



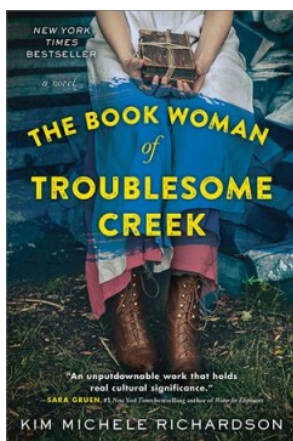
Fox River Valley Libraries

Dundee Library • Randall Oaks Library

Readalikes for *The Storied Life of AJ Fikry*

Dundee Library Book Club, November 2020

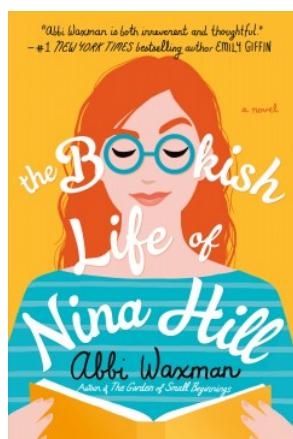
Books at the Dundee Library and/or Randall Oaks Library



The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek

by Kim Michele Richardson

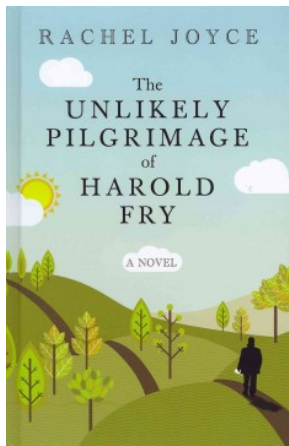
Cussy Mary Carter is the last of her kind, her skin the color of a blue damselfly in these dusty hills. But that doesn't mean she's got nothing to offer. As a member of the Pack Horse Library Project, Cussy delivers books to the hill folk of Troublesome, hoping to spread learning in these desperate times. But not everyone is so keen on Cussy's family or the Library Project, and the hardscrabble Kentuckians are quick to blame a Blue for any trouble in their small town. *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is a story of raw courage, fierce strength, and one woman's determination to bring a little bit of hope to the darkly hollers.



The Bookish Life of Nina Hill

by Abbi Waxman

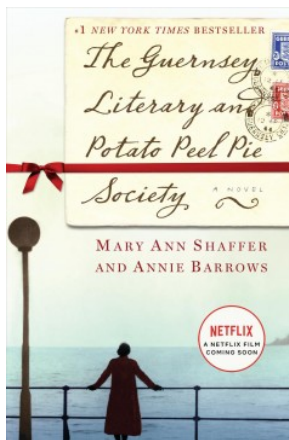
Meet Nina Hill: a young woman supremely confident in her own...shell. The only child of a single mother, Nina has her life just as she wants it: a job in a bookstore, a kick-butt trivia team, and a cat named Phil. If she sometimes suspects there might be more to life than reading, she just shrugs and picks up a new book. When the father Nina never knew existed suddenly dies, leaving behind innumerable sisters, brothers, nieces, and nephews, Nina is horrified. They all live close by! They are all--or mostly all--excited to meet her! She will have to...Speak. To. Strangers. And as if that was not enough, Tom, her trivia nemesis, has turned out to be cute, funny, and deeply interested in getting to know her ... It is time for Nina to come out of her comfortable shell, but she is not convinced real life could ever live up to fiction. It is going to take a brand-new family, a persistent suitor, and the combined effects of ice cream and trivia to make her turn her own fresh page.



