

November 6, 2008 - Book Club List

The City of Ember

Author: Jean DuPrau

The city of Ember is surrounded by an inky darkness that is only relieved by the many electric lights. The city's inhabitants have lived comfortably for hundreds of years on vast storehouses of food, but now something is wrong. The great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker, and the storehouses are almost empty.

When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she is sure it holds a secret that will save the city. She and her friend Doon must decipher the message before the lights go out on Ember forever!

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The Ninja Handbook

Author: Douglas Sarine

After much debate and in a spirit of morbid amusement, the International Order of Ninjas has chosen to produce *The Ninja Handbook*, the first-ever secret ninja training guide specifically designed for the non-ninja.

Most non-ninjas who handle these delicate, deadly pages will die—probably in an elaborately horrific and painful manner. But whether your journey lasts five seconds or five days or (rather inconceivably) five years, all those who bravely take up this text and follow the tenets and trials laid out within will die knowing they were as ninja as they possibly could've been.

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The First Commandment

Author: Brad Thor

"Thou shalt not negotiate with terrorists..."

Six months ago: In the dead of the night, five of the most dangerous detainees in the war on terror are pulled from their isolation cells in Guantanamo Bay, held at gunpoint, and told to strip off their orange jumpsuits. Issued a civilian clothes and driven to the base airfield, they are loaded aboard a Boeing 727 and set free.

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Twilight

Author: Stephenie Meyer

When Isabella Swan moves to the gloomy town of Forks and meets the mysterious, alluring Edwards Cullen, her life takes a thrilling and terrifying turn. With his porcelain skin, golden eyes, mesmerizing voice, and supernatural gifts, Edward is both irresistible and impenetrable. Up until now, he had managed to keep his true identity hidden, but Bella is determined to uncover his dark secret.

What Bella doesn't realize is the closer she gets to him, the more she is putting herself and those around her at risk. And, it might be too late to turn back...

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Burned Author: Ellen Hopkins

It all started with a dream. Nothing exceptional, just a typical fantasy about a boy, the kind of dream that most teen girls experience. But Pattyn Von Stratten is not like most teen girls. Raised in a religious -- yet abusive -- family, a simple dream may not be exactly a sin, but it could be the first step toward hell and eternal damnation.

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Dreamland Author: Sarah Dessen

After her older sister runs away, sixteen-year-old Caitlin decides that she needs to make a major change in her own life and begins an abusive relationship with a boy who is mysterious, brilliant, and dangerous.

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Sebastian Author: Anne Bishop

Long ago, Ephemera was split into a dizzying number of magical lands-connected only by bridges that may take you where you truly belong, rather than where you had intended to go. In one such land, where night reigns and demons dwell, the half-incubus Sebastian revels in dark delights. But in dreams she calls to him: a woman who wants only to be safe and loved-a woman he hungers for while knowing he may destroy her. And an even more devastating destiny awaits him, for an ancient evil is stirring-and Sebastian's realm may be the first to fall.

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Mort Author: Terry Pratchett

Death comes to us all. When he came to Mort, he offered him a job. After being assured that being dead was not compulsory, Mort accepted. However, he soon found that romantic longings did not mix easily with the responsibilities of being Death's apprentice...

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Fell Author: David Clement-Davies

With the same bold storytelling that has made *The Sight* a cult favorite, David Clement-Davies tells the story of Fell, the black wolf whose betrayal of his family in *The Sight* almost led to the enslavement of all wolves by the evil Morgra. Wandering alone in the forests of Transylvania, lost in the pain of his sister Larka's death, Fell rejects their shared gift of seeing into the minds of others.. It is only when a message comes from

his old friend Skart, the eagle, that Fell begins to accept his destiny: to enter the world of humans and restore a lost girl to her family, thus healing the wounds of a divided kingdom.

