



HOLIDAY Gift Guide

HOLIDAY SEASON 2023

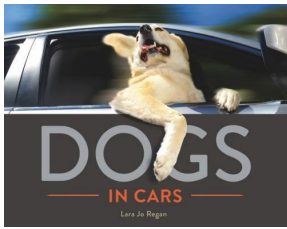


*Recommendations in this
Holiday Gift Guide were made by the
diverse and extremely well-read staff of
the Amarillo Public Library.*

*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!*

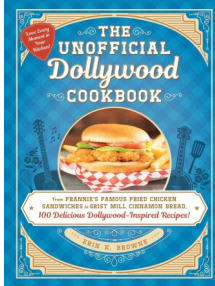




For Dog Lovers with a Sense of Humor

Dogs in Cars by Lara Jo Regan

The pure joy of a dog with his nose to the horizon, in a moving car--captured on the page.



For Foodies Who Love Dolly

The Unofficial Dollywood Cookbook: From Frannie's Famous Fried Chicken

Sandwiches to Grist Mill Cinnamon Bread, 100 Delicious Dollywood-Inspired Recipes!

by Erin Browne

From favorite snacks and main dishes to refreshing drinks and popular desserts, Dollywood has some incredible food. And now, you can recreate all of your favorites—and discover some new favorites.

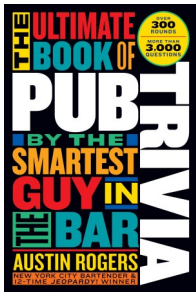


For Parents Who Need a Laugh

How to Save Your Child

from Ostrich Attacks, Accidental Time Travel, and Anything Else That Might Happen on an Average Tuesday by James Breakwell

The parenting humorist behind the viral Twitter account @XplodingUnicorn and author of *Only Dead on the Inside: A Parent's Guide to Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse* presents the long-awaited guide to surviving everything else.

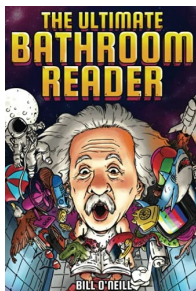


For Keeping the Peace at Holiday Family Gatherings

Sometimes family get-togethers need a quick change of subject to redirect an awkward conversation. Has Grandpa told that story a dozen times? Is Aunt Millie about to give away the secret recipe? Keep these books handy when you need a conversation stopper!

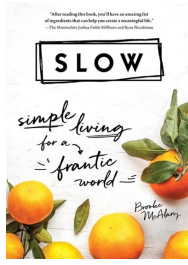
The Ultimate Book of Pub Trivia by the Smartest Guy in the Bar: Over 300 Rounds and More Than 3,000 Questions

by Austin Rogers



The Ultimate Bathroom Reader: Interesting Stories, Fun Facts and Just Crazy Weird Stuff to Keep You Entertained on the Throne

by Bill O'Neill

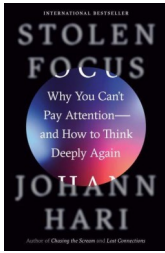


For A New Outlook

Slow: Simple Living for a Frantic World

by Brooke McAlary

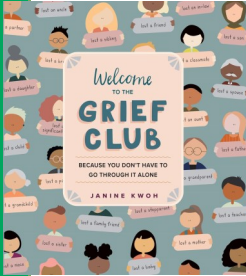
The philosophy of simple living is about finding the freedom to be less perfect and taking time to enjoy the pure joys of life: a walk in the forest, sharing laughter with family, a personal moment of gratitude. Reconnecting with the living world can help you integrate moments of peace, joy, and mindfulness into an otherwise rapid life.



Stolen Focus

by Johann Hari

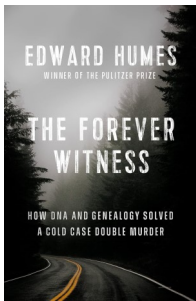
Our ability to pay attention is collapsing. From the author of *Chasing the Scream* and *Lost Connections* comes a groundbreaking examination of why this is happening—and how to get our attention back.



Welcome to the Grief Club: Because You Don't Have to Go Through it Alone

by Janine Kwok

Janine Kwok uses brief writings, illustrations, and creative diagrams to explore the wide range of emotions and experiences that grief can encompass. For anyone who has lost a loved one or who is close to someone who is grieving, *Welcome to the Grief Club* is a book of solace, connection, hope, and reassurance.



