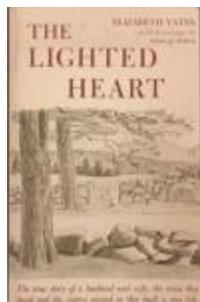


September Staff Picks

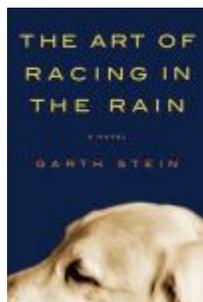
Eileen



***The Lighted Heart* by Elizabeth Yates**

Gentle, old-fashioned memoir. Elizabeth Yates is famous for her children's stories. I found this book remarkable for its vivid appreciation of nature and "slice of country life" stories. I also liked the subtle humor and quiet bravery as Elizabeth and her husband deal with his health problems. For some reason it makes me think of Madeline L'Engle.

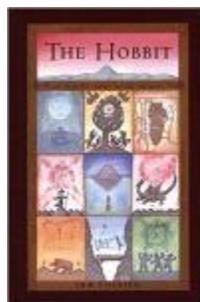
Linda



***The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein**

A dog's life as told by a dog! Enzo is Denny's loyal canine companion and Denny dotes on Enzo. It is a mutual love and life affair...until the unpredictable end. The story is joy-filled, and humorous. The writer (Enzo) does not dwell on the dark times and the reader is left with a feeling of wonder at the unbreakable bonds that join man and beast.

Sarah



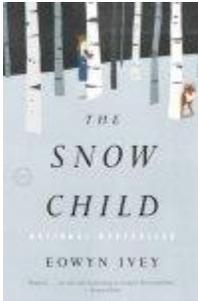
***The Hobbit, or, There and Back Again* by J.R.R. Tolkien**

I chose to revisit this classic while on vacation. I have fond memories of it as a family read-aloud; if you have kids that enjoy being read to, this book is enchanting to hear a loved one read. True to form, the lovable Bilbo Baggins, the wise and mischievous Gandalf, and the determined band of dwarves helmed by Thorin proved a welcoming and adventurous retreat. The narration is engaging and the feel is cozy, and charming with a bit of a thrill. This is a great book to curl up with as the nights begin to cool off and autumn air begins to roll in. A trip to Bag-End and the Wilderland is still imbued with peril and magic. *The*

Hobbit is worth a revisit or, perhaps, a maiden voyage!

September Staff Picks

Cheryl



***The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey**

This novel was the author's debut work. Haunting and thought provoking, it is a story grounded in the Alaskan wilderness and weaves a beautiful tale of grief, hardship and hope as a childless couple is driven to start life anew. In the midst of their loneliness and isolation a child appears to them. Is she real, or is she the power of their imagination? The magic in this story is that it is not as simple as it seems. It beckons us to read on, as we turn the page to many unexpected directions. So much more than another Alaskan tale, it is a tale of life, and is not to be missed. This book held me captive until the very end.

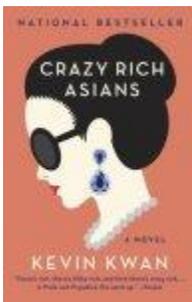
Amelia



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

The Hate U Give is a very informative book that gives people an intense view on racism and the fight to end it. This book will make you feel many emotions and make you view many things in a different way. You will get connected to characters and hate some of them and you will gain many opinions on what you think should or should have happened. It gives you a taste of realism and will definitely teach you about very intense topics.

Kelly R



***Crazy Rich Asians* by Kevin Kwan and *Crazy Rich Asians* the movie**

First time ever with a staff pick that I am able to 'double dip' with both a book and a movie (DVD) with the same title. The book is first in a series of three and I must confess I watched the movie first which is just as witty as the book. Kevin Kwan gives us a birds-eye view into the lives of a culture totally unknown to me. He has a way of introducing his audience to multiple entertaining and interesting characters while masterfully leading us through the plot, all the while making us laugh out loud at their antics. This was a fun ride on a crazy, twisting, turning road with a "wow I never would've guessed that people do that or live like that" moments on a regular basis.