



Bits and Bytes

*A Newsletter For
October 2016*

*Bell Memorial Public Library
Mentone, Indiana*

The Origin of Halloween

Halloween's roots can be traced back to Celtic culture in Ireland. According to their "Druid" religion, November 1st was New Years' on their calendar. The celebration would begin on October 31st, and last into the following day. The spirits of all who died in the prior year, would rise up and roam the earth on this night.

This is an evil night when spirits roamed the streets and villages. Lord Samhain, the lord of Darkness, would arrive in search of the spirits to take them to the underworld.



Halloween as it is currently celebrated with costumes, trick or treat, and superstitions, takes from this Druid Holiday.¹

Hit the Road, Jack

The name "Jack-o'-lantern" has changed in meaning several times. It was first recorded as a nickname for a night watchman, dating back to 1663. Around the same time, it was used as another name for a will-o'-the-wisp. It began to be used for pumpkin lanterns sometime in the 19th century. It's possible that the name simply went from the night watchman (a man holding a lantern) to the lantern itself.

Trick or Treat!

The general practice of going door-to-door for treats is clearly similar to a much older practice, "souling," in which the poor would go from house to house begging for alms or food. However, the specific practice of "trick-or-treating" dates to around the 1930s. It is possible—though by no means certain—that it evolved as an antidote for the increasingly rowdy and costly Halloween pranks. It provided a healthier activity for the young and gave them an incentive not to play tricks.²

¹<http://www.holidayinsights.com/halloween/facts.htm>

²<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/halloween2.html>

Pumpkin Decorating Contest



Bell Memorial Public Library

October 12 – 24

Children's age/grade categories:

Age 3-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, teens 6th grade and up

Pumpkins are \$1.00 each (for contestants only)

Pay and sign up in the Children's Department or at the front desk.

Entries must be turned in by October 24th.

Winners will be announced on October 28th.

First, 2nd and 3rd place winners awarded.

Be creative, but please, do not cut or carve your pumpkin. All decorating must be done by contestants. Only preschool and younger may have help if needed.





Join us on
October 10,
in the
Large Conference Room
at
1:00

High school history teacher Grace Wesley (Melissa Joan Hart) comes under fire for answering a student's (Hayley Orrantia) question about Jesus. When Grace refuses to apologize, the school board votes to suspend her and threatens to revoke her teaching certificate. Forced to stand trial to save her career, Grace hires young lawyer Tom Endler (Jesse Metcalfe) to defend her in court. Endler devises a powerful strategy to show the jury the historical significance of Wesley's classroom discussion.

Need Something Scanned?



Your Library has recently invested in a new HP All-In-One machine that we can use to scan documents like resumes, cover letters and photographs for you! Single sheet documents or photos we can probably do for you while you wait, but if there are a number of pages we'll schedule some time to get the job done and then call you when it's done! Scans are 25 cents for each sheet. Scans can be saved as .jpg or .pdf files.

