



**What is on your nightstand?**  
**Books Discussed on 10.29.2020**

*America in so many words* by David Barnhart and Allan Metcalf - This title is not available and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** America in So Many Words presents a unique and fascinating historical view of this country's language. It chronicles, year by year, the contributions we have made to the vocabulary of English and the words we have embraced as the nation has evolved. From canoe (1555), and corn (1608), to newbie (1993), and Ebonics (1997), a prominent word for nearly every year in the history of our nation is analyzed and discussed in its historical context. The result is an engaging survey of American linguistic culture through the centuries.

*Between Friends: An Anthology* by Debbie Macomber - This title is available (Fic Mac) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Two girls from very different backgrounds become best friends in the turbulent 60s, but their circumstances and choices—and their mistakes—take them in opposite directions. Lesley stays in their hometown. She marries young, living a life defined by the demands of small children, *never* enough money, and an unfaithful husband. Jill lives those years on a college campus shaken by the Vietnam War, and then as an idealistic young lawyer in New York City.

*Burnout: The Secret to Unlocking the Stress Cycle* by Emily Nagoski, PhD and Ameila Nagoski, DMA This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Burnout. Many women in America have experienced it. What's expected of women and what it's really like to be a woman in today's world are two very different things—and women exhaust themselves trying to close the gap between them. How can you "love your body" when every magazine cover has ten diet tips for becoming "your best self"? How do you "lean in" at work when you're already operating at 110 percent and aren't recognized for it? How can you live happily and healthily in a sexist world that is constantly telling you you're too fat, too needy, too noisy, and too selfish?

*Cheaper by the Dozen* by Dana Ivey, Frank Gilbreth and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey– This title is available in the library (Call Number: B Gil) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** *Cheaper by the Dozen*, written by siblings Frank B. Gilbreth Jr. and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey, tells the tale of Lillian Moller Gilbreth, Frank Bunker Gilbreth and their progeny. Life is never dull with a dozen children in the house, and the book is filled with delightful adventures and lessons learned in this loving household.

*Cruel Beauty* by Rosamund Hodge - This title is not available and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** The romance of *Beauty and the Beast* meets the adventure of *Graceling* in this dazzling fantasy novel about our deepest desires and their power to change our destiny.

Perfect for fans of bestselling *An Ember in the Ashes* and *A Court of Thorns and Roses*, this gorgeously written debut infuses the classic fairy tale with glittering magic, a feisty heroine, and a romance sure to take your breath away.

*The Dark Crystal: Bestiary – The definitive guide to the creatures of Thra (fantasy art book)* by Adam Cesare, forward by Brian and Wendy Froud and Illustrated by Iris Compier – This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** In a world where rocks talk and trees dispense wisdom from across the ages, anything is possible. *The Dark Crystal Bestiary* is a comprehensive volume that catalogs the many lifeforms of Thra's unique ecosystem. Drawing from all aspects of the *Dark Crystal* saga's universe, this book is visually dazzling and filled with enthralling information about all of Thra's lifeforms, making it the definitive guide to a world of wonders.

*Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised our Nation* by Cokie Roberts– This title is available in the library (Call Number: 973.3 Rob) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** While much has been written about the men who signed the Declaration of Independence, battled the British, and framed the Constitution, the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters they left behind have been little noticed by history. #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Cokie Roberts brings us women who fought the Revolution as valiantly as the men, often defending their very doorsteps. Drawing upon personal correspondence, private journals, and even favored recipes, Roberts reveals the often-surprising stories of these fascinating women, bringing to life the everyday trials and extraordinary triumphs of individuals like Abigail Adams, Mercy Otis Warren, Deborah Read Franklin, Eliza Pinckney, Catherine Littlefield Green, Esther DeBerdt Reed and Martha Washington; proving that without our exemplary women, the new country might have never survived.

