



## WINTER

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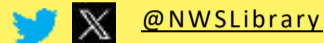
Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss Henry



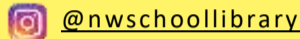
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### Rare Medieval Manuscript Inspired Sleeping Beauty's Castle



An elaborately decorated prayer book from the 15<sup>th</sup> Century served as an inspiration for Disneyland Paris' Sleeping Beauty Castle. The 416-page manuscript, titled *Les Très Riches Heures (The Very Rich Hours)*, was commissioned by the brother of King Charles V of France, the Duke of Berry, and serves as a 'book of hours' – recording Christian prayers to be said at each canonical hour of the day, along with a calendar of church feasts and saints' days. *Les Très Riches Heures* is richly illustrated with drawings, borders, and elaborate capital letters created from expensive pigments and gold on calfskin vellum pages. Images feature peasants farming, religious scenes, and elegant buildings.

Following the Duke of Berry's death, the book passed from hand to hand, fading into obscurity until it was found in 1856 in Twickenham, England at the home of the son of French King Louis-Philippe, who had lived in exile in the UK. The book was returned to France and has been housed in a museum ever since. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the book's pictures began to serve as popular references for the Middle Ages in the public imagination and were therefore consulted by the designers of Disneyland Paris' Sleeping Beauty Castle in the early 1920s. The Sleeping Beauty Castle is the classic castle that comes to mind when one thinks of Disney and was featured in the Disney logo from 1985-2006. *Les Très Riches Heures* has been unseen by the public for more than 40 years but is going on display in France this summer. Original *Guardian* article by Kim Willsher [here](#).

**A Twisted Tale: As Old as Time** by Liz Braswell

What if sleeping beauty never woke up? It should be simple—a dragon defeated, a slumbering maiden, a prince poised to wake her. But when said prince falls asleep as soon as his lips meet the princess, it is clear that this fairy tale is far from over. With a desperate fairy's last curse infiltrating her mind, Princess Aurora will have to navigate a dangerous and magical landscape deep in the depths of her dreams. Soon she stumbles upon Phillip, a charming prince eager to join her quest. But with Maleficent's agents following her every move, Aurora struggles to discover who her true allies are, and moreover, who she truly is. Time is running out. Will the sleeping beauty be able to wake herself up?



**A Twisted Tale: Part of Your World** by Liza Braswell

It's been five years since the infamous sea witch defeated the little mermaid... taking King Triton's life in the process. Ariel is now the voiceless queen of Atlantica, while Ursula runs Prince Eric's kingdom on land. But when Ariel discovers that her father might still be alive, she finds herself returning to a world, and a prince, she never imagined she would see again. Will Ariel be able to overthrow the murderous villain set on destroying her home and the world she one longed to be a part of? Follow this tale of power, love and a mermaid's quest to reclaim her voice.



**A Twisted Tale: Mirror, Mirror** by Jen Calonita

What if the Evil Queen poisoned the prince? Following her beloved mother's death, the kingdom falls into the hands of Snow White's stepmother, commonly referred to as "the Evil Queen" by those she rules. Snow keeps her head down at the castle, hoping to make the best of her situation. But when new information about her parents resurfaces and a plot to kill her goes haywire, everything changes for Snow. With the help of a group of wary dwarfs, a kind prince she thought she'd never see again, and a mysterious stranger from her past, Snow embarks on a quest to stop the Evil Queen and take back her kingdom. But can she stop an enemy who knows her every move and will stop at nothing to retain her power... including going after the ones Snow loves?



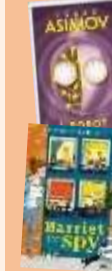
**A Twisted Tale: A Whole New World** by Liz Braswell

What if Jafar was the first one to summon the Genie? When Jafar steals the Genie's lamp, he uses his first two wishes to become sultan and the most powerful sorcerer in the world. Agrabah lives in fear, waiting for his third and final wish. To stop the power-mad ruler, Aladdin and the deposed Princess Jasmine must unite the people of Agrabah in rebellion. But soon their fight for freedom threatens to tear the kingdom apart in a costly civil war. What happens next? A Street Rat becomes a leader. A princess becomes a revolutionary. And readers will never look at the story of Aladdin in the same way again.



**God Matters** by Peter and Charlotte Vardy

Perhaps human beings are animals, driven by the will to survive and reproduce, perhaps responsibility is a useful fiction and religion is the opium of the masses. Perhaps death is the end, life is ultimately meaningless, brutish and short. Perhaps man is the measure of all things and beauty, truth and justice are open to interpretation. Or, perhaps not. God matters. The choice over whether and what to believe is inescapable because it determines how we live our lives. Nothing matters more. Here is a book that encourages and enables students and general readers to ask fundamental questions about the nature and meaning of human life in an open, engaging but academically rigorous way. Centuries of scholarship in the Philosophy of Religion, from Jewish and Muslim as well as Christian traditions, are put in context and critically evaluated.



