



## AUTUMN

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



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### Meet Miss Henry!



Hello! I am Miss Henry and excited to be one of your new librarians! Fun facts about myself: I have never broken a bone in my body, I have never taken the underground by myself, and my favourite genre is horror! One of my top horror fanatics would have to be Stephen King and his book *The Shining* (but *Doctor Sleep* is even better...). William Blatty's *The Exorcist* has to be second best with the manga *Death Note* coming in third place. Apart from reading, I am a HUGE anime nerd. *One Piece's* Katakuri and JJK's Geto can never do wrong in my eyes! This is not my first time working in a library setting; I know my way around the books, so please feel free to ask me if you feel unsure about the library resources or just want someone to nerd out with!

#### *The Shining* by Stephen King (Recommended for Older Readers)

Jack Torrance's new job at the Overlook Hotel is the perfect chance for a fresh start. As the off-season caretaker at the atmospheric old hotel, he'll have plenty of time to spend reconnecting with his family and working on his writing. But as the harsh winter weather sets in, the idyllic location feels ever more remote...and more sinister. And the only one to notice the strange and terrible forces gathering around the Overlook is Danny Torrance, a uniquely gifted five-year-old.



#### *The Exorcist* by William Peter Blatty (Recommended for Older Readers)

Georgetown, Washington D.C. Actress and divorced mother Chris MacNeil starts to experience 'difficulties' with her usually sweet-natured eleven-year-old daughter Regan. The child becomes afflicted by spasms, convulsions and unsettling amnesia episodes; these abruptly worsen into violent fits of appalling foul-mouthed curses, accompanied by physical mutation. Medical science is baffled by Regan's plight and, in her increasing despair, Chris turns to troubled priest and psychiatrist Damien Karras, who immediately recognises something profoundly malevolent in Regan's distorted features and speech. On Karras's recommendation, the Church summons Father Merrin, a specialist in the exorcism of demons...



#### *One Piece Omnibus Volume 1* by Eiichiro Oda

Get Ready to Set Sail! As a child, Monkey D. Luffy dreamed of becoming King of the Pirates. But his life changed when he accidentally ate the Gum-Gum Fruit, an enchanted Devil Fruit that gave him the ability to stretch like rubber. Its only drawback? He'll never be able to swim again—a serious handicap for an aspiring sea dog! Years later, Luffy sets off on his quest to find the "One Piece," said to be the greatest treasure in the world...



### Sir David Attenborough Speaks on the Importance of Broadcasting Natural History Programmes



Natural historian, biologist, and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough has been the frontman of wildlife programmes for seventy years, with a career that began in 1954. This year, the BBC spoke exclusively to Sir David to celebrate 90 years of the BBC broadcasting from Bristol. Sir David said of the importance of broadcasting natural history programmes: "People are aware of the problems of conservation in a way which could not exist without broadcasting...The perilous state that the natural world is in at the moment, these things are apparent to people all around the world." He believes ultimately that "the world would be in a far, far worse situation now had there been no broadcasting of natural history." Sir David Attenborough's next natural history programme, a seven-part series called *Asia*, will premiere later in 2024. Read the original BBC article by Jonathan Holmes [here](https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-68111111).

*A Life on Our Planet: My Witness Statement and a Vision for the Future* by David Attenborough  
See the world. Then make it better. 'I am 94. I've had an extraordinary life. It's only now that I appreciate how extraordinary. As a young man, I felt I was out there in the wild, experiencing the untouched natural world - but it was an illusion. The tragedy of our time has been happening all around us, barely noticeable from day to day - the loss of our planet's wild places, its biodiversity. I have been witness to this decline. *A Life on Our Planet* is my witness statement, and my vision for the future. It is the story of how we came to make this, our greatest mistake - and how, if we act now, we can yet put it right. We have one final chance to create the perfect home for ourselves and restore the wonderful world we inherited. All we need is the will to do so.'

