

# Between the Lines

*The Charlotte County Libraries & History Monthly Newsletter*

## **In This Issue...**

*Yes, you can print that!  
Our makerspaces are cooler than you think*

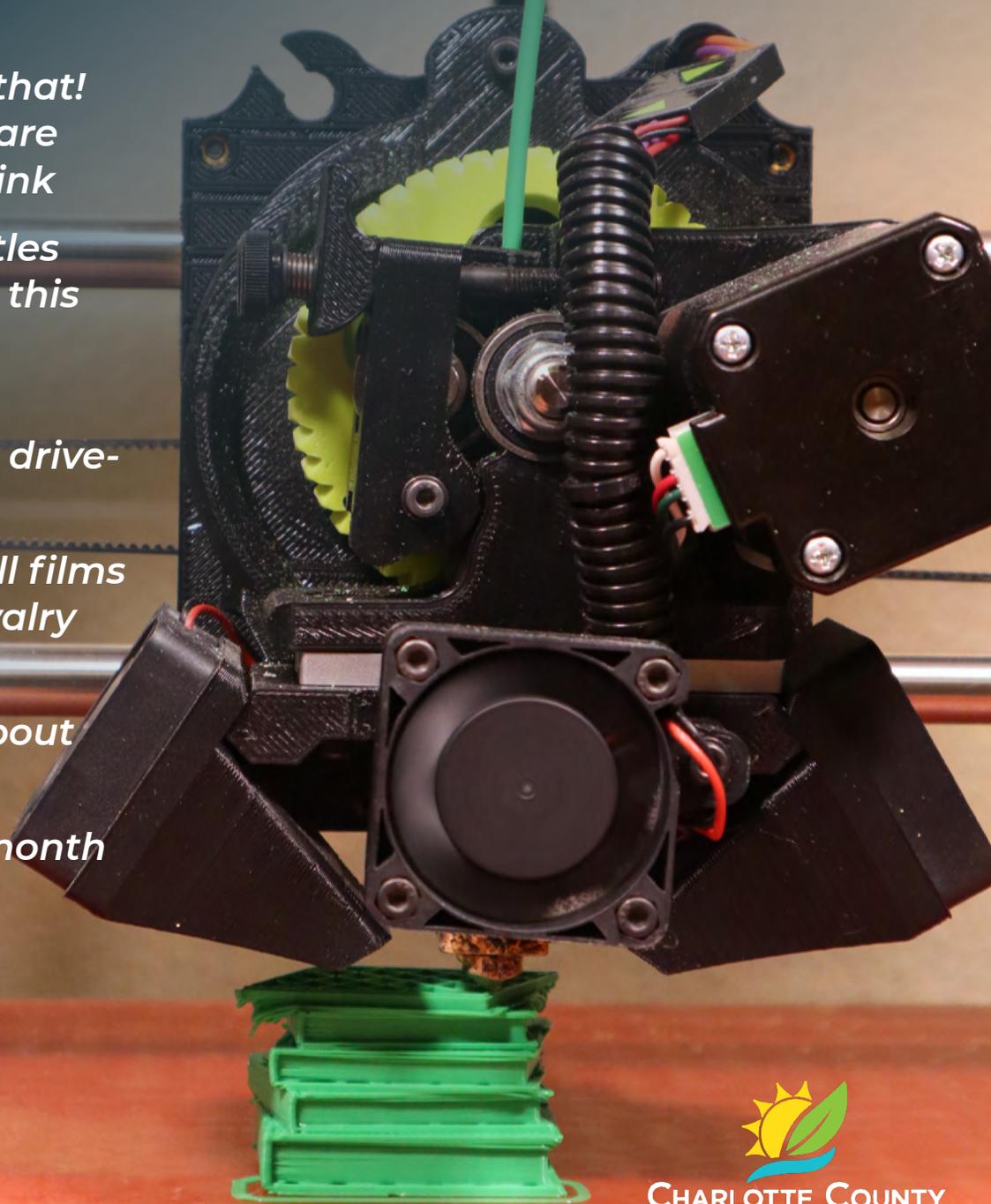
*The hottest new titles hitting the shelves this August*

