

Booklover's Cafe  
February 2019

The Library Book  
By Susan Orlean

Set in LA- extraordinary. Focus is the huge central city library that burned. Quite a few people thought that one guy lit it up and walked out. They did a lot of investigating and it turned out it wasn't him. The library design was fascinating. It had what seemed to be a great chimneys with books all around and the librarians would climb the stacks. They lost almost all of the books in the fire. There was a huge amount of help from the town people. Really fascinating- deals with a lot of history of libraries. Extremely well written - I never stopped reading it. I would recommend it to anyone.

The Footprints of God  
by Greed Iles

Scifi sort of story - doesn't sound too fictional though. The Center is a gigantic computer device- the idea is that it's more able to do anything than any computer device or human brain. The brain of a "maker" is sucked into the device. Seems like it's possible- I'd recommend it.

The Clockmaker's Daughter  
by Kate Morton

Fascinating. Set in England in different time periods. WWI, earlier, and later. The central characters are all women. One character seems to have died but hangs on in the house. I loved it- it's well written.

Sunny  
By Jason Reynolds

It's the third in a series. Sunny's mom died when he was born- his dad forced him to be a runner because his mom was a marathon runner. He realizes he wants to dance instead. It's all written from his perspective- from his diary.

The Ravenmaster  
by Christophe Skaife

About the raven master at the tower of London. There are 7 ravens currently in residence. They are there because of a pronouncement that the kingdom will fall if there are no ravens at the tower. It explains about them and what they eat, etc. He has to keep the ravens from harassing tourists, dogs and cats that live there. He also has to make sure foxes don't get the ravens. the title raven master came in 1968- before that it was called the Yeoman Quartermaster. The raven master lives with his family at the tower in quarters. One of the favorite treats for the ravens is dog biscuits in blood.

The Soul of an Octopus  
By Sy Montgomery

The author is a naturalist. She started getting interested in the octopus from going to the Boston Aquarium and observing them. She started getting into interacting with them. They're very intelligent. They are also very far away from our line of evolution. She talks about how conscious they are. She learned to scuba dive so she could interact with them in the wild. They have three hearts and eyes that look very much like ours.

The Soul of the Ape

by Eugene Marais

About studying baboons in the wild in 1903. He was a lawyer and journalist. He did a major study of termites and their social life. He was way ahead of his time. It was 60 years after he died that trained observers researched baboons in the wild.