*The Private Life of Plants: A Natural History of Plant Behaviour* by David Attenborough  
Based on the immensely popular six-part BBC program that will air in the United States during the fall of 1995, this book offers what writer/filmmaker David Attenborough is best known for delivering: an intimate view of the natural world wherein a multitude of miniature dramas unfold. In the program and book, both titled *The Private Life of Plants*, Attenborough treks through rainforests, mountain ranges, deserts, beaches, and home gardens to show us things we might never have suspected about the vegetation that surrounds us.

*Life on Earth* by David Attenborough  
In this unique book, David Attenborough has undertaken nothing less than a history of nature, from the emergence of tiny one-celled organisms in the primeval slime more than 3,000 million years ago to apelike but upright man, equally well adapted to life in the rain forest of New Guinea and the glass canyons of a modern metropolis. Told through an examination of animal and plant life today - with occasional juxtapositions of extinct fossil forms to reveal the origin of living creatures - "Life on Earth" is an astonishing pageant of life, with a cast of characters drawn from the whole range of living animals the world over. "Life on Earth" is a book of wonders. A model of clarity and ease as a guide, Attenborough takes the reader around the world with him into jungles where orchids have petals that "impersonate" wasps to attract pollinating insects; to Australia, where honeyeater ants force feed nectar to workers of a special caste, then hang them up by their forelegs like living storage jars; to remote mountains in Japan where little monkeys called macaques have learned to combat the winter snows by bathing in hot volcanic springs.

## "Our true nationality is mankind." – H.G. Wells



**The Cat Who Saved Books** by Sōsuke Natsukawa  
Grandpa used to say it all the time: 'books have tremendous power'. But what is that power really? Natsuki Books was a tiny second-hand bookshop on the edge of town. Inside, towering shelves reached the ceiling, every one crammed full of wonderful books. Rintaro Natsuki loved this space that his grandfather had created. He spent many happy hours there, reading whatever he liked. It was the perfect refuge for a boy who tended to be something of a recluse. After the death of his grandfather, Rintaro is devastated and alone. It seems he will have to close the shop. Then, a talking tabby cat called Tiger appears and asks Rintaro for help. The cat needs a book lover to join him on a mission. This odd couple will go on three magical adventures to save books from people who have imprisoned, mistreated and betrayed them. Finally, there is one last rescue that Rintaro must attempt alone...



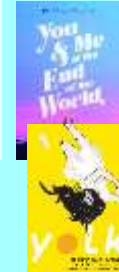
**The Midnight Game** by Cynthia Murphy  
Rules of *The Midnight Game*: Do not turn on the lights. Do not go to sleep. Do not leave the building. When a group who have met on a creepy Deddit thread decide to meet in real life, they only have one plan in mind: they are going to summon the Midnight Man. And once you start the Midnight Game, you must finish it - there's no other way out!



**Atalanta** by Jennifer Saint  
Princess, Warrior, Lover, Hero. When Princess Atalanta is born, a daughter rather than the son her parents hoped for, she is left on a mountainside to die. But even then, she is a survivor. Raised by a mother bear under the protective eye of the goddess Artemis, Atalanta grows up wild and free, with just one condition: if she marries, Artemis warns, it will be her undoing. Although she loves her beautiful forest home, Atalanta yearns for adventure. When Artemis offers her the chance to fight in her name alongside the Argonauts, the fiercest band of warriors the world has ever seen, Atalanta seizes it. The Argonauts' quest for the Golden Fleece is filled with impossible challenges, but Atalanta proves herself equal to the men she fights alongside. As she is swept into a passionate affair, in defiance of Artemis's warning, she begins to question the goddess's true intentions. Can Atalanta carve out her own legendary place in a world of men, while staying true to her heart? Full of joy, passion, and adventure, *Atalanta* is the story of a woman who refuses to be contained.



