



November 2020

Happy Thanksgiving! We are thankful for you.

Volume 11 Issue 10

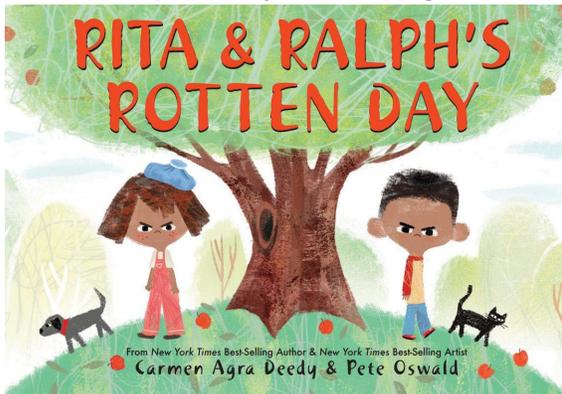
BETWEEN THE PAGES

Huntsville Public Library Monthly Newsletter

NOVEMBER: NATIONAL PICTURE BOOK MONTH

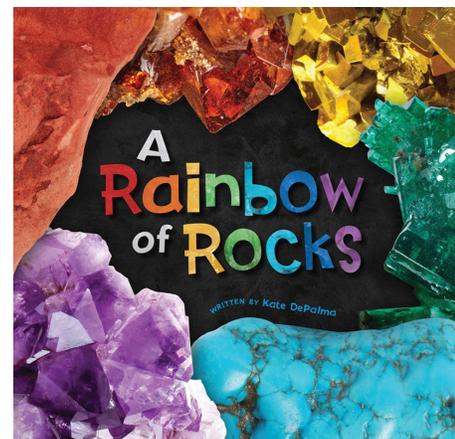
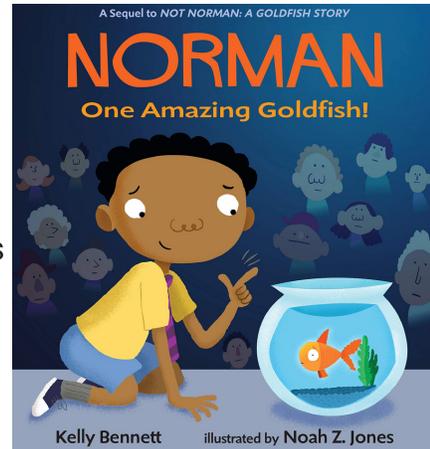
BY JALPA SHAH, IT SERVICES

Reading a picture book to a child is a wonderful experience. When I read to my son as he sits in my lap, I have noticed that the experience involves so much more than reading. The words and illustrations on the pages can take you to another world. My son falls in love with these books as he enjoys hearing my reading as we admire the wonderful illustrations. These stories expand my son's imagination and horizons.



Picture books can be enjoyed by anyone, not just children. There is no age barrier to reading picture books. Picture books tell adults about children's secret lives, and they bring the universe to children. With their two page spreads, there's plenty of space for my son and I to enjoy the book together. In my case, I am Asian-American and bilingual. There's space for the two of us to enjoy multiple cultures, two generations, and the time we spend together reading.

We also enjoy the mixture of the author and illustrator's expression and how they work together to spark the same imagination in the reader's mind. For many, picture books are first friends and great teachers. Picture books can give young readers a crucial first sense that they are not alone and that someone else shares something in common with them in their feelings. Reading a picture book is a multi-sensory experience. Together, my son and I enjoy the look and feel of the covers, the scent of the glue in the binding, and the splashes of color and delicious visuals rendered on their pages. I've realized that there is an incredible auditory component to picture books. It's made me consider how particular words sound to a child. My son often enjoys the rhythm or texture of certain words like Boooo!



This is why for me picture books are not just entertaining; they're essential. The library has many new picture books in our collection that I hope other parents will enjoy reading aloud with their children.