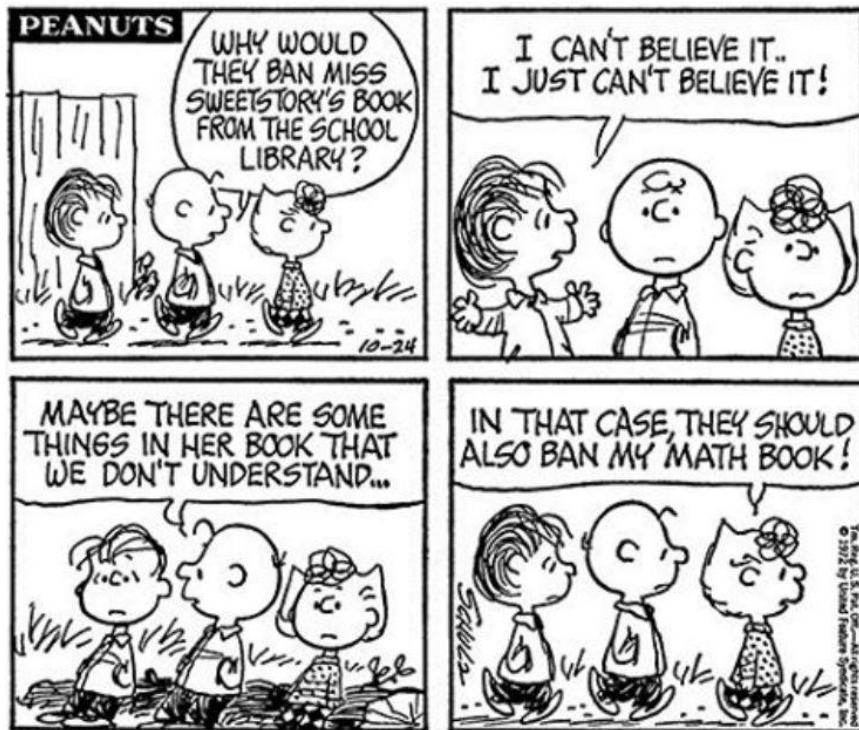


September 25th - October 1st, 2016

Censors are increasingly focusing on books that represent diverse points of view.

For as long as humans have printed books, censors have argued over their content and tried to limit some books' distribution. But the reasons for challenging literature change over time, and as Banned Book Week begins on Sept. 25, it's clear that public discomfort with particular ideas has evolved rapidly even in the last 20 years.

When the American Library Association started keeping a database of challenged books in the early '90s, the reasons cited were fairly straightforward, according to James LaRue, director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. "Don't like the language,' or 'There's too much sex'—they'd tend to fall into those two categories," he says. Some books are still challenged for those reasons—Fifty Shades of Grey is a common example. But there's been a shift toward seeking to ban books "focused on issues of diversity—things that are by or about people of color, or LGBT, or disabilities, or religious and cultural minorities," LaRue says. "It seems like that shift is very clear."³

