



## **What is on your nightstand? Books Discussed on 9.17.2020**

*All boys aren't blue* by George M. Johnson – This book is currently available using [OverDrive/Bridges](#) with the OverDrive or Libby App and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** In a series of personal essays, prominent journalist and LGBTQIA+ activist George M. Johnson explores his childhood, adolescence, and college years in New Jersey and Virginia. From the memories of getting his teeth kicked out by bullies at age five, to flea marketing with his loving grandmother, to his first sexual relationships, this young-adult memoir weaves together the trials and triumphs faced by Black queer boys.

*American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: Fic Cum or L.P. Fic Cum and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Lydia Quixano Pérez lives in the Mexican city of Acapulco. She runs a bookstore. She has a son, Luca, the love of her life, and a wonderful husband who is a journalist. And while there are cracks beginning to show in Acapulco because of the drug cartels, her life is, by and large, fairly comfortable.

Even though she knows they'll never sell, Lydia stocks some of her all-time favorite books in her store. And then one day a man enters the shop to browse and comes up to the register with a few books he would like to buy—two of them her favorites. Javier is erudite. He is charming. And, unbeknownst to Lydia, he is the *jefe* of the newest drug cartel that has gruesomely taken over the city. When Lydia's husband's tell-all profile of Javier is published, none of their lives will ever be the same.

*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Tonahsea Coates)– This book is available in the Library. Call Number: 305.8 Coa and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** *Between the World and Me* is a 2015 nonfiction book written by Ta-Nehisi Coates and published by Spiegel & Grau. It is written as a letter to the author's teenage son about the feelings, symbolism, and realities associated with being Black in the United States.

*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: Fic Mor and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** The first novel written by Toni Morrison. The novel takes place in Lorain, Ohio, and tells the story of a young African-American girl named Pecola who grows up during the years following the Great Depression.

*Book of the Little Axe* by Lauren Francis-Sharma (Library Card Sign-Up/Libraries Transform Book Pick) – This is available in the library (Call Number: Fic Fra) and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** In 1796 Trinidad, young Rosa Rendon quietly but purposefully rebels against the life others expect her to lead. Bright, competitive and opinionated, Rosa sees no reason she should learn to cook and keep house, for it is obvious her talents lie in running the farm she, alone, views as her birthright. But when her homeland changes from Spanish to British rule, it becomes increasingly unclear whether its free black property owners - Rosa's family among them - will be allowed to keep their assets, their land and ultimately their freedom.

*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: Fic Ric and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** In 1936, Bluet was the last of the Kentucky Blues. In the dusty Appalachian hills of Troublesome Creek, nineteen and blue-skinned, Bluet has used up her last chance for “respectability” and a marriage bed. Instead, she joins the historical Pack Horse Library Project of Kentucky and becomes a librarian, riding up treacherous mountains on a mule to deliver books and other reading material to the poor hill communities of Eastern Kentucky.

*The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse* by Charlie Mackesy– Not currently available at the library or through OverDrive/Bridges, but may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** From the revered British illustrator, a modern fable for all ages that explores life's universal lessons, featuring 100 color and black-and-white drawings.

*Dear Edward* by Ann Napolitano – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: CD Fic Nap or Fic Nap and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** One summer morning, twelve-year-old Edward Adler, his beloved older brother, his parents, and 183 other passengers board a flight in Newark headed for Los Angeles. Among them are a Wall Street wunderkind, a young woman coming to terms with an unexpected pregnancy, an injured veteran returning from Afghanistan, a business tycoon, and a free-spirited woman running away from her controlling husband. Halfway across the country, the plane crashes. Edward is the sole survivor.

*Eric* by Doris Lund – Not currently available at the library or through OverDrive/Bridges, but may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** This is the bestselling story of Eric, a boy with leukemia who refused to give up living--as told by the person who was with him through it all, his mother. Eric was seventeen when he heard the doctor's verdict about the disease that wanted his life. At first he and his family could not believe it. Eric was the picture of everything a youth should be--a champion athlete, a splendid human being, vibrant with energy and loved by all who knew him.