1219 13th Street
Huntsville, TX 77340
(936) 291-5472

Monday-Friday
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
& 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

 myhuntsvillelibrary.com

 @huntsvillelib

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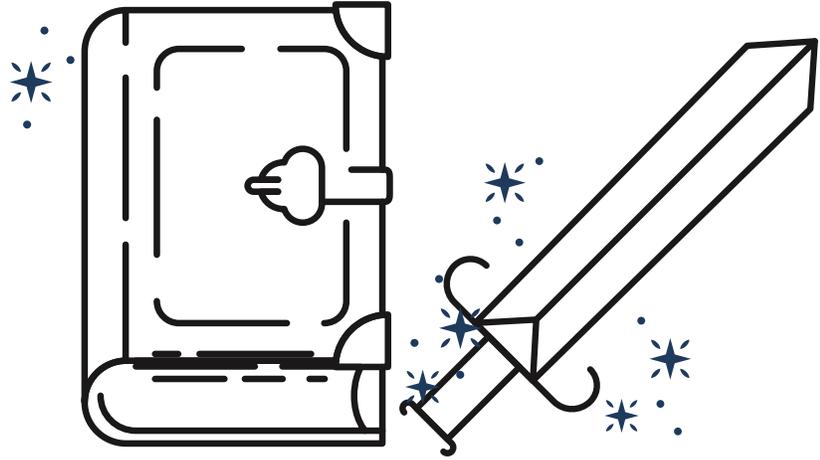
 Huntsville_Public_Library

FANTASY WORTH READING

BY KARSTON VAN TRONK, CIRCULATION

Fantasy is, arguably, the oldest genre. From the *Epic of Gilgamesh* to *Beowulf*, we've been writing stories of strange magic, mighty monsters, and epic heroes for as long as we've been pressing words into clay tablets. These stories delve deep into personal struggle, the quest for knowledge or power, and the fight against the evil of the world. Modern fantasy has sprung from Tolkien and evolved into a genre with its finger on the pulse of the world, as rich in commentary as it is in adventure (though some might say the genre has always been rich in commentary if one knew where to look). Modern fantasy authors have also followed in Tolkien's footsteps, perhaps not in his experiences, but in his fiction and connection with other authors in the genre. Just as Tolkien and Lewis exchanged letters and ideas, today's fantasy authors exist in a web of connectivity which fosters an environment of creativity that has given us some of the best fantasy of an age. Here are some of the top modern fantasy authors available on the Huntsville Public Library shelves.

- **Robert Jordan** - With his *Wheel of Time* series, Robert Jordan (the pen name of James Oliver Rigney Jr.) ushered in the modern landscape of the fantasy genre. An epic spanning fourteen novels and twenty-three years, *Wheel of Time* is the most influential work of fantasy since Tolkien penned *The Lord of the Rings*. Aside from *Wheel of Time*, Jordan was also one of the original writers on the *Conan the Barbarian* series, writing as the western author Jackson O'Reilly, a historical fiction author under the name Reagan O'Neal, and dance criticism under the name Chang Lung.



- **Brandon Sanderson** - Sanderson is, formally, Robert Jordan's successor. Jordan tragically passed away in 2007 before finishing the *Wheel of Time* series. However, knowing his time on this earth was coming to an end, he left extensive notes on the end of the series. His widow, Harriet McDougal, would choose Sanderson as Jordan's successor. Best known outside this as the author of the *Cosmere Universe*, where all his books are set, Sanderson is incredibly prolific and will likely go down as one of the greatest writers of a generation. He is also notable for his work teaching at Brigham Young University where he popularized Sanderson's laws of magic, and the idea of soft and hard magic systems in literature.
- **Patrick Rothfuss** - Yet another author of Epic Fantasy, Rothfuss is not nearly as prolific as the first two members of this list, but the quality of his writing is up there with the greats. Author of the as yet unfinished *Kingkiller Chronicles*, Rothfuss has made a name for himself with his intricate storytelling (intricate enough that some fans wonder if *Kingkiller Chronicles* can be finished in just his three predicted books) and maintained that name with his presence in the tabletop roleplaying (read *Dungeons and Dragons*) community.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3





NEW ANIMATED TITLES FOR KIDS!

MARY KOKOT, REFERENCE



New for you!

Many of our patrons love reading and listening to books on OverDrive and Libby. These apps are free to use and exceptionally convenient since they are "open" 24/7. But did you know that videos are also available for checkout?

The library purchased five digital videos on OverDrive and Libby, namely children's books. You can enjoy the Libby App (iPhone or Android) or the OverDrive App (computer, iPad, Notepad and iPhone/Android). A description, review, and details including appropriate viewing age and length of video are given for each digital item.

READ THE BOOK
Then enjoy the animation!

