



2021
Holiday Gift Guide



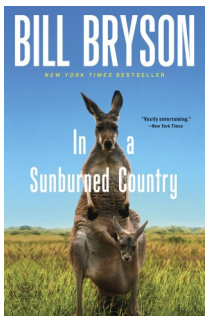
**AMARILLO
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

*Recommendations in this
Holiday Gift Guide were made by the
diverse and extremely well-read staff of
the Amarillo Public Library.*

*If you're still stumped for a gift idea,
feel free to ask a library staff member
for additional suggestions.*

*From all of us at APL, we wish you a
safe and happy Holiday Season!*

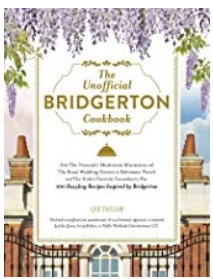




For Travel Enthusiasts

***In a Sunburned Country* by Bill Bryson**

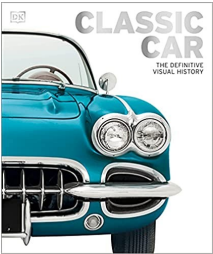
Bill Bryson brings his trademark curiosity and sense of humor to Australia—the only island that is also a continent and the only continent that is also a country. Let Bryson lead you on a journey to discover the Land Down Under’s friendly people, dangerous landscapes, and deadly creatures.



For Foodies Who Love Pop Culture

***The Unofficial Bridgerton Cookbook: From The Viscount's Mushroom Miniatures and The Royal Wedding Oysters to Debutante Punch and The Duke's Favorite Gooseberry Pie, 100 Dazzling Recipes Inspired by Bridgerton* by Lex Taylor**

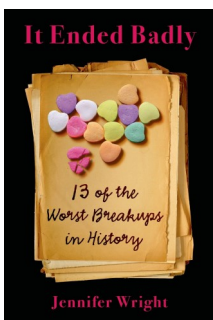
These 100 recipes will have you dining like the lords and ladies of pop culture aristocracy!



For Car Junkies

***Classic Car: The Definitive Visual History* Edited by Giles Chapman**

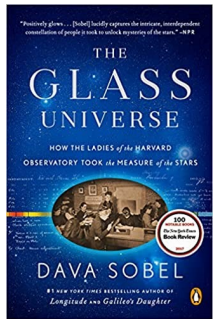
Chapman, an award-winning automotive journalist, shares more than 250 iconic car models photographed and explored from every angle.



For History Buffs—Who Also Love Gossip

***It Ended Badly: Thirteen of the Worst Breakups in History* by Jennifer Wright**

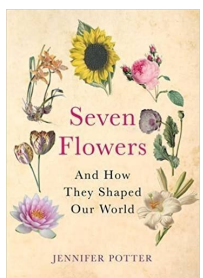
Complete with beheadings, uprisings, creepy sex dolls, and celebrity gossip—*It Ended Badly* spans eras and cultures from ancient Rome to medieval England to 1950s Hollywood—and puts bad breakup behavior in perspective.



For Feminist Stargazers

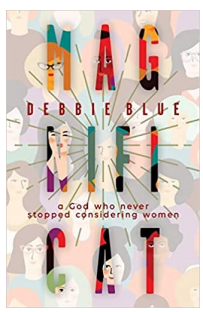
***The Glass Universe: How the Ladies of the Harvard Observatory Took the Measure of the Stars* by Dava Sobel**

Dava Sobel details the contributions to the field of astronomy made by women hired as human calculators—achievements that range from identifying new stars to developing a stellar classification system that is still in use today.



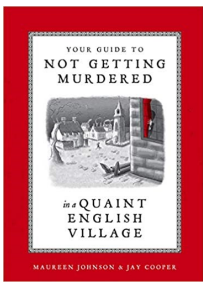
For Lovers of History & Horticulture
Seven Flowers and How They Shaped Our World
by Jennifer Potter

The lotus, lily, sunflower, opium poppy, rose, tulip, and orchid: author and horticultural historian Jennifer Potter tracks these flowers across the globe to discover why these particular plants become the focus of gardens, literature and art.



For Spiritual Feminists
Magnificat: A God Who Never Stopped Considering Women
by Debbie Blue

A collection of sermons that revolve around women, *Magnificat* examines women of the Bible as they, “break a lot of rules, resist empire, disobey the cultural norms, cause good trouble (and sometimes not such good trouble).” Blue shares their stories at a time when the world needs them most.



