



For the Holidays: Grab a Treat, Read, and Relax!

**F M381** Martin, Kat. ***The Christmas Clock.***

Teddy Williams was eight years old that Christmas, too young to understand all the undercurrents swirling around him in the tiny Michigan town of Dreyerville. He wasn't able to value that Christmas for the miracle it truly was. Teddy only knew he wanted to buy the beautiful Victorian clock in the window of Tremont's Antiques as a gift for his grandmother, Lottie Sparks, a woman desperate to find him a home before her rapidly progressing Alzheimer's left him an orphan.

**F H148c** Hahn, Mary Downing.

***Closed for the Season: A Mystery Story.***

When thirteen-year-old Logan and his family move into a run-down old house in rural Virginia, he discovers that a woman was murdered there and becomes involved with his neighbor Arthur in a dangerous investigation to try to uncover the killer.

**F B993** Byatt, A.S. ***The Children's Book: A Novel***

The story of a singular family played out against the great, rippling tides of the World War I years.

**F W215** Walls, Jeanette. ***Half Broke Horses: A True-Life Novel.***

Jeanette Walls's memoir "The Glass Castle" was "nothing short of spectacular" ("Entertainment Weekly"). Now, in "Half Broke Horses," she brings us the story of her grandmother, told in a first-person voice that is authentic, irresistible, and triumphant. Lily survived tornadoes, droughts, floods, the Great Depression, and the most heartbreaking personal tragedy. She bristled at prejudice of all kinds -- against women, Native Americans, and anyone else who didn't fit the mold.

**F L666L** Levithan, David. ***Love is the Higher Law.***

Three New York City teens express their reactions to the bombing of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, and its impact on their lives and the world.

**304.2 J33** Jankeliowitch, Anne. ***50 Ways to Save the Earth.***

In *50 Ways to Save the Earth*, readers learn easy, meaningful ways to help reduce their carbon footprints, from saving energy and caring for water to putting the dustbin on a diet. Describing fifty simple daily actions, this book shows children that they can have a positive impact on the environment, and that every action, no matter how small, counts. Accompanied by gorgeous and inspiring photographs, *50 Ways to Save the Earth* reminds young readers of the beauty and fragility of our planet and encourages them to take action to preserve it.

**F M135** McDonnell, Nick. ***An Expensive Education.***

A look at Harvard through its dormitories and dining halls, into its elite finals clubs and lecture halls, and within the offices of its ambitious professors giving us an incredibly authentic insider's view of this illustrious university. A powerful portrait of personalities all ensnared in the African conflict and of the Harvard campus on which the debate takes place; a smart, relentless novel set at the troubled intersection of ivory academia and realpolitik.

**F L665** Levine, Anna. ***Freefall.***

As war between Israel and Lebanon breaks out in 2006 and her compulsory service in the Israeli army draws near, teenaged Aggie considers joining an elite female combat unit.

**330.9 Q1** Qualman, Erik.

**Socialnomics: How Social Media Transforms the Way We Do Business.**

Social media will continue to change the way businesses market products and how consumers and businesses interact with each other. If you're a marketer or business owner, the big question is whether you'll keep up with those changes. Socialnomics is an essential resource for anyone who wants to understand the implications of social media, and how to tap its power to increase sales, cut marketing costs, and communicate directly with consumers.

**F P853** Portman, Frank. ***Andromeda Klein.***

High school sophomore Andromeda, an outcast because she studies the occult and has a hearing impairment and other disabilities, overcomes grief over terrible losses by enlisting others' help in her plan to save library books--and finds a kindred spirit along the way.

**155.23 E33b** Ehrenreich, Barbara.

***Bright-Sided: How the Relentless Promotion of Positive Thinking has Undermined America.***

A sharp-witted knockdown of America's love affair with positive thinking and an urgent call for a new commitment to realism Americans are a "positive" people--cheerful, optimistic, and upbeat: this is our reputation as well as our self-image. But more than a temperament, being positive, we are told, is the key to success and prosperity. However, with the myth-busting powers for which she is acclaimed, Ehrenreich exposes the downside of America's penchant for positive thinking.

**F D744s** Dowd, Siobhan. ***Solace of the Road.***

While running away from a London foster home just before her fifteenth birthday, Holly has ample time to consider her years of residential care and her early life with her Irish mother, whom she is now trying to reach.

**177.7 P541** Phillips, Adam. ***On Kindness.***

A provocative and elegant defense of the art of kindness in a selfish age, "On Kindness" argues that a life lived in instinctive, sympathetic identification with others is the one societies should allow themselves to live.

Compiled from various review by L. Lennon 12/2009.