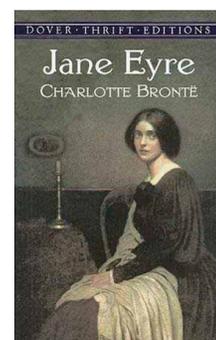
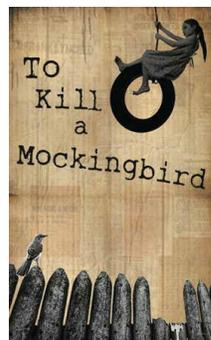
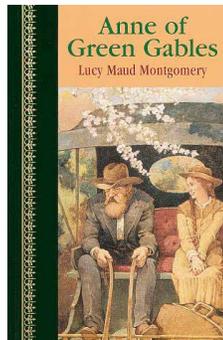
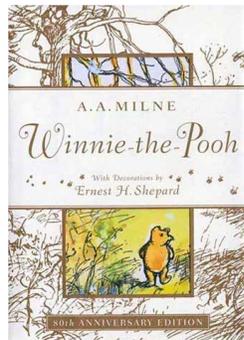
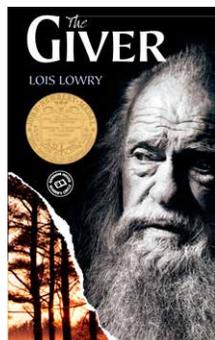


# Most Influential Person That Never Lived



by Janell Mattheus

In our last issue, I asked readers to answer the question "Who is the most influential person that never lived, and how did they influence you?" In thinking about this question, I wondered what kind of a person I would be if I had never read Ayn Rand's book, *The Fountainhead*, as a teen. Would I be a more sympathetic person if I had never met Howard Roark? Maybe. But I'm not sure that I would have had the strength and integrity to stand up for my convictions at that time in my life without his influence.

**THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU THAT RESPONDED. WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH ROOM TO SHARE THEM ALL, BUT HERE ARE SOME OF OUR FAVORITES:**

Jonah from *The Giver* by Lois Lowry made me look at things in a way I never had before and realize the importance of the "bad" things that happen in our lives. (by Cynthia Hinkley)

Winnie the Pooh. There were many important life lessons tucked into the pages my Mom read to us more than once. All the characters were so alive and full of wise advice like "Nobody can be uncheered with a balloon" or "When carrying a jar of honey to give to a friend for his birthday, don't stop and eat it along the way." (by Gretchen Freeman)

First name that came to mind—Screwtape from CS Lewis' *Screwtape Letters*. His insight to human behavior was amazing. (by Trish Hull)

Jim in *Huckleberry Finn*. He understood some people are formed by circumstance, and some by history; and persuasion and kindness could go far in influencing those around him. (by Jewel Nelson)

Stephen Kumalo, Zulu pastor, protagonist of Alan Paton's *Cry the Beloved Country*. A simple, quiet man of great integrity, whose actions demonstrate congruence with his beliefs. (by Lee C. Alexander)

My influential person, kinda, is Jim Davis' Garfield the cat who gave meaning to my life. "Eating makes me sleepy, sleeping makes me hungry, life is wonderful." (by Steven Nielsen)

The "person" who most influenced me is Betsy Ray from the series of Betsy-Tacy books by Maud Hart Lovelace set in the early 1900's. She is creative and finds pleasure in doing simple things like going on picnics and singing around the piano with her friends. (by Linda Dial)

Okay I have to do it...Edward Cullen. My reasoning for this is that before *Twilight* came out teen fiction was lacking. Then Edward came and opened the door and got teens reading. This led to books such as *Hunger Games* and *Graceling* etc. He got the ball rolling and now teen fiction is one of my favorite genres and teens and adults are clamoring for more. Cheesy I know, but it's true! (by Lyndi Hatch)

