

Book 'Em



Books and Publishing News for the Hiram College Library Community

September 2012

New and improved: now includes bonus film review action!

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

Fiction:			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Vanessa Diffenbaugh	<i>The Language of Flowers</i>	F D5686L	A woman who grew up in the foster care system finds that she is better able to communicate with other people using flowers than when using words.
Michael Griffith	<i>Trophy</i>	F G8755t	Explores the cliché of your life flashing before your eyes.
Johannes V. Jensen	<i>The Fall of the King</i>	F J4535k	"Twice voted the most important Danish novel of the twentieth century." Translated by Alan G. Bower.
Leah Petersen	<i>Fighting Gravity</i>	F P44251f	See extended review below.

Juvenile:			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Randa Abdel-Fattah	<i>Does My Head Look Big In This?</i>	JF Ab31d	A teenager decides to start wearing a hijab, but doesn't want to lose her sense of style. (Reading level: ages 12 & up.)
Lily Archer	<i>The Poison Apples</i>	JF Ar23p	"A knowing, wickedly funny story about how friendship just may turn out to be more happily-ever-after than family." (Reading level: grade 6-9.)
Mary-Louise Gay	<i>Caramba and Henry</i>	JF G252c	What happens when a younger sibling is better at something than an older sibling? Illustrated by the author. (Reading level: ages 2 & up.)

Julius Lester	<i>Let's Talk About Race</i>	305.800973 Les	The premise of this book is that our race is only one part of each person's story. Illustrated by Karen Barbour. (Reading level: grade 1-5.)
Patricia McCormick	<i>Never Fall Down</i>	JF M1374n	About the Khmer Rouge, but told from the perspective of a child soldier. (Reading level: ages 14 & up.)

Graphic Novels & Comics:

Author/Artist	Title	Call #	Comments
Timothy R. Lehman	<i>Manga: Masters of the Art</i>	741.5952 Leh	Looks at manga by examining the works of and with twelve of the most respected manga artists.
Shigeru Mizuki	<i>Onward Towards Our Noble Deaths</i>	F M6996o	"[A] semi-autobiographical account of the desperate final weeks of a Japanese infantry unit at the end of World War Two."
Katsuhiro Otomo	<i>Akira</i>	F Ot6a v.1	Neo-Tokyo, a city built on the post-World-War-III ruins of Tokyo, is the setting for this dystopian graphic novel series.

Memoir & Biography:

Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Susan Gubar	<i>Memoir of a Debulked Woman: Enduring Ovarian Cancer</i>	616.99465 Gub	This feminist scholar turned her academic lens on herself.
David Loades	<i>The Tudors: History of a Dynasty</i>	942.05 Loa 2012	Loades goes beyond strict biographical work to examine how the Tudors ruled England, and how their influence can still be seen today.
Gary Marmorstein	<i>A Ship Without a Sail: The Life of Lorenz Hart</i>	782.14092 Har-M	One half of one of Rodgers and Hart , Lorenz Hart's personal life was far from the romance that shows in his songs.
Candace Millard	<i>The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey</i>	918.11045 Roo-M	Discusses Roosevelt's 1914 exploration of an uncharted tributary of the Amazon.
Alison Pargeter	<i>Libya: The Rise and Fall of Qaddafi</i>	961.2042 Gad-P	Starts with the 1969 coup and goes until the recent events that saw him removed from power.