The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

by Rachel Joyce

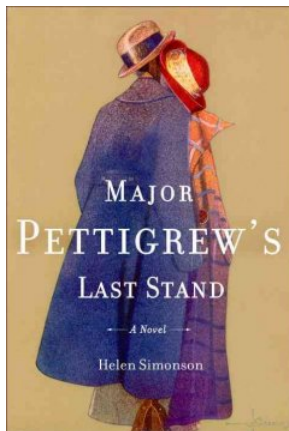
Jolted out of emotional numbness by a letter from an old friend who wants to say goodbye before she dies, Harold Fry embarks on a 600-mile hiking journey to his friend's side without supplies, an endeavor that stirs up memories of his unhappy marital and parenting experiences. (general fiction).



The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society

by Mary Ann Shaffer

In 1946, as England emerges from the shadow of World War II, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey and his eccentric friends, who tell her about their island, the books they love, German occupation, and the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation.



Major Pettigrew's Last Stand

by Helen Simonson

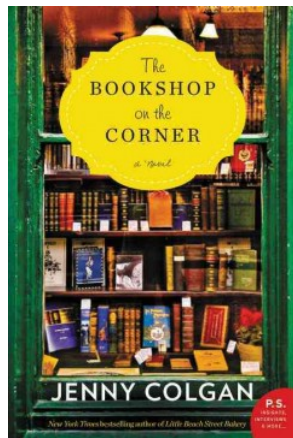
Major Ernest Pettigrew (retired) leads a quiet life in the village of St. Mary, England, until his brother's death sparks an unexpected friendship with Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper from the village. Drawn together by their shared love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses, the Major and Mrs. Ali soon find their friendship blossoming into something more. But will their relationship survive in a society that considers Ali a foreigner?



The Borrower

by Rebecca Makkai

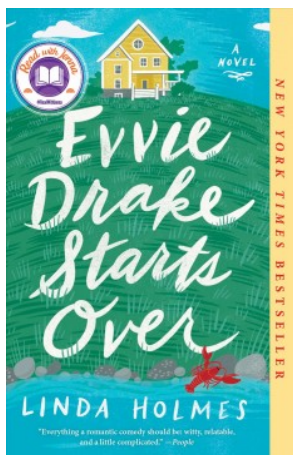
Lucy Hull, a young children's librarian in Hannibal, Missouri, finds herself both a kidnapper and kidnapped when her favorite patron, ten-year-old Ian Drake, runs away from home. The precocious Ian is addicted to reading, but needs Lucy's help to smuggle books past his overbearing mother, who has enrolled Ian in weekly antigay classes with celebrity Pastor Bob. Lucy stumbles into a moral dilemma when she finds Ian camped out in the library after hours with a knapsack of provisions and an escape plan. Desperate to save him from Pastor Bob and the Drakes, Lucy allows herself to be hijacked by Ian. The odd pair embarks on a crazy road trip from Missouri to Vermont, with ferrets, an inconvenient boyfriend, and upsetting family history thrown in their path. But is it just Ian who is running away? Who is the man who seems to be on their tail? And should Lucy be trying to save a boy from his own parents?



The Bookshop on the Corner

by Jenny Colgan

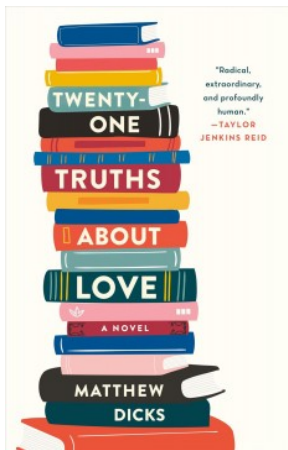
Nina Redmond is a literary matchmaker. Pairing a reader with that perfect book is her passion... and also her job. Or at least it was. Until yesterday, she was a librarian in the hectic city. But now the job she loved is no more. Determined to make a new life for herself, Nina moves to a sleepy village many miles away. There she buys a van and transforms it into a bookmobile--a mobile bookshop that she drives from neighborhood to neighborhood, changing one life after another with the power of storytelling. From helping her grumpy landlord deliver a lamb, to sharing picnics with a charming train conductor who serenades her with poetry, Nina discovers there's plenty of adventure, magic, and soul in a place that's beginning to feel like home... a place where she just might be able to write her own happy ending.



Evvie Drake Starts Over

by Linda Holmes

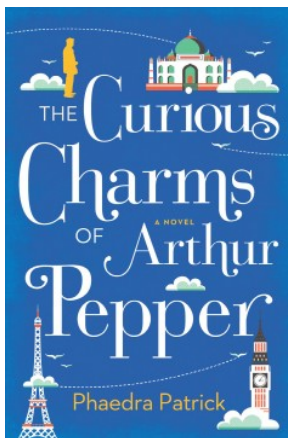
In a small town in Maine, recently widowed Eveleth "Evvie" Drake rarely leaves her house. In New York, Dean Tenney, former major-league pitcher and Evvie's best friend Andy's childhood friend, is struggling with a case of the "yips": he can't throw straight anymore, and he can't figure out why. An invitation from Andy to stay in Maine for a few months seems like the perfect chance to hit the reset button. When Dean moves into an apartment at the back of Evvie's house, the two make a deal: Dean won't ask about Evvie's late husband, and Evvie won't ask about Dean's baseball career. What starts as an unexpected friendship soon turns into something more.



Twenty-one Truths About Love

by Matthew Dicks

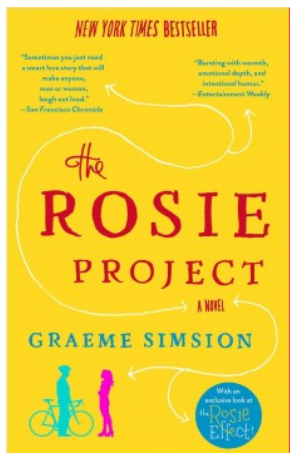
This is a story about the lengths one man will go to, and risks he will take, to save his family. But Dan doesn't just want to save his failing bookstore and his family's finances. He's tired of feeling ordinary... Dan wants to do something special... and maybe even dangerous. Dan begins to puzzle through a plan--it helps that he's obsessive list-maker--but options are limited and his fears for the future keep growing.



The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper

by Phaedra Patrick

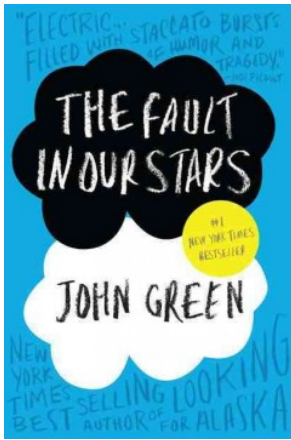
Sixty-nine-year-old Arthur Pepper lives a simple life. He gets out of bed at precisely 7:30 am, just as he did when his wife, Miriam, was alive. He dresses in the same gray slacks and mustard sweater-vest, waters his fern, Frederica, and heads out to his garden. But on the one-year anniversary of Miriam's death, something changes. Sorting through Miriam's possessions, Arthur finds an exquisite gold charm bracelet he's never seen before. What follows is a surprising and unforgettable odyssey that takes Arthur from London to Paris and as far as India in an epic quest to find out the truth about his wife's secret life before they met—a journey that leads him to find hope, healing, and self-discovery in the most unexpected places.



The Rosie Project

by Graeme C Simsion

Don Tillman, a professor of genetics, sets up a project designed to find him the perfect wife, starting with a questionnaire that has to be adjusted a little as he goes along. Then he meets Rosie, who is everything he's not looking for in a wife, but she ends up his friend as he helps her try and find her biological father.



The Fault in our Stars

by John Green

Despite the tumor-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few more years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis, but when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at the Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten.

Dundee Library

555 Barrington Ave. (Rt. 68)
Dundee, IL 60118

Hours:

Mon-Thu 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Fri-Sat 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sun 1 to 5 p.m.

www.frvpld.info

Randall Oaks Library

500 North Randall Road
West Dundee, IL 60118

Hours:

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