*Archives spotlight:  
Charlotte Harbor's drive-in movie theater*

*Five classic football films to rekindle your rivalry this season*

*What's so great about graphic novels?*

*Staff picks of the month*

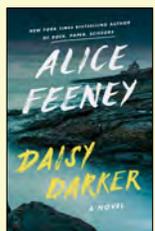


*August 2022*



# Coming Soon to Our Collection

Browse through the hundreds of items that are on order right now: [bit.ly/OnOrderItems](https://bit.ly/OnOrderItems)



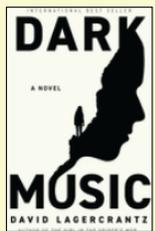
## ***Daisy Darker*** by Alice Feeney

**August 30**

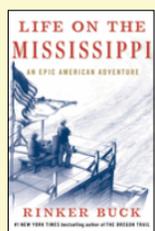
After years of avoiding one another, Daisy Darker's entire family is assembling for Nana's 80th birthday on a tiny tidal island. When the tide comes in, they will be cut off from the rest of the world for 8 hours. Then at midnight, Nana is found dead. An hour later, the next family member follows. Trapped on an island where someone is killing them one by one, the Darkers must reckon with their present mystery as well as their past secrets, before the tide comes in and all is revealed.

**August 23**

## ***Dark Music*** by David Lagercrantz



Hans Rekke is a world authority on interrogation techniques, capable of dizzying feats of logic and observation. He also has a fragile psyche that falls apart under pressure. Micaela Vargas is a street-smart police officer, tenacious and uncompromising. Micaela needs Hans's unique mind to help her solve the case of a murdered asylum-seeker from Afghanistan. Hans needs Micaela to save him from himself. Together, they need to find the killer before they're both silenced for good.



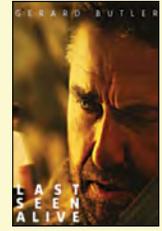
## ***Life on the Mississippi*** by Rinker Buck

**August 9**

The eagerly awaited return of master American storyteller Rinker Buck, *Life on the Mississippi* is an epic, enchanting blend of history and adventure in which Buck builds a wooden flatboat from the grand "flatboat era" of the 1800s and sails it down the Mississippi River, illuminating the forgotten past of America's first western frontier. With a rare narrative power that blends stirring adventure with absorbing untold history, *Life on the Mississippi* is a majestic feat of storytelling.

**August 9**

## ***Last Seen Alive*** [DVD]



When Will's estranged wife Lisa disappears during a stop at a gas station, Will must embark on a frantic undertaking to rescue her while eluding the police who suspect him of foul play. It's a race against time, and he'll stop at nothing to get her back.

Join the wait list! Although on-order items are not yet available for checkout, you can still place holds on them.  
[charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net](https://charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net)

# Library Bulletin

## Mid-County Regional Library will be temporarily closed for renovation

The branch will be closed beginning Sunday, September 4 with a tentative re-opening date of October 1. Please **visit our website** for more information.



## Emergency Preparedness Seminar

Join Ellen Pinder from Charlotte County Emergency Management for a presentation about emergency preparedness.

**Port Charlotte Public Library**  
August 9 at 2:00 p.m.

**Englewood Charlotte Library**  
August 10 at 11:00 a.m.

**Punta Gorda Charlotte Library**  
August 11 at 2:00 p.m.

## Preschool Prep is back!

This program, for children 3-4 years old, is designed to improve listening and group interaction skills while providing practice for the preschool and school environment. Students are expected to attend class once each week from September 2022 – March 2023, excepting holiday breaks. Space is limited and **registration is required** via the library website or by calling your local branch.