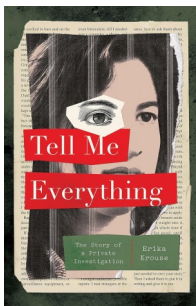
For True Crime Enthusiasts

The Forever Witness:

How DNA and Genealogy Solved a Cold Case Double Murder

by Edward Humes

A relentless detective and a civilian genealogist solve a haunting cold case—and launch a crime-fighting revolution that tests the fragile line between justice and privacy.

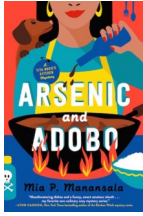


Tell Me Everything:

The Story of a Private Investigation

by Erika Krouse

Part memoir and part literary true crime, *Tell Me Everything* is the mesmerizing story of a landmark sexual assault investigation and the female private investigator who helped crack it open.



For Cozy Mystery Lovers

The *Tita Rosie's Kitchen* series
by Mia P. Manansala

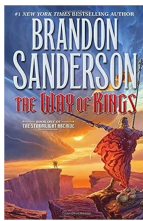
Arsenic and Adobo is the first book in a culinary cozy series full of sharp humor and delectable dishes.



The Moonshine Shack Murder

by Diane Kelly

In this intoxicating new cozy mystery series, the future for modern-day moonshiner Hattie Hayes looks bright--until death darkens the doorstep of her Moonshine Shack.



For Fantasy Lovers who Need a New Series

The Stormlight Archives by Brandon Sanderson

Life before death. Strength before weakness.
Journey before Destination.

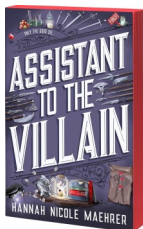
The Way of Kings begins an incredible new saga of epic proportion.



The Dragon Lords series

by Jon Hollins

Guardians of the Galaxy meets *The Hobbit* in this rollicking fantasy adventure that begins with *Fools Gold*.

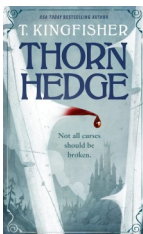


For Lovers of Romantic Fantasy

Assistant to the Villain

by Hannah Nicole Maehrer

Once Upon a Time meets *The Office* in Hannah Maehrer's laugh-out-loud viral TikTok series turned novel, about the sunshine assistant to an Evil Villain...and their unexpected romance.



For Fans of Fairy Tale Retellings

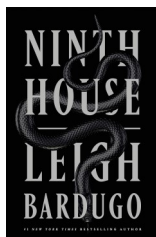
Thornhedge by T. Kingfisher

Thornhedge is the tale of a kind-hearted, toad-shaped heroine, a gentle knight, and a mission gone completely sideways.

The Seventh Bride by T. Kingfisher

Commoners don't turn down lords—no matter how sinister they seem—so Rhea accepts Lord Crevan's proposal of marriage, even as she fights to escape the fate of his six previous brides.





For Dark Fantasy Lovers

Ninth House by Leigh Bardugo

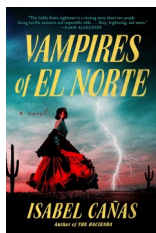
From #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Leigh Bardugo comes a mesmerizing tale of power, privilege, and dark magic set among the Ivy League elite.



For Dark Mystery Lovers

Holly by Stephen King

Holly Gibney, one of Stephen King's most compelling and ingeniously resourceful characters, returns in this thrilling novel to solve the gruesome truth behind multiple disappearances in a midwestern town.



For Wild-West Horror Lovers

Vampires of El Norte

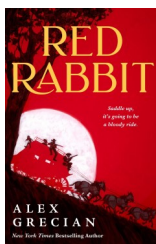
by Isabel Cañas

Vampires, vaqueros, and star-crossed lovers face off on the Texas-Mexico border in this supernatural western from the author of *The Hacienda*.



Lone Women by Victor LaValle

Blue skies, empty land—and enough wide-open space to hide a horrifying secret. A woman with a past, a mysterious trunk, a town on the edge of nowhere, and an “absorbing, powerful” (*BuzzFeed*) new vision of the American West, from the award-winning author of *The Changeling*.



Red Rabbit

by Alex Grecian

A ragtag posse must hunt down a witch through a wild west beset by demons and ghosts—where death is always just around the bend—in this new supernatural horror by bestselling author Alex Grecian.

