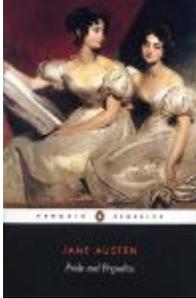


September Staff Picks

Eileen



***Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen**

"It is a truth universally acknowledged" that Jane Austen wrote six delightful domestic novels which broke new ground in their portrayal of universal themes of love, family, happiness, morals, manners - and yes - pride and prejudice. Elizabeth Bennett is the heroine so many wish to be and Mr. Darcy is the ideal romantic hero for millions of readers for over two hundred years. You may think you know the story but really - read the book.

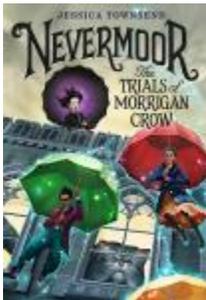
Katherine



***The Apprentice Witch* by James Nicol**

A richly imaginative middle-grade novel of magic and courage. I very much enjoyed this. It was very fun and as charming as the reviews promised. For those who love Harry Potter and other stories of magic.

Sarah

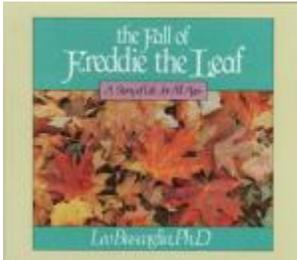


***Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow* by Jessica Townsend**

A thrilling, magical, back to school tale of courage and believing in yourself. It is also the start to a series with a second book to come this fall! Morrigan Crow is not just unlucky, she is cursed! Terrible things happen she is nearby. And, like all cursed children, she was born during the season of Eventide and is doomed to die on her 11th birthday. But, before Eventide, the bidding ceremony happens – a time when all of the powerful adults bid on young apprentices and Morrigan is surprised with 4 bids! Who would bid on a cursed child? Before she has time to accept she is mysteriously whisked away by a man named Jupiter North. They escape in a giant mechanical spider while being pursued by the evil Hunt of Smoke and Shadow. Jupiter takes her through the face of a large clock to Nevermoor, a country she has never heard of. In Nevermoor, Morrigan finds out that Jupiter North knows more about her “curse” than she does, and he believes she is the perfect person to compete in a series of trials to gain entrance into the super-secret Wunderous Society. This book has magic, gigantic cat housemaids, and is set in a hotel that has its own personality, reminiscent of Hogwarts but wholly original. This book is perfect for fans of Harry Potter and the Lemony Snickett series, and anyone who has ever felt the excitement of a fresh new school year or harbors secret dreams of being whisked away to a magical other-world full of possibility.

September Staff Picks

Cheryl

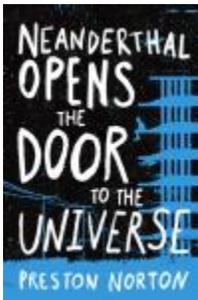


***The Fall of Freddie the Leaf* by Leo Buscaglia, Ph. D.**

Belmont prepares for winter. Throughout the town we see and hear the powerful saws that would remove trees away from the power lines. I, too, have ribbons fastened as markers around tree trunks, and soon saws will set into motion. Once thin saplings, these mighty trees have offered us decades of shade and beauty, and been the home for the busy living of birds and squirrels. Early morning the branches come alive with the calls of the Mourning Doves. There is sadness in our shared loss.

So it is that my staff pick this month is *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*. This is a timeless classic, written by Leo Buscaglia in 1982, with a tender message of loss for children and adults alike. As Freddie experiences the changes of the seasons among his leaf friends, Ben, Alfred, and his BLFF (best leaf friend forever) he comes to learn that loss is a part of life. Nature photography conveys this message softly. This is a little book that should always be there to bring ready solace to our losses, be they trees, goldfish, pets, or family. A small space on the shelf will take a big space in your heart.

Kelly



***Neanderthal Opens the Door to the Universe* by Preston Norton**

Cliff "Neanderthal" Hubbard is big, burly, brainy, and really likes Pop-tarts. He's also the victim of bullying at the hands of high school superstar Aaron Zimmerman. In this novel, his bullying comes to an abrupt stop when Aaron gets into a boating accident and sees God. He tells Cliff that God made him and Cliff a list to make their high school better. Cliff gives in and agrees to help Aaron meet his goals. Together they must take down the school's biggest bully, change the ways of a drug dealing gang, remind a teacher of his passion for education, demolish the oppressive Christian youth group that rules the school, and shut down a dangerous hacker named HAL. Sounds easy, right? Luckily, Aaron and Cliff have help in the form of Teagan the pot-smoking cat-caller, Jack and Julien who geek up the whole school, and Noah the good boy who just wants people in his GSA to feel safe.