Kids must be at least age 3 by September 1, 2022.

### Englewood Charlotte Library

Fridays 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

### Mid-County Regional Library

Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

### Port Charlotte Library

Tuesdays 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

### Punta Gorda Charlotte Library

Tuesdays 11:00-12:00 p.m.



## Local Newspapers from 1960s Now on Microfilm!

Charlotte County History Services is happy to announce that our collection of local newspapers from the 1960s is now available on microfilm. Papers from this decade, as well as the rest of the newspaper microfilm collection, can be examined by interested patrons at the Mid-County Regional Library.

Contact History Services for more information at 941.629.7278.

# The Charlotte Harbor Drive-In Theater



The Charlotte Harbor Drive-In Theater was built in 1951 on the site of what is now the Town & Country shopping center on U.S. 41. In 1958, Louis Victor (Vic) and Peggy Desguin purchased the Drive-In. With its large projection screen, fresh popcorn, and plenty of room to park, the theater was quintessential mid-century America. The circa 1960 photo at the top left shows an unidentified man serving at the concession stand.



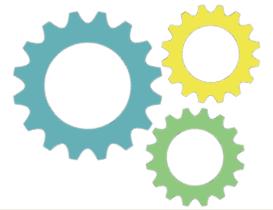
On occasion, the theater was also the site of drive-in church services. The center photo was taken from the projection booth above the concession stand during a non-denominational church service sponsored by the Methodist Church in Punta Gorda. The circa 1960 photo at bottom left shows U.S. Cleveland standing beside tape recorders in the projection booth. Mr. Cleveland operated the sound system during the church services.



In purchasing the theater, Vic Desguin followed in the footsteps of his parents, who came to Punta Gorda in 1936. The Desguins ran the New Theater on West Marion Avenue, which is today the parking lot of Ace Hardware. They also rented a large wood frame building at the southwest corner of Milus Street and East Charlotte Avenue that provided movie access to the city's African American residents, as segregation laws prevented them from watching movies at the New Theater. The New Theater remained in operation until the early 1960s, and the Drive-In closed in 1968.

# Dreamy DIYs to try

Need to fix a leaky faucet, sew a button, or reupholster old furniture to make it look new? Check out the books below to see if you could do it yourself!



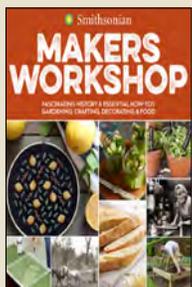
## ***Family Handyman Quick & Easy Projects***

The 100+ beginner- to intermediate-level Do-It-Yourself projects in this collection for homeowners are all designed to be completed in a weekend or less. With easy-to-follow, step-by-step instructions, the quick and easy projects in this book from *Family Handyman* magazine are just what you need to improve your backyard, your workshop, and all the rooms in your home.

## ***Good Housekeeping Home Skills:***

### ***Master Your Domain with Practical Solutions to Everyday Challenges***

*Good Housekeeping* shares genius solutions and expert advice in this guide to making life simpler. With chapters on the kitchen, organizing and cleaning, decorating, home maintenance, outdoor living, and entertaining, this go-to resource offers illustrated instructions, inspiring photos, and surprising but practical guidance to getting things done.



## ***Makers Workshop: Fascinating History & Essential How-Tos: Gardening, Crafting, Decorating & Food***

The Smithsonian presents a unique collection of lively how-to projects and historical narratives. Perfect for hobbyists interested in the historical context of what they create, this beautifully illustrated book contains fifty DIY projects—from a uniquely American quilt pattern to terrarium making and pickling—that offer satisfying ways to bring history to life.

## ***Essential Home Skills Handbook:***

### ***Everything you Need to Know as a New Homeowner***

This guide offers directions for 100+ home repair and maintenance tasks, with an eye toward the most common issues people have in their home. Whether you need to fix a leaky faucet, cure garbage disposal odors, stop a door from squeaking, or bring a dead electrical outlet back to life, everything a budding DIYer needs is between the covers of this book.



