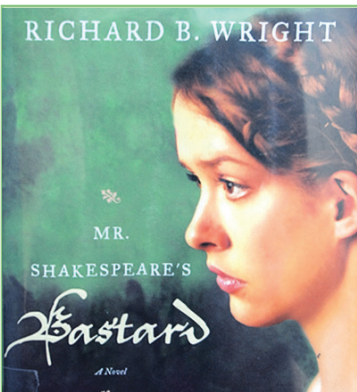


Summer reading

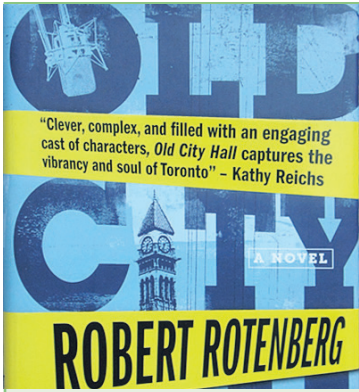
Library staffers review their favourite summer selections



Mr. Shakespeare's Bastard
by Richard B. Wright
(Fiction)

Here is a new title for historical fiction fans! Aerlene Ward is an elderly housekeeper in failing health, living in a manor in Oxfordshire in 1658. She has lived with a tremendous secret almost her entire life—she is the illegitimate daughter of the great playwright William Shakespeare. Aerlene decides she must tell her story before she dies, and Charlotte, the mistress of the house, offers to record it. *Mr. Shakespeare's Bastard* is also the story of Aerlene's mother Elizabeth, who leaves the countryside for the bustling city of London where she meets the poor but talented writer from Stratford. This novel is an interesting blend of history and invention. Richard B. Wright is the author of eleven novels, including Giller Prize winner *Clara Callan*.

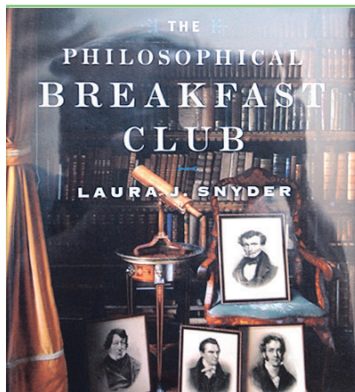
Reviewed by Lisa Hunziger



Old City Hall
by Robert Rotenberg
(Fiction)

No one knows a good murder mystery better than a criminal lawyer, and Toronto's Robert Rotenberg uses his forensic knowledge, engaging storytelling, and skillful character development to create this whodunit, refreshingly set not in New York or Chicago, but in a city we know, with all its urban complexities. The key witness is a newspaper carrier, formerly a professional engineer in India. The accused is a famous Toronto radio personality who refuses to speak, even to his lawyer, after being caught literally red-handed. But this is no open-and-shut case. A homicide detective also has a personal mystery to solve. Meanwhile, the Toronto Maple Leafs are fighting for the Stanley Cup.

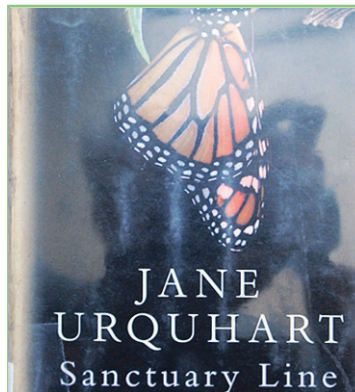
Reviewed by Patti Post



The Philosophical Breakfast Club: Four remarkable Friends who Transformed Science and Changed the World
by Laura J. Snyder
(Non-Fiction)

Charles Babbage, John Herschel, William Whewell and Richard Jones are not necessarily household names, but what they did for science in the early 19th century led to many of the things we take for granted today. Before their time, "scientist" was not considered a profession, no university paid for scientific research, and no student could receive a degree in natural sciences. Natural sciences were instead considered the hobby of the wealthy, occasionally a diversion for mathematicians, and at the very best an exercise for philosophy students. This group of men began meeting on Sunday mornings during their studies at Oxford and started a spark of interest that grew into The Analytical Society, an organization that standardized observational techniques, scientific record keeping, and mathematical applications, work that resulted in science being viewed as a worthy pursuit of benefit to mankind.

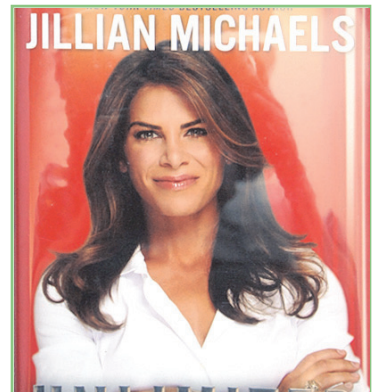
Reviewed by Clare Hanman



Sanctuary Line
by Jane Urquhart
(Fiction)

Here is a new novel by the author of *The Stone Carvers* and *A Map of Glass*. Set in contemporary southern Ontario, *Sanctuary Line* is a beautifully written but melancholy story about a family of orchardists. Liz Crane is an entomologist and has moved into the family's summer home so she can study migratory patterns of the Monarch butterfly. Memories overwhelm Liz who is mourning the death of her cousin Amanda Butler, a military strategist killed in Afghanistan. The novel weaves in and out of the past, as Liz remembers her charismatic uncle who disappeared one day, and the seasonal workers brought from Mexico each summer to help with the harvest. The novel is an enjoyable journey. Jane Urquhart is a Governor General's Award winner, and she has had work long-listed for the Booker Prize.

Reviewed by Lisa Hunziger



Unlimited: How to Build an Exceptional Life
by Jillian Michaels
(Non-Fiction)

Well known for her role as a no-nonsense trainer on the television show *Biggest Loser* and fitness guru on all sorts of workout DVDs, Jillian Michaels now brings us a different kind of self improvement. This book is not about lifting the weights or running laps, it is instead about understanding emotions and what they are telling you. It is through this understanding that Jillian aims to show people how to take control of their lives, work through negativity, and start the decision-making process to change dreams into reality. Including interesting examples from her own life, Jillian aims to show the reader that careful goal setting coupled with taking the time to do a bit of self-care can lead to greater success and more happiness in life.

Reviewed by Clare Hanman





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