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Book 'Em



Books and Publishing News for the Hiram College Library Community March 2012

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

Fiction			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Roddy Doyle	<i>Bullfighting</i>	F D7773b	A collection of short stories all focused on loss. As is typical of Doyle's books, these stories are all set in modern Ireland.
Glen Duncan	<i>The Last Werewolf</i>	F D9124L	See extended review below.
Fumiko Enchi	<i>The Waiting Years</i>	F En15o	Not new, but new to the Hiram College Library. This story of family and relationships was named as a favorite on Library Snapshot Day last Fall.
Joyce Carol Oates	<i>Sourland: Stories</i>	F Oa8s 2010	Another collection of short stories that focus on different kinds of losses.
Shann Ray	<i>American Masculine: Stories</i>	F R2132a	Short stories all set in the contemporary American West.
Juvenile			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Eve Bunting	<i>So Far From the Sea</i>	JF B886s 1988	A look at the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII, written at a level appropriate for children. (Reading level: ages 5 and up.)

Eric Rohman	<i>Bone Dog</i>	JF R6364b	A dead dog visits his former master on Halloween. Cuter than it sounds. Rohman is a Caldecott Award winning illustrator. (Reading level: ages 4 and up.)
Lauren Thompson	<i>Ballerina Dreams: A True Story</i>	J 618.92836 Tho	Tells the story of five little girls, all with some form of physical disability, who were determined to become ballerinas. Photographs by James Estrin. (Reading level: preschool to grade 2.)
Catherynne M. Valente	<i>The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making</i>	JF V2345g	Any story that starts with a bored little girl being willingly kidnapped by the Green Wind and in the process losing a shoe must be good, right? Even if other books that start that way aren't good, this one is. Illustrations by Ana Juan. (Reading level: ages 10 and up.)
Jonah Winter	<i>Jazz Age Josephine</i>	792.8092 Bak-W	Josephine Baker 's story told for a juvenile crowd. The illustrations (by Marjorie Priceman) alone are worth spending some time with this book. (Reading level: ages 4 and up.)

Graphic Novels

Author/Artist	Title	Call #	Comments
Chester Brown	<i>Paying For It: A Comic Strip Memoir About Being a John</i>	741.5971 Bro	A contemporary perspective on paid sex work, written by a customer of the trade.
Joe Brusha	<i>Neverland</i>	F B8386n	What if Pan tried to invade, and close off, Neverland? Art by Jen-Paul Deshong and colors by Jason Embury.
Darren White (writer) and Eddie Campbell (illustrator)	<i>The Playwright</i>	F W5827p	This book purports to be "a dark, romantic comedy about the sex life of a celibate, middle-aged man."
Daniel Clowes	<i>The Death-ray</i>	F C626d	Instead of using powers for good or evil, the protagonist uses them as part of a typical, angst filled teen drama.
Anders Nilsen	<i>Big Questions</i>	F N599b	Nilsen worked on this book for over ten years, and it was worth the effort. The story is surreal and metaphysical, but still relatable.

Memoir/Biography

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Condoleeza Rice	<i>No Higher Honor: A Memoir of My Years in Washington</i>	327.730092 Ric 2011	Exactly what you would expect from the title.
José Saramago	<i>Small Memories</i>	869.342 Sar	Portrays the author's early life in Lisbon. Translated from the Portuguese by Margaret Jull Costa.
Norah Vincent	<i>Voluntary Madness: My Year Lost and Found in the Loony Bin</i>	362.21092 Vin	Vincent, a journalist, found herself completely drained and depressed after finishing her first book. She committed herself to a psychiatric facility, and found her next book.
Michael Vinson Williams	<i>Medgar Evers: Mississippi Martyr</i>	313.1196073 Eve-W	The life and eventual murder of the civil rights activist.

Nonfiction

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Adrian Bejan and J. Pedar Zane	<i>Design in Nature: How the Constructal Law Governs Evolution in Biology, Physics, Technology, and Social</i>	500 Bej	Suggests and then presents proof of the theory that all recurring patterns can be explained by a governing

	<i>Organization</i>		principle of physics.
Lee Braver	<i>Groundless Grounds: A Study of Wittgenstein and Heidegger</i>	193 Bra	Yup, that's our Lee Braver.
Henry Hitchings	<i>The Language Wars: A History of Proper English</i>	420.9 Hit	Examines the past, present, and future of the debate.
Dave Monroe (editor)	<i>Porn: Philosophy for Everyone: How to Think With Kink</i>	176.7 Por	This Wiley-Blackwell book takes a typically academic perspective (philosophy) but brings other people into the discussion, such as a professional dominatrix.

Awards

Award	Details	Comments
Hans Christian Andersen Author Award	María Teresa Andruetto	This award is not awarded for individual books but is instead given for a body of work. We don't own anything of hers, and OhioLINK doesn't have much. I will look into getting something by Andruetto.
Hans Christian Andersen Illustrator Award	Peter Sís	As with the author award, the illustrator award is given to someone who has had a lasting impact. We do have multiple books by Sís. I recommend Three Golden Keys as a good starting place if you're unfamiliar with his work.

Obituaries

Adrienne Rich, 82	The award winning essayist and poet died in her home of complications from rheumatoid arthritis. Yes, we have plenty of her books .
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Featured Review

***The Last Werewolf*, written by Glen Duncan, published in 2011 by Alfred A. Knopf.**

Before I begin, let me warn you that this book isn't for everyone. Jacob Marlowe, the titular werewolf, may be well written and philosophical, but he's also vulgar and unapologetic. You would be, too, if at 200 years old you found out you were the last of your kind. The action of the book takes place in the months after Jacob learns of his unique status. To share anything of the plot beyond that would spoil the journey.

Instead, let me gush about the writing. As I moved through the book, time and time again I found myself in awe of Glen Duncan's way with words. It's clear from the way he uses them that Duncan loves words. Further, unlike some novels written as diaries where it feels more like literary conceit than genuine plot device, with *The Last Werewolf* I really did feel like I'd invaded Jacob Marlowe's privacy and was reading his journal. It was personal and honest except for the lies Jacob Marlowe was telling himself. I found myself simultaneously rushing to finish the story and dreading being done.

To say I loved this book seems tame in comparison to how obsessed I became while reading it. However, even as I read and let the story blot out every other thought, it felt wrong. The protagonist is so unabashedly male and so vulgar that I kept expecting my inner feminist to be offended, but it never happened. I originally borrowed it from my public library and listened to it as an audiobook (which may be part of why it affected me so strongly - the narrator is [Robin Sachs](#)), but I have since purchased it. I know I'm going to want to read it again and again. This book was discomfiting, but, oddly enough, discomfiting in a good way.

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 in the Clock Tower, under [F D9124L](#).

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