



WINTER

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



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"Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind." – Henry James

NEW

Death Note: Black Edition, Volume 4 by Tsugumi Ohba

Contains Volumes 7 and 8 of Death Note. Light Yagami is an ace student with great prospects—and he's bored out of his mind. But all that changes when he finds the Death Note, a notebook dropped by a rogue Shingami death god. Any human whose name is written in the notebook dies, and now Light has vowed to use the power of the Death Note to rid the world of evil. Will Light's noble goal succeed, or will the Death Note turn him into the very thing he fights against?



The Last Whale by Hannah Gold

When Rio is sent to live with a grandmother he barely knows in California, he feels completely alone. Then he makes a new friend on the foggy beach—a girl named Marina, who teaches him about the massive grey whales that migrate nearby. As Rio grows to love the whales, he discovers that his mother loved them, too. He's suddenly sure that if he can somehow find a way to connect her with these gentle giants - and especially with a particular whale named White Beak - she will get better and come to join him in California. But White Beak is missing—and Rio must embark on a desperate journey across the dangerous ocean to find her.



DallerGut Dream Department Store #1: DallerGut Dream Department Store by Mi-Ye Lee

In a mysterious town that lies hidden in our collective subconscious, there's a quaint little store where all kinds of dreams are sold... Day and night, visitors both human and animal from all over the world shuffle in sleepily in their pyjamas, lining up to purchase their latest adventure. Each floor in the department store sells a special kind of dream, including nostalgic dreams about your childhood, trips you've taken, and delicious food you've eaten, as well as nightmares and more mysterious dreams. In DallerGut Dream Department Store we meet Penny an enthusiastic new-hire; Dallergut, the flamboyant owner of the department store; Agnap Coco, producer of special dreams; Vigo Myers, an employee in the mystery department as well as the cast of curious, funny and strange clientele that regularly visit the store. When one of the most coveted and expensive dreams gets stolen during Penny's first week, we follow along with her as she tries to uncover the workings of this wonderfully whimsical world.



DallerGut Dream Department Store #2: Return to the DallerGut Dream Department Store by Mi-Ye Lee

It has been a year since Penny first walked through the doors of DallerGut Dream Department Store, and surviving a year at the store means one thing... She is now an official employee of the dream industry! She can finally take the express commuter train to the Company District, where all the dream production companies are located and discover how all raw dream materials and testing equipment are produced. But the Company District is not quite what she expected, it hides the darker underbelly of the magical industry that Penny thought she was a part of. Penny discovers the Civil Complaint Center, full of people filing complaints about their dreams. She also learns about the regular customers who have stopped coming to the store. As she gets to the bottom of each complaint, she begins to expand her horizons, transforming from just selling dreams to understanding what lies in the hearts of their lost regulars.

I Hope This Doesn't Find You by Ann Liang

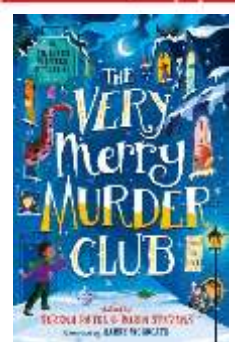
Seventeen-year-old Sadie Wen is perfect on paper. It's a reputation she's fought hard to earn at the highly prestigious Woodvale Academy, and one she's determined to maintain until graduation. The trick to keeping her model-student smile plastered on her face at all times? She channels all her petty frustrations into her email drafts. One for the math teacher who refused to round her eighty-nine-point-nine percent up to ninety; one for the girl who blatantly copied her science project and took the credit for it. But most of her vehemently-worded emails are for her smug, infuriating co-captain, Julius Gong, who's been the sharpest thorn in her side ever since they were kids. Sadie never meant for these emails to get out... but now her whole life is about to change...



