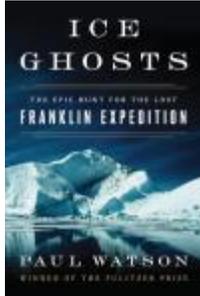


April 2018 Staff Picks

Eileen

***Ice Ghosts: The epic hunt for the lost Franklin Expedition* by Paul Watson**



I like to read about Arctic exploration while warm and comfortable. Sir John Franklin and his ships set off to find the Northwest Passage in 1845 and are never seen again. This book follows the numerous attempts over 150 years to figure out exactly what happened. The author has been personally involved in the hunt for over ten years.

Katherine



***Spill Zone* by Scott Westerfeld**

A science fiction/horror graphic novel for young adults. The horror is creepy but not overdone. Very suspenseful. Also this is a one-sitting read; it was over too quick (for me anyway) and I am eagerly awaiting the next book.

Already read it? Try *Paper Girls* by Brian K. Vaughan, *Anya's Ghost* by Vera Brosgol, or, for older readers, *The Walking Dead* by Robert Kirkman.

Kelly

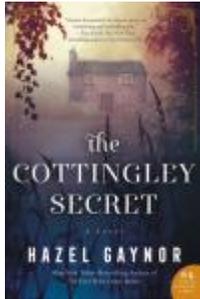


***Weave a Circle Round* by Kari Maaren**

This novel redefines heroes and villains. Order and Chaos have always been opposing forces, especially when they take the form of Josiah and Cuerva Lachance. When these two move in next door to Freddy, Mel, and Roland Duchamp, the world literally begins to change. Gravity becomes optional, organ music at midnight becomes acceptable, and time travel becomes a career choice. These two human-shaped forces of nature take Freddy through all eras of history to find the powerful "Three" who has taken hundreds of forms. These powerhouses only have to make one choice; side with Order or side with Chaos. But what will happen when the most powerful Three yet, appears in the Duchamp household?

April 2018 Staff Picks

Sarah



***The Cottingley Secret* by Hazel Gaynor**

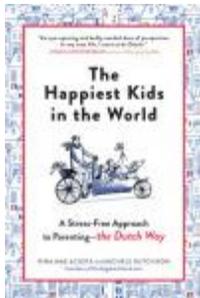
Hazel Gaynor is at her best when she is weaving together past with present, fiction with non-fiction, and yet again does not disappoint! *The Cottingley Secret* weaves the lives of present day (fictional) Olivia Kavanagh, who has just inherited her late grandfather's bookstore in a small Irish seaside town, with the lives of Frances Griffiths and Elsie Wright (who were real), the girls who famously photographed fairies at the bottom of their garden in 1917. While tending the bookshop, Olivia stumbles on an old manuscript and a photograph that leads her on a

journey which uncovers secrets and relationships that help her navigate her own struggles. This journey links her to the lives of Frances and Elsie.

On the heels of World War 1, Frances' and Elsie's sensational photographs gave the general public something otherworldly and uplifting to believe in. While the girls held the secret to their pictures closely, the photographs of the purported fairies were promoted further by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who was also grieving a devastating loss.

If you are not familiar with the story of the Cottingley Fairies, I recommend skipping to the P.S. section at the end of the book to see the original photographs and to learn more before diving in. This book would be a satisfying read for those who enjoy atmospheric historical fiction, parallel narratives, and uplifting reads.

Cheryl



***The Happiest Kids in the World: A stress-free approach to parenting – the Dutch way.* by Rina May Acosta**

Virtually no homework before age 12, structured learning beginning at age six, half a day of school each Wednesday, part time work for 1 out of 3 parents, Daddy days on Fridays, home births, and babies sleeping an average two hours more per day – that is the entertaining and anecdotal peek the authors give us of *The Happiest Kids in the World*.

In a country just about the size of two New Jerseys, there reside some sixteen million plus people, with approximately sixteen million bicycles! Cycling proficiency programs are taught in the primary grades, and youngsters quickly become capable and independent bikers to and from school. Free-range parenting is common with the expectation that children need to be playing outdoors, no matter the weather.

Born and raised in Holland, I very much enjoyed a look back at a country that promotes family and frugality! Do pick this book up – a most enjoyable visit to a country where a slice of bread, butter, and chocolate sprinkles is standard breakfast fare!