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Cross Author: James Patterson

The latest powerful thriller about the FBI agent Alex Cross. Alex has quit his job with the FBI but can't seem to stay away. When a series of brutal rapes are committed across Washington and none of the victims will talk, Sampson calls on Alex for help. Alex uses all his skills as a psychologist to persuade one of the women to tell how the attacker scared her into silence. Cross's hunt for the rapist leads him to 'the Irishman' Michael Sullivan, the deadly hitman from his past, who's returned to Washington planning to kill the new mob Don, John Maggione. How many people will meet a gruesome end while the Irishman evades the FBI, the mob hit team and Alex - still haunted by the loss of his first wife and the unsolved mystery of who killed her?

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Pride and Prejudice Author: Jane Austen

What's a Girl to Do? Scatterbrained, social climbing **Mrs. Bennet** makes one demand of her five daughters. *Marry. Marry well. Marry RICH.* But sweet **Jane** is hopelessly in love with **Mr. Bingley**, who doesn't seem to notice. Flightly **Lydia** wants a man -- any man -- preferably one in uniform. **Kitty** just wants to have fun. Shy **Mary** has her nose in a book. And **Elizabeth** -- brilliant, stubborn, independent Lizzy -- refuses the advances of the most "marriageable" man in town -- haughty, handsome, *wealthy* **Mr. Darcy**.

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Sabriel Author: Garth Nix

Sent to a boarding school in Ancelstierre as a young child, Sabriel has had little experience with the random power of Free Magic or the Dead who refuse to stay dead in the Old Kingdom. But during her final semester, her father, the Abhorsen, goes missing, and Sabriel knows she must enter the Old Kingdom to find him. She soon finds companions in Mogget, a cat whose aloof manner barely conceals its malevolent spirit, and Touchstone, a young Charter Mage long imprisoned by magic, now free in body but still trapped by painful memories. As the three travel deep into the Old Kingdom, threats mount on all sides. And every step brings them closer to a battle that will pit them against the true forces of life and death -- and bring Sabriel face-to-face with her own hidden destiny.

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I Heard That Song Before

Author: Mary Higgins Clark

In a riveting psychological thriller, Mary Higgins Clark takes the reader deep into the mysteries of the human mind, where memories may be the most dangerous things of all.

At the center of her novel is Kay Lansing, who has grown up in Englewood, New Jersey, daughter of the landscaper to the wealthy and powerful Carrington family. Their mansion — a historic seventeenth-century manor house transported stone by stone from Wales in 1848 — has a hidden chapel. One day, accompanying her father to work, six-year-old Kay succumbs to curiosity and sneaks into the chapel. There, she overhears a quarrel between a man and a woman who is demanding money from him. When she says that this will be the last time, his caustic response is: "I heard that song before."

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Thunder Point

Author: Jack Higgins

A u-boat, sunk in the deepest waters of the Caribbean, has remained hidden for almost 50 years. But the discovery of the secrets it holds could bring down the British Government. The race to find the sealed container, to use it or destroy it, is fiercely contested by many interested parties.

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Impulse

Author: Ellen Hopkins

Sometimes you don't wake up. But if you happen to, you know things will never be the same.

Three lives, three different paths to the same destination: Aspen Springs, a psychiatric hospital for those who have attempted the ultimate act -- suicide.

Vanessa is beautiful and smart, but her secrets keep her answering the call of the blade.

Tony, after suffering a painful childhood, can only find peace through pills.

And Conner, outwardly, has the perfect life. But dig a little deeper and find a boy who is in constant battle with his parents, his life, himself.

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Prey

Author: Stephen Cole

Kate Folan comes from a family of werewolves. She'll only become fully 'wolf herself when she mates with a male werewolf. But she vows that will never happen. The last thing she wants is to give in to her evil heritage.

Then she meets Tom Anderson. Tom is a wereling—a werewolf who retains his humanity even in his wolf form. He was "turned" by Kate's mother, who chose wisely.

Tom and Kate can't help falling for each other. But if they give in to their feelings, Kate will become the thing she hates most. Unless they can find a cure. . . .

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