Countdown to Christmas

The Very Merry Murder Club edited by Serrena Patel and Robin Stevens

A collection of wintery crime and mystery stories by thirteen of the most exciting and diverse authors in children's books today! Sleuthing through the snow, on a merry mysterious day, in disguise we go, investigating all the way. This gorgeous wintery collection brings together thirteen bestselling, award-winning and exciting debut authors: Abiola Bella, Annabelle Sami, Benjamin Dean, E.L. Narry, Elle McNicoll, Dominique Valente, Joanna Williams, Maisie Chan, Nizrana Farook, Patrice Lawrence, Roopa Farooki, Serrena Patel and Sharna Jackson. With stunning illustrations by Harry Woodgate. Join them as part of the Very Merry Murder Club as they lead you on a snow-covered wintery journey of festive foul play and murderously magnificent mysteries!



Tragedy of Macbeth Turns into Comedy at the Office

Actors Mae Munuo and Jack Harrold are reimagining Shakespeare's tragedy Macbeth as a workplace comedy, aiming to make it funny and accessible to all audiences. They are developing the play at Dance East in Ipswich, with a focus on incorporating sounds for visually impaired viewers. The new version sets Macbeth in an office, using comedy to engage the audience and to create a unique interpretation of the classic tale. Despite the challenge of turning a dark tragedy into a comedy, the actors believe in the power of laughter to connect with audiences emotionally.



The project has received funding and is expected to tour the East region soon. Click [here](#) to view collider.com's ranked list of the best Macbeth film adaptations of all time.

Manga Classics: Macbeth by Crystal S. Chan

Welcome to the Manga Classics brilliant adaptation of Macbeth! In this classic tale by William Shakespeare, a brave Scottish general named Macbeth receives a prophecy from a trio of witches that one day he will become King of Scotland. Consumed by ambition and spurred to action by his wife, Macbeth murders King Duncan and takes the Scottish throne for himself. He is then wracked with guilt and paranoia.



Macbeth by William Shakespeare

What he hears will change everything. Egged on by his wife, he decides to kill in order to gain the Scottish crown. How many people will have to die in Macbeth's pursuit to power? With armies, ghosts, and magic against him, will Macbeth survive in this tale of green and betrayal? Getting the crown is one thing - keeping it is quite another.



On This Day in History... The Birth of Emily Dickinson, 10th December 1830

Emily Dickinson, born 1830, was a ground-breaking poet who challenged traditional rules of poetry. Her work was published posthumously from 1890 and has since reaped global acclaim. Dickinson grew up in a prominent family in Massachusetts, excelling in music and education. She had a deep fascination with death, which influenced her poetry. Her early writing consisted mostly of letters, examples of which have been preserved. Dickinson's closest friendships were literary in nature, and she drew inspiration from poets like Elizabeth Barrett Browning. From the age of 23, Dickinson began to withdraw from society, and by the age of 30 she was a relative recluse, spending most of her time indoors. She began compiling her poems into manuscript-books in 1850, indicating that she wished them to be published after her death. Emily Dickinson passed away in 1886. She is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest poets of all time.



The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson by Emily Dickinson

This is the second volume of a new series of publication by Delphi Classics, the best-selling publisher of classical works. Many poetry collections are often poorly formatted and difficult to read on eReaders. The Delphi Poets Series offers readers the works of literature's finest poets, with superior formatting. This volume presents the complete poetical works of Emily Dickinson, with beautiful illustrations and the usual Delphi bonus material.



Emily Dickinson: Selected Poems by Emily Dickinson

Each book in this established series contains the full and complete text and is designed to motivate and encourage students who may be writing on these challenging writers for the first time. It contains useful notes to add depth and knowledge to students' understanding, comments to explain literary and historical allusions, tasks to help students explore themes and issues, and suggestions for further reading.



The Selected Poems of Emily Dickinson by Emily Dickinson

Initially a vivacious, outgoing person, Emily Dickinson (1830-1886) progressively withdrew into a reclusive existence. An undiscovered genius during her lifetime, only seven out of her total of 1,775 poems were published prior to her death. She had an immense breadth of vision and a passionate intensity and awe for life, love, nature, time and eternity.