For Lovers of British “Cozies”
Your Guide to Not Getting Murdered in a Quaint English Village
by Maureen Johnson

Perfect for fans of British “cozy” mysteries—Johnson, and illustrator Jay Cooper, expose the dangers lurking behind each picturesque cobblestone, country manor, and cup of tea. “Whatever you do, avoid the vicar!”



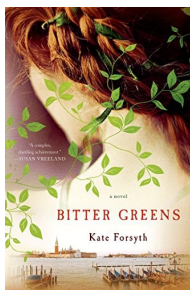
For Social Justice Wonks
The Sum of Us: How Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together
by Heather McGhee

One of today’s most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color.



For Fans of Irreverent Pop Culture
Best Wishes, Warmest Regards: The Story of Schitt's Creek
by Daniel Levy and Eugene Levy

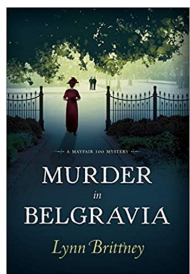
The official tie-in book for the beloved series, this coffee table book captures the essence and alchemy of what is now considered to be one of the most groundbreaking comedy television series of the last decade.



For Fairy Tale Lovers

Bitter Greens by Kate Forsyth

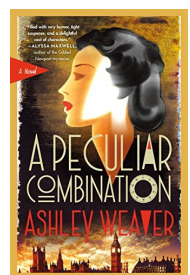
Kate Forsyth weaves together the life of novelist Charlotte-Rose de Caumont de La Force and her story, *Persinette* (which was later adapted by the Brothers Grimm into the story we know as *Rapunzel*) into a novel that celebrates history, fairy tales, and imagination.



For Fans of Lady Detectives

A Murder in Belgravia by Lynn Brittney

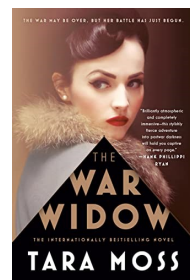
As World War I engulfs Europe, a special task force is formed in the affluent Mayfair district to tackle the city's thorniest crimes against women. When the bobbies and Scotland Yard come up short, there's only one telephone number to dial: Mayfair 100.



For Mystery Lovers with a Sense of Humor

A Peculiar Combination by Ashley Weaver

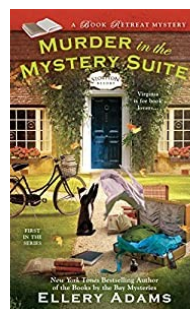
The first in the Electra McDonnell series from Edgar-nominated author Ashley Weaver, set in England during World War II, *A Peculiar Combination* is a delightful mystery filled with spies, murder, romance, and the author's signature wit.



For Historical Mystery Lovers

The War Widow by Tara Moss

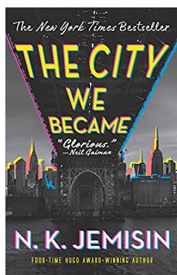
The war may be officially over, but journalist Billie Walker's search for a missing young immigrant man will plunge her right back into the danger and drama she thought she'd left behind in Europe in this thrilling tale of courage and secrets set in glamorous postwar Sydney.



For Mystery Lovers Looking for a New Series

Murder in the Mystery Suite by Ellery Adams

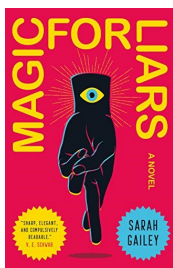
The first book in Ellery Adams' charming and book-related *Book Retreat* series introduces heroine Jane Steward—who finds herself dealing with a real life murder while hosting a Murder and Mayhem week for mystery lovers at Storyton Hall.



For Sci-Fi Lovers Who ♥ New York

***The City We Became* by N.K. Jemison**

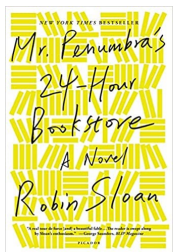
Every great city has a soul. Some are as ancient as myths, and others are as new and destructive as children. New York? She's got six. Four-time Hugo Award-winner N.K. Jemison crafts her most incredible novel yet, a crackling tale of culture, identity, magic, and myths in contemporary New York City.



