

# New crop of books make for great springtime reading

It always gives us a buzz when a batch of new books arrives at the library.

The staff members involved in the ordering process browse through, and order from, hundreds of catalogues and lists during the year. Sometimes it's hard to cut through the publishers' superlatives and all the variables of author and content to assess a book's calibre. It's a pleasant surprise when the goods exceed the expectations.

Here are what we consider 'goodies' from this week's new books arrivals:

The batch is heavy on non-fiction with an interesting selection of travel guides to Belgium, Luxembourg, Bermuda, Cuba, Hong Kong and, for the less adventurous, a Guide to Ottawa. There's the Canadian Bed and Breakfast Guide and a more provocative guide called Healthy Escapes, which lists resorts and retreats where you can get fit, feel good, find yourself and get away from it all.

Biographies among the new arrivals cover such dissimilar personalities as Rosie O'Donnell, the Reichmanns, Barbara Streisand, Brad Pitt, and Tiger Woods. Add to these a real-life love story about Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy (An Affair to Remember) and you have an interesting mixed-bag of biographies.

We have been asked several times for books on the GED (General Educational Development) program or the High School Equivalency Tests. Now we have two Canadian editions dealing with preparation for the exam.

Hitler's Willing Executioners is a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist and winner of the Democracy Prize. It has garnered international accolades for its documentation of the

## Library News

Holocaust. It's a sombre but

absorbing read. Hitler vs. Me, on the other hand, is the hilarious and fictional addition to the Blandy Papers, a popular series

written by Canadian author Donald Jack. His previous books have won three Leacock Medals for Humour. This latest story

again features the redoubtable Bartholemew Bandy with his 'eye for the main chance, nose for trouble, and face like a horse.'

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