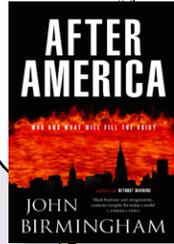
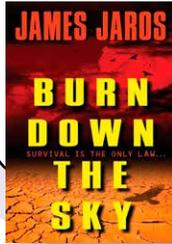
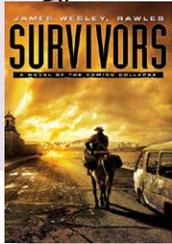
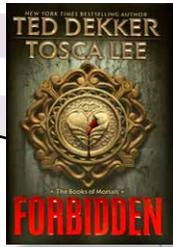
Several readers chose L. M. Montgomery's Anne Shirley: With her fiery determination, cool intelligence and boundless imagination, Anne Shirley is a metaphor for hope. No matter how many bends in the road we may experience in life, the kindred spirits of close friends and family can help steer us through it. (by James K. Irwin)

Several readers also chose Atticus Finch from Harper Lee's: *To Kill a Mockingbird*: He showed me how to be a reasonable and honest parent, a kind and accepting neighbor and a fair and just citizen. (by Wanda Mae Huffaker)

In my opinion, Jane Eyre is one of the greatest female characters in all of literature. Her strength through adversity, her capacity to love despite this adversity, her strong sense of self, and her independence despite the social mores of her time, makes her a literary heroine for all time. (by Nancy Merrell)

**THE QUESTION FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS: WHAT BOOK ARE YOU MOST EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT YOU LOVE? OR WHAT BOOK IS YOUR GUILTIEST PLEASURE?**

Send your email to [jmattheus@slcolibrary.org](mailto:jmattheus@slcolibrary.org) to have your choice appear in the next issue of Shelf Life. I look forward to hearing from you.



Head to the library to pick up one or more of these "End of the World" riveting reads!



by Ruby Cheesman

# APOCALYPTIC FICTION FOR ADULTS & TEENS

CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF *HUNGER GAMES*? WANT SOMETHING ELSE TO READ WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE NEXT MOVIE, OR FOR THE WORLD TO END ON DEC 21, 2012 (ACCORDING TO MAYAN PROPHECY)? CHECK OUT THESE "EDGE OF YOUR SEAT" TITLES!

Steven John's new debut, *Three a.m.*, is a compelling novel set in an unnamed near-future U.S. city. Surviving an apocalyptic event after embarking on what he believed would be a promising military career, Thomas Vale struggles to protect survivors, follow orders, and endure life in a chaotic world of limited supplies and constant danger.

In *Forbidden*, Ted Dekker's new Books of Mortals science fiction series, many years have passed since civilization's brush with the apocalypse. The world's greatest threats have all been silenced. There is no anger, no hatred, no war, only perfect peace and fear. But a terrible secret has been closely guarded for centuries: every single soul on earth is really dead, though they look perfectly normal. Fleeing pursuit, with only moments to live, a young man named Rom stumbles into possession of a vial of blood and a piece of cryptic writing. When consumed, the blood will bring him back to life, but will also resurrect hatred, ambition, and greed. Is it worth it?

If you want a good read with some Christian overtones, try *Survivors: A Novel of the Coming Collapse*, by James Rawles. This novel follows a group of people struggling in the face of a full-scale socioeconomic collapse in America that has caused the breakdown of all technology and supply chains while unleashing riots and predatory gangs throughout the country. If everything you knew fell apart, would you survive?

In a world of violence and terror where the one commodity far more valuable than anything else is female children, Jessie, along with her teenage daughter Bliss, travels across the parched ruins of what once was civilization to save her youngest daughter from a fortress in a dark and twisted region. *Burn Down the Sky*, by James Jaros, is a perfect complement to the new TV series, *Revolution*.

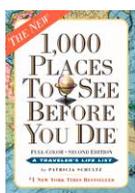
*After America*, by John Birmingham, traces the harrowing reconstruction of the United States after most of its population is killed by a natural disaster. President James Kipper leads this effort and is challenged by pirates, freebooters, and a rogue governor of Texas. In this sequel to *Without Warning*, the author delivers a stirring account of the events after "the Disappearance," tracking a group of survivors in New York, Seattle, Kansas City, Berlin, Salisbury and London.

After you pack your 72 hour kit, head to the library to pick up one or more of these "End of the World" riveting reads!

# THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU DIE

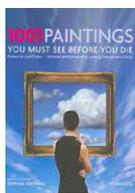
by Dan Berube

WHATEVER YOUR PASSION, THERE IS SURE TO BE A BOOK TO POINT YOU TO THE BEST-OF-THE-BEST IN THAT AREA. FROM GARDENS TO MUSIC TO TRAVEL, THESE BOOKS WILL INSPIRE YOU TO EXPERIENCE THE WORLD.



## *1,000 Places to See Before You Die*

The author equates travel with joy and exploration. Her guide covers highlights around the globe, from Winchester Cathedral to Machu Picchu to Timbuktu. The destinations are vast and include castles, churches, natural wonders, museums, festivals and famous foods.



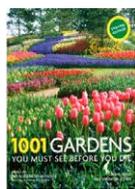
## *1001 Paintings You Must See Before You Die*

There is more than one way to approach this bounty of art. You could choose a favorite time period, say the 19th Century. Find your favorite works by Monet, Renoir, and Van Gogh and plan an art pilgrimage. You could also focus on a favorite museum or city and feast on some fabulous art.



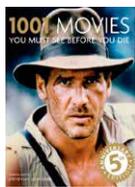
## *1001 Books You Must Read Before You Die*

Ready to read all those great books you've missed? Here are the masterpieces of literature, some familiar, some less so. You could make your way through the list chronologically or just dive in randomly. *Anna Karenina*, *David Copperfield*, *The English Patient*, and *The Poison-wood Bible* are waiting for you.



## *1001 Gardens You Must See Before You Die*

This collection of gardens is stunning in scope and variety. Famous sites like Hearst Castle, Central Park, Butchart Gardens, Versailles, and Taj Mahal are included. A wide range of gardening styles and traditions are featured, from lush English gardens to austere Japanese rock gardens.



## *1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die*

This is a cinematic journey around the world and through movie history. From *Dumbo* to *Casablanca* to *West Side Story* to *Borat*, a bounty of genres and styles are covered. Fire up the popcorn maker and settle in for some great viewing.



## *1001 Songs You Must Hear Before You Die*

Here is a list of music from the familiar to the obscure. Catch up on songs that were before your time or came after you stopping following new music. From Enrico Caruso to Gorillaz and "Tutti Frutti" to "Seven Nation Army," there is some great music waiting for you.



by Kevin Oberhansley

## *Will eBooks Mean the End of Books as We Know Them?*

Most people believe that eBooks will never completely replace printed books, but eBooks are getting more and more popular. In fact, eBooks are so popular, that for the first time ever, adult eBook sales were higher than adult hardcover sales.

The Association of American Publishers reported that in the first quarter of 2012, adult eBook sales were up to \$282.3 million while adult hardcover sales came to only \$229.6 million.

Some things about eBooks that you may not be aware of: In April of 2010, the late Swedish journalist Stieg Larsson, was the first author to sell more than one million copies of his eBook, *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*.

Because of the popularity of certain titles, eBooks may sometimes have a longer waiting list than the print version. Salt Lake County Library Services has to purchase a license for each title, the same as if we were purchasing a printed book, even though it is an electronic record, not a physical copy. One exception to this rule are public domain books. There are over 34,000 titles that never expire and don't count against your library checkout limit.

### HOW DO YOU DOWNLOAD eBooks?

These titles are available by starting at our homepage, [www.slcolibrary.org](http://www.slcolibrary.org), going to the drop-down menu under "Reader's Café" and then to "Downloadables - eBooks" and opening "Overdrive - popular eBooks." The link is located at the bottom of the left-hand column. These books include many popular classics such as *The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Dracula*, and *Anne of Green Gables*. Also included are many informational books covering multiple subjects and classic books of poetry and all of the works of Shakespeare.

If you can't find a title or an author you are looking for, you can place a request for that title by using our "Request a Purchase" link, available under "Info & Contact" from our homepage.

eBooks are available to read on multiple electronic devices and, of course, on a computer. If you haven't tried one yet, you should. They are amazing and we think you'll like it!