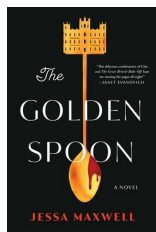


For Haunted House Enthusiasts

The September House

by Carissa Orlando

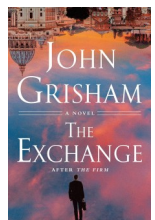
A woman is determined to stay in her dream home even after it becomes a haunted nightmare in this compulsively readable, twisty, and layered debut novel.



For Foodie Mystery Lovers

The Golden Spoon by Jessa Maxwell

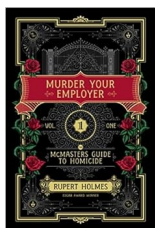
Only Murders in the Building meets *The Maid* in this darkly beguiling locked-room mystery where someone turns up dead on the set of TV's hottest baking competition



For Legal Thriller Enthusiasts

The Exchange by John Grisham

What became of Mitch and Abby McDeere after they exposed the crimes of Memphis law firm Bendini, Lambert & Locke and fled the country? The answer is in *The Exchange*, the riveting sequel to *The Firm*.



For Fans of Fantasy Murder Mysteries

Murder Your Employer: The McMasters Guide to Homicide by Rupert Holmes

From Edgar Award-winning novelist, playwright, and story-songwriter Rupert Holmes comes a diabolical thriller with a killer concept: The McMasters Conservatory for the Applied Arts, a fantasy academy dedicated to the art of murder.



For Family Drama Fans

The Secret Book of Flora Lea by Patti Callahan Henry

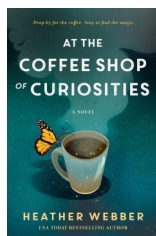
When a woman discovers a rare book that has connections to her past, long-held secrets about her missing sister and their childhood spent in the English countryside during World War II are revealed.



For Lovers of Books about Books

The Wishing Game by Meg Shaffer

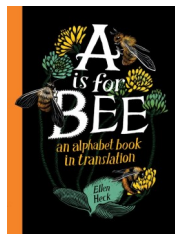
Years ago, a reclusive mega-bestselling children's author quit writing under mysterious circumstances. Suddenly he resurfaces with a brand-new book and a one-of-a-kind competition, offering a prize that will change the winner's life in this absorbing and whimsical novel.



For Those Who Love Stories of Friendship

At the Coffee Shop of Curiosities by Heather Webber

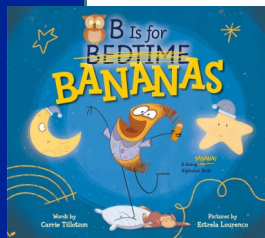
In this charming, small-southern-town story with a wide cast of eccentric characters, two women haunted by regret discover they are kindred spirits.



For Learning about Language

A Is for Bee: An Alphabet Book in Translation by Ellen Heck

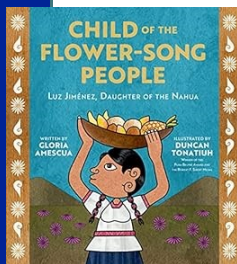
Explore the gorgeous variations in the ways we talk about familiar things, unified and illuminated through Ellen Heck's eye-catching, graphic scratchboard details and hidden letterforms.



For Laughing through the Alphabet

B Is for Bedtime Bananas by Carrie Tillotson with illustrations by Estrela Lourenco

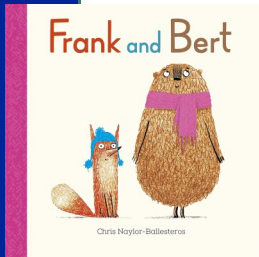
From the creators of *Counting to Bananas*, comes a new, hilarious bedtime ABC book about a Banana who doesn't want to go to bed.



For Lovers of Art and Culture

Child of the Flower-Song People: Luz Jiménez, Daughter of the Nahua by Gloria Amescua

Award-winning illustrator Duncan Tonatiuh brings to life debut author Gloria Amescua's lyrical picture book biography of an Indigenous Nahua woman from Mexico who taught and preserved her people's culture through modeling for famous artists.



For Those Who Love Friendship Stories

Frank and Bert by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros

Frank and Bert are the best of friends and they LOVE playing hide-and-seek. But Bert the bear isn't quite as good at hiding as he thinks he is . . . and Frank ALWAYS wins! Every. Single. Time.