Now available on

OverDrive Libby

FANTASY WORTH READING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

- **Robin Hobb** - a peer of Robert Jordan, Robin Hobb (pen name of Margaret Astrid Lindholm Ogden) is best known for her Assassin's Apprentice series. The collection of trilogies set in the Realm of the Enderlings saw its first book published in 1995 and its last in 2017. The series spawned two bands and popularized the assassin fantasy subgenre.
- **Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman** - It's difficult to name a more iconic duo than these two. Responsible for the iconic Dragonlance series and at one point in time responsible for the entire gaming fiction genre, this power team cannot be left out of this list. First appearing on the stage in 1981 when they were hired at TRS (the original owners of the Dungeons and Dragons game) and assigned "project Overlord", a book series that would connect tabletop gaming adventures, they have not exited. This project would become the Dragonlance books, a series that they are still writing today, and still a major part of the D&D game. Outside of D&D, the duo are responsible for The Death Gate Cycle and The Darksword trilogy, both underrated classics in the Heroic Fantasy Subgenre.





WE DECORATED; NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

PHOTO OP FOR FAMILIES!

The Huntsville Public Library Staff have decorated the Kiwanis Club of Huntsville Plaza at the library for our patrons. Our hope is that families in Huntsville can enjoy coming to the library to take their Fall family photos on our patio. For Halloween, the staff enjoyed dressing in style and being the first to take a photo with our decorations.



Morning Staff



Afternoon Staff



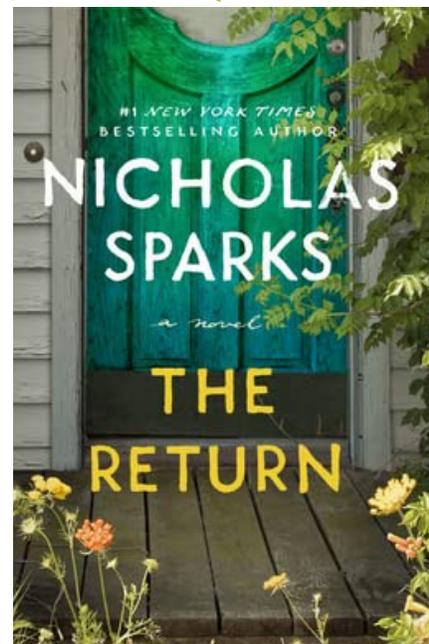
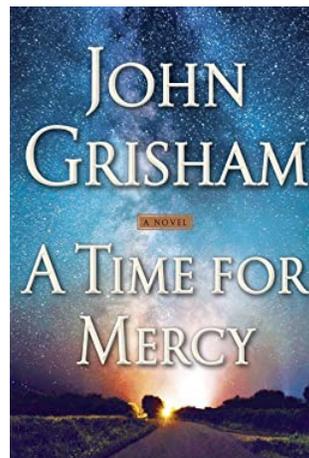
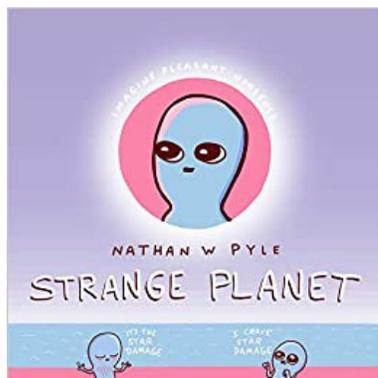
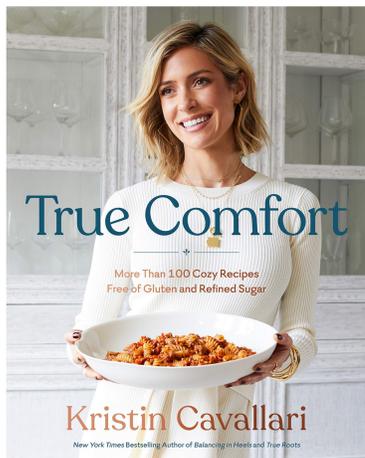
TREE OF POSITIVITY

Come visit our Tree of Positivity and "leaf" a message of hope for the community!



We wish you a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

NEW ITEMS TO LOOK OUT FOR!