**You and Me at the End of the World** by Brianna Bourne  
Hannah Ashton wakes up to silence. The entire city around her is empty, except for one other person: Leo Sterling. Leo might be hottest boy ever (and not just because he's the only one left), but he's also too charming, too selfish, and too devastating for his own good, let alone Hannah's. Stuck with only each other, they explore a world with no parents, no friends, and no school and realize that they can be themselves instead of playing the parts everyone expects of them. Hannah doesn't have to be just an overachieving, music-box-perfect ballerina, and Leo can be more than a slacker, 80s-glam-metal-obsessed guitarist. Leo is a burst of honesty and fun that draws Hannah out, and Hannah's got Leo thinking about someone other than himself for the first time. Together, they search for answers amid crushing isolation, but while their empty world may appear harmless...it's not. Because nothing is quite as it seems, and if Hannah and Leo don't figure out what's going on, they might just be torn apart forever.



**Yolk** by Mary HK Choi  
Jayne Baek is barely getting by. She shuffles through fashion school, saddled with a deadbeat boyfriend, clout-chasing friends, and a wrecked eating disorder that she's not fully ready to confront. But that's New York City, right? At least she isn't in Texas anymore, and is finally living in a city that feels right for her. On the other hand, her sister June is dazzlingly rich with a high-flying finance job and a massive apartment. Unlike Jayne, June has never struggled a day in her life. Until she's diagnosed with uterine cancer. Suddenly, these estranged sisters who have nothing in common are living together. Because sisterly obligations are kind of important when one of you is dying.

**Raceless** by Georgina Lawton  
In Georgina Lawton's childhood home, her Blackness was never acknowledged; the obvious fact of her brown skin, ignored by her white parents. Over time, secrets and a complex family story became accepted as truth and Georgina found herself complicit in the erasure of her racial identity. It was only when her beloved father died that the truth began to emerge. Fleeing the shattered pieces of her family life and the comfortable, suburban home she grew up in, at age 22 Georgina went in search of answers - embarking on a journey that took her around the world, to the DNA testing industry, and to countless others, whose identities have been questioned, denied or erased. What do you do when your heritage or parentage has been obscured in a complex web of deceit? How can you discuss race with your family, when you each see the world differently? When a personal identity has been wrongly constructed, how do you start again? *Raceless* is both the compelling personal account of a young woman seeking her own story amid devastating family secrets, and a fascinating, challenging and essential examination of modern racial identity.

### On This Day in History... The Birth of H.G. Wells, 21st September 1866



H.G. (Herbert George) Wells was a prolific writer in many genres but is best-known for his science fiction novels, particularly *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, for which he was dubbed 'the father of science fiction.' Wells penned more than 50 novels, dozens of short stories, and various works of non-fiction over his career. In addition to his fame as a writer, he was a prominent social critic and futurist (one who explores predictions and possibilities about the future and how they can emerge from the present). In retrospect, Wells is sometimes described as prophetic as he appears to have foreseen the invention of aircraft, tanks, space travel, nuclear weapons, satellite television, and something resembling the internet. Wells' works of fiction were particularly effective due to his use of commonplace detail alongside the extraordinary, causing fellow author Joseph Conrad to call him "O Realist of the Fantastic!" His popularity and respectability as an author continue to this day, with science fiction historian John Clute describing him as "the most important writer the genre has yet seen". Wells was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1921, 1932, 1935, and 1936, and has craters on the Moon and on Mars named after him. He passed away in 1946 at the age of 79 and his ashes were scattered into the English Channel.



**The Invisible Man** by H.G. Wells  
Griffin, a stranger, arrives at the local Inn of an English village, entirely shrouded in bandages. Forbidding and unfriendly, he confines himself to his room. Driven away by the villagers and turning to an old friend for help, Griffin reveals that he has discovered how to make himself invisible and plans to use his condition for treacherous ends. But when his friend refuses to join his quest, Griffin turns murderous, threatening to seek revenge on all who have betrayed him.