For Budding Sci-Fi Fans

Jillian vs Parasite Planet by Nicole Kornher-Stace

Can an anxious eleven-year-old find her chill *and* save her family from creepy aliens? Only if she's the most awesome, super-brave astronaut since Spaceman Spiff! So take a deep breath, grab your sidekick, and blast off with Jillian to Parasite Planet.



A Rover's Story by Jasmine Warga

The One and Only Ivan meets The Wild Robot in this unique and deeply moving middle grade novel about the journey of a fictional Mars rover, from the Newbery Honor-winning author of *Other Words for Home*.



For Library Lovers

The Lost Library by Rebecca Stead

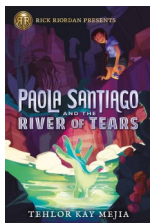
A timeless story about owning your truth, choosing the life you want, and the power of a good book (and, of course, the librarian who gave it to you).



For Fans of Myth and Legend Retellings

The Skull: A Tyrolean Folktale by Jon Klassen

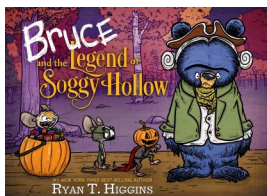
In a big abandoned house, on a barren hill, lives a skull. A brave girl named Otilla has escaped from terrible danger and run away, and when she finds herself lost in the dark forest, the lonely house beckons. Her host, the skull, is afraid of something too, something that comes every night. Can brave Otilla save them both?



Paola Santiago and the River of Tears

by Tehlor Kay Mejia

Best-selling author Rick Riordan presents author Tehlor Kay Mejia's thrilling adventure based on the Mexican legend of La Llorona.



For a (different) Holiday Laugh

Bruce and the Legend of Soggy Hollow by Ryan T Higgins

Bruce is a bear who does not like holidays, and he really doesn't like Halloween. His family of mice and geese decides the only way to get Bruce excited about Halloween is to tell a scary story.



For Fans of Fantasy-Adventure Novels

Adventures Wanted Series by M.L. Forman

The sign is small, tucked into the corner of Mr. Clutter's bookshop window: *Adventurers Wanted. Apply Within.* No one but fifteen-year-old Alex Taylor even seems to notice it is there. And for Alex, who has wished for a change in his life, it is an irresistible invitation. This middle-grade series begins with *Slathbog's Gold*.



For Young Mystery Lovers

Wreck at Ada's Reef by Michael D. Beil

The first book in the Swallowtail Legacy duology, *Wreck at Ada's Reef* is a vibrant contemporary mystery with a classic feel about grappling with grief, righting past wrongs, redefining family, and finding yourself.



For Lovers of Historical Fantasy

Black Bird, Blue Road by Sofiya Pasternack

Ziva will do anything to save her twin brother Pesah from his illness—they just need to run faster than The Angel of Death can fly.



A Human for Kingsley

GABRIEL EVANS

For Animal Lovers

A Human for Kingsley by Gabriel Evans

Kingsley had decided to own a human. This was not a decision to be taken lightly. After all, owning a human is a big responsibility. A sweet, tender and deeply funny story about the power of friendship, and one dog's mission to find his perfect person.



For Embracing Your Heritage

Theo Tan and the Fox Spirit by Jesse Q. Suanto

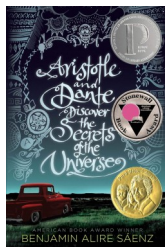
After inheriting a grieving fox spirit, a Chinese American boy must learn to embrace his heritage to solve the mystery of his brother's death in Jesse Q. Suanto's magical, action-packed middle grade fantasy



For Fans of Magical Friendship Stories

Witchlings by Claribel A. Ortega

This middle-grade novel is full of action-packed adventure, a coven of quirky witchlings, Claribel A. Ortega's signature humor, and girl-power vibes—and friendship is the most powerful magic of all.

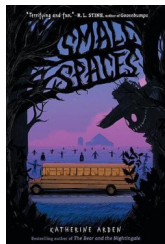


For Discovering Your True Identity

Aristotle and Dante Discover the

Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship—the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. And it is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.



For Budding Horror Fans

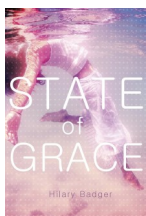
Small Spaces by Katherine Arden

New York Times bestselling adult author of *The Bear and the Nightingale* makes her middle grade debut with a creepy, spellbinding ghost story destined to become a classic.



