</i> website has an obituary .
William Sleator, 66	According to the School Library Journal , Sleator died in his Thailand home on August 4, 2011. He was best known for young adult science fiction novels.

Featured Review

***A Visit from the Goon Squad*, written by Jennifer Egan, published in 2010 by Anchor Books.**

Between reading the premise ("Bennie Salazar, an aging former punk rocker and record executive, and Sasha, the passionate, troubled young woman he employs, confront their pasts in this story about how rebellion ages, influence corrupts, habits turn to addictions, lifelong friendships fluctuate and turn, and how art and music have the power to redeem.") and then learning that this book [won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction](#), I was excited to read this book. Now that I have, I wish I'd never bothered.

I was disappointed for multiple reasons. First, it's not really a novel. Instead, it's a slightly confusing series of interconnected short stories. Second, this book typifies what I dislike about so much of contemporary literary fiction: the author seemed more interested in technique than in actually telling a story. Third, the blurb on the book is dishearteningly misleading. The reader spends so little time with Sasha, and only slightly more with Bennie, that the two of them ended up feeling like minor characters by the time I finished the book.

It wasn't all bad, after all it was good enough that I did finish it. Egan's character development is phenomenal. Each personality was distinct, most came across as people instead of characters, and even the "bad" men and women were sympathetic. Further, the author has a lyrical voice and seems to really love the words she chooses. For my tastes, though, when I read fiction my main concern is the story and I don't feel that *A Visit from the Goon Squad* delivered.

Unless it has been checked out, you will find this title, and many others, on the new bookshelf on the first floor of the library. Once it has moved to its permanent home, you will find it on the fourth floor in the fiction collection, under [F Eg13v](#).

-JO

[Start Your Research Here!](#)

[Research Tools](#)

- [Hiram Catalog](#)
- [OhioLINK Catalog](#)
- [Databases/Indexes](#)
- [RefWorks](#)
- [College Archives](#)
- More [Research Tools](#)

[You and the Library](#)

- [Hours](#)
- [Check Your Library Account](#)
- [Interlibrary Loan Form](#)
- [Help](#)
- More [You and the Library](#)

[About the Library](#)

- [What's New](#)
- [New Books](#)
- [Map of the Library](#)
- [Library Policies](#)
- [Friends of the Library](#)
- More [About the Library](#)

[Other Resources](#)

- [Center for Educational Tech.](#)
- [Writing Center](#)
- [Check Your Hiram E-mail](#)
- [Sakai](#)
- More [Other Resources](#)

© 2010 Hiram College Library [Library Webmaster](#)

P.O. Box 67, Hiram, OH 44234 330-569-5489

[Yahoo map](#) and [Hiram College Map](#)