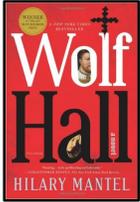




Season's Readings 2016

From the Staff of Drexel Library

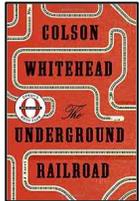
Anne
Krakow



Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel

Winner of the 2009 Man Booker Prize, the historical novel *Wolf Hall* explores Henry VIII's England through the eyes of Thomas Cromwell. Henry's 20-year marriage to Catherine of Aragon fails to produce a male heir and Cromwell assists the king in negotiating an annulment from Pope Clement VII. Most striking is the portrayal of Thomas Cromwell as a sympathetic character, not always the Machiavellian schemer depicted in books and films. While many have disagreed with the author's treatment of Cromwell, it is an arresting take on Henry's court. Author Hilary Mantel continues the story in her sequel, *Bring Up the Bodies* (2012). [Library Catalog](#)

Laurie
Palumbo



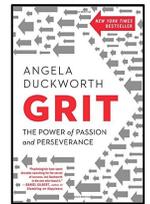
The Underground Railroad: A Novel by Colson Whitehead

This National Book Award Winner tells the story of a Cora, a young slave, as she seeks to escape her cruel life on a plantation in Georgia. *The Underground Railroad* is a brutal read but by weaving together fantasy and historical facts, Whitehead does the important job of creating a narrative that immerses the reader in Cora's story while connecting us to the greater tragedy of America's history of slavery. [Library Catalog](#)

Laurie
Palumbo
and
Marian
Courtney

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance by Angela Duckworth

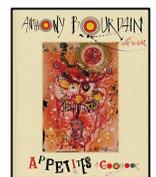
Psychologist Angela Duckworth's theorizes that perseverance and resilience— or Grit - is a more accurate indicator of success than talent, luck, or circumstance. Her research indicates that Grit can be learned and developed over time at any point in someone's life. Though the book becomes somewhat repetitive by the end, Duckworth's research provides hope and direction for those looking to find their passion and succeed at what they love. [Library Catalog](#)



Marian
Courtney

Appetites: A Cookbook by Anthony Bourdain

Reflecting his personality and globe-trotting adventures, the recipes in Bourdain's latest book, *Appetites*, contain straightforward directions for at-home cooks to tackle both the sumptuous as well as simple heart-warming classics. [Library Catalog](#)



Deborah
Lenert

Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman

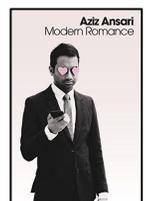
An awkward and seemingly distant woman suddenly finds herself at loose ends in the world and is given a temporary job. Through a series of unlikely friendships she discovers that the power of her newfound compassion and courage might be enough to save a broken community.



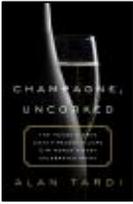
Stephanie
Riley

Modern Romance by Aziz Ansari with Eric Klinenberg

Hilarious yet well-researched discussion of modern-day relationships from awkward texting to marriage habits. Mr. Ansari is hilarious as always, but all the data backs him up. [Library Catalog](#)



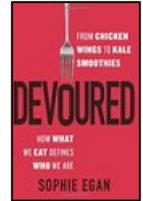
Cynthia Slater



Devoured: From Chicken Wings to Kale Smoothies--How What We Eat Defines Who We Are by Sophie Egan

This book takes looks at the deeper meaning behind our food choices. Author Sophie Egan is a contributor to The New York Times' Well blog. If you read *The Omnivore's Dilemma* or *Salt, Sugar, Fat*, check out *Devoured*.

[Library Catalog](#)



Champagne, Uncorked: The House of Krug and the Timeless Allure of the World's Most Celebrated Drink by Alan Tardi

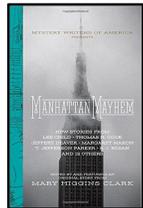
A meticulous history of the 'beverage of celebration.' Just in time for the holidays!

[Library Catalog](#)

Susan Clayton

Manhattan Mayhem: New Crime Stories from Mystery Writers of America

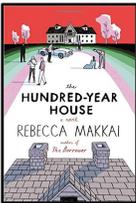
With stories set in distinctly varied Manhattan neighborhoods, this collection of twelve short mysteries gives the reader a taste of the writing styles of authors like Margaret Maron, Jeffery Deaver, and Persia Walker. From the Upper East Side to Harlem down to Alphabet City and Greenwich Village, settings become as important to the plot as the characters. Take this New York tour of crime and intrigue, you won't be disappointed! [Library Catalog](#)



Naomi Cohen

The Hundred-Year House by Rebecca Makkai

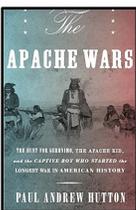
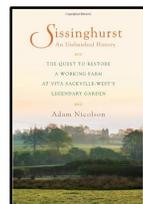
On the brink of Y2K, a couple of young academics, Doug and Zee, find themselves short on cash and move into Zee's family mansion. Doug hopes to unearth new information about the poet he is researching, who had coincidentally stayed at the house earlier in the century when it was an artist's colony. Subsequent sections take us backward in time to gradually reveal the house's, and the family's, secrets. When you reach the end, you will immediately want to reread the book to discover the connections and clues sprinkled throughout. The second time is even more rewarding!



Christopher Dixon

Sissinghurst, An Unfinished History: The Quest to Restore a Working Farm at Vita Sackville-West's Legendary Garden by Adam Nicolson

Historian Nicolson writes about his efforts to work with the British National Trust in order to create a sustainable working farm on the Kent estate once owned by his grandmother English poet, Vita Sackville-West. Fans of the series *Downton Abbey* and *Longwood Gardens* will find the story most enjoyable.



The Apache Wars: The Hunt for Geronimo, the Apache Kid, and the Captive Boy Who Started the Longest War in American History by Paul Andrew Hutton

The author brings to life many of the famous participants in the tragic, for all involved, decades long war between the Apache people of the American Southwest and the United States. One character in the book even has a Saint Joseph's connection. Civil War Medal of Honor awardee Captain John Gregory Bourke, who served on the staff of General Crook, attended the College in the late 1850s.

Martha VanAuken

Dead to the Last Drop (A Coffeehouse Mystery) by Cleo Coyle

Murder, mystery, recipes and a great cup of coffee. The 16th book in the series written by a husband and wife team under the pseudonym Cleo Coyle. If you like lattes, you'll love this series. [Library Catalog](#)

