



County Executive Matthew Meyer

Contact Us

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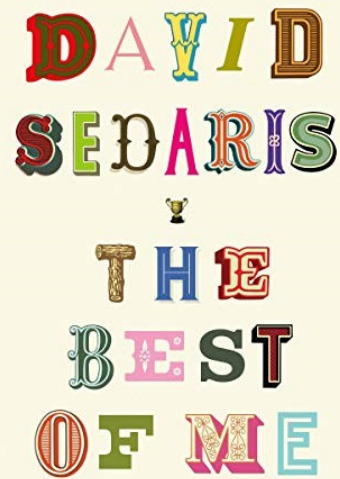
Humor

A Special Edition of the Readers' Advisory Committee Staff Picks

New Castle County Libraries Readers' Advisory Newsletter Winter 2021

The Best of Me by David Sedaris

Collected in one volume, the author brings us his funniest and most memorable work. In these stories, Sedaris shops for rare taxidermy, hitchhikes with a female quadriplegic, and spits a lozenge into a fellow traveler's lap. He drowns a mouse in a bucket, struggles to say "give it to me" in five languages, and hand-feeds a carnivorous bird. But if all you expect to find in Sedaris's work is the deft and sharply observed comedy for which he became renowned, you may be surprised to discover that his words bring more warmth than mockery, more fellow-feeling than derision. Taken together, these stories reveal the wonder and delight Sedaris takes in the surprises life brings him. Full of joy, generosity, and the



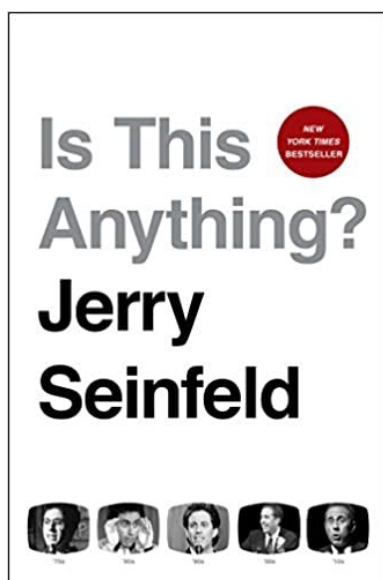
incisive humor that has led David Sedaris to be called the funniest man alive, this collection spans a career spent watching and learning and laughing.

[Overdrive/Curbside](#)

Where Can I Find These Books?

Your New Castle County Library has the books suggested in this issue in e-book or e-audio format available through Overdrive or Hoopla. Or utilize curbside pick-up at your branch for the book or audio. If viewing electronically, click on the book cover image to link to the library catalog.

Visit the library website to access your preferred formats: <https://lib.de.us/>



Is This Anything? by Jerry Seinfeld

The first book in twenty-five years from Jerry Seinfeld features his best work across five decades in comedy.

Since his first performance at a legendary New York nightclub as a twenty-one-year-old college student in 1975, Jerry Seinfeld has written his own material and saved everything. "Whenever I came up with a funny bit, whether it happened on a stage, in a conversation, or working it out on my preferred canvas, the big yellow legal pad, I kept it in one of those old school

accordion folders," Seinfeld writes. "So I have everything I thought was worth saving from forty-five years of hacking away at this for all I was worth." For this book, Jerry Seinfeld has selected his favorite material, organized decade by decade. In page after hilarious page, one brilliantly crafted observation after another, readers will witness the evolution of one of the great comedians of our time and gain new insights into the thrilling but unforgiving art of writing stand-up comedy.

Overdrive/Curbside

Where'd You Go, Bernadette by Maria Semple

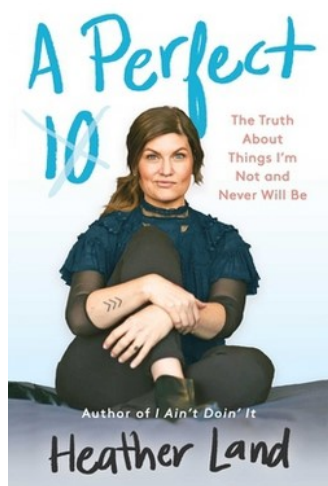
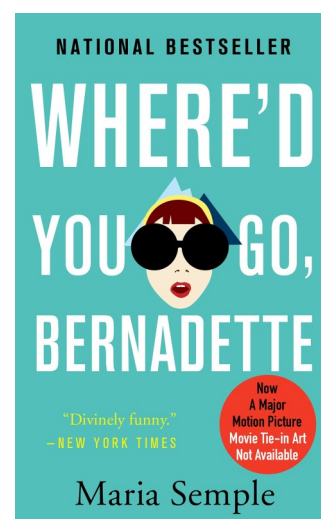
Bernadette Fox is notorious. To her Microsoft-guru husband, she's a fearlessly opinionated partner; to fellow private-school mothers in Seattle, she's a disgrace; to design mavens, she's a revolutionary architect; and to 15-year-old Bee, she is her best friend and, simply, Mom.

