



**What is on your nightstand?
Books Discussed on 10.22.2020**

Apple: (Skin to the Core) by Eric Gansworth– This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: The term, “Apple” is a slur in Native communities across the country. It is for someone supposedly, “red on the outside, white on the inside.”

Eric Gansworth is telling his story in *Apple (Skin to the Core)*. The story of his family, his Indigenous tribe and of Native folks everywhere. From the horrible legacy of the government boarding schools, to a boy watching his siblings leave and return and leave again, to a young man fighting to be an artist who balances multiple worlds.

Eric shatters that slur and reclaims it in verse and prose and imagery that truly lives up to the word heartbreaking. This is a young adult poetry book.

Asylum by Madeleine Roux– This title is available in the library (Ya Fic Rou), and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: For sixteen-year-old Dan Crawford, the New Hampshire College Prep program is the chance of a lifetime. Except that when Dan arrives, he finds that the usual summer housing has been closed, forcing students to stay in the crumbling Brookline Dorm. The dorm was formerly a sanatorium, more commonly known as an asylum. And not just any asylum—a last resort for the criminally insane.

Aughra's Wisdom of Thra by J.M. Lee (Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal) – This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Doesn't everyone get their advice from a feisty three-and-a-half-foot creature with ram horns, a detachable eye, and unlocked secrets to an entire fantasy universe? Allow Aughra to guide you with wisdom beyond this realm and advice only she can give.

The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu by Joshua Hammer– This title is not available in the library but is available on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: In the 1980s, a young adventurer and collector for a government library, Abdel Kader Haidara, journeyed across the Sahara Desert and along the Niger River, tracking down and salvaging tens of thousands of ancient Islamic and secular manuscripts that were crumbling in the trunks of desert shepherds. His goal: to preserve this crucial part of the world's patrimony in a gorgeous library. But then Al Qaeda showed up at the door.

The Beast Within: A Tale of Beauty's Prince by Serena Valentino – This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: A cursed prince sits alone in a secluded castle. Few have seen him, but those who claim they have say his hair is wild and nails are sharp--like a beast's! But how did this prince, once jovial and beloved by the people, come to be a reclusive and bitter monster? And is it possible that he can ever find true love and break the curse that has been placed upon him?

Cat in the Stacks Book Series by Miranda James– This title is available in the library (Fic Jam) but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Everyone in Athena, Mississippi, knows Charlie Harris, the good-natured librarian with a rescued Maine coon cat named Diesel that he walks on a leash. He's returned to his hometown to immerse himself in books, but soon enough he's entangled in a real-life thriller..

A famous author of gory bestsellers and a former classmate of Charlie's, Godfrey Priest may be the pride of Athena, but Charlie remembers him as an arrogant, manipulative jerk—and he's not the only one. Godfrey's homecoming as a distinguished alumnus couldn't possibly go worse: by lunch, he's put a man in the hospital. By dinner, Godfrey's dead.

Dear Martin by Nic Stone – This title is not available in the library, but is available on [OverDrive/Bridges](#), and may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Justyce McAllister is a good kid, an honor student, and always there to help a friend—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. Despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates.

Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr. King to find out.

Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry– This title is available in the library (J Fic Low) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#), but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Lois Lowry once again creates a mysterious but plausible future world. It is a society ruled by savagery and deceit that shuns and discards the weak. Left orphaned and physically flawed, young Kira faces a frightening, uncertain future. Blessed with an almost magical talent that keeps her alive, she struggles with ever broadening responsibilities in her quest for truth, discovering things that will change her life forever.

The Giver by Lois Lowry– This title is available in the library (YA Fic Low, J Fic Low) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#), but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: The haunting story centers on twelve-year-old Jonas, who lives in a seemingly ideal, if colorless, world of conformity and contentment. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community. Lois Lowry has written three companion novels to *The Giver*, including *Gathering Blue*, *Messenger*, and *Son*.

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas - This title is available in the library (Call Number: YA Fic Tho and Dvd Hat) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

Summary: Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death became a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what *really* went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

This book has been [banned and challenged](#) because it was deemed “anti-cop,” and for profanity, drug use, and sexual references.

How to be Black by Baratunde Thurston– This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan. This title is available on [OverDrive/Bridges](#).

Summary: Baratunde Thurston shares his 30-plus years of expertise in being black, with helpful essays like “How to Be the Black Friend,” “How to Speak for All Black People,” “How To Celebrate Black History Month,” and more, in this satirical guide to race issues—written for black people and those who love them. Audacious, cunning, and razor-sharp, *How to Be Black* exposes the mass-media’s insidiously racist, monochromatic portrayal of black culture’s richness and variety. Fans of *Stuff White People Like*, *This Week in Blackness*, and *Ending Racism in About an Hour* will be captivated, uplifted, incensed, and inspired by this hilarious and

powerful attack on America's blacklisting of black culture: Baratunde Thurston's *How to Be Black*.