For Grown-Up Harry Potter Fans

***Magic for Liars* by Sarah Gailey**

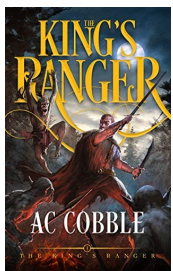
Unlike her twin, Tabitha, private detective Ivy Gamble was born without magic and never wanted it. But when a gruesome murder is discovered at The Osthorne Academy of Young Mages, where Tabitha teaches Theoretical Magic, Ivy is pulled into the world of untold power and dangerous secrets.



For Lovers of Literary Adventures

***Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan**

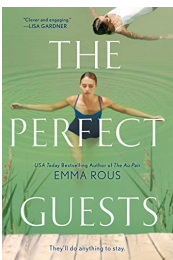
A gleeful and exhilarating tale of global conspiracy, complex code-breaking, high-tech data visualization, young love, rollicking adventure, and the secret to eternal life—mostly set in a hole-in-the-wall San Francisco bookstore



For Classic Fantasy Lovers

***The King's Ranger* by AC Cobble**

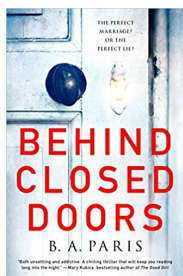
The first of Cobble's *King's Ranger* series finds Rew dealing with a resurgence of monsters summoned in ages prior, war between the royal line, and backstabbing treachery as he attempts to protect the village of Eastwatch.



For Dramatic Mystery Lovers

***The Perfect Guests* by Emma Rous**

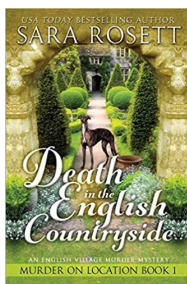
The *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Au Pair* returns with another delicious, twisty novel—about a grand estate with many secrets, an orphan caught in a web of lies, and a young woman playing a sinister game.



For Anyone Who Loves Dark Psychological Thrillers

Behind Closed Doors by B.A. Paris

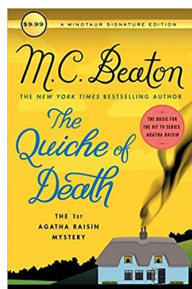
Everyone knows a couple like Jack and Grace, who seem to have it all. Some might call this true love. Others might wonder why Grace never answers the phone. Or why she can never meet for coffee. Or why there are high-security shutters on all the windows. Some might wonder what's really going on once the dinner party is over.



For Mystery Fans Who Also Love Jane Austen

Death in the English Countryside by Sara Rosett

The first in Rosett's *Death on Location* series finds location scout and Jane Austen aficionado, Kate Sharp, embarking on a search for her missing boss that includes a pub crawl and cozy cottages as well as stately country manors where picturesque villages and the beautiful English countryside may not be as idyllic as they seem.



For British Mystery Lovers

The Quiche of Death by M.C. Beaton

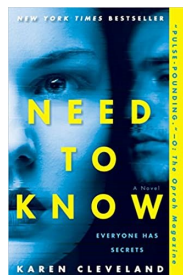
Agatha Raisin has decided to walk away from marketing and move to the Cotswolds. The small village of Carsely is not as friendly to outsiders as Agatha thought it would be, but in an attempt to fit in, she decides to participate in the local quiche contest. Slowly and surely, the community warms up to her... that is, until someone dies. Now it's up to Agatha to solve the mystery and clear her name!



For Lovers of Shakespeare and Family Drama

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

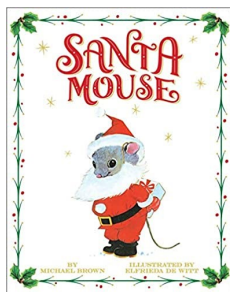
In 1595, Shakespeare had three children: Susanna, Hamnet, and Judith. By 1596, Hamnet was dead. O'Farrell's book is a laser-point examination of family, grief, and the ways we immortalize the ones we love. It creates an experience through vivid depictions of nature, emotions, and the human condition, all pulled together by one beautiful boy who lived and died and lived again in the eternity of his father's work.