**The War of the Worlds** by H.G. Wells  
When an army of invading Martians lands in England, panic and terror seize the population. As the aliens traverse the country in huge three-legged machines, incinerating all in their path with a heat ray and spreading noxious toxic gases, the people of the Earth must come to terms with the prospect of the end of human civilization and the beginning of Martian rule. Inspiring films, radio dramas, comic-book adaptations, television series and sequels, *The War of the Worlds* is a prototypical work of science fiction which has influenced every alien story that has come since, and is unsurpassed in its ability to thrill, well over a century since it was first published.



**The Island of Doctor Moreau** by H.G. Wells  
The text of the novel is the narration of Edward Prendick, a shipwrecked man rescued by a passing boat who is left on the island home of Doctor Moreau, a mad scientist who creates human-like hybrid beings from animals via vivisection. The novel deals with a number of philosophical themes, including pain and cruelty, moral responsibility, human identity, and human interference with nature.

### Hobbit Day

Hobbit Day is celebrated on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September each year, as this is the birthday of J. R. R. Tolkien characters Frodo and Bilbo Baggins. According to Tolkien's lore, Bilbo was born in the year 2890, and his 'nephew' (second cousin) Frodo was born in the year 2968 of the Third Age. The day was first proclaimed Hobbit Day by The American Tolkien Society in 1978 (they also dubbed the week containing Hobbit Day, Tolkien Week). There is some discrepancy between die-hard fans about when the day should be properly celebrated, as there are differences between our Gregorian calendar and the fictional Shire calendar - meaning that Bilbo and Frodo's birthday would fall between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of September if fans were to go by the Gregorian calendar. Hobbit Day is an excuse for fans to emulate Bilbo's birthday party in *The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien, which consisted of a large party with food, fireworks, dancing, and merriment. Some fans will also go barefoot in honour of the hobbits, who famously don't wear shoes.



**The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien  
Bilbo Baggins enjoys a quiet and contented life, with no desire to travel far from the comforts of home; then one day the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves arrive unexpectedly and enlist his services - as a burglar - on a dangerous expedition to raid the treasure-hoard of Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's life is never to be the same again.

**The Lord of the Rings #1: The Fellowship of the Ring** by J.R.R. Tolkien  
In ancient times the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elven-smiths, and Sauron, the Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, it remained lost to him. After many ages it fell into the hands of Bilbo Baggins, as told in *The Hobbit*. In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as his elderly cousin Bilbo entrusts the Ring to his care. Frodo must leave his home and make a perilous journey across Middle-earth to the Cracks of Doom, there to destroy the Ring and foil the Dark Lord in his evil purpose.

**The Silmarillion** by J.R.R. Tolkien  
The *Silmarillion* is an account of the Elder Days, of the First Age of Tolkien's world. It is the ancient drama to which the characters in *The Lord of the Rings* look back, and in whose events some of them such as Elrond and Galadriel took part. The tales of *The Silmarillion* are set in an age when Morgoth, the first Dark Lord, dwelt in Middle-earth, and the High Elves made war upon him for the recovery of the *Silmarils*, the jewels containing the pure light of Valinor.

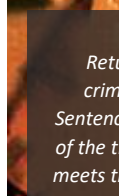
### Batman Day

Batman Day is an annual event organised by DC Entertainment to celebrate and promote comic book superhero Batman. The day is held on the third or fourth Saturday in September, this year falling on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup>. Batman Day was first held in 2014, as this was the year of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the character's first appearance in *Detective Comics*. The date was chosen to coincide with that year's San Diego Comic-Con.

Batman is the alias of fictional billionaire playboy Bruce Wayne who resides in the equally fictional Gotham City. A young Bruce Wayne became a superhero when he swore vengeance against all criminals after witnessing the murder of his parents - his only rule being that he would not kill. Batman was created by artist Bob Kane and writer Bill Finger, first debuting in *Detective Comics* #27 in 1939. The idea of Batman was originally conceived by Bob Kane, inspired by the popularity of Superman who had appeared in *Action Comics* the year before. Bill Finger then developed the concept, drawing inspiration from characters such as Sherlock Holmes and The Shadow. Kane and Finger originally introduced Batman as a ruthless vigilante who frequently killed or maimed criminals, but he evolved into a just, disciplined superhero with a stringent moral code that prohibited killing during the 1940s. Unusually for a superhero, Batman does not possess any superpowers, instead relying on his intellect, fighting skills, and wealth. Batman is one of the most iconic characters in popular culture and has been listed among the greatest comic book superheroes and characters ever created.