## ***Family Handyman Hacks***

You will find amazing, clever, innovative solutions to everyday problems that you can do yourself. This collection of ingenious, helpful, and budget-conscious hints, tips and how-tos proves that you don't need a workshop full of tools or 30 years of experience to be a successful DIYer. Save time, money and frustration—plus up your DIY game with these hacks shared by our editors and readers.

# Makerspaces are a creator's haven

Craft, collaborate, and print it! Our library makerspaces are cooler than you think.

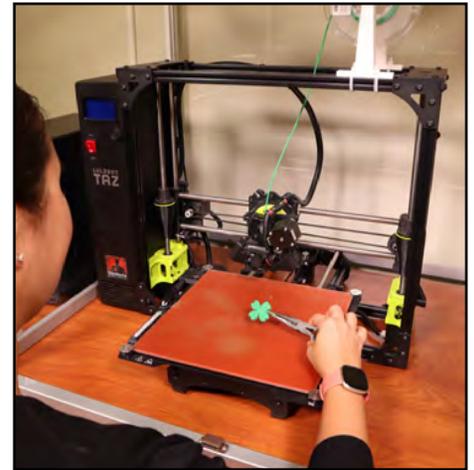
Makerspaces have been popping up across the country in recent years, and their popularity has only been growing. These collaborative, open-access workspaces, available at all four of our library branches, house a variety of creative equipment including 3D printers, sewing machines, Cricut cutting machines, and more.

## What's so cool about makerspaces?

The makerspace movement is driven by the idea that people are capable and that technology should be available to everybody. You don't have to have a specialized degree to create something cool. You don't have to invest in expensive equipment to try a new hobby. You don't have to be a kid to learn by doing. Our makerspaces make room for these things to happen in our community.

## What can you make?

Hana Brown, Librarian Supervisor at the Port Charlotte Library, says the possibilities are limited only by your imagination. "You can make anything—from something as simple as a paper card to whatever you can dream of." Action figures, Christmas ornaments, and other decorative items have been popular 3D prints, while the Cricuts have been cutting paper holiday decorations and iron-on vinyl transfers. "Everything is so customizable," Hana explains. "If you want to make matching shirts for your family's vacation with each person's name on them, you can do that." One group even etched glass, cutting an intricate design in vinyl with the Cricut to serve as a stencil.



*Hana Brown carefully removes a 3D-printed plastic puzzle piece.*

Other users have been doing more than crafting. One entrepreneurial patron designs board games. She 3D printed prototype game pieces and sold the game to Milton Bradley to be manufactured. Another needed a replacement auto part that is no longer sold, so he created his own. When a seasonal resident had a pair of pants to hem but hadn't brought her sewing machine to Florida, she used ours. And Punta Gorda's laser cutter etched our county logo into a hundred collectible coasters, given away last year in celebration of our Centennial.

Library Technician Lee Nieves explained that the Mid-County Regional Library's CNC machine can create both decorative items and working tools. He demonstrated how to design an engraving—in this case, a T. rex—by defining the path, depth, and dimensions the metal end mills would carve through a block of wood. As the machine paused its musical hum, ready to receive the next sized end mill, Lee adjusted the tip with a custom cut aluminum wrench, made just to size by that same machine. "It's very precise," he affirmed. The software calculated that 19,000 cuts would be needed to engrave the T. rex.



*Lee Nieves designs a T. rex engraving to be carved by the CNC machine.*

## Awesome! How can I try it?

It's easy to get started, makerspace guru Spencer Pullen says. "If you're mathematically minded, you can build a 3D model from scratch. But you can also find lots of online templates to download—just click 'go,'

and the machine will make it.” It’s also important to be safety minded. These are powerful machines that must be monitored. You’ll sign a waiver as the machines include sharp parts and lasers. After all, it takes power to bring dreams to life.