**I, Robot** by Isaac Asimov

The three laws of Robotics: 1) A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm. 2) A robot must obey orders given to it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law. 3) A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law. With these three, simple directives, Isaac Asimov changed our perception of robots forever when he formulated the laws governing their behaviour. In *I, Robot*, Asimov chronicles the development of the robot through a series of interlinked stories: from its primitive origins in the present to its ultimate perfection in the not-so-distant future—a future in which humanity itself may be rendered obsolete.

**Harriet the Spy** by Louise Fitzhugh

Harriet the Spy has a secret notebook that she fills with utterly honest jottings about her parents, her classmates, and her neighbours. Every day on her spy route she "observes" and notes down anything of interest to her. But when Harriet's notebook is found by her schoolmates, their anger and retaliation and Harriet's unexpected responses explode in a hilarious way.

**Climate Emergency Atlas: What's Happening – What We Can Do by DK**

Our house is on fire - it's time to wake up to the climate crisis facing planet Earth before it's too late. Which countries generate the highest CO2 emissions? Which coastal cities are most vulnerable to rising sea levels? What will the polar ice caps look like in 10 years' time? Which countries have successfully harnessed renewable energy sources? This unique graphic atlas tells you everything you need to know about the current climate emergency, and what we can do to turn things around. Packed with facts and figures and more than 30 dynamic maps, *Climate Emergency Atlas* is clear and easy to understand, making it the perfect reference guide for all young climate activists.



**Maths Skills Builder: Transition from KS3 to GCSE (Collins GCSE Maths)** by Chris Pearce

Boost crucial problem solving and mathematical reasoning skills with extra targeted practice for KS3 Maths. Focus on two of the main aims of the new 2014 maths curriculum – reason mathematically and solve problems – with additional practice and explanation. Develop skills for GCSE from Year 9. Dip in and out for flexible use in the classroom or for homework. Help pupils to make connections across maths with plenty of mixed questions. Tackle problems in different contexts to improve literacy, thinking skills and investigative strategies.

**Powerless #1.5: Powerful** by Lauren Roberts

Adena and Paedyn have always been inseparable. Fate brought them together when they were young, but friendship ensured they would always protect each other and the home they built in the slums of Loot. But now Paedyn—an Ordinary—has been selected for the Purging Trials, which means almost certain death. Now alone in Loot, Adena must fend for herself. After attempting to steal, she's rescued by a mysterious man from the market. Mak's shadowy past and secretive power set him apart from the other low-level Elites of Loot. And as the pair team up to see their loved ones before the Trials, the quest tests their loyalty, their love, and their lives.



**Can You See Me? #2: Do You Know Me?** by Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott

Tally is autistic and proud. She used to feel like she had to hide her autism, but now Tally is determined to make sure people see who she really is. But now Tally has a new worry - her school trip. And that means new places, new people and new challenges. She quickly falls in with the popular girls and is grateful that they don't make a big deal about her autism, but it's not long before Tally realises that, while the girls are popular, they aren't very kind. With a jolt Tally understands that she's not the only one who's been made to feel like she has to hide her true self. But will she find the strength to stand up for herself and the people she knows are being treated unfairly, or will she stay quiet? And will Tally ever find her people?

### January's MOST POPULAR BOOKS

1  A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini	2  Komi Can't Communicate Vol. 1 by Tomohito Oda	3  We'll Always Have Summer by Jenny Han	4  Unravel Me by Tahereh Mafi
5  A Spoonful of Murder by Robin Stevens	6  Assassination Classroom Vol. 2 by Yusei Matsui	7  Assassination Classroom Vol. 1 by Yusei Matsui	8  It Only Happens in the Movies by Holly Bourne

### STAR BORROWERS OF THE MONTH

Each month we highlight star borrowers- those students that have borrowed 5 or more books within that month. These students will receive an achievement point.

<b>Year 7</b>	Wenjun 7W Bade 7S Elana 7S Waisin 7N Shreya 7S Michaela 7S Kabista 7N Magathy 7F Rosie 7G Saanvi 7G Javishna 7G Letty 7G Abia 7G	Harshitha 7G Saaya 7G Tara 7G Shreya 7G Nyra 7P Greta 7P Saatvika 7P Rowan 7P	Ruzena 8N Neev 8N Tazrian 8N Khushi 8N Ananya 8W Riya 8W Hannah 8W Nidhi 8W Hriya 8W Amy 8S April 8F Merisha 8F Tripti 8F	Joanne 8F Mehr 8G Elizabeth 8P Naomi H 8P Riya 8P Angelina 8F
<b>Year 8</b>	Avni 8N Iris 8N	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	
<b>Year 9</b>	Anaaya 9N Maya 9N Ipin 9N Veda 9N	Precious 10S Eniola 10F Abigail 10F Aashvi 10G Christina 10G	Paula 12S Vennela 12F	
<b>Year 11</b>	Akshmi 11N Kierujaa 11G Lucy 11P	<b>Year 13</b>	Megan 13N Frances 13N Trevor 13W Vivia 13 Julia 13S Sophie 13F Lucy 13P Olivia 13H	

### Year-Long Festival in Honour of J.M.W. Turner Announced

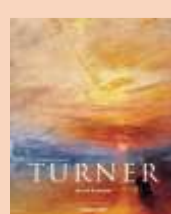
A year-long festival called Turner 250 has been announced to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of artist J.M.W. (Joseph Mallord William) Turner, who was born April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1775. Turner is regarded as one of the greatest romantic artists and is known for his stunning landscapes and seascapes that often reflect the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the environment. He was known as 'the painter of light' due to the masterful use of light and colour in his paintings.