#### *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns* by Frank Miller, Klaus Janson, and Lynn Varley (Recommended for Older Readers)

Crime runs rampant in the streets, and the man who was Batman is still tortured by the memories of his parents' murders. As civil society crumbles around him, Bruce Wayne's long-suppressed vigilante side finally breaks free of its self-imposed shackles. The Dark Knight returns in a blaze of fury, taking on a whole new generation of criminals and matching their level of violence. He is soon joined by this generation's Robin—a girl named Carrie Kelley, who proves to be just as invaluable as her predecessors. But can Batman and Robin deal with the threat posed by their deadliest enemies, after years of incarceration have made them into prepped psychopaths? And more important, can anyone survive the coming fallout of an undeclared war between the superpowers—or a clash of what were once the world's greatest superheroes?



**Batman: Nightwalker** by Marie Lu  
Returning home from his lavish eighteenth birthday party, Bruce Wayne stops a criminal's getaway - disobeying the police and crashing his car during the chase. Sentenced to community service in Gotham City's Arkham Asylum, he encounters some of the city's most dangerous and mentally disturbed criminals. Among these, Bruce meets the intriguing Madeleine who has ties to the Nightwalker gang that is terrorizing Gotham City. She's a mystery Bruce has to unravel but can he trust her? The Nightwalkers target the rich, and Bruce's name is next on their list.



#### *Deceased* by Tom Taylor (Recommended for Older Readers)

The end is here! Six hundred million people. That's how many fall victim when a mysterious techno-organic virus is unleashed on Earth. Six hundred million infected. Six hundred million turned into mindless, rampaging killers bent on death and destruction. And that's just the beginning. Cities. Nations. Undersea kingdoms and paradise islands. One by one, they fall to the monstrous hordes. Now only Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, and the rest of the Justice League stand between Earth and utter annihilation... But for how long? Nothing they've ever faced has prepared them for an onslaught of this magnitude. Nothing they've ever seen can match the scale of the tragedy and terror that have been unleashed. As heroes and villains, gods and monsters are wiped out, only one question remains: What happens to the World's Greatest Heroes if the world ends?

#### *Batman: The Black Mirror* by Scott Snyder and Jock (Recommended for Older Readers)

For years, Batman and Commissioner Gordon have stared into the unyielding black abyss that is Gotham City. Time after time, they've saved their beloved city from itself, not allowing it to be swallowed by a pit of violence and corruption. But even after a crime-fighting lifetime of confronting what they thought was the worst humanity had to offer, an even darker and more dangerous evil pushes Batman and Gordon to their limits. As the conflict comes closer to its resolution, they find that the truth behind this murderous crime spree isn't just careening toward their doorstep—it has in fact emerged from it. Can two of Gotham's proudest protectors bring justice to this malevolent threat in Commissioner Gordon's most personal battle to date?

#### *Batman: The Killing Joke* by Alan Moore and Brian Bolland (Recommended for Older Readers)

One bad day. According to the grinding engine of madness and mayhem known as the Joker, that's all that separates the sane from the psychotic. Freed once again from the confines of Arkham Asylum, he's out to prove his deranged point. And he's going to use Gotham City's top cop, Commissioner Jim Gordon, and his brilliant and beautiful daughter Barbara to do it. Now Batman must race to stop his archnemesis before his reign of terror claims two of the Dark Knight's closest friends. Can he finally put an end to the cycle of bloodlust and lunacy that links these two iconic foes before it leads to its fatal conclusion? And as the horrifying origin of the Clown Prince of Crime is finally revealed, will the thin line that separates Batman's nobility and the Joker's insanity snap once and for all?

