

Booklover's July 2016

Start of the Trail: a Story of a Young Maine Guide

By Louise Dickinson Rich

About a boy who grows up in the woods- his father is a warden and he becomes a Maine guide. Talks about what he's learned about where to fish- all these old time things. Very interesting. She has a really good voice- it's humorous and very detailed. Fascinating.

Lost on a Mountain in Maine

By Don Fendler

"Based on the true account of a boy's harrowing journey through the vast wilderness of the Katahdin Mountains, Lost on a Mountain in Maine is a gripping survival story for all ages."

Written in Fire

By Marcus Sakey

Last of a trilogy- The Brilliance Trilogy. Starts out looking at American culture and what happens to the brilliant 1%- abilities that no one or very few people have. They become the abnormal vs. the normal. Very slowly grows a horrible separation of abnormal and normal- the normal having the power. Completely follows American culture to see how something like that might happen. Central character who belongs to an agency- then things start to deteriorate. Over time, the separation grows more and more significant until it leads to physical conflicts.

Do You Believe in Magic

By Paul Offett

Pediatrician in children's hospital in Pennsylvania. Isn't a strident anti-alternative- he just wants to look at the science. Very well reasoned and well balanced. Gently done. Each chapter talks about a different subject.

The House of Silk

By Anthony Horowitz

He's done a brilliant job recreating Holmes and Watson – spot on – beautifully set up. Holmes is called in by a wealthy art dealer who is afraid he's being stalked by a gang member. The pieces don't fit together – the more he looks into it the more things don't fit- and earlier he received an envelope that had a silk ribbon in it. Somehow this piece relates to the case. Delightful.

Philosophy Made Simple

By Robert Helenga

About a guy named Rudy Harrington who's an avocado dealer in Chicago- he has a friend in Texas who wants to sell his avocado grove. He has 3 daughters. His wife dies and he feels like he needs to get out of there- decides to put up a for sale sign on the front lawn of his house- they think it's a great idea cause they're worried about him- till they find out he's planning on buying an avocado farm in Texas. He goes to Texas. Laces the book with all these philosophical things. An elephant who paints named norma jean lives on the farm.

The Japanese Lover

By Isabel Allende

A love story and multigenerational epic that stretches from San Francisco in the present-day to Poland and the United States during World War II. Want to read every single word- Charming. Really recommend it .

They Take Our Jobs! And 20 Other Myths About Immigration

By Aviva Chomsky

“Claims that immigrants take Americans' jobs, are a drain on the American economy, contribute to poverty and inequality, destroy the social fabric, challenge American identity, and contribute to a host of social ills by their very existence are openly discussed and debated at all levels of society. Chomsky dismantles twenty of the most common assumptions and beliefs underlying statements like "I'm not against immigration, only illegal immigration" and challenges the misinformation in clear, straightforward prose.”

Covers the issue of teaching English- whether immigrants should be forced to learn English. A lot of them want to learn English. She says the issue becomes political it gets set up like other political things- it gets framed in a way that's expressed as if there's no debate. The scientific studies of the things should have more weight.