The Turner 250 festival will consist of myriad events including a comprehensive online catalogue of Turner's sketches and watercolours, and special displays at physical venues such as the Turner Contemporary Gallery in Margate. Tate Britain will showcase over 150 of Turner's works throughout the year, highlighting his significance in art history. Turner's legacy continues to influence modern artists, and his works such as *The Fighting Temeraire* (an oil on canvas of a ship being towed up the River Thames) are celebrated for their dramatic depictions of nature through landscape. Artists also find inspiration in Turner's determination to travel throughout the country, capturing the dramatic scenery he found on his journeys. J.M.W. Turner passed away in 1851, at the age of 76. Original *BBC* article by Stuart Maisner [here](#).



**Turner by Michael Bockemuhl**

JMW Turner was simultaneously a romantic and a realist - and yet he was neither. His landscapes, far in advance of their time, have been called forerunners of Impressionism, but they also possess traits that influenced Expressionism, and many of his late compositions are thoroughly surrealistic. Turner's art cannot be comprehended by such its essence remains a riddle to art history even today. For his work arises from a unique relation to the nature that it through his brilliant sketches, he found his way already in the 19th century to a rigorously open kind of painting in which nature sets free the use of colour. And through the workings of the natural elements - especially atmospheric light - Turner confronted nature at the point where nature itself is an image. This book provides the understandings necessary to open up Turner's paintings for the eye, demonstrating that Turner was not simply illustrating nature, but that his pictures speak directly to the eye as nature does itself - through a world of light and colour.



### Robinson Crusoe Day



Established in 1999 in the USA, Robinson Crusoe Day celebrates Daniel Defoe's literary work and its legacy in literature. *Robinson Crusoe*, published in 1719, follows the titular character after he is cast away and tracks the ensuing 28 years he spends on a remote tropical island. The story, often mistaken for an autobiography, may have been inspired by the real-life experiences of Scottish sailor Alexander Selkirk, who was stranded on an island for four years - that island is known as Robinson Crusoe Island in modern-day Chile. *Robinson Crusoe* has captivated adventure lovers for over 300 years, and people observe the day by not only reading the book, but enjoying the films it inspired such as *The Wild Life* (2016) which is an animated adaptation of the novel told from the perspective of the parrot, Poll. Defoe's novel highlighted the harsh realities of survival at sea and inspired modern lifeboat kits.

**Robinson Crusoe** by Daniel Defoe

From its first publication in 1719, *Robinson Crusoe* has been printed in over 700 editions. It has inspired almost every conceivable kind of imitation and variation, and been the subject of plays, opera, cartoons, and computer games. The character of Crusoe has entered the consciousness of each succeeding generation as readers add their own interpretation to the adventures so thrillingly 'recorded' by Defoe. Praised by eminent figures such as Coleridge, Rousseau and Wordsworth, this perennially popular book was cited by Karl Marx in *Das Kapital* to illustrate economic theory.



### On This Day in History... Edgar Allan Poe's *The Raven* is Published, 29<sup>th</sup> January 1845

*The Raven* is a narrative poem by horror writer Edgar Allan Poe. First published in January 1845, the poem is often noted for its musicality, stylized language and supernatural atmosphere. It tells of a distraught lover who is paid a visit by a mysterious raven that repeatedly speaks a single word. The poem made Poe a household name and remains one of the most famous poems ever written. Poe is so synonymous with the poem that contemporaries referred to Poe himself as 'The Raven'. You can find an excerpt from the poem below.



A first edition of *The Raven*

**The Raven** by Edgar Allan Poe

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,  
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore—  
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,  
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.  
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door—  
Only this and nothing more."  
  
Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December;  
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.  
Eagerly I wished the morrow;—vainly I had sought to borrow  
From my books surcease of sorrow—sorrow for the lost Lenore—  
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore—  
Nameless here for evermore.

"Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door—  
Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door;—  
This it is and nothing more."  
  
Presently my soul grew stronger; hesitating then no longer,  
"Sir," said I, "or Madam, truly your forgiveness I implore;  
But the fact is I was napping, and so gently you came rapping,  
And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my chamber door,  
That I scarce was sure I heard you"—here I opened wide the door;—  
Darkness there and nothing more.

Click [here](#) to continue reading.

And the silken, sad, uncertain rustling of each purple curtain  
Thrilled me—filled me with fantastic terrors never felt before;  
So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating

