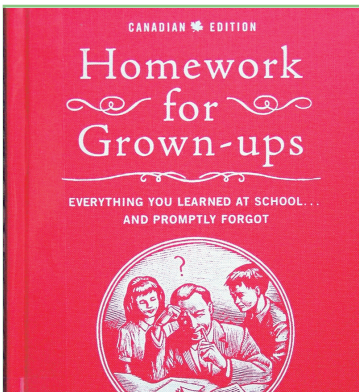


Fall reading

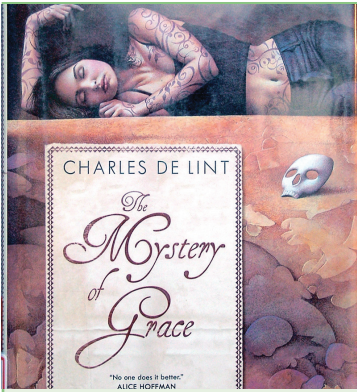
Library staffers review their favourite fall selections



Homework for Grown-Ups: Everything You Learned at School and Promptly Forgot
by E. Foley and B. Coates
(Non-Fiction)

If you have ever been stumped by your fifth grader's homework or had a cocktail party fall apart over a debate about the Fibonacci sequence, here is the book for you. Within its pages you will find a crash course on the periodic table, a recipe for the perfect pineapple upside-down cake, how to tell a rhombus from a trapezium, and a summary of the basic rules of hockey (it is the Canadian edition after all). You will even find a handy chapter all about recess—yes, actual rules for dodge ball and the like. This is a great little book to keep tucked away for times when your teenagers are convinced they are smarter than you are!

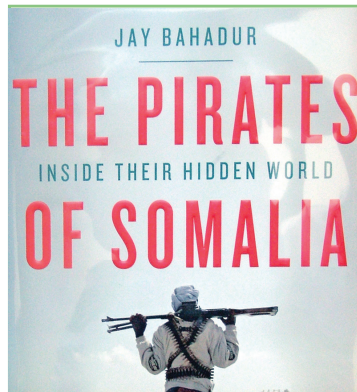
Reviewed by Clare Hanman



The Mystery of Grace
by Charles de Lint
(Fiction)

Following her death during a botched convenience store robbery, Grace finds herself in an in-between world where the dead aimlessly exist in a depressing facsimile of their own world. On two nights a year the ghosts of this world, which is neither life nor death, can return to the land of the living. During one of these visits Grace meets and falls in love with John. When she mysteriously disappears from his apartment before dawn, he pieces together some clues and realizes that she must be a ghost. They have affected each other deeply, and a relationship somehow ensues. This supernatural romance set in the American southwest will appeal to fans of love stories and those who would like to try a fantasy without the complications and myriad of characters that many fantasies present.

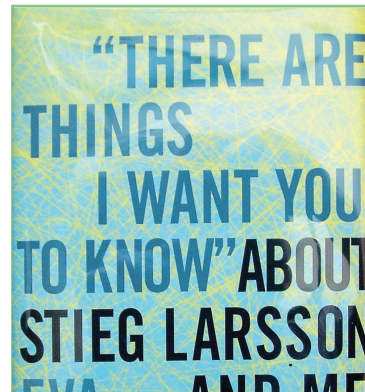
Reviewed by Darlene Green



The Pirates of Somalia: Inside Their Hidden World
by Jay Bahadur
(Non Fiction)

In the self-governing mini-state of Puntland in northeastern Somalia, modern-day pirates actively make a living by hijacking ships and holding their crews for ransom. Yet this isn't just a book about the havoc these pirates cause, it is instead a detailed look at the lives these people actually lead. Jay Bahadur gets to know the all the different people involved by sitting down with them, engaging in conversation and thereby gaining an insight into how these people think and feel. He interviews the pirates themselves, the government officials who try to stop them, and even former hostages. He then suggests how simple changes in policy could diffuse this volatile situation. This is a startling story and a truly fascinating read.

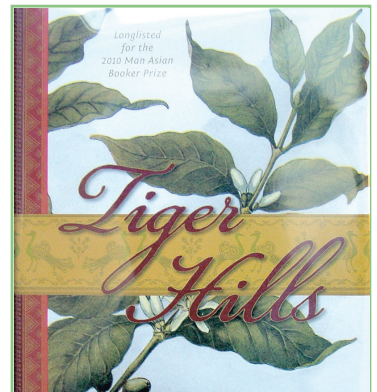
Reviewed by Clare Hanman



There are Things I Want You to Know About Stieg Larsson and Me
by Eva Gabrielsson with Marie-Francoise Colomban
(Non-Fiction)

Stieg Larsson was virtually unknown outside of Sweden until he skyrocketed to fame with the publication of the first book in the *Millennium Trilogy*, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. But what fascinated many readers was the very fact that in November 2004, before the book's publication, Stieg Larsson died quite suddenly. In this book, Eva Gabrielsson, his partner of more than 30 years, reveals the story of the man that the world never had the chance to know. She describes his unique childhood, their life together, Stieg's tireless fight for social justice and the unique circumstances that led him to develop the character Lisbeth Salander. For all fans of the *Millennium Trilogy*, this is an eye-opening read and a heartbreaking story of love and survival.

Reviewed by Clare Hanman



Tiger Hills
by Sarita Mandanna
(Fiction)

Set in the coffee plantations of Coorg in Southern India in the late 1800s, Mandanna's debut novel, *Tiger Hills* tells the story of two childhood friends throughout their lives. Devi Nachimandas is a beautiful, strong-willed girl who befriends Devanna Pallada, a quiet, intelligent boy whose mother died tragically. The two friends become inseparable and Devanna falls in love with Devi. However, Devi is secretly infatuated with Devanna's handsome cousin Machu, a tiger-killer and local hero, and vows to marry him one day. Devanna leaves the village to study medicine and plans a future with Devi when he returns. Then a tragedy changes the fate of all three and has consequences that affect generations to come. *Tiger Hills* is rich in detail and is beautifully written.

Reviewed by Etta De'ath



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