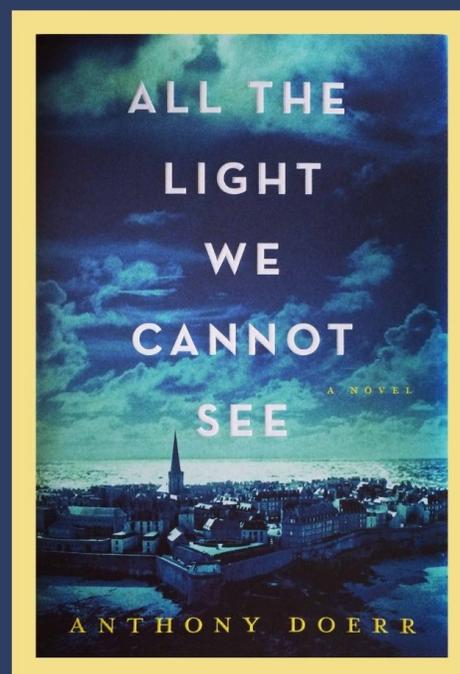


JOIN OUR VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

Online BOOK CLUB

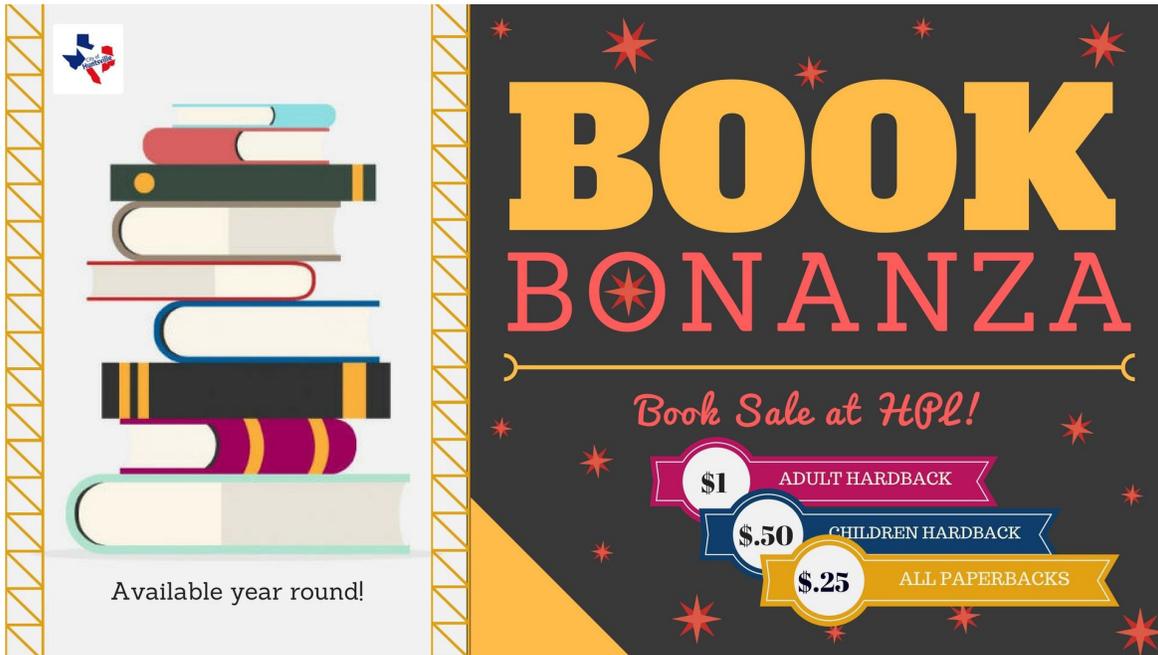
December 10TH, 10:30 am

For more information or to become a MEMBER call Mary Kokot, Adult Services Coordinator, at (936)291-5471.



We wish you a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

THE BOOK SALE IS BACK!



A promotional graphic for a book sale. On the left, a stack of colorful books is shown next to a small logo. Below the books, the text "Available year round!" is written. On the right, a dark background features the words "BOOK BONANZA" in large, bold letters. Below this, it says "Book Sale at HPL!" and lists three price categories: "ADULT HARDBACK" for \$1, "CHILDREN HARDBACK" for \$0.50, and "ALL PAPERBACKS" for \$0.25. The graphic is decorated with stars and a yellow border.

Available year round!

BOOK BONANZA

Book Sale at HPL!

\$1 ADULT HARDBACK

\$0.50 CHILDREN HARDBACK

\$0.25 ALL PAPERBACKS

SUPPORT HPL



A graphic with a blue background and a yellow dotted border at the top. It features the text "FRIENDS OF THE HUNTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY" in small white letters. Below this, the main message "Love your library. Become a friend." is written in large yellow letters. At the bottom, there are four colorful book spines (red, green, orange, blue) and a central yellow lightbulb with a white heart inside, set against a sunburst background.

FRIENDS OF THE HUNTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Love your library.
Become a friend.