The Port Charlotte Library offers a monthly makerspace open house, where patrons are invited to come see what it’s all about. When you’re ready to start creating, it’s helpful to call ahead to make an appointment at your branch. This will ensure that the machine you’re interested in using will be available. Bring your ideas and project materials, and be prepared to learn as you go. Staff can help you get set up, but you’ll work independently.

## 3D Printer

Design toys, decorations, and useful objects using our connected computer, then print them in plastic. You provide the plastic filament to use in the machine.

*Available at all library locations.*



## Cricut

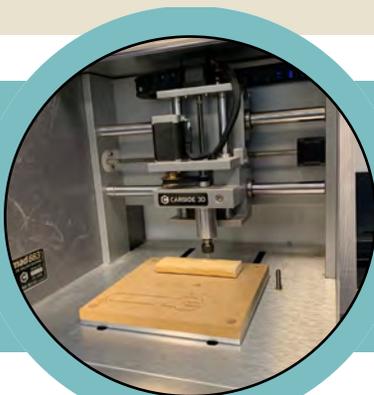
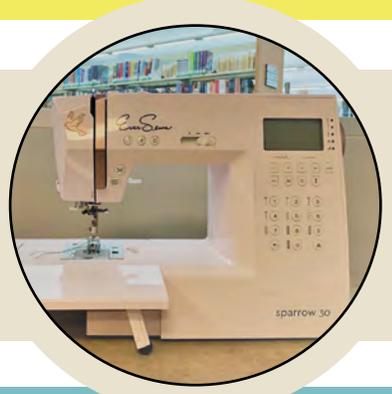
Create with vinyl, cut intricate designs from paper, and more! We’ll provide the machine. You provide the vinyl, iron-on transfers, or paper. Use our laptop or connect your own device using Bluetooth or USB.

*Available at all library locations.*

## Sewing Machines

Fix a fallen hem, patch a hole, or finally make that quilt! We’ll provide the machine, scissors, cutting mat, iron, bobbins, needles, and basic tools. You provide your own fabric, patterns, thread, and other notions.

*Available at all library locations.*



## CNC Machine

Carve engravings or cut precisely through materials like plastic, wood, and soft metals. We’ll provide the machine and design software. You provide the material to be cut or carved. See your design come to life in 3 dimensions.

*Available at the Mid-County Regional Library.*

## Laser Cutter

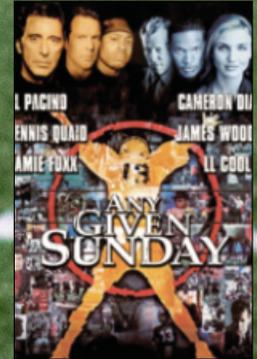
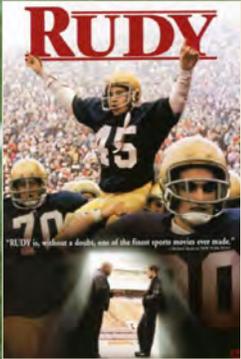
Engrave detailed images and inscriptions into wood, acrylic, stone, or cloth. Slice at precise angles to cut something beautiful or useful. Design using our computer, then cut it using our machine. You provide the materials to be cut.

*Available at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library.*



# Rekindle your rivalry with these football favorites

Are you ready for some football? As the new season approaches, check out these movies!



## **Rudy**

Although people have told Rudy all his life that he's not good enough, smart enough or big enough, nothing can stop his impossible dream of playing football for Notre Dame. *Starring Sean Astin.*

## **American Underdog**

This film tells the inspirational true story of Kurt Warner, who went from a stockboy at a grocery store to a two-time NFL MVP, Super Bowl champion, and Hall of Fame quarterback. *Starring Zachary Levi.*

## **Remember the Titans**

A black football coach is hired over a white coach in Alexandria, Virginia, in the early 1970s during a time when the high school has just been integrated to allow blacks into the school. *Starring Denzel Washington.*