Hide and Seek by Daka Hermon

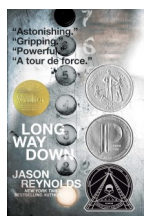
One of our most iconic childhood games receives a creepy twist as it becomes the gateway to a nightmare world.



For Fans of Dark Sci-Fi

State of Grace by Hilary Badger

Wren's world is a utopia. If only she could stop the strange visions she's started having: flashes of another world, where there are people she doesn't know, couldn't possibly know, but who somehow feel familiar. What does Blaze, the most beautiful and mysterious of creations, know about what's going on in Wren's head? When she uncovers the lies that are propping up everything she has ever believed in, Wren must choose: remain in blissful ignorance or face the ugly truth?



For Facing the Current Times

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

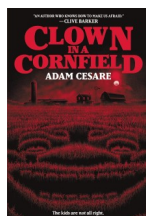
New York Times bestselling author Jason Reynolds's electrifying middle-grade novel that takes place in sixty potent seconds—the time it takes a kid to decide whether or not he's going to murder the guy who killed his brother.



For Teen Horror Fans

White Smoke by Tiffany D. Jackson

The Haunting of Hill House meets *Get Out* in this chilling YA psychological thriller and modern take on the classic haunted house story from *New York Times* bestselling author Tiffany D. Jackson!



Clown in a Cornfield by Alex Cesare

In Adam Cesare's terrifying young adult debut, Quinn Maybrook finds herself caught in a battle between old and new, tradition and progress—that just may cost her life. A Bram Stoker Award Winner for Superior Achievement in a Young Adult Novel



Hell Followed with Us

by Andrew Joseph White

A furious debut novel about embracing the monster within and unleashing its power against your oppressors.



For Novel-in-Verse Lovers

Blood Water Paint by Joy McCullough

Artemisia was one of Rome's most talented painters, even if no one knew her name. But Rome in 1610 was a city where men took what they wanted from women, and in the aftermath of rape Artemisia faced another terrible choice: a life of silence or a life of truth, no matter the cost. This novel-in-verse about real life artist Artemisia Gentileschi is beautiful and haunting.



For an Early Introduction to a Classic

Bea Wolf by Zach Weinersmith

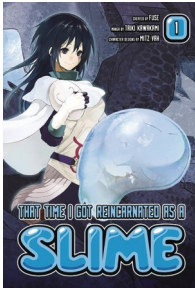
A modern middle-grade graphic novel retelling of *Beowulf*, featuring a gang of troublemaking kids who must defend their tree house from a fun-hating adult who can instantly turn children into grown-ups.



For Zombie Enthusiasts

Zom 100: Bucket List of the Dead by Haro Aso

After spending years toiling away for a soul-crushing company, Akira's life has lost its luster. But when a zombie apocalypse ravages his town, it gives him the push he needs to live for himself. Now Akira's on a mission to complete all 100 items on his bucket list before he...well, kicks the bucket.



For Finding the Hero Within

That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime by Fuse and Taiki Kawakami

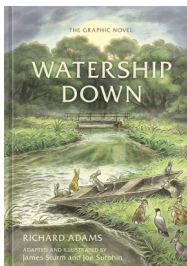
Mikami's middle age hasn't gone as he planned: He never found a girlfriend, he got stuck in a dead-end job, and he was abruptly stabbed to death in the street at 37. So when he wakes up in a new world straight out of a fantasy RPG, he's disappointed but not exactly surprised to find that he's not a knight or a wizard but a blind slime demon. But there are chances for even a slime to become a hero...



For Spy Story Lovers

Spy x Family

written and illustrated by Tatsuya Endo
Master spy Twilight is unparalleled when it comes to going undercover on dangerous missions for the betterment of the world. But when he receives the ultimate assignment—to get married and have a kid—he may finally be in over his head!



For Classic Adaptation Lovers

Watership Down, The Graphic Novel

by James Sturm and Richard Adams

A beautiful and faithful graphic novel adaptation of Richard Adams's beloved story of a group of rabbits on an epic journey in search of home.



For Education with a Laugh

Abbott Elementary: The Complete First Season

In this workplace comedy a group of dedicated, passionate teachers — and a slightly tone-deaf principal — are determined to help their students succeed. Though outnumbered and underfunded, they love what they do — even if they don't love the school district's less-than-stellar attitude toward educating children.



For Marvel Fans

Loki: Season 1

Set after the events of *Avengers: Endgame*, this action-packed, time-defying thriller stars Tom Hiddleston as the title character, with Owen Wilson as agent Mobius.



For Sequel Enthusiasts

John Wick Chapter 4

John Wick (Keanu Reeves) uncovers a path to defeating The High Table. But before he can earn his freedom, Wick must face off against a new enemy with powerful alliances across the globe and forces that turn old friends into foes.



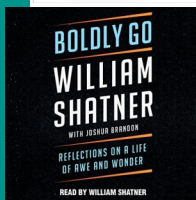
Spider-Man: Across The Spider-Verse

Brooklyn's full-time, friendly neighborhood Spider-Man is catapulted across the Multiverse, where he encounters a team of Spider-People charged with protecting its very existence. Miles must redefine what it means to be a hero so he can save the people he loves most.



Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 3

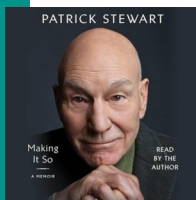
We find the Guardians working to repair the extreme damage done by Thanos, and determined to make Knowhere a safe haven, not only for themselves, but for all refugees displaced by the harsh universe. But it isn't long before their lives are upended by the echoes of Rocket's turbulent past.



For Star Trek Fans

Boldly Go by William Shatner

The beloved star of *Star Trek*, recent space traveler, and living legend William Shatner reflects on the interconnectivity of all things, our fragile bond with nature, and the joy that comes from exploration in this inspiring, revelatory, and exhilarating collection of essays.



Making It So: A Memoir by Sir Patrick Stewart

Sir Patrick Stewart has captivated audiences around the world and across multiple generations with his indelible command of stage and screen. His long-awaited memoir, *Making It So*, is a revealing portrait of an artist whose astonishing life proves a story as exuberant, definitive, and enduring as the author himself.

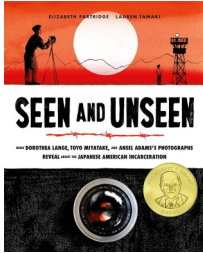


For Exploring the Mysterious World

The Big Book of Mysteries by Tom Adams

A captivating book featuring over 100 real-life mysteries that might just give you goosebumps!

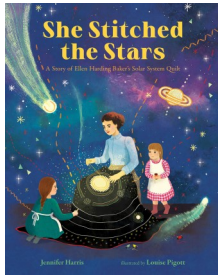
Does the Loch Ness monster really exist? Whatever happened to the crew of the *Mary Celeste*? And where exactly are the Hanging Gardens of Babylon?



For Facing History Head-On

Seen and Unseen: What Dorothea Lange, Toyo Miyatake, and Ansel Adams's Photographs Reveal About the Japanese American Incarceration by Elizabeth Partridge

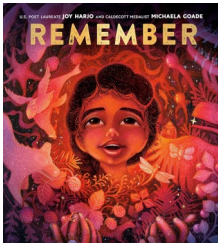
This important work of nonfiction features powerful images of the Japanese American incarceration captured by three photographers—Dorothea Lange, Toyo Miyatake, and Ansel Adams—along with firsthand accounts of this grave moment in history.



For Dreaming Big

She Stitched the Stars: A Story of Ellen Harding Baker's Solar System Quilt by Jennifer Harris

In 1876 Ellen Harding Baker began stitching an extraordinary quilt, one that accurately depicted our solar system. Ellen, a Iowa storekeeper's wife and a mother, had a curiosity that reached far beyond the stratosphere. Today the quilt hangs in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. This lyrical story imagines the creation of the quilt from the perspective of Ellen's daughters, who, like their mother, lived in a time when girls and women were expected to limit their pursuit of knowledge, and who may have been inspired to dream bigger and look farther.



For Remembering

Remember by Joy Harjo

Joy Harjo was the first Native American to serve as Poet Laureate of the United States--and she did so for three consecutive terms--making her only the second poet in history to do so. *Remember*—one of her best-loved poems—has been made into a children's book with stunningly beautiful illustrations by Native American artist, Michaela Goade. It's a poem about recognizing and remembering your place in the beautiful world. Goade's illustrations and Harjo's words make this a book to read again and again.

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The MakerSpace is open every day from one half-hour after the library opens to one half-hour before the library closes—on this schedule:

Monday through Thursday: 9:30 AM to 7 PM

Friday and Saturday: 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Sunday: 2:30 to 5:30 PM

For more information, call the MakerSpace at 806-378-3094.