For Spy Thriller Enthusiasts

Need to Know by Karen Cleveland

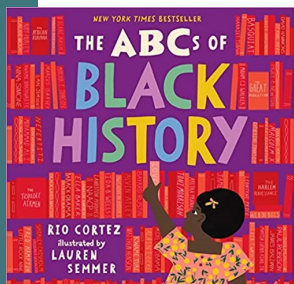
Vivian Miller. High-powered CIA analyst, happily married to a man she adores, mother of four beautiful children. Until the moment she makes a shocking discovery that makes her question everything she believes. This story will keep you on the edge of your seat *all the way to the very last sentence in the book.*



For Classic Christmas Lovers

Santa Mouse by Robert Brown

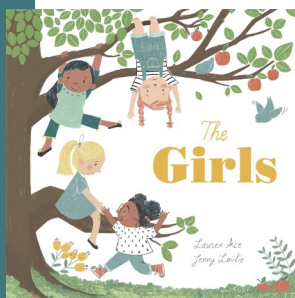
This classic story of how a kind, little mouse with no name became Santa's helper has delighted readers for more than 50 years. 2021 would be a great year to introduce it to a new generation.



For Readers with an Eye on the Past—and the Future

The ABCs of Black History by Rio Cortez

There is a lot of history and inspiration packed into this stunningly illustrated book with beautiful rhyming text and back matter information on events, places, and people from Mae Jemison to W. E. B. Du Bois, Fannie Lou Hamer to Sam Cooke, and the Little Rock Nine to DJ Kool Herc.



For Heartwarming Friends

The Girls by Lauren Ace

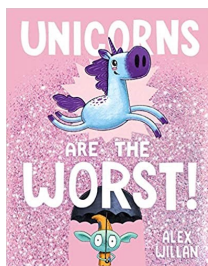
Meet the girls: Sasha, Lottie, Alice, and Leela. These four best friends spend their days playing beneath the branches of their favorite apple tree. As the tree grows tall and reaches across the sky, so do they. *The Girls* is a celebration of lasting friendship for every girl—big or little.



For Being True to Yourself

Hardly Haunted by Jessie Sima

Jessie Sima is known for their delightful books about robots, narwhals, and children who learn to find their place in the world. In *Hardly Haunted*, they've done it again—with a lovely story about a house that wants to be a home.



For Anyone Who's Ever Played Second Fiddle

Unicorns Are the Worst! by Alex Willan

Unicorns aren't *that* special—just ask a goblin who gets stuck with a whole herd of them for neighbors. This book is hilarious for kids and adults alike.



For Understanding Grief and Loss

Maybe Tomorrow? by Charlotte Agell

Elba has a big block. She's been dragging it around for a long time. Norris dances everywhere he goes, even uphill. He is always surrounded by a happy cloud of butterflies. This tender exploration of loss illuminates the sustaining power of kindness, empathy, and friendship. It's a heartwarming story about how to be a friend during hard times.



For Budding Sci-Fi Fans

The Lion of Mars by Jennifer L. Holm

Bell has spent his whole life—all 11 years of it—on Mars. But he's still just a regular kid—he loves cats and any kind of cake, and is curious about the secrets the adults in the US colony are keeping. Like, why don't they have contact with anyone in the other Mars colonies? When a virus breaks out and the grown-ups all fall ill, Bell and the other children are the only ones who can help...and possibly unite an entire planet.



For Lovers of Southern Mysteries

Three Times Lucky by Sheila Turnage

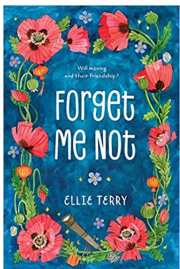
Miss Moses LoBeau washed ashore in a hurricane eleven years ago, and she's been making waves ever since. She will protect those she loves with every bit of her strong will and tough attitude. So when a lawman comes to town asking about a murder, Mo and her best friend, Dale Earnhardt Johnson III, set out to uncover the truth.



For Facing Your Fears

We Wait for the Sun by Katie McCabe

Dovey Mae is afraid of the dark, but her grandmother can turn a scary night into an adventure. A cherished memory from Dovey Johnson Roundtree's childhood illustrates the lessons that guided her (even under the shadow of Jim Crow) to become a trailblazer of the civil rights movement—fighting for justice and equality in the military, the courtroom, and the church.



For Poetry Lovers Who Persevere

Forget Me Not by Ellie Terry

Astronomy-loving Calliope June has Tourette syndrome, so she sometimes makes faces or noises she doesn't mean to. When she and her mother move yet again, she tries to hide her TS, but it isn't long before the kids at her new school realize she's different. Partially in verse and partially in prose with two intertwined points of view, Ellie Terry's affecting debut will speak to a wide audience about being true to oneself.