Then Bernadette vanishes. It all began when Bee aced her report card and claimed her promised reward: a family trip to Antarctica. But Bernadette's intensifying allergy to Seattle -- and people in general -- has made her so agoraphobic that a virtual assistant in India now runs her most basic errands. A trip to the end of the earth is

problematic.

To find her mother, Bee compiles email messages, official documents, and secret correspondence -- creating a compulsively readable and surprisingly touching novel about misplaced genius and a mother and daughter's role in an absurd world.

Overdrive/Curbside



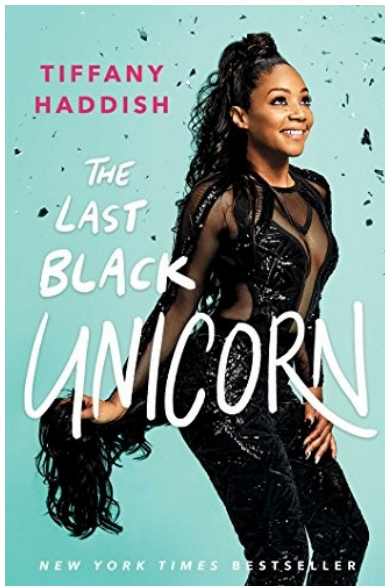
A Perfect 10 by Heather Land

Popular comedian Heather Land returns with a collection of laugh-out-loud, hilarious, and unfiltered essays that explore the funny and inspirational moments in everyday life. A popular social media comedian, Land's reach includes more than 107 million engaged fans and

followers who fill theaters at her stand-up events around the country. With her trademark Southern charm and sassy yet totally relatable tone, Heather shines a light on those ridiculous moments in our lives that also have the ability to teach us about ourselves. Whether she's joking about her crafting habit, revealing

the hard truths of divorce, ranting about the challenges of being a single parent of teenagers, or getting real at the class reunion, Heather's message is that the more authentic we are, the more we connect with others. Heather hilariously encourages you to lighten up and focus on what is really important in life.

Curbside



The Last Black Unicorn by Tiffany Haddish Overdrive/Curbside

From stand-up comedian and actress Tiffany Haddish comes *The Last Black Unicorn*, a hilarious, edgy, and heart-wrenching collection of autobiographical essays that will leave you laughing through tears. Tiffany Haddish grew up in one of the poorest parts of South Central Los Angeles. Tiffany never fit in anywhere: not in the households she rotated through in the foster care system and certainly not at the nearly all white high school she had to ride the bus an hour to attend. As an illiterate ninth grader, Tiffany did everything she could to survive. After

a multitude of jobs, she finally realized that she had talent in an area she never would have suspected: comedy. She's humble, grateful, down to earth, and funny as hell. Tiffany can't avoid being funny: It's just who she is. But *The Last Black Unicorn* is so much more than a side-splittingly hilarious collection of essays - it's a memoir of the struggles of one woman who came from nothing and nowhere. A woman who was able to achieve her dreams by reveling in her pain and awkwardness, showing the world who she really is, and inspiring others through the power of laughter.

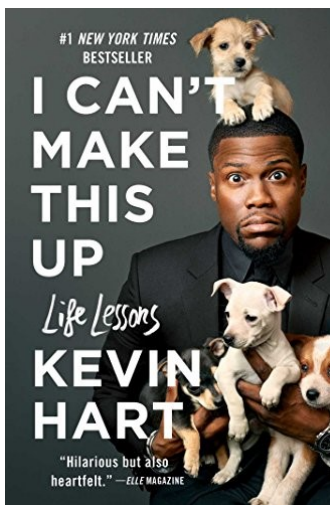
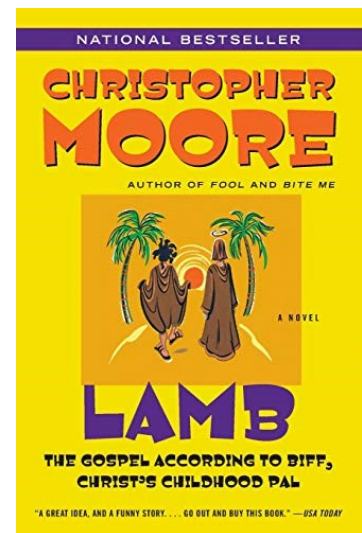
Lamb by Christopher Moore

Everyone knows about the immaculate conception and the crucifixion. But what happened to Jesus between the manger and the Sermon on the Mount? In this hilarious and bold novel, the acclaimed Christopher Moore shares the greatest story never told: the life of Christ as

seen by his boyhood pal, Biff. Just what was Jesus doing during the many years that have gone unrecorded in the Bible? Biff was there at his side, and now after two thousand years, he shares those good, bad, ugly, and miraculous times. Screamingly funny,

audaciously fresh, *Lamb* rivals the best of Tom Robbins and Carl Hiaasen, and is sure to please this gifted writer's fans and win him legions more.

