

Crook County Library

Books That Made Us (Literally) LOL

Book List

Books

Adams, Douglas

Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency (1987)

There is a long tradition of Great Detectives, and Dirk Gently does not belong to it. But his search for a missing cat uncovers a ghost, a time traveler, AND the devastating secret of humankind! Detective Gently's bill for saving the human race from extinction: NO CHARGE. (SciFi, British Comedy) JK

Amram, Megan

Science... For Her! (2014)

Ostensibly a book of science written by a denizen of women's magazines, *Science... For Her!* showcases Megan Amram's fiendish wit with a pitch-perfect attack on everything from those insanely perky tips for self-improvement to our bizarre shopaholic dating culture to the socially mandated pursuit of mind-blowing sex to the cringe-worthy secret codes of food and body issues. (Satire) JFS

Bombeck, Erma

If Life is a Bowl of Cherries-What am I Doing in the Pits? (1978)

"See if you can read a paragraph without laughing out loud." Art Buchwald
The enchanting lady of laughter has done it again--this time taking a hilarious swipe at husbands, honeymoons, tennis elbow, marriage, lettuce, the national anthem, and a host of other domestic dilemmas. (Memoir/Parenting) JK

Brosh, Allie

Hyperbole and a Half: Unfortunate Situations, Flawed Coping Mechanisms, Mayhem, and Other Things That Happened (2013)

Touching, absurd, and darkly comic, Allie Brosh's highly anticipated book *Hyperbole and a Half* showcases her unique voice, leaping wit, and her ability to capture complex emotions with deceptively simple illustrations. This full-color, beautifully illustrated edition features more than fifty percent new content, with ten never-before-seen essays and one wholly revised and expanded piece as well as classics from the website. (Memoir) BM

Bryson, Bill

A Walk in the Woods : Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail (1998)

Back in America after twenty years in Britain, Bill decided to reacquaint himself with his native country by walking the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail, which stretches from Georgia to Maine. The gloriously out-of-shape Stephen Katz, a buddy from Iowa is along for the walk. Despite Katz's overwhelming desire to find cozy restaurants, he and Bill eventually settle into their stride, and while on the trail they meet a bizarre assortment of hilarious characters. (Memoir) MR

Carriger, Gail

Prudence (2015)

When Prudence Alessandra Maccon Akeldama (Rue to her friends) is given an unexpected dirigible, she does what any sensible female would do under similar circumstances--names it the Spotted Custard and floats to India in pursuit of the perfect cup of tea. But India has more than just tea to offer. Rue stumbles upon a plot involving local dissidents, a kidnapped brigadier's wife, and some awfully familiar Scottish werewolves. (*Paranormal; Steampunk*) BM

Cook, Claire

Must Love Dogs (2002)

"Voluptuous, sensuous, alluring and fun. Barely 40 DWF seeks special man to share starlit nights. Must love dogs." Divorced preschool teacher Sarah Hurlihy's first mistake is letting her bossy big sister write her personal ad. Her second mistake is showing up to meet her first date in more than a decade. Now she's juggling her teaching job, her big, rollicking, interfering south-of-Boston Irish family, and more men than she knows what to do with. And what's up with all these dogs that are suddenly galloping into her life? (*Romance*) MR

Handler, Daniel

The Basic Eight (1999)

Presents the diary of Flannery Culp, a famous teenage Satanic murderess who led her cult, the Basic Eight, to notoriety with the murder of Adam State, one of the most popular boys at Roewer High School... or at least that's the story the *mainstream media* would have you believe... (*Coming-of-age; Black Comedy*) JFS

Healy, Christopher

The Hero's Guide to Saving Your Kingdom (2012)

Prince Liam. Prince Frederic. Prince Duncan. Prince Gustav. You've never heard of them, have you? You likely know them only as Prince Charming. But all of this is about to change. Rejected by their princesses and cast out of their castles, they stumble upon an evil plot that could endanger each of their kingdoms. Now it's up to them to triumph over their various shortcomings, take on trolls, bandits, dragons, witches, and other assorted terrors, and become the heroes no one ever thought they could be. (*Children's; Fantasy*) BM

Hockensmith, Steve with Lisa Falco

The White Magic Five & Dime (2014)

Much to Alanis McLachlan's surprise, her estranged con-woman mother has left her an inheritance: The White Magic Five & Dime, a shop in tiny Berdache, Arizona. Reluctantly traveling to Berdache to claim her new property, Alanis decides to stay and pick up her mother's tarot business in an attempt to find out how she died. (*Mystery*) BM