*Joey: The Story of Joe Biden* by Dr. Jill Biden – Not currently available at the library or through OverDrive/Bridges, but may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Joe Biden grew up in Scranton, Pennsylvania, the oldest of four children. His parents always encouraged him and his siblings to be independent and strong. The family moved to Wilmington, Delaware, where at twenty-nine, Biden was elected one the youngest United States Senators ever elected. This is his story.

*Lou Gehrig: The Lost Memoir* by Alan D. Gaff – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: B Geh and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** At the tender age of twenty-four, Lou Gehrig decided to tell the remarkable story of his life and career. He was one of the most famous athletes in the country, in the midst of a record-breaking season with the legendary 1927 World Series-winning Yankees. In an effort to grow Lou's star, pioneering sports agent Christy Walsh arranged for Lou's tale of baseball greatness to syndicate in newspapers across the country. Until now, those columns were largely forgotten and lost to history.

*My Uncle Fulton Sheen* by Jean Sheen Cunningham – Not currently available at the library or through OverDrive/Bridges, but may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** Joan Sheen Cunningham was happily growing up with her family in Illinois when her uncle Bishop Fulton Sheen offered her the opportunity of a lifetime: to attend a private school in

New York City. With the blessing of her parents, she eagerly accepted, and Fulton Sheen became a second father, a role model, and a lifelong friend.

*Never have your dog stuffed: and other things I've learned by Alan Alda* – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: B Ald and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** He's one of America's most recognizable and acclaimed actors—a star on Broadway, an Oscar nominee for *The Aviator*, and the only person to ever win Emmys for acting, writing, and directing, during his eleven years on *M\*A\*S\*H*. Now Alan Alda has written a memoir as elegant, funny, and affecting as his greatest performances.

“My mother didn't try to stab my father until I was six,” begins Alda's irresistible story. The son of a popular actor and a loving but mentally ill mother, he spent his early childhood backstage in the erotic and comic world of burlesque and went on, after early struggles, to achieve extraordinary success in his profession.

*One Fatal Flaw: A Daniel Pitt Novel by Anne Perry* – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: L.P. Fic Per or Fic Per and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** When a desperate woman comes to Daniel Pitt seeking a lawyer for her boyfriend, Rob Adwell, Daniel is convinced of the young man's innocence. Adwell has been accused of murder and of setting a fire to conceal the body, but Daniel is sure that science can absolve him—and Miriam fford Croft is the best scientist he knows. Miriam connects Daniel with her former teacher Sir Barnabas Saltram, an expert in arson, and together, they reveal Adwell's innocence by proving that an accidental fire caused the victim's death. But it's not long before Adwell is killed in the same fiery fashion. If these deaths are, in fact, murders, what essential clue could Daniel and Miriam have missed?

*The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides* – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: Fic Mic and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** *The Silent Patient* is a 2019 psychological thriller novel written by British-Cypriot author Alex Michaelides. The debut novel was published by Celadon Books, a division of Macmillan Publishers, on 5th February 2019. The audiobook version, released on the same date, is read by Louise Brealey and Jack Hawkins.

*Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi* – This book is available on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** The National Book Award winning history of how racist ideas were created, spread, and deeply rooted in American society. Some Americans insist that we're living in a post-racial society. But racist thought is not just alive and well in America--it is more sophisticated and more insidious than ever. And as award-winning historian Ibram X. Kendi argues, racist ideas have a long and lingering history, one in which nearly every great American thinker is complicit.

*The Wedding Dress by Danielle Steele* – This book is available in the Library. Call Number: Fic Ste or CD Fic Ste and on [OverDrive/Bridges](#) and may be available through InterLibrary Loan (depending on availability and lending library).

**Summary:** From the glamorous San Francisco social scene of the 1920s, through war and the social changes of the '60s, to the rise of Silicon Valley today, this extraordinary novel takes us on a family odyssey that is both heartbreaking and inspiring, as each generation faces the challenges of their day.

The Parisian design houses in 1928, the crash of 1929, the losses of war, the drug culture of the 1960s—history holds many surprises, and lives are changed forever. For richer or for poorer, in cramped apartments and grand mansions, the treasured wedding dress made in Paris in 1928 follows each generation into their new lives, and represents different hopes for each of them, as they marry very different men.