

From the Stacks
By Julie Orf
Dunklin County Library
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When the clocks spring forward and the evenings stretch just a little longer, each day gives us an extra hour of possibility. That lingering sunlight invites us to slow down, step outside, or settle into a comfortable chair with a good book. With daylight still streaming through the windows after dinner, there is less rush to turn on the lamps and more time to turn the pages. That extra hour of sunshine can easily become an extra hour of stories, ideas, and imagination.

Jane Boleyn moves through the shadows of the Tudor court, where secrets are currency and even a whisper can destroy a queen. To survive, she must play many roles—a loyal wife, a supportive sister to Anne Boleyn, and a careful observer who chooses her words wisely. In a court ruled by ambition and danger, Jane relies on her wit and cunning, knowing that one wrong move could cost her everything. Philippa Gregory uncovers the hidden story of Jane Boleyn in her newest novel, *Boleyn Traitor*, casting aside long-held myths to reveal a layered portrait of a woman fighting to survive.

A comedic thriller by Ace Adkins entitled, *Everybody Wants to Rule the World*, will have you turning pages through the dark hours with the snappy dialogue and the well-developed characters. It is 1985, fourteen-year-old Peter Bennett is convinced his mom's mysterious new boyfriend, Gary, is a Russian agent. With a strange accent, no listing in the phone book, and a gun in his Porsche's glove box, Gary seems especially interested in Peter's mom's job at a government-contract lab. When a lab employee is murdered, Peter teams up with an unlikely duo, a washed-up writer and his drag-performer friend, just as a determined FBI agent uncovers a web of Russian spies. As Reagan and Gorbachev prepare for a historic summit, the secrets unfolding in Atlanta could shift the Cold War and Peter's freshman year.

Tory Van Dyne, a book conservator at Manhattan's Mystery Guild Library, prefers her quiet downtown life far from her eccentric old-money family. She is baffled when a woman in the library calmly introduces herself as Agatha Christie, asks for a cocktail, and claims she is there to solve a murder that has not happened yet. When Tory's cousin Nicola becomes entangled in the suspicious death of her talent agent, Tory reluctantly turns to the strange Christie lookalike for help. With a quirky team, including a snarky librarian, a young computer whiz, and an NYPD detective, they set out to unravel a murder that proves anything but simple. *Mrs. Christie and the Mystery Guild Library* by Amanda Chapman is the perfect start for a book series and for any Agatha Christie fan.

The Busybody Book Club by Freya Sampson is a cozy mystery with some laughs and nosy neighbors. After moving from London to a quiet Cornish seaside village, Nova Davies starts a book club at the local community center but it quickly becomes a disaster. The mismatched members cannot agree on anything, and when money is stolen during a meeting, the center's future is put at risk. Suspicion falls on member Michael, who soon disappears, and a body is found at his house. Convinced he is been framed, the quirky book club, each with their own theories and secrets, sets out to solve the murder, find the missing money, and clear his name.

An intense, emotional novel by Allen Eskens uses the backdrop of war and the calm Minnesota setting to share the story of *The Quiet Librarian*. Hana Babic is a quiet librarian in Minnesota who only wants a peaceful life until a detective tells her that her best friend has been murdered. The news awakens a past she tried to bury. Thirty years earlier, Hana was Nura Divjak, a Bosnian teenager whose family was slaughtered during the war. Forced to fight, she became a feared militia legend known as the Night Mora before fleeing to the United States. Now someone from that past is hunting her. With her friend's young grandson in her care, Hana must once again become the Night Mora to stop the killer before the past claims them both.