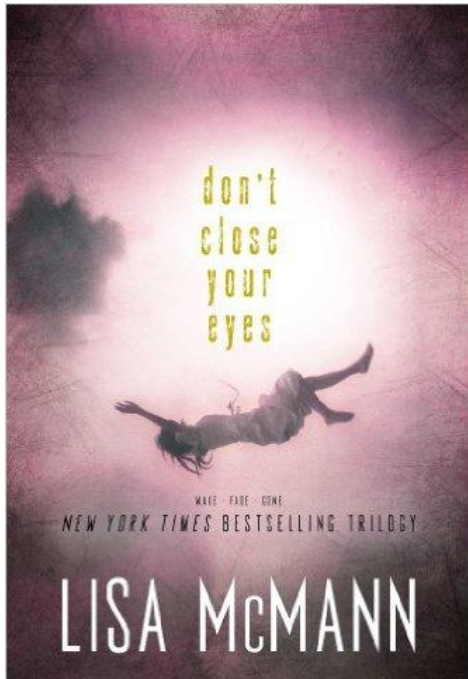


<https://www.instagram.com/p/BKrWNx6jAdQ/>

³<http://time.com/4505713/banned-books-week-reasons-change/>

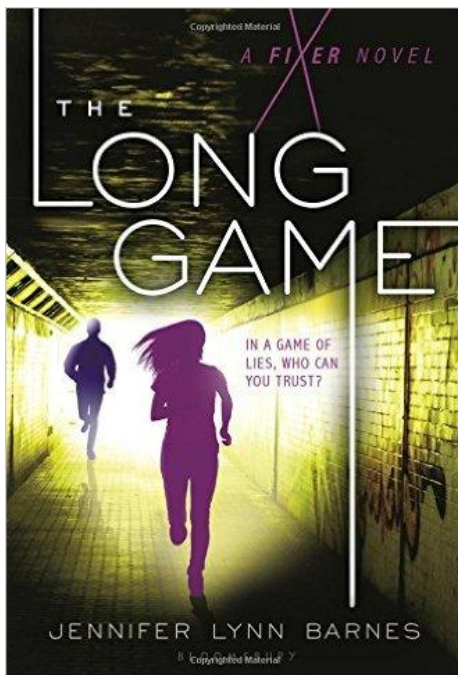
NEW YOUNG ADULT TITLES

DON'T CLOSE YOUR EYES by Lisa McMann



Janie Hannagan lives on the fringe, cursed with an ability she doesn't want and can't control: She gets sucked into other people's dreams. Things go from bad to worse when Janie is sucked into a chilling nightmare—and for the first time, Janie is more than a witness to someone else's twisted psyche. She is a participant. Janie discovers that local burnout Cabel is the person having the nightmares—and that Cabel is hiding a few secrets of his own. As these two outsiders come together to learn more about how to harness Janie's ability, they also find themselves growing ever closer...

THE LONG GAME by Jennifer L. Barnes



For Tess Kendrick, a junior at the elite Hardwicke School in Washington D.C., fixing runs in the family. But Tess has another legacy, too, one that involves power and the making of political dynasties. When Tess is asked to run a classmate's campaign for student council, she agrees. But when the candidates are children of politicians, even a high school election can involve life-shattering secrets.

Meanwhile, Tess's guardian has also taken on an impossible case, as a terrorist attack calls into doubt who can--and cannot--be trusted on Capitol Hill. Tess knows better than most that power is currency in Washington, but she's about to discover first-hand that power always comes with a price.

Perfect for fans of Harlan Coben and Ally Carter, the second book in this thrilling series will leave readers breathless.

NEW YOUNG ADULT CONTINUED



Missing You by Meg Cabot.

Ever since a walk home on a particularly stormy day, Jessica Mastriani has had an ability like no other. She became known worldwide as Lightning Girl—a psychic who could find the location of anyone, dead or alive. Jess finally had no choice but to embrace her newfound talent, and ended up lending her skills to the U.S. government.

But her work for them has taken a terrible toll, and Jess resurfaces months later a shadow of her former self, her powers gone, Lightning Girl no more. Her only hope is starting over in a new place, a big city where nobody knows her. It's only when Rob Wilkins unexpectedly shows up on her doorstep that she's forced to face her past. Rob, all the way from back home, needs her help.



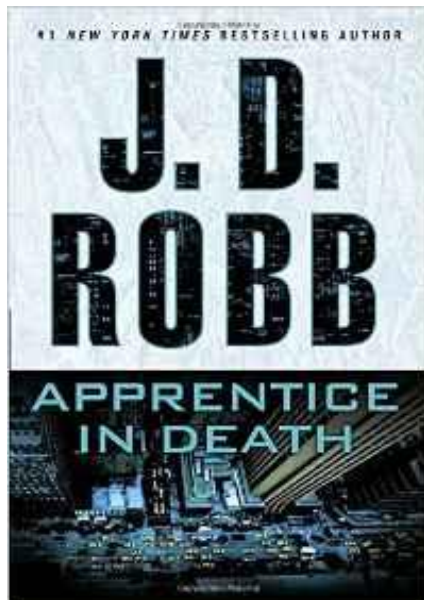
The Rules for Breaking by Ashley Elston

Anna Boyd almost lost her life to get what she wanted most in the world: freedom.

But just when it seems that her family has finally escaped Witness Protection, the illusion that Anna could resume a normal life comes crashing down.

The deadly man Anna knows as Thomas is still on the loose, and now he's using her as a pawn in a dangerous game with the drug cartel determined to silence her forever. When Thomas and a mysterious masked man capture not only Anna but also her fragile younger sister and her boyfriend, Anna decides it's time to break all the rules—even if it means teaming up with the lesser of two evils.

NEW ADULT TITLES

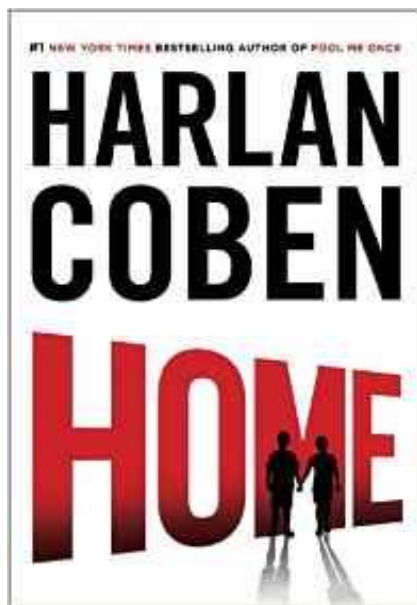


Apprentice In Death by J.D. Robb

Eve Dallas has seen a lot of killers during her time with the NYPSP but never one like this. A review of the security videos reveals that the victims were killed with a tactical laser rifle fired by a sniper, who could have been miles away when the trigger was pulled. And though the list of locations where the shooter could have set up seems endless, the number of people with that particular skill set is finite: police, military, professional killer.

Eve's husband, Roarke, has unlimited resources—and genius—at his disposal. And when his computer program leads Eve to the location of the sniper, she learns a shocking fact: There were two—one older, one younger. Someone is being trained by an expert in the science of killing, and they have an agenda. Central Park was just a warm-up. And as another sniper attack shakes the city to its core, Eve realizes that though we're all shaped

by the people around us, there are those who are just born evil...



Home by Harlan Coben

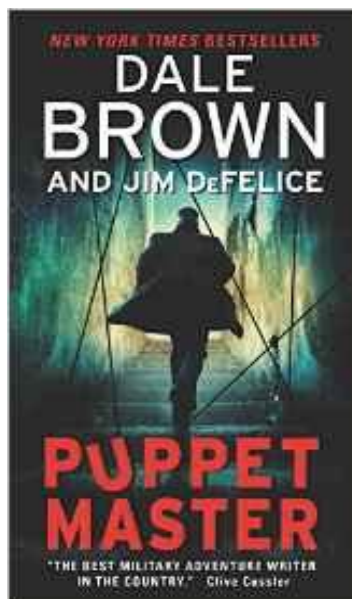
A decade ago, kidnapers grabbed two boys from wealthy families and demanded ransom, then went silent. No trace of the boys ever surfaced. For ten years their families have been left with nothing but painful memories and a quiet desperation for the day that has finally, miraculously arrived: Myron Bolitar and his friend Win believe they have located one of the boys, now a teenager. Where has he been for ten years, and what does he know about the day, more than half a life ago, when he was taken? And most critically: What can he tell Myron and Win about the fate of his missing friend? Drawing on his singular talent, Harlan Coben delivers an explosive and deeply moving thriller about friendship, family, and the meaning of home.

ADULT TITLES CONTINUED



Who but Carol Burnett herself has the timing, talent, and wit to pull back the curtain on the Emmy-Award winning show that made television history for eleven glorious seasons?

In Such Good Company delves into little-known stories of the guests, sketches and antics that made the show legendary, as well as some favorite tales too good not to relive again. Carol lays it all out for us, from the show's original conception to its evolution into one of the most beloved primetime programs of its generation.



Puppet Master by Dale Brown and Jim DeFelice

Louis Massina is revolutionizing the field of robotics. His technological wonders are capable of locating disaster survivors, preventing nuclear meltdowns, and replacing missing limbs. After one of Massina's creations makes a miraculous rescue, an FBI agent recruits him to pursue criminals running a massive financial scam—and not coincidentally, suspected of killing the agent's brother. Massina agrees to deploy a surveillance "bot" that uses artificial intelligence to follow its target. But when he's thrust into a dangerous conspiracy, the billionaire inventor decides to take matters into his own hands, unleashing the greatest cyber-weapons in the world and becoming the Puppet Master.