For Adventurous Readers Who Don't Like to be *Too Scared*

Ghost Squad by Claribel A. Ortega

Shortly before Halloween, Lucely and her best friend, Syd, cast a spell that accidentally awakens malicious spirits, wreaking havoc throughout St. Augustine. Together, they must join forces with Syd's grandmother, Babette, and her tubby tabby, Chunk, to fight the haunting head-on and save the town and Lucely's firefly spirits before it's too late.



For Heartfelt Poetry Lovers

Starfish by Lisa Fipps

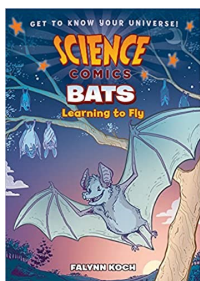
Ever since Ellie wore a whale swimsuit and made a big splash at her fifth birthday party, she's been bullied about her weight. To cope, she tries to live by Fat Girl Rules—like "no making waves" and "don't move so fast that your body jiggles." This middle-grade novel in verse deals with the struggle to find self-worth and the joy of learning to love yourself.



For Lovers of Magic and Unexpected Friendships

Snapdragon by Kat Leyh

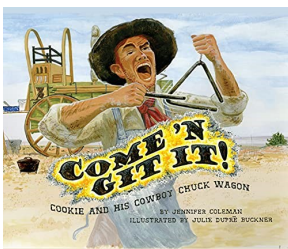
Snap's town had a witch. At least, that's how the rumor goes. But in reality, Jacks is just a Crocs-wearing, internet-savvy old lady, and Snap thinks she's kind of cool. But as Snap starts to get to know Jacks, she realizes that Jacks may in fact have *real* magic...



For Those Who Love Learning New Things

Science Comics, Bats: Learning to Fly by Falynn Koch

Every volume of Science Comics offers a complete introduction to a particular topic. In *Bats*, we follow a little brown bat whose wing is injured by humans on a nature hike. He is taken to a bat rehabilitation center where he meets many different species of bats. They teach him how they fly, what they eat, and where they like to live.



For Lovers of Cowboys and the Great Plains

Come 'N Git It!: Cookie and His Cowboy Chuck Wagon by Jennifer Coleman

Cookie and his chuck wagon were vital to trail drives—the original ranch-to-market roads. After all, cowboys had to be fed three times a day. The story employs colorful cowboy lingo and is a pleasure to read aloud. There's a glossary in the back and informational sidebars present intriguing factual information about chuck wagons, cowboys, and trail drives.



For Lovers of Sweet, Dramatic Coming-of-Age Stories

***Heartstopper Series Volume 1-3* by Alice Oseman**

Boy meets boy. Boys become friends. Boys fall in love. An LGBTQ+ graphic novel about life, love, and everything that happens in between.



For Readers Who Like to Have Their Spines Chilled

***Cuckoo Song* by Francis Hardinge**

Following a mysterious accident, Triss awakens to a world that's eerily off-kilter. Is she going mad? Or did her accident trigger a nightmarish chain of events? In her quest to learn the truth, Triss encounters strange creatures who could forever alter her family's fate.



For Fans of Diverse Fairy Tales

***Six Crimson Cranes* by Elizabeth Lim**

A princess in exile, a shapeshifting dragon, six enchanted cranes, and an unspeakable curse—weaving together elements of *The Wild Swans*, the legend of Chang E, and the Tale of the Bamboo Cutter, Elizabeth Lim has crafted a fantasy like no other.



For Dark Fantasy Lovers

***Vespertine* by Margaret Rogerson**

Artemisia is training to be a Gray Sister, a nun who cleanses the bodies of the deceased so that their souls can pass on. When her convent is attacked by possessed soldiers, Artemisia must use her mythic abilities to defend her world against restless spirits of the dead.



For Those Who Spend Too Much Time With a Screen

***Sunny Song Will Never Be Famous* by Suzanne Park**

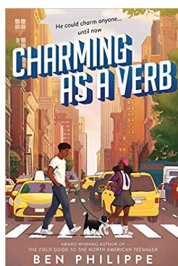
Korean American social media influencer Sunny is shipped off to a digital detox camp in this hilarious, charming romantic comedy. Perfect for fans of laugh-out-loud coming-of-age stories.



For Readers Who Love Lighthearted Coming-of-Age Stories

Pumpkin by Julie Murphy

Waylon Russell Brewer is a fat, openly gay boy from Texas who learns the best plan for tomorrow is living for today. The final installment in Julie Murphy's bestselling *Dumplin'* trilogy is a fabulous, joyful, novel about drag, prom, and embracing your inner Queen.