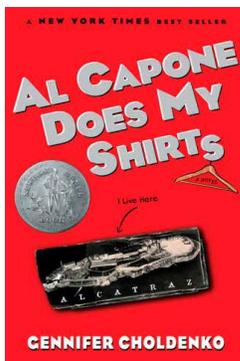
# And the Winner is

by Annie Eastmond

Many of us watched the Summer Olympics with excitement. Sometimes the only difference between a winner and the runner up was a split second or a fraction of a point. Yet, aren't they all winners for even making it to the Olympics? You bet they are! Award books are like that too and often the runner up is the real winner. For example, think of the classic *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White. It was awarded a Newbery Honor and yet we all remember that title over the actual winner *Secret of the Andes*.

## AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS

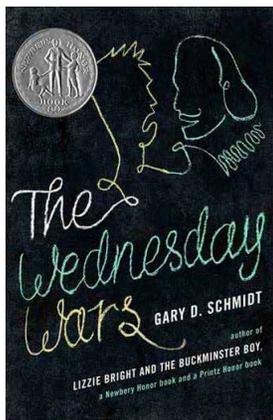
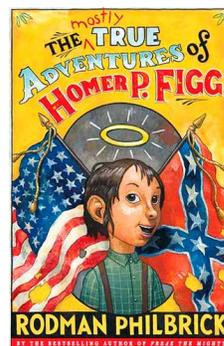
Another fun Newbery Honor is *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko. Set in the 1930s when Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay was the prison home of notorious criminals like gangster Al Capone, 12-year-old Moose Flannigan's family moves there so his dad can work as an electrician and prison guard. His life is pretty boring until he meets the warden's daughter who involves him in some pretty outlandish schemes.



TRY THESE  
DELIGHTFUL  
NEWBERY  
RUNNER-UPS  
(HONOR BOOKS)

## THE MOSTLY TRUE ADVENTURES OF HOMER P. FIGG

*The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* is a captivating historical fiction for children full of laugh-a-loud humor as 12-year-old orphan Homer runs away to find his older brother who has joined the army. He outwits and escapes from Civil War era scoundrels and spies. But will he ever find his brother?

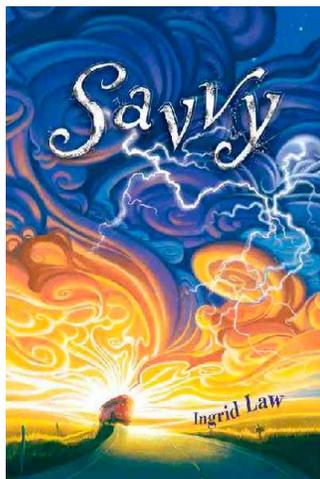


## THE WEDNESDAY WARS

*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt is a challenging yet fun romp through Holling's 7th grade year. Does he really have to spend every Wednesday afternoon with his teacher Mrs. Baker who makes him read Shakespeare? And is she really going to make him wear yellow tights in a local Shakespeare production? And what about those doughnuts that disappeared off the classroom windowsill? Did the class pet rats make off with them?

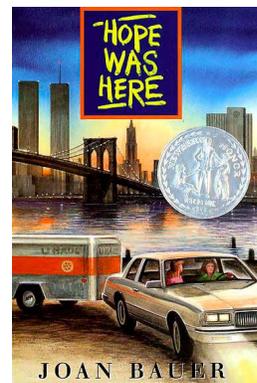
*Savvy* by Ingrid Law is a charming tale about Mibbs who is turning 13 and anxious to discover what kind of savvy (special power) she'll get. In her immediate and extended family, all the kids have to be homeschooled from age 13 on because that is when they get their savvys. Will it be creating wind of earthquake proportions or electrical power outages like her brothers? Whatever is coming it's sure to be something she'll have to learn to control and use for good not ill. Pick up this winner and find out what Mibb's savvy is and what adventures it leads her and her friends on. Then try *Scumble*, its sequel.

## SAVVY



## HOPE WAS HERE

*Hope Was Here* by Joan Bauer is another runner up that is a winner and a perfect read for an election year. Named Tulip at birth by a non-committal mother, she is raised by aunt Addie who does her best to be both mother and father. Addie is an amazing restaurant manager and cook, but they move a lot for the next best job. Addie lets Tulip change her name to Hope and that is just what this 16-year-old girl needs as they move yet again, this time from Brooklyn, New York to a tiny Wisconsin town. Will this finally feel like home?



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