Wizard of Oz's Ruby Slippers Auctioned at \$28 million

A pair of ruby slippers worn by Judy Garland in *The Wizard of Oz* (1939), and stolen nearly two decades ago, have recently sold for \$28 million (£22m) at auction. The shoes, one of four surviving pairs from the original film, were stolen in 2005 by professional thief Terry Jon Martin who believed them to be adorned with genuine gemstones. Martin stole the shoes from the house of Judy Garland who had them on loan from memorabilia collector Michael Shaw. When Martin discovered that the shoes were in fact just glass, he gave them to an anonymous third party. They were recovered by the FBI in 2018 and Terry Jon Martin was caught and sentenced to time in prison in 2023. The FBI subsequently returned the slippers to owner Michael Shaw.



As well as the infamous ruby slippers, the recent auction featured other iconic pieces from *The Wizard of Oz* such as a hat worn by Wicked Witch of the West actor Margaret Hamilton which sold for \$2.4 million (£1.8m). The slippers, considered the 'Holy Grail of Hollywood memorabilia', are now the most valuable movie memorabilia ever sold at auction.

Click [here](#) to read the original BBC article by Robin Levinson King

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by Frank L. Baum

An iconic classic, *The Wizard of Oz* by Frank L. Baum is a must-read for adults and children alike. Follow the yellow brick road! Dorothy thinks she is lost forever when a terrifying tornado crashes through Kansas and whisks her and her dog, Toto, far away to the magical land of Oz. To get home Dorothy must follow the yellow brick road to Emerald City and find the wonderfully mysterious Wizard of Oz. Together with her companions the Tin Woodman, the Scarecrow and the Cowardly Lion whom she meets on the way, Dorothy embarks on a strange and enchanting adventure.



Dorothy Must Die #1: Dorothy Must Die by D.M. Paige

I didn't ask to be some kind of hero. But when your whole life gets swept up by a tornado—taking you with it—you have no choice but to go along, you know? Sure, I've read the books. I've seen the movies. I know the song about the rainbow and the happy little bluebirds. But I never expected Oz to look like this. To be a place where Good Witches can't be trusted, Wicked Witches may just be the good guys, and winged monkeys can be executed for rebelling. There's still a yellow brick road—but even that's crumbling. What happened? Dorothy. They say she found a way to come back to Oz. They say she seized power and the power went to her head. And now no one is safe. My name is Amy Gumm—and I'm the other girl from Kansas.



Dorothy Must Die #2: The Wicked Will Rise by D.M. Paige

My name is Amy Gumm—and I'm the other girl from Kansas. After a tornado swept through my trailer park, I ended up in Oz. But it wasn't like the Oz I knew from books and movies. Dorothy had returned, but she was now a ruthless dictator. Glinda could no longer be called the Good Witch. And the Wicked Witches who were left? They'd joined forces as the Revolutionary Order of the Wicked, and they wanted to recruit me. My mission? Kill Dorothy. Except my job as an assassin didn't work out as planned.

Dorothy Must Die #3: Yellow Brick War by D.M. Paige

Amy Gumm is caught between her home—and Oz. My name is Amy Gumm. Tornadoes must have a thing about girls from Kansas, because—just like Dorothy—I got swept away on one too. I landed in Oz, where Good is Wicked, Wicked is Good, and the Wicked Witches clued me in to my true Assassin. The only way to stop Dorothy from destroying Oz—and Kansas—is to kill her. But I failed. Others died for my mistakes. Because of me, the portal between the worlds has been opened. And if I don't find a way to close it? Dorothy will make sure I never go home again. Now it's up to me to join the Witches, fight for Oz, save Kansas, and stop Dorothy once and for all.



Dorothy Must Die #4: The End of Oz by D.M. Paige

My name is Amy Gumm. You might remember me as the other girl from Kansas. When a tornado swept me away to the magical land of Oz, I was given a mission: Dorothy must die. That's right, everyone's favorite Wicked-Witch-slayer had let the magic of Oz corrupt her. She turned evil. So I killed her. But just when we thought it was safe to start rebuilding the damaged land of Oz, we were betrayed. Now I'm following the Road of Yellow Brick as it helps me escape toward the mysterious land of Ev, where the Nome King rules a bleak and angry world. And what I'm about to find is shocking: My original mission may not have been successful.

