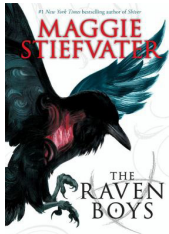


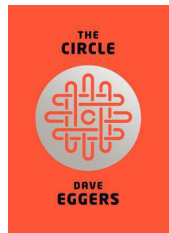
## San Diego Public Library & Foundation 2013 Holiday Reading and Gift Guide

These works, hand-selected by San Diego Public Library staff, make great holiday gifts or check them out at the library and read them yourself!



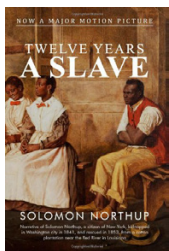
[The Raven Boys](#) by Maggie Stiefvater

“A beautifully written story full of mythology, prophecies and magic, this book will appeal to young adults and adults alike. Blue comes from a family of psychics and has always been told she would kill her true love with a kiss. Because of this, Blue has vowed to stay away from all boys but things change one winter night when she sees a vision of one of the local prep school boys, a Raven Boy, in the churchyard.” — *Deputy Director, Central Division, Misty Jones*



[The Circle](#) by Dave Eggers

“The 1984 of this generation. A haunting novel about a fictional social networking company attempting to take over first the lives of its employees and then those of the world at large. When the company slogan is ‘Secrets are lies and privacy is theft’ you know it’s a slippery slope. Eggers may have crafted a modern day fable but its ramifications are truly chilling.” — *Carmel Valley Branch Library Manager Brenda Wegener*

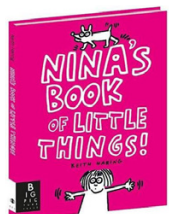


[Twelve Years a Slave](#) by Solomon Northup

“Read the book that the recently released motion picture is based on. Read the story of a black man who was born free in New York state but was kidnapped, sold into slavery and kept in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana before the American Civil War.” — *Library Assistant Jimmy Lovett, Jr.*

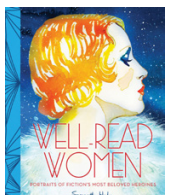
### From the Library Shop

A collaboration between the Library Foundation and the Friends of the Library, the Library Shop is located on the ground floor of the Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common. Shop proceeds support the entire system. Below are two books available for purchase recommended by Library Shop Manager Erin Zlotnik.



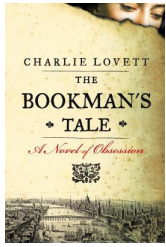
[Nina's Book of Little Things](#) by Keith Haring

“This classic activity book by acclaimed artist Keith Haring is back in print in a brand-new edition. The perfect gift for artistic kids age 4-9, the artist directs children to complete the pages with doodles, writing prompts, and witty bits of whimsy. This irreverent and creative book will keep kids enthralled for days.”



[Well-Read Women: Portraits of Fiction's Most Beloved Heroines](#) by Samantha Hahn

“Featuring 50 stunning watercolor portraits and hand-lettered quotations from beloved female characters in acclaimed novels, this gorgeous clothbound book would make a great gift for the literate women in your life. Hahn breathes new life into characters like Daisy Buchanan, Nancy Drew and Anna Karenina and her portraits feel both nostalgic and contemporary. This book is destined to be a classic.”



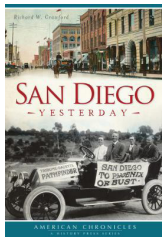
[The Bookman's Tale: A Novel of Obsession](#) by Charlie Lovett

“Peter Byerly, an antiquarian bookseller, finally finds himself back in a bookstore as he continues to struggle with the loss of his wife. While perusing a book on Shakespeare forgeries from the 1700s he discovers a small watercolor portrait of his wife amid the pages. Herein starts a spell binding tale of intrigue, suspense and romance sure to appeal to book lovers and mystery aficionados.” —*Allied Gardens/Benjamin Branch Manager Kathryn Johnson*



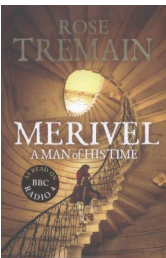
[Mi mundo adorado \(My Beloved World\)](#) by Sonia Sotomayor (translated by Eva Ibarzabal)

“In the preface, Sonia Sotomayor writes, ‘People who live in difficult circumstances need to know that happy endings are possible.’ The story of Sotomayor’s life is becoming a common story. The young, smart and very hardworking son or daughter of immigrants rises to the top of American professional life. *Mi mundo adorado* is one resounding, superb tale of struggle and success. Sotomayor offers an intimate and honest look at her extraordinary life and the support and blessings that pushed her forward.” —*Maria Zulma Cardona, B.A., M.A., Isabel Schon International Center for Spanish Books for Youth*. Additional high-quality books in Spanish for children and adolescents are available at the [San Diego Public Library website](#).