## **The Replacements**

Shane Falco, a washed-out all-American quarterback, guides a team of misfits assembled by veteran coach Jimmy McGinty to replace striking pro players. *Starring Keanu Reeves.*

## **Any Given Sunday**

When the star quarterback of the Miami Sharks is injured halfway through the season, the unknown Willie Beamen must step up and take the team all the way to the playoffs, while battling egos with his hot-headed coach and the rest of the team. *Starring Al Pacino.*

# Making connections, reaching out

The library is for all Charlotte County residents, even those who don't make it into our buildings. Our outreach services are bringing the books to you!

Some mornings, library staff can be spotted outside behind the library loading crates of books into the back of a county van. No, it's not a heist—they're heading out to visit with our seniors! The residents of South Port Square and Truewood senior living centers look forward to these monthly visits when they'll have the chance to visit with library staff and borrow from a fresh selection of titles.

Armed with an iPad and a mobile hotspot to check out books, Bryan Forsythe and Suzanne Wardell bring the library to Truewood. Residents return the books they've finished and then choose new titles to borrow. In a recent visit, Bryan read aloud from *The Big Book of Senior Moments: Humorous Jokes and Anecdotes as a Reminder That We All Forget* by Bennett Melville. The residents connected to the stories, laughing and nodding along as they listened. One patron even asked to check out the book after the reading concluded.

At South Port Square, Judy Domzalski and Chris Grabowsky take a different approach. Here, those who attend the library's program are invited to share in a book discussion. Judy selects a theme for each month and chooses a variety of books related to the topic. In recent months, the group has read books set in the 50s and 60s and books by foreign authors in translation. In August, they'll discuss books with Florida themes. Judy and Chris love getting to know the residents. "They're avid readers. We always have a lively discussion, and we learn a lot from them," Chris reports. South Port residents also enjoy monthly visits from historian Dr. Jennifer Zobelein, who speaks on topics ranging from the Calusa to Florida cattle ranching.

Now, we're reaching even more residents with our home delivery service. Mike Hockenson, Jr. recently delivered library materials to Englewood patrons who are no longer able to drive to the library. Patrons have the option of requesting specific titles, or staff can choose items based on the patron's interests. If you're a Charlotte County resident who is temporarily or permanently housebound and would like to have books, movies, or other library materials delivered to your door, please apply through your local library branch. Our friendly staff would love to visit you at your home. You can find the application form at [bit.ly/LibraryDelivery](https://bit.ly/LibraryDelivery).



# Graphic novels are shaking up youth literature

Yes, they're "real" books! Ms. Liz explains why this fast-growing genre has gone mainstream.



Librarians and teachers frequently hear that parents don't want their children to read graphic novels, claiming that they are not "real" books. They are in fact real books! Graphic novels are no longer just serialized superhero comics—though we still love these, too! Many modern examples are exquisitely illustrated, well plotted novels in graphic form. Many of the titles we have in our collection are Accelerated Reader books, meaning that they're part of schools' reading program in which children read designated books and take a test to gauge their comprehension. This year's official lists of Sunshine State Young Readers' Award picks include seven graphic novels, all recommended among the year's best books for Florida grade school students.

Graphic novels are great for reluctant readers who might be intimidated by the size of chapter books or disappointed that there are no more pictures. Often, graphic novels can serve as a bridge into reading. A child reads a graphic novel, and we let them know it's part of a series and hey, we happen to have them here on the shelf! Sometimes the child will then read the entire series and branch out further. It's amazing!

There are graphic novels for all ages and reading levels, and they can really improve kids' comprehension. These books are fast-paced reads that help build vocabulary. Pictures are predominant, leaving less room for text; as in poetry, graphic novels' words are chosen for maximum impact. While kids are reading, they have to match the words with the illustrations to infer what's happening in the story, paying attention to body language, facial expressions, and actions.