*The Halloween Tree* by Ray Bradbury - This title is available in the library (Call Number: J Fic Bra) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Join the shadowy Carapace Clavicle Moundshroud as he takes eight trick-or-treaters on an unforgettable journey to find their missing friend, Pip. Travel through space and time, from the tombs of ancient Egypt to the gargoyles of Notre-Dame Cathedral, all the way to the cemeteries of Mexico on el Día de Los Muertos, the Day of the Dead. Is Pip still alive? And if so, can his friends save him from a ghastly fate before it's too late?

*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.*

*I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing up in the Holocaust* by Livia Bitton-Jackson - This title is available in the library (Call Number: J Fic Bit) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** The author was 13 when the Nazis invaded Hungary. In intimate and excruciating detail, Livia Bitton-Jackson describes how her young life was transformed by her experiences, from suspension from school to surviving the horrors of Auschwitz.

*An Invitation to Murder: Lady Katherine Regency Mysteries Series* by Leighann Dobbs - This title is not available and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** To stop a high-society killer, she'll have to play matchmaker one last time....

Lady Katherine would rather chase clues than suitors. Her reputation as a matchmaker could give her the cover, she needs to follow in her detective father's footsteps. If she catches the Pink Ribbon Killer before he strikes again, she'll win her dowry and her independence in the process...

*Invitation Only Murder by Leslie Meier* - This title is available in the library (Call Number: Fic Mei) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Part-time reporter Lucy Stone doesn't know what to expect as she arrives on a private Maine island owned by eccentric billionaire Scott Newman, only that the exclusive experience should make for a very intriguing feature story.

*Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark Series by Ridley Pearson* - This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** In this fantastical thriller, five young teens tapped as models for theme park "guides" find themselves pitted against Disney villains and witches that threaten both the future of Walt Disney World and the stability of the world outside its walls.

*The Lion in the Living Room: How House Cats Tamed Us and Took Over the World by Abigail Tucker*- This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** A lively adventure through history, natural science, and pop culture in search of how cats conquered the world, the Internet, and our hearts.

*Moloka'i by Alan Brennert*- This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** *Moloka'i* tells the story of Rachel Kalama, a seven-year-old Hawaiian girl who contracts leprosy and is quarantined on the island of Moloka'i during the 1890s. Separated from her family and forced to grow up in the leper colony of Kalaupapa, Rachel experiences intense isolation. But she remains strong, finding moments of joy, and even love. Rich in Hawaiian history, this novel proves itself a stellar piece of historical fiction.

*The Nature Fix: Why nature makes us happier, healthier and more creative by Florence Williams*— This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** From forest trails in Korea, to islands in Finland, to eucalyptus groves in California, Florence Williams investigates the science behind nature's positive effects on the brain. Delving into brand-new research, she uncovers the powers of the natural world to improve health, promote reflection and innovation, and strengthen our relationships. As our modern lives shift dramatically indoors, these ideas—and the answers they yield—are more urgent than ever.

*A Private Hotel for Gentle Ladies: A novel by Ellen Cooney* - This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** It is 1900 in a small, prosperous Massachusetts town. Charlotte Heath, a lively, independent redhead of humble beginnings, is married to the scion of the powerful Heath family. When, on her first outing after a long illness, she spies her husband, Hays, bending to kiss another woman in the village square, impulsive Charlotte heads her horses straight out of town.

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston - This title is available in the library (Call Number: Fic Hur) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** One of the most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences' rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston's classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.

*Vera Stanhope Book Series: The Darkest Evening* by Ann Cleeves— This title is available in the library (LP Fic Cle) and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**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*.

*Vet in the Vestry with Poultry in the Pulpit* by Alexander Cameron— This title is not available in the library and may be available through Interlibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** In the late '50s, Cameron gave up a veterinary practice in southwest England to enter the Church of Scotland ministry, changing his focus from animals to humans. His is a story of commitment in both professions combined with a deep and enduring faith. Cameron trained as a vet in his native Scotland, moved to Devon where he had a country practice, then returned to a village church near his childhood home. The engaging memoir is weighted more toward veterinary than ministerial experiences, and is rich in local color, with many appealing characters and sensitive insights into the human condition.