Maximum Ride Book Series by James Patterson— This title is available in the library (Call Number: YA Fic Pat), and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#), and may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Join Max and her flock on three Maximum Ride adventures: *The Angel Experiment* (#1), *School's Out-Forever* (#2), and *Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports* (#3). Being a kid with wings sounds like a dream come true, but when you're facing half-human, half-wolf "Erasers" and a sinister science experiment, life can be complicated. From the deadly heat of Death Valley to the treetops of Central Park in Manhattan, this is one set of adventures you will never forget.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children Book Series by Ransom Riggs— This title is available in the library (Ya Fic Rig), and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: A mysterious island. An abandoned orphanage. A strange collection of very curious photographs. It all waits to be discovered in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, an unforgettable novel that mixes fiction and photography in a thrilling reading experience. As our story opens, a horrific family tragedy sets sixteen-year-old Jacob journeying to a remote island off the coast of Wales, where he discovers the crumbling ruins of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children.

Mistress of all Evil: A Tale of the Dark Fairy by Serena Valentino – This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: The tale is told as if it's happening once upon a dream: the lovely maiden meets her handsome prince in the woods. The story has been told many times and in many ways. But always the maiden finds out that she is a princess—a princess who has been cursed by a dark fairy to prick her finger on a spindle and fall into an eternal sleep. Though her three good fairies try to protect her, the princess succumbs to the curse. But the power of good endures, as her true love defeats the fire-breathing dragon and awakens the princess with true love's first kiss. The two live happily ever after.

Poor Unfortunate Souls: A Tale of the Sea Witch by Serena Valentino – This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: The story has been told many times and in many ways. But always the mermaid wants more than her world can offer, and her father demands that she live within the confines of his domain. Her rebelliousness costs the little mermaid her voice and nearly her soul. But the power of good prevails, and Ariel emerges proud and unchanged.

Send Down the Rain by Charles Martin - This title is available in the library (Call Number: Fic Mar and CD Fic Mar) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

Summary: Allie is still recovering from the loss of her family's beloved waterfront restaurant on Florida's Gulf Coast when she loses her second husband to a terrifying highway accident. Devastated and losing hope, she shudders to contemplate the future—until a cherished person from her past returns.

Joseph has been adrift for many years, wounded in both body and spirit and unable to come to terms with the trauma of his Vietnam War experiences. Just as he resolves to abandon his search for peace and live alone at a remote cabin in the Carolina mountains, he discovers a mother and her two small children lost in the forest. A man of character and strength, he instinctively steps in to help them get back to their home in Florida. There he will return to his own hometown—and witness the accident that launches a bittersweet reunion with his childhood sweetheart, Allie.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (Fudge Series) by Judy Blume— This title is available in the library (Call Number: J Fic Blu) but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Two is a crowd when Peter and his little brother, Fudge, are in the same room. Grown-ups think Fudge is absolutely adorable, but Peter and his pet turtle, Dribble, know the truth. From throwing temper tantrums to smearing mashed potatoes on the wall, Fudge causes mischief wherever he goes!

Vera Stanhope Book Series: The Darkest Evening by Ann Cleeves— This title is available in the library (LP Fic Cle) but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Three very different women come together to complete an environmental survey on the Northumberland countryside. Three women who, in some way or another, know the meaning of betrayal....

Only when a death occurs does a fourth woman enter the picture--the unconventional Detective Inspector Vera Stanhope, who must piece together the truth from these women's tangled lives in *The Crow Trap*.

The World of the Dark Crystal by Brian Froud – This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: *The World of the Dark Crystal* invites fans to delve into the creation and lore of the Jim Henson classic through the evocative illustrations of Brian Froud, concept designer on the original film.

Since its original release in 1982, Jim Henson's brilliant film *The Dark Crystal* has gone on to become a beloved cult classic. *The World of the Dark Crystal* – the original companion art book to the film – was created by Henson and internationally renowned artist Brian Froud to showcase the gorgeous conceptual artwork created for the film and delve deeper into the lore that underpins Thra, the magical world at the heart of the film.

The World's Strongest Librarian by Josh Hanagarne – This title is available in the library (Call Number: 020.92 Han), and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#), and may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: Josh Hanagarne couldn't be invisible if he tried. Although he wouldn't officially be diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome until his freshman year of high school, Josh was six years old when he first began exhibiting symptoms. When he was twenty and had reached his towering height of 6'7", his tics escalated to nightmarish levels. Determined to conquer his affliction, Josh tried countless remedies, with dismal results. At last, an eccentric, autistic strongman taught Josh how to "throttle" his tics into submission using increasingly elaborate feats of strength. What started as a hobby became an entire way of life—and an effective way of managing his disorder.

The 100 Book Series by Kass Morgan— This title is not available in the library but may be available through InterLibrary Loan.

Summary: No one has set foot on Earth in centuries -- until now. Ever since a devastating nuclear war, humanity has lived on spaceships far above Earth's radioactive surface. Now, one hundred juvenile delinquents -- considered expendable by society -- are being sent on a dangerous mission: to recolonize the planet. It could be their second chance at life...or it could be a suicide mission.