Graphic novels can also aid those with learning differences. Readers with autism can learn about emotions by observing the images on the page, and those with dyslexia can read a page or even a whole book without feeling overwhelmed by the number of words on the page. Another benefit of reading graphic novels is that it can help with difficult texts. For example, I loved reading Shakespearean plays in high school. I'd read them for class, but I'd also check out the comic versions to have a better visual to interpret what's happening scene to scene. It's also neat to read a book and discover there's a graphic novel version, too. It's cool to see how the story is imagined by someone else.

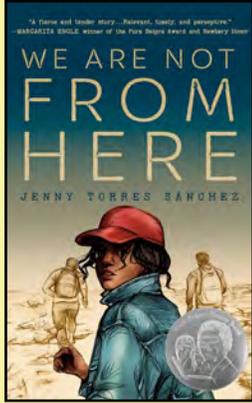
Graphic novels are one of our fastest growing collections in Charlotte County. There are options that appeal to readers of every genre, even nonfiction. Check one out today!



## Graphic novels, comic books and manga: What's the difference?

Graphic novels tell a complete story through illustrations, while comic books are serialized pieces of a larger story. Manga are Japanese graphic novels that we read "backwards" from right to left.

# Staff Picks



## Reader's Rave

### ***We are not from Here***

by Jenny Torres Sanchez

"This is a gripping story about three teens from Honduras who set out on a trip to our southern border to escape gangs, murderers, rapists, and drugs in their home town. They leave behind grieving families who do not know why they left or if they are alive. It's a story of heartbreak and survival."

—Eileen S., Library patron

### **Loved it? Let us know!**

Your recommendation could be featured in a future issue. Share your review at [bit.ly/ReadersRaves](http://bit.ly/ReadersRaves)

### ***The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot***

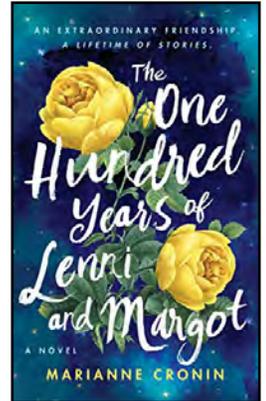
by Marianne Cronin

"This is a story of an unlikely friendship between a 17-year-old girl and an 83-year-old woman. What do they have in common, you ask? They are both terminally ill. We are all born knowing that one day our lives will come to an end.

Most of us don't know how or when, but if we did, how would that affect the way we live our lives? Lenni and Margot face death by living each moment to the fullest and teach us what's truly important in this life. Have you ever given thought to how you're living? After reading

this novel, I guarantee that you will."

—Bryan Forsythe, Library Technician

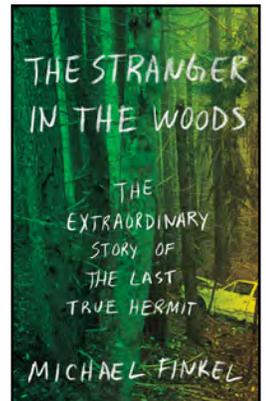


### ***The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit***

by Michael Finkel

"This is a biography of Christopher Knight, who was a hermit for 27 years in the state of Maine. He managed to survive the brutal winters without a cabin or heat. All he had was a tent in the great outdoors. He stole from the surrounding cabins for food and supplies such as books, batteries, and propane for cooking. Once Mr. Knight was captured, it's interesting to hear his perspective on life and how the world works."

—Spencer Pullen, Library Technician



### ***We are Legion (We are Bob)***

by Dennis E. Taylor

"An early 21st-century tech entrepreneur named Bob dies in a traffic accident and awakens a century later to find the experimental recording of his brain has been incorporated into an A.I. receptacle. Bob is launched into space and begins to explore a universe he could only dream of in his former life. Humorous and profound, Dennis Taylor uses a mixture of the practical and the innovative to speculate about aspects of future science and engineering."

—Willard Barnhouse, Library Technician





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