

Andover Libraries Page

Through the Reading Glasses March 2022

Janet Moore
Trustee, Andover Libraries

Colson Whitehead is an award-winning author in love with New York City. He was born there, grew up in Manhattan, and after graduating from Harvard, went right back to the city to write.

He has been given MacArthur and Guggenheim fellowships, the National Book Award, two Pulitzer Prizes, and is the author of *The Underground Railroad*, a fascinating look at the possibility of an actual train beneath the surface, freeing enslaved people in pre-Civil War America.

In *Harlem Shuffle* he sticks to reality; almost every reviewer has called it a love letter to Harlem. Set in the 1960s against the backdrop of a city just on the edge of strikes and protests (although when is New York City not on the edge?), the story zeroes in on a colorful cast of characters that manage to make you laugh and cry simultaneously. Leaving you on the edge of your seat certainly isn't out of the question either!

Given Ray Carney's occupation as furniture salesman and sometimes fence for his cousin Freddie, you can't help but get caught up in family matters as Ray tries to maintain a respectable facade for his in-laws and wife, while he

skates on very thin ice with the crooks Freddie leads him to.

It's a crime novel, sure, but what crimes and plots these are. Chet the Vet, Miami Joe, Zippo, Detective Munson, Moskowitz the jeweler, Mam Lacey, and Pepper all have a hand in the Hotel Theresa heist, which leads to imaginable consequences in Whitehead's 1960s Harlem.

Although I'd love to tell you more about the plot and Ray Carney's truly inventive way of getting back at the crime bosses making his legitimate life almost unbearable, I'd rather leave you with a passage that evoked summer in a certain area of NYC.

"This first hot spell of the year was a rehearsal for the summer to come. Everyone was a bit rusty but it was coming back, their parts in the symphony and assigned solos. On the corner, two white cops recapped the fire hydrant, cursing. Kids had been running in and out of the spray for days. Threadbare blankets lined fire escapes. The stoops bustled with men in undershirts drinking beer and jiving over the noise from transistor radios.... Unseen on the rooftops, the denizens of tar beaches pointed to the lights of bridges and night planes."

GOT NEWS? Mail@AndoverBeacon.com or 603 735-6099



Franklin Footlight Theatre
Presents:
Little Women
By Matt Buchanan
www.FranklinOperaHouse.org

March 10-12
7:30 p.m.
March 13
2:00 p.m.
Tickets
\$14 & \$16

Based on the cherished novel by Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women* tells the story of the four March girls, Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy, as they grow to adulthood in Civil War era New England.



FRANKLIN OPERA HOUSE
Arts and Entertainment Center
316 Central St. • City Hall • Franklin

Saturday, March 26
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STRING FLING
Audrey Budington
Dan Faiella
Scott Kiefner

Limited reserved seating
For best selection purchase online
www.FranklinOperaHouse.org
or call 603-934-1901

Andover Public Library New Acquisitions

Adult Fiction

The Becoming, Nora Roberts
Last Man Standing,
William W. Johnstone
The Last Man on the Street,
Diane Chamberlain
Reminders of Him, Colleen Hoover
Invisible, Danielle Steel
Shadow's Reel, C.J. Box
Abandoned in Death, J.D. Robb
City of the Dead, Jonathan Kellerman
Code Talker, Joseph Bruchac
You Can Go Your Own Way, Eric Smith
This is Why We Lie, Gabriella Lepore

Adult Nonfiction

I Didn't Do the Thing Today,

Madeleine Dore
Chasing History, Carl Bernstein
Lost and Found, Kathryn Schulz

Children's Books

Escapade Johnson Books 1-4,
Michael Sullivan
The Powers: Haven's Secret,
Melissa and Jessica Benoit
The Vanderbeekers Make a Wish,
Karina Yan Glaser
Operation Do-Over, Gordon Korman
Rubylicious, Victoria Kann
Pete the Cat: Valentine's Day Is Cool,
Kimberly and James Dean
Funny Valentine,
Stan and Jan Berenstain
The Valentine Bears,
Eve Bunting and Jan Brett
Where Butterflies Grow, Joanne Ryder

Bachelder Library New Acquisitions

Adult Fiction

Beach Wedding, Michael Ledwidge
Black Cake, Charmaine Wilkerson
The Book of Two Ways, Jodi Picoult
Journey of the Pharaohs, Clive Cussler
The Lover: The Sufi Mysteries
Quartet, Book One, Laury Silvers
The Jealous: The Sufi Mysteries
Quartet, Book Two, Laury Silvers
The Unseen: The Sufi Mysteries
Quartet, Book Three, Laury Silvers
The Keeper of Lost Things,
Ruth Hogan
The Maid, Nita Prose
Small Things Like These,
Claire Keegan
Something to Hide, Elizabeth George
The Unknown, Heather Graham

Adult Nonfiction

Call Us What We Carry, Poems,
Amanda Gorman
Civil Rights Queen: Constance
Baker Motley and the Struggle for
Equality, Tomiko-Brown Nagin
Colors of Paradise: A Spiritual
Journey, ed. Fereidun Shokatfard
How the Word Is Passed, Clint Smith
On Juneteenth, Annette Gordon-Reed

Children's Books

Before I Grew Up, John Miller
The Boy Whose Head Was Filled
With Stars: A Life of Edwin
Hubble, Isabelle Marinov
Colors of Love and Peace, The
186th Street Elementary School,
Gardena, California
Happy Valentine's Day, Mouse,
Laura Joffe Numeroff

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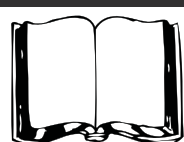
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and MVHS Guidance Office

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