Lake Reads

I just got back from a week at Canandaigua Lake. While reading and enjoying the beautiful scenery, I started thinking of all the wonderful books that take place on a lake. Here are some of my favorite books that are great lake reads:

Crow Lake* - Mary Lawson  In the rural farm country of northern Ontario, the lives of two families—the farming Pye family, and zoologist Kate Morrison and her three brothers—are brought together and torn apart by misunderstanding, resentment, family love, and tragedy.

The Inn at Lake Devine - Elinor Lipman  When her mother receives a notice about a Vermont inn that caters especially to non-Jewish guests, Natalie Marx becomes obsessed with the once-restricted, family-owned resort and wangles an invitation to join a friend on a vacation there.

Lake Como - Anita Hughes  After walking in on her fiancé cheating on her with her boss, Hallie Elliot escapes to Lake Como in Italy where she becomes involved with a mysterious estate caretaker with a dark and secretive past.

The Lake of Dead Languages - Carol Goodman  Returning to the Heart Lake School for Girls as a Latin teacher to start a new life with her daughter, Jane is haunted by past tragedy and terrifying memories when she begins receiving menacing messages.

*available for Book Club in a Bag All summaries from the publisher

If you are interested in reading any of these books, please ask a Readers’ Service Librarian at the second floor Readers’ Services Desk. – Evelyn Hershkowitz, Readers’ Services Librarian

TWA Flight 800 Remembered

July 17th, 2016 marks the 20th anniversary of the crash of TWA Flight 800. The Boeing 747 took off from JFK Airport and crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off Center Moriches inlet shortly after takeoff. The flight was headed to Paris, France. Sadly, all 230 passengers on board were killed.

Various conspiracy theories exist as to what actually brought down the aircraft. The most popular being a missile strike from a terrorist attack. The NTSB investigation ruled out these conspiracy theories. The NTSB concluded that the probable cause of the accident was an explosion of flammable fuel/air vapors in the main fuel tank.

Many books have been written about TWA Flight 800. Syosset Public Library has the following books available for further information regarding the fourth deadliest plane crash in U.S. history:

TWA 800: The Crash, the Cover-up and the Conspiracy - Jack Cashill

In the Blink of an Eye: The FBI Investigation of TWA Flight 800 - Pat Milton

Deadly Departure: Why the Experts Failed to Prevent the TWA Flight 800 Disaster and How it Could Happen Again - Christine Negroni

And check out the novel Night Fall by Nelson DeMille which is based on the crash of TWA Flight 800. –Lisa Jones, Readers’ Services Librarian
Promoting Happiness through Books

The inspiration for this month’s article is from an Oprah SuperSoul Sunday series. I was surfing channels and came across Oprah discussing ways of finding happiness. This special featured various writers discussing their books on the topic. I could not help but think that these books would be great for book groups. With bad news constantly bombarding our lives, it is important to experience “true” happiness whenever it can be achieved. It turns out that sometimes the mind needs to be taught how to achieve it. Here are some books that might interest your book club:

**Before Happiness: The 5 Hidden Keys to Achieving Success, Spreading Happiness, and Sustaining Positive Change** by Shawn Achor

Demonstrates the importance of a positive mindset in promoting motivation, engagement, and performance in the workplace, outlining five actionable strategies for reducing the negative effects of stress, finding creative solutions, and identifying opportunities.

**The Happiness Project: Or Why I Spent a Year Trying to Sing in the Morning, Clean My Closets, Fight Right, Read Aristotle, and Generally Have More Fun** by Gretchen Rubin

Chronicles the author’s year spent testing the edicts of conventional wisdom to assess their potential for improving life, describing various activities ranging from getting more sleep and singing to her children to starting a blog and imitating a spiritual master.

**100 Days of Happiness** by Fausto Brizzi

Discovering that he has inoperable cancer and only a few months to live, a charismatic womanizer spends his final days attempting to care for his family, win back his soulmate, reconnect with friends and become the man he was meant to be.

**One More Theory About Happiness: A Memoir** by Paul Guest

Describes the accident that turned the author into a quadriplegic and his struggle to find independence, love, and a life on his own terms.

All summaries from the publishers.

-Jean Simpson, Readers’ Services Librarian

---

**This Year’s Top Book Club Picks So Far**

Ever wonder what other book clubs are reading? The website Bookmovement.com publishes lists of books that are popular with the more than 35,000 book clubs that are registered with the site. The following titles are the ones most discussed by those groups so far for this year:

1. **A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman
2. **The Nightingale** by Kristin Hannah
3. **All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr
4. **The Nest** by Cynthia D’Aprix Sweeney
5. **The Japanese Lover** by Isabel Allende
6. **Fates and Furies** by Lauren Groff
7. **My Brilliant Friend** by Elena Ferrante
8. **The Life We Bury** by Allen Eskens
9. **The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry** by Gabrielle Zevin
10. **Ordinary Grace** by William Kent Krueger

-Sonia Grgas, Reference Librarian