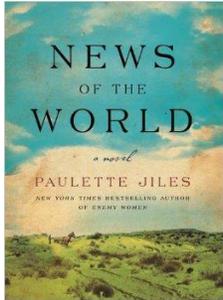


Winter Staff Picks

From the Bookshelf of

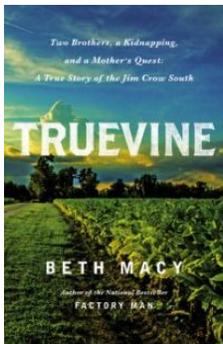
Jill's picks!



News of the World

by Paulette Jiles (historical fiction)

It's 1870 and Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd, is an aging widower, veteran of two wars, and itinerant news reader of north Texas. He's given a \$50 gold piece and tasked with returning a young captive girl, rescued by the U.S. Army, to her family in San Antonio. As they head south through treacherous territory, they are tracked by Kiowa Indians, encounter various sordid characters, and form a bond and a trust that will stay with you long after you've read this book. A beautiful novel.

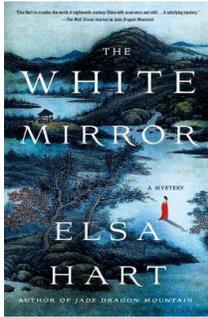


Truevine: Two Brothers, a Kidnapping and a Mother's Quest: A True Story of the Jim Crow South

by Beth Macy (non-fiction)

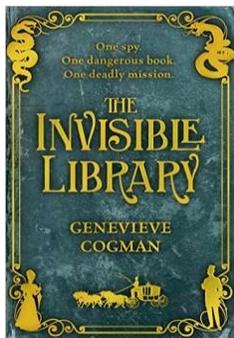
A heartbreaking true story of two albino African-American brothers kidnapped at a young age and sold as freaks in a carnival side show during the early 20th century. As we follow the author's painstaking years of research in tracking the brothers' whereabouts over a period of decades, and convincing family members to tell their story (and if they were really kidnapped or sold), we learn about carnival side-show freaks, reconstruction, the Jim Crow south, and family loyalty. Fascinating.

Laura's picks!



The White Mirror by Elsa Hart (mystery)

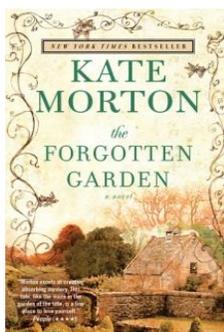
Set in 18th century China, this follow-up to *Jade Dragon Mountain* finds librarian Li Du traveling with a trade caravan to Lhasa. When a snowstorm forces them to detour, they find a monk sitting on a bridge - dead. Trapped by the weather at the home of a local lord, Li Du must ask himself: was this suicide or murder? An unusual setting paired with exquisite writing makes this sequel one to savor.



The Invisible Library by Genevieve Cogman (fantasy fiction)

The Library is a shadowy organization that exists across many realities (but of course!). Irene is a librarian-spy tasked with retrieving important books, sent to an alternative London where faeries are real and meeting a Sherlock Holmes analogue is to be expected. The problem with this particular mission: someone else has stolen the book first. Add in some witty banter, and the result is a fun, frothy delight.

Amy's pick!



The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton (fiction)

A mysterious inheritance from her grandmother prompts Cassandra to travel from Australia to England to unravel Nell's family origins, but what she finds there challenges what she thought she knew about herself, as well. From a unique book of fairy tales to an aristocratic family to a secret garden, the author skillfully uses multiple timelines to reveal the truth layer by layer. Fans of mystery, romance, and intrigue will love this unforgettable novel.

Kim's picks!

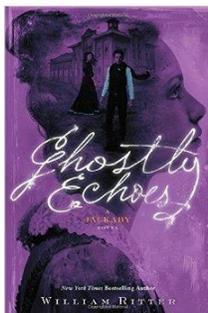


Serafina and the Black Cloak

by Robert Beatty (juvenile fiction)

It's 1899 and young Serafina lives in the bowels of the Biltmore estate in North Carolina with her maintenance man father.

When children at the estate begin to disappear, Serafina and her young friend, start to put together the clues to solve this unique mystery and also to solve the mystery of her own identity.



Ghostly Echoes

by William Ritter (teen fiction)

In this the third installment of the Jacaby series, we learn the circumstances surrounding resident ghost Jenny Cavanaugh's death and why she is a ghost. With the aid of her fellow residents at 926 Augur Lane, the paranormal duo Abigail Rook and R. F. Jackaby, Jenny finds her killer. As each thread is pulled the reader discovers how the characters and their stories are intertwined.