Kaling, Mindy

Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me? (And Other Concerns) (2011)

Kaling shares her observations, fears, and opinions about a wide-ranging list of the topics she thinks about the most. From her favorite types of guys to life in the "The Office" writers' room, her book is full of personal stories and laugh-out-loud philosophies. (*Memoir; Humor*) AS

McLaughlin, Emma and Kraus, Nicola

Nanny Diaries (2002)

Struggling to graduate from NYU and afford her microscopic studio apartment, Nanny takes a position caring for the only son of the wealthy X family. She rapidly learns the insane amount of juggling involved to ensure that a Park Avenue wife who doesn't work, cook, clean, or raise her own child has a smooth day. (*Chick Lit, Satire*) MR

Quinn, Spencer

Thereby Hangs a Tail: A Chet and Bernie Mystery (2010)

Chet and his human companion Bernie are called on to investigate threats made against an unlikely target - a pretty, pampered show dog named Princess. What seems like a joke turns into a serious case when Princess and her owner are abducted. (*Mystery*) JK

Sedaris, David

Let's Explore Diabetes With Owls (2013)

From the perils of French dentistry to the eating habits of the Australian kookaburra, from the squat-style toilets of Beijing to the particular wilderness of a North Carolina Costco, we learn about the absurdity and delight of a curious traveler's experiences. (*Essays*) AS

Semple, Maria

Where'd You Go Bernadette (2012)

When her notorious, hilarious, volatile, talented, troubled, and agoraphobic mother goes missing, teenage Bee begins a trip that takes her to the ends of the earth to find her. (*Domestic Fiction*) AS

Vonnegut, Kurt

Galapagos (1985)

Observed by a ghost of the Vietnam War for one million years, the descendants of survivors of a cruise to the Galapagos Archipelago make their way in a post-apocalyptic world and inadvertently prove Darwin's Theory of Evolution. (*Science Fiction; Black Comedy*) JFS

DVDs

Bernie (2012)

Effeminate mortician Bernie Tiede (Jack Black) enjoys a reputation as a friendly and upstanding member of the community. Nasty Marjorie Nugent (Shirley MacLaine), on the other hand, couldn't hold a lower position on the local social scale. The moment Bernie shows Marjorie a shred of kindness, she clings to him tightly and refuses to let go. Eventually, her intense jealousy becomes too much for Bernie to take. (*Based on a True Story; Mockumentary; Black Comedy*) JFS

Bringing Up Baby (1938)

Shy paleontologist David Huxley (Cary Grant) is hoping for three things: a rare dinosaur bone fossil, a million dollar research grant, and his marriage to colleague Miss Swallow. Madcap heiress Susan Vance (Katharine Hepburn) manages to disrupt his life completely when she asks him to help her transport a leopard named "Baby" to her aunt's estate in Connecticut. (*Classics; Romantic Comedy; Screwball Comedy*) JFS

Dil Bole Hadippa (2009)

Veera is a fire-cracker of a girl who lives in a small village but dreams in 70mm. She works in a local theatre group but dreams of playing cricket in the big league... In a village where girls don't play cricket, Veera has to put on a turban and beard and become a man to fulfill her dreams. (*Bollywood; Romantic Comedy*) BM

Harvey (1950)

Comedy about a good-natured fellow (Jimmy Stewart) whose constant companion is a six-foot tall invisible rabbit. His sister is determined to marry her daughter off and decides to commit her brother to a mental hospital to get him out of the way. Due to a mix-up the sister is committed instead, and it is up to the kindly brother and his imaginary friend to straighten things out! (*Classics, Comedy*) MR

O Brother, Where Art Thou? (2000)

In the Depression-era deep South, three escapees from a Mississippi prison chain gang – charming Everett Ulysses McGill (George Clooney), sweet and simple Delmar (Tim Blake Nelson), and the perpetually angry Pete (John Turturro) – embark on the adventure of a lifetime as they set out to pursue their freedom and return to their homes. With nothing to lose and still in shackles, they make a hasty run for their lives and end up on an incredible journey filled with bizarre experiences, toe-tapping music, and colorful characters. (*Historical; Musical Comedy*) JFS

Square Pegs (1982-83)

Former "Saturday Night Live" writer Anne Beatts looked back at her own painful adolescence for this character-driven sitcom about skinny Patty Greene (Sarah Jessica Parker) and brace-faced Lauren Hutchinson (Amy Linker), two bright but nerdy Weemawee High School freshmen who make doomed attempts to join the "in" crowd. (*Sitcom; Coming-of-age*) JFS