Curbside



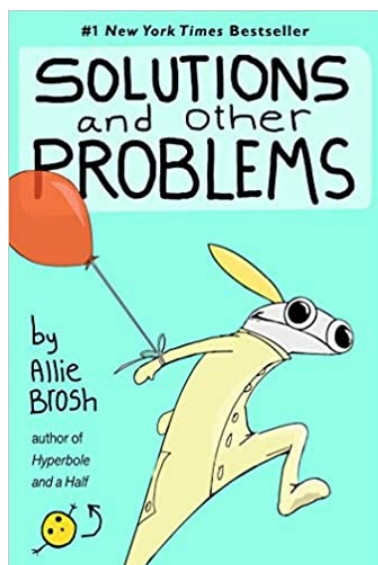
I Can't Make This Up by Kevin Hart

Superstar comedian and Hollywood box-office star Kevin Hart turns his immense talent to the written word by writing some words. Some of those words include: *the*, *a*, *for*, *above*, and even *even*. Put them together and you have the funniest, most heartfelt, and most inspirational memoir on survival, success, and the importance of believing in yourself since *Old Yeller*. In his literary debut, he takes the reader on a journey through what his life was, what it is today, and how he's overcome each challenge to become the man he is today.

He achieved this not just through hard work, determination, and talent: It was through his unique way of looking at the world. Because just like a book has chapters, Hart sees life as a collection of chapters that each person gets to write for himself or herself.

"Not only do you get to choose how you interpret each chapter, but your interpretation writes the next chapter," he says. "So why not choose the interpretation that serves your life the best?"

Curbside



Solutions and Other Problems by Allie Brosh

For the first time in seven years, Allie Brosh—beloved author and artist of the extraordinary #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Hyperbole and a Half*—returns with a new collection of comedic, autobiographical, and illustrated essays.

Solutions and Other Problems includes humorous stories from Allie Brosh's childhood; the adventures of her very bad animals;

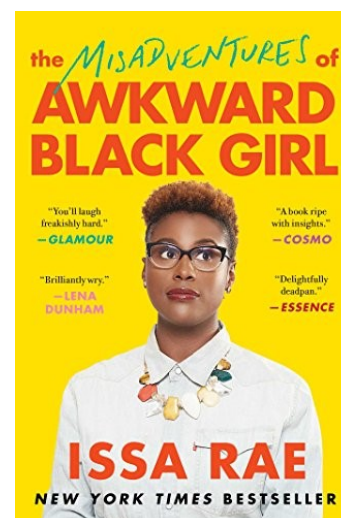
merciless dissection of her own character flaws; incisive essays on grief, loneliness, and powerlessness; as well as reflections on the absurdity of modern life.

Solutions and Other Problems marks the return of a beloved American humorist who has “the observational skills of a scientist, the creativity of an artist, and the wit of a comedian” (Bill Gates).

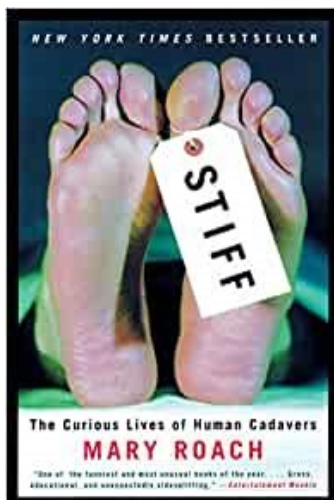
Overdrive/Curbside

The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl by Issa Rae

Being an introvert in a world that glorifies cool isn't easy. But when Issa Rae, the creator of the Shorty Award-winning hit series *The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl*, is that introvert--whether she's navigating love, work, friendships, or rapping-- it sure is entertaining. Now, in this debut collection of essays written in her witty and self-deprecating voice, Rae covers everything from cybersexing in the early days of the Internet to deflecting unsolicited comments on weight gain, from navigating the perils of eating out alone and public displays of affection to learning to accept yourself --natural hair and all. A reflection on her own unique experiences as a cyber pioneer yet universally appealing, *The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl* is a book no one--awkward or cool, Black, White, or other--will want to miss.



Overdrive/Curbside



Stiff by Mary Roach

Roach gives us one of the funniest and most unusual books ... gross, educational, and unexpectedly sidesplitting. *Stiff* is an oddly compelling, often hilarious exploration of the strange lives of our bodies postmortem. For two thousand years, cadavers—some willingly, some unwittingly—have been involved in science's boldest strides and weirdest undertakings. In this fascinating account, Mary Roach visits the good deeds of cadavers over the centuries and tells the engrossing story of our bodies when we are no longer with them.

Overdrive/Curbside