On This Day in History... The Death of Anne Rice, 11th December 2021



Anne Rice, the renowned author of *Interview with the Vampire*, passed away on the 11th of December 2021 due to complications from a stroke. Rice wrote over 30 books over her lifetime, with her debut novel *Interview with the Vampire* (1976) being her most famous work. The novel introduced the world to vampires Louis and Lestat and spawned a successful series of 13 books called *The Vampire Chronicles*. Rice was praised by critics for her gothic writing style and her ability to humanise monsters, following in the tradition of Mary Shelley. Her son Christopher, who is also a writer, has lauded his mother for defying genre boundaries and inspiring him to pursue his passion. Rice credited her father with inspiring her love for writing by creating stories for her and her sister when they were young. As well as writing, Rice had a reputation as a bit of an eccentric, in part due to her extensive doll collection—she owned around 1,000 antique and rare dolls, some of which were over 5 feet tall. Click [here](#) to learn more about Anne Rice.

Interview with the Vampire by Anne Rice (Recommended for older readers)

This is the story of Louis, as told in his own words, of his journey through mortal and immortal life. Louis recounts how he became a vampire at the hands of the radiant and sinister Lestat and how he became indoctrinated, unwillingly, into the vampire way of life. His story ebbs and flows through the streets of New Orleans, defining crucial moments such as his discovery of the exquisite lost young child Claudia, wanting not to hurt but to comfort her with the last breaths of humanity he has inside. Yet, he makes Claudia a vampire, trapping her womanly passion, will, and intelligence inside the body of a small child. Louis and Claudia form a seemingly unbreakable alliance and even "settle down" for a while in the opulent French Quarter. Louis remembers Claudia's struggle to understand herself and the hatred they both have for Lestat that sends them halfway across the world to seek others of their kind. Louis and Claudia are desperate to find somewhere they belong, to find others who understand, and someone who knows what and why they are.



America's Dewey Decimal Day

The USA's Dewey Decimal System Day on December 10th celebrates the controversial figure Melvil Dewey, who invented the Dewey Decimal System for library classification. Established in 1876, the system is a 'proprietary library classification system which allows new books to be added to a library in their appropriate location based on subject'. The subject groups range from 001 (computer science) all the way up to 999 (extra-terrestrial worlds). Categories are further broken down by decimals after the initial 3-digit number, making it easier to find exactly what you're looking for once you know the exact Dewey Decimal number. With over 1 billion people visiting public libraries yearly, it is vital to have an easy-to-read system. Dewey's system revolutionised library science, and he also contributed to library standards and education, founded the American Library Association, and established the first library school at Columbia College. It is important to note that despite his contributions to libraries, Dewey is recorded to have been misogynistic, racist, and anti-Semitic. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Dewey The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World by Vicki Myron

On the coldest morning of the year, Vicki Myron found a tiny, bedraggled kitten almost frozen to death in the night drop box of the library where she worked, and her life -- and the town of Spencer, Iowa -- would never be the same. Vicki was a single mother who had survived the loss of her family farm and an alcoholic, abusive husband. But her biggest challenge as the new head librarian in Spencer was to raise the spirits of a small, out-of-the-way town mired deep in the farm crisis of the 1980s. Dewey, as the townspeople named the kitten, quickly grew into a strutting, adorable library cat whose antics kept patrons in stitches, and whose sixth sense about those in need created hundreds of deep and loving friendships. As his fame grew, people drove hundreds of miles to meet Dewey, and people all over the world fell in love with him. Through it all, Dewey remained a loyal companion, a beacon of hope not just for Vicki, but for the entire town of Spencer as it slowly, steadily pulled itself up from the worst financial crisis in its long history. Dewey won hearts and proved to everyone he encountered that unconditional love comes in many forms.

