



Season's Readings

**Catherine
Collins**

Meddling Kids: A Novel by Edgar Cantero

Everyone eventually grows up, even the Scooby Gang. This very adult take on the teen detective genre is loaded with pop culture references, several mysteries, and enough creepiness to appeal to both fans of *Stranger Things* and HP Lovecraft, while providing some real insight on the horrors of adult life.



**Krystal
Carter**

The Girl Before by JP Delaney

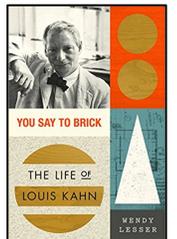
A twisted tale that forces you to think about the things that are most important in your life. It leaves you wondering how well you know the people you call friends and or lovers. I enjoyed the back and forth of both characters which showed how similar they were and at times made you wonder if you've read in circles. A murder mystery with sizzling details that keeps you guessing till the end.



**Naomi
Cohen**

You Say to Brick: The Life of Louis Kahn by Wendy Lesser

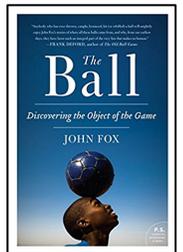
Architect Louis Kahn was a tremendous force in 20th century architecture and a thoroughly fascinating human being. This contemplative biography has a strong local flavor as Kahn resided in Philadelphia since he arrived here as a small child.



**Brendan
Johnson**

The Ball: Discovering the Object of the Game by John Fox

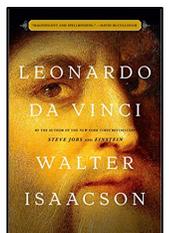
For those that have ever thrown, kicked or hit a ball and wondered, why am I doing this, *The Ball: Discovering the Object of the Game* by John Fox attempts to provide you with an answer. Though it only touches on why we play, it spends most of the time providing a look at how some of the most popular American sports came to be, with some interesting peeks into how they looked in the past. It's a very easy and interesting read, even if some of the sports discussed don't interest you. So if you've ever wondered why tennis matches start "Love-Love" or why American football looks so much different than the "other" football, this book is worth the read.



**Cynthia
Slater**

Leonardo da Vinci by Walter Isaacson

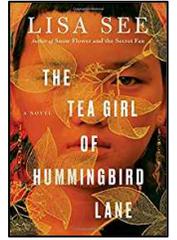
For fans of Isaacson's biographies (Steve Jobs, Einstein, Benjamin Franklin), this will be a must-read.



**Marian
Courtney**

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane: A Novel by Lisa See

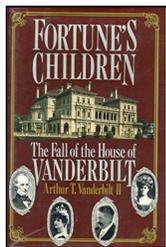
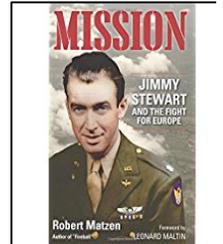
A celebration of mothers and daughters and the bonds between them, *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* is also an ode to tea: from honoring ancient trees on remote mountaintops to relating detailed descriptions of contemporary connoisseurs as they sample various teas. If you are a tea drinker, you may never look at a cup of tea in quite the same way.



**Christopher
Dixon**

Mission: Jimmy Stewart and the Fight for Europe by Robert Matzen

The boy next door, from Indiana, Pennsylvania, places his Academy Award-winning career (best actor, *The Philadelphia Story*, 1940) on hold to serve his country, as a bomber pilot and commanding officer, in the Army Air Forces during World War II. This is a part of Jimmy Stewart's life that is not well known.



Fortune's Children: The Fall of the House of Vanderbilt by Arthur T. Vanderbilt II

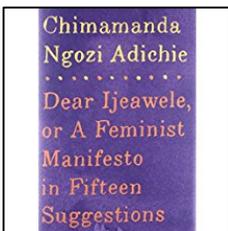
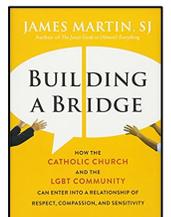
Shipping and railroad magnate, "The Commodore," Cornelius Vanderbilt became one of the richest men in the world during the Gilded Age with an estimated fortune of over \$100,000,000 (billions, today) by the time of his death in 1877. Perhaps, fairly or unfairly, his heirs are remembered for spending much of that money on expensive New York City townhouses, Newport, Rhode Island summer cottages, steam-powered yachts, lavish parties and gambling. Some of the true-life stories about the Vanderbilt family could easily be used as the basis for an American version of Downton Abbey.

**Anne
Krakow**

Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity

by James Martin, S.J.

Saddened by the 2016 shooting at an Orlando nightclub, Father Martin addresses the separation between the Catholic church and the LGBT community, mainly in the institutional church's failure to acknowledge LGBT people. Father Martin outlines three connectors of respect, compassion, and sensitivity that can be used to build a bridge between the two groups.



Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Adichie's book is small but it's full of emotion, warmth, and humor as she advises her friend on raising a daughter. The author approaches her dream of gender equality with common sense and thoughtful advice.