For Fans of Sweet, Authentic Romcoms

Charming as a Verb by Ben Philippe

Henri "Halti" Haltiwanger can charm just about anyone. But his easy smiles mask a burning ambition to attend his dream college, Columbia University. This is a sharply funny and insightful novel about the countless hustles we have to keep from doing the hardest thing: being ourselves.



For Scary Story Lovers

There's Someone Inside Your House

by Stephanie Perkins

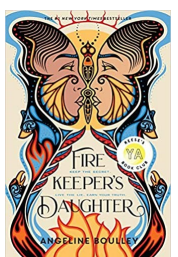
It's been almost a year since Makani Young came to live with her grandmother, and she's still adjusting when, one by one, students at her high school begin to die in a series of gruesome murders. As the body count rises and the terror grows closer, can Makani survive the killer's twisted plan?



The Woods Are Always Watching

by Stephanie Perkins

Bears aren't the only predators in these woods. Best friends Neena and Josie have one last chance to be together before college—a three-day hike deep into the woods of the Pisgah National Forest—but a detour off the trail leads them straight into a waking nightmare.



For Fans of Angie Thomas and Tommy Orange

Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Eighteen-year-old Daunis Fontaine finds herself drawn into an FBI investigation of a lethal new drug and agrees to go undercover, drawing on her knowledge of chemistry and Ojibwe traditional medicine to track down the source. As the deceptions—and deaths—keep growing, Daunis must learn what it means to be a strong Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibwe woman) and how far she'll go to protect her community.



For Lovers of British Mystery and Comedy

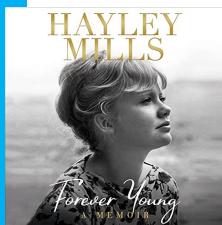
Agatha Raisin—Series 1

Ashley Jensen stars in this quintessentially British village mystery based on the bestselling books by M.C. Beaton. A powerful London PR exec burnt out on office politics, Agatha Raisin jumps at the chance to retire early to a picturesque village in the Cotswolds. But life has other plans, and Agatha soon finds a second career as an amateur detective investigating mischief, mayhem, and murder in her deceptively quaint town.



Queens of Mystery—Series 1

This offbeat contemporary mystery series follows the adventures of newly promoted Detective Sergeant Matilda Stone and her three crime-writing aunts as they solve murders in the picturesque English region of Wildemarsh. Though Matilda's strict boss warns her that homicides are police-only matters, her aunts can't help but offer their expertise—as well as unsolicited dating advice. As Matilda contends with a novelist killed during a blackout at an awards ceremony, an aging rock star strangled before her band's reunion tour, and an actor killed onstage, the one case she can't seem to crack is the unexplained disappearance of her mother more than 20 years ago.



For Fans of True Hollywood Stories

Forever Young by Hayley Mills

Iconic actress Hayley Mills shares personal memories from her storied childhood, growing up in a famous acting family and becoming a Disney child star, trying to grow up in a world that wanted her to stay forever young.



For Lovers of WWII Home Front Fiction

The Kitchen Front by Jennifer Ryan

Two years into World War II, a BBC radio program called *The Kitchen Front* is holding a cooking contest—and the grand prize is a job as the program's first-ever female co-host. For four very different women, winning the competition would present a crucial chance to change their lives.

the FRIENDS store

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Find the perfect gift for the book lover in
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All proceeds benefit Friends of the
Amarillo Public Library!

Downtown Library
413 SE 4th
Tuesday,
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Saturday
11 AM to 3 PM



Call 378-3054 for more information.

2022 Dates to Remember:

Brown Bag Book Sales:

April 8 - 10

September 9 - 11

December 2 - 4

Books to Broadway Concert

Thursday, March 3

Matthew Zapruder Poetry Reading

Tuesday, April 5

AMARILLO READS in the Summer

Oceans of Possibilities

June 1 through July 31

AMA-CON 2022

August 6 & 7

Americans and the Holocaust

Exhibit from the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum
and the American Library
Association

September & October

Exact dates to be announced.

Please visit one of
Amarillo Public
Library's
five locations this
holiday season!

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2 PM to 6 PM

Deck your halls with books!



The Downtown Library Circulation Staff has been hard at work turning discarded books into wreaths, ornaments, and folded paper art. All sales benefit Friends of the Amarillo Public Library, so stop by to pick up unique holiday decorations for your home or office.