Nonfiction:			
Author	Title	Call #	Comments
Timothy Caulfield	<i>The Cure for Everything: Untangling Twisted Messages About Health, Fitness, and Happiness</i>	613 Cau	Examines the science behind/that debunks many of the fads we hear & read about.
Cristina Della Coletta	<i>When Stories Travel: Cross-Cultural Encounters Between Fiction and Film</i>	791.436 Del	What happens when stories cross not only format lines, but also national ones?
David Grazen	<i>Mix It Up: Popular Culture, Mass Media, and Society</i>	306 Gra	With chapters like "Risky Business: How the Media and Culture Industries Work" and "Scenes From a Mall: Cultural Consumption and Style in Everyday Life," I may have to read this book just for the fun of it.
Rafe Sagarin	<i>Learning From the Octopus: How Secrets From Nature Can Help Us Fight Terrorist Attacks, Natural Disasters, and Disease</i>	363.34 Sag	A book that shows the similarities between salmon and suicide bombers? Yes, please.
Eleanor Ross Taylor	<i>Captive Voices: New and Selected Poems, 1960-2008</i>	811.54 Tay	"Captive Voices gathers selections from Taylor's five previous books along with a generous helping of new poems."

Feature Films:			
Title	Director	Call #	Comments
<i>300 Spartans</i>	Rudolph Maté	Feature Film T4135 1962 2004 DVD	Before there was 300 , there was 300 Spartans .
<i>Alexander the Great</i>	Robert Rossen	Feature Film AL276 1956 2004 DVD	This is the 1956 film starring Richard Burton as Alexander .
<i>Dr. Strangelove</i>	Stanley Kubrick	Feature Film D78 1963 2001 DVD	The 1964 cult classic .
<i>The Purple Rose of Cairo</i>	Woody Allen	Feature Film P976 1984 2001 DVD	A movie character walks off the screen and into 1930s New Jersey in this Woody Allen flick.

<i>Trojan Women</i>	Mihalis Kakogiannis	Feature Film T747 1971 2004 DVD	This 1971 film was based on a play by Euripides.
<i>M. Hulot's Holiday</i>	Jacques Tati	Feature Film V131 1953 2001 DVD	"Monsieur Hulot comes to a beachside hotel for a vacation, where he accidentally (but good-naturedly) causes havoc."

Awards:		
Award	Details	Comments
Edna Staebler Award (for creative nonfiction)	Joshua Knelman , for Hot Art: Chasing Thieves and Detectives Through the Secret World of Stolen Art .	We don't own it yet, but I have ordered it. Let me know if you want to be notified when it arrives?
Roald Dahl Funny Prize	The shortlist has been announced.	Let me know if something catches your eye? Otherwise I'm going to wait to see who wins before I start buying.
National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35"	The honorees have been named.	What we don't have, OhioLINK does.
Katherine Paterson Prize	The winners have been announced.	One of our own, Jen Dutton , was a finalist.

Obituaries:	
Louis Simpson , 89	The Pulitzer Prize winning poet died earlier this month, according to the New York Times .

Featured Review:
<p><i>Fighting Gravity</i>, written by Leah Petersen, published in 2012 by Dragon Moon Press.</p> <p>Seen from one perspective, <i>Fighting Gravity</i> by debut author Leah Petersen can be perceived as a romance novel. There are star-crossed lovers, one of whom is royalty and the other of whom is "from the wrong side of the tracks." It can also be seen as soft science fiction, with spaceships and space travel and laser beams. Then there are the dystopian themes – the absolute power of the government, institutionalized class structures, and the overwhelming role of technology. One of my favorite things about this genre-blender, though, is more basic: it's all about the characters for me.</p> <p>Jake, the protagonist, and Pete, his love interest who also happens to be the emperor, felt real. (Yes, the lovers are both male. More about that in a moment.) Jake's temper gets the better of him, more than once. Pete's self-consciousness was painful to read. Throughout the novel, their actions and reactions read as true. Amidst the controversies in the imperial court, discussions of scientific discoveries, and portrayals of interplanetary travel, I never lose sight of who Jake and Pete are.</p>

And neither does Petersen lose sight. Her lovers are who they are, and being attracted to someone of the same gender never defines them as people. Sure, the same-sex nature of the relationship is discussed, but it's a bigger deal that Jake is "unclass" than it is that he's the same gender as Pete. That, more than anything else, endeared this book to me.

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, with the rest of the fiction collection, under [F P44251f](#).

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