

## August 2017 Staff Picks

**Eileen**

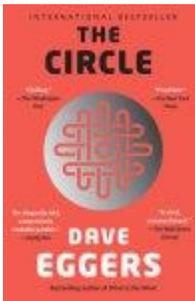


***By Any Name*** by Cynthia Voigt

An unconventional woman in the second half of the 20th century wins the love of an upper crust Naval Officer but not the respect and admiration of his family - to the frustration of her four daughters.

For fans of: [Judy Blume](#), [Emily Giffin](#), [Elizabeth Strout](#), [Lorna Landvik](#)  
Already read it? Try [Fannie Flagg's The All Girls Filling Station's Last Reunion](#)

**Sarah**



***The Circle*** by Dave Eggers

Mae, a young 20-something, fresh out of college gets the opportunity of a lifetime to leave her less than thrilling job at the local utility company for an entry-level position in Customer Experience at a large social media company (which is a merged version of Facebook, Google, and Twitter). Newly empowered by the luxuries of working for a tech giant she is able to lift her parents out of medical debt and health burdens and is on an ever-improving career track. She makes lots of connections with people and becomes increasingly connected with the best and the brightest minds in the industry. Everything is going really great! Or *is it?*

A thought-provoking, morally-challenging take on what the balance is between bettering society, protecting privacy, and what constitutes real human connection.

For fans of: [George Orwell](#), [Cory Doctorow](#)  
Already read it? Try [Purity by Jonathan Franzen](#) or [1Q84 by Haruki Murakami](#)

**Ann**



***Blankets*** by Craig Thompson

A beautiful story of growing up and all of the issues that entails. A moving, coming of age memoir.

For fans of: [John Green](#), [Nina LaCour](#), [Gayle Forman](#)  
Already read it? Try: [Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi](#) or [This One Summer by Mariko Tamaki](#)

**Katherine**  
*The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas



This is a strong, powerful book, and the writing is excellent. The writing style and the emotional punch reminds me of [The Book Thief](#), although unlike *The Book Thief* it didn't make me cry and feel sad. Is it about sad, heavy stuff? Yes, but along with heartbreak, *The Hate U Give* is also empowering and hopeful. Also this is an important book, and more than just "timely." I've seen this stuff on the news, I've read about the Black Lives Matter movement... but nothing else I've seen has brought the understanding and emotional connection that reading this book does. This really just puts you there, puts you in her shoes, and lets you understand in a very personal, visceral way. For fans of: [Markus Zusak](#), [Jodi Picoult](#), [Jason Reynolds](#)

Already read it? Try: [March by John Lewis](#) or [The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie](#)

**Kelly (our new library page!)**



**The Lost Hero** by Rick Riordan

This book is an enthralling continuation of the story of Percy Jackson. A newer cast of characters is introduced; Jason the boy who awoke with no memories, Piper his thieving girlfriend, and Leo their best friend and mechanical genius. These kids use their demigod powers to go on a quest to save the world from semi-immortal giants. Riordan's sense of detail brings realism to every battle and step of their journey. As the first of the Heroes of Olympus series, this story gives a powerful introduction to the rest of the books by switching the character's perspective to a different character in every chapter.

For fans of: Fantasy adventure that is action-packed, fast-paced, and full of wit.

Already read it? Try: [The Septimus Heap series by Angie Sage](#) or [Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer](#)