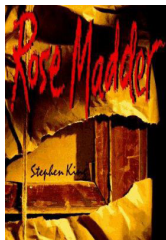
[San Diego Yesterday](#) by Richard W. Crawford

“A wonderful look at San Diego’s transformation from a small border town to a vital and vibrant coastal city told by local historian and San Diego Public Library Librarian Rick Crawford with a focus on the interesting stories and characters that make San Diego unique. A great gift for any San Diegan.” —*Michael McCulley, Librarian II, Sciences’ Section & Government Documents*



[Merivel: A Man of His Time](#) by Rose Tremain

“Even though Rose Tremain has a shelf of books to her credit, this English novelist doesn’t have as wide of recognition in the United States as you’d expect. Her sequel to 1989’s *Restoration* (also made into a film) is worth the wait for admirers of the wonderfully flawed title character, Sir Robert Merivel, and also can serve as an introduction both to the Falstaff-like Merivel and to Tremain. From the Court of King Charles II to Versailles and Switzerland, reader’s see the late 17th Century in all its colors through the eyes of physician and courtier Merivel and a cast of richly drawn characters.” —*Deputy Director, Branches, Bruce Johnson*



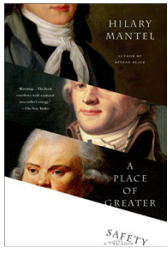
[Rose Madder](#) by Stephen King

“I have read this book many times and it seems to get better. You feel like you are the character. The book is so detailed the once you read the first chapter, you vision it’s your life. It will have you sitting on the edge of your seat and trying to finish reading it in one day.” —*Library Clerk Debra Thomas-Dixon*



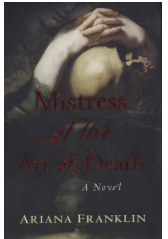
[Cloud Atlas \(DVD\)](#)

“This adaptation of the novel captures the timeless themes of the book with visualizations from unusual perspectives which allow the viewer to experience emotional disorientations of the characters. This story is dense in a way that after my fourth viewing, I am still awed at the intricately woven scenes and themes which allow me to learn more about the story each time. A great movie, a greater tool for thought.” —*Library Human Resources Manager Anthony D. Austin*



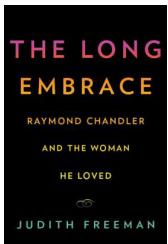
[A Place of Greater Safety](#) by Hilary Mantel.

“This is a fictional account of some of the major and minor characters in the French Revolution and the Reign of Terror. I especially enjoyed the perspective of the female characters who were involved and also lost their lives as the ideals of the revolution sped out of control and spiraled into paranoia.” —*Substitute Librarian Donna Guhl*



[Mistress of the Art of Death](#) by Ariana Franklin

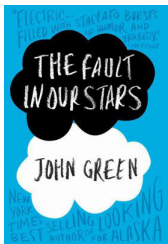
“Vesuvia Adelia Rachel Ortese Aguilar is an unusual woman in medieval England, what with her medical training, her facility with Arabic and her fascination with corpses. Schooled in cosmopolitan Salerno, Adelia investigates suspicious murders in comparatively primitive England, where women doctors are considered witches, and desecrating a corpse can send you to a speedy burning. Adelia makes an unlikely but somehow believable Kay Scarpetta of her era: smart, uncompromising and not afraid to rub people the wrong way.” —*Mission Valley Branch Manager Karen E. Reilly*



[The Long Embrace: Raymond Chandler and the Woman He Loved](#)

by Judith Freeman

“A Mystery Writer Revealed... Freeman digs deep into the woman behind the man who gave us Phillip Marlowe; America’s first knight in tarnished armor. Reading this deeply researched biography is like taking a walk in the streets of Chandler’s Los Angeles, with an expert tour guide. A ‘must read’ for all true Chandler fans.” —*Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch Library Youth Librarian Gina Bravo*



[The Fault in Our Stars](#) by John Green

“Sixteen year old Hazel Lancaster lives with terminal lung cancer and is forced by her parents to attend a Cancer Kid Support Group. Here she meets gorgeous and witty Augustus Waters, they fall for each other and their adventure begins...With real, quirky, humorous and intelligent characters you can’t help to be drawn in and you will discover that this book is much more than a story about cancer or love but rather an honest moving story about life.” — *Central Library Youth Librarian Adriana Huertas*