

SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 63 ■ WINTER 2019 ■ \$2.00



- ROBERT LEPAGE AT THE MORRIN CENTRE
- ON THE SHELF: ROGUES, SCOUNDRELS, AND WILD WOMEN
- 2019 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE KIDS' SECTION

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QUÉBECOR

SOCIETY PAGES

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The mission of the **Morrin Centre** is to share and foster English-language culture in the Quebec City region. The Morrin Centre is administered by the Literary & Historical Society of Quebec. ISSN 1913-0732

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members, Partners, and Friends,

As we near the end of 2019, I am very pleased with what we have accomplished this year.

The 11th annual Literary Feast was held on October 30 and it was a tremendous success.

This year, we had the pleasure of welcoming Jean St-Gelais, chairman of the board and CEO of La Capitale Insurance and Financial Services as honorary chair of the event, and Quebec City's renowned director, actor and playwright Robert Lepage as keynote speaker. Mr. Lepage captivated the audience while discussing his play *887*, a journey into his childhood memories of growing up in Quebec City. After hosting the VIP event, Mr. St-Gelais announced that the Fondation La Capitale would be making a commitment of a total of \$60,000 over four years to support the Morrin Centre. This generous donation will

support children's programming, including the Imagination in Schools initiative, and is further proof that our mission resonates with the larger community.

This fall, we have continued to expand our educational programming by offering coding workshops in local schools. To date, more than a dozen of these workshops have been given by Education Coordinator Azanie Roy.

The My Morrin Program has continued successfully this year with four different events by LHSQ members. We are pleased with the success of these events funded by Friends of the Morrin memberships. I look forward to more of these interesting events in the coming year and encourage you to submit an application.

My best wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

Barry Holleman
President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Members, partners, and friends,

As we head into another holiday season, I look back on another exciting year at the Morrin Centre with pride.

Last May, the Morrin Centre earned Museum Status from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications. This status resulted in funding being granted to develop our permanent exhibit and our heritage programming.

It has been another record-breaking year for guided tours, with an estimated 60,000+ people participating in one of our tours at the Centre.

One of the highlights of this fall's programming has been the **Open Book – Intercultural Dialogues** series, which has been presented in partnership with Voice of English-Speaking Quebec. This project presented authors representing the diversity of Canada's literary landscape and the discussions used literature as a way

to let both newcomers and locals share perspectives and build bridges between cultures. We look forward to continuing it in the new year.

Our greatest success of the past year has been the significant increase in participation in our children's activities. In fact, so far this year our various programs have attracted more than 2,600 children and students. As a result of this wonderful rise in attendance, we have decided to focus this year's annual campaign on revamping the children's section of our library. Our campaign, entitled #LHSQLibraryLove, will help us build a new bookshelf for our ever-growing children's collection, upgrade the lighting in our permanent exhibit, purchase a new rug and reupholster the armchairs.

We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing you in the coming year.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

Barry McCullough
Executive Director

THE BOTANICAL GEOGRAPHY OF CANADA

By Samuel Sturton



Over the course of the 19th century, the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec and its members contributed to the study of botany and the natural sciences. The LHSQ had numerous natural history objects in its collection and many articles relating to botany appeared in the society's publication, Transactions.

In the last issue of Society Pages, the first part of Samuel Sturton's article was published. You will find below the second part of this article, which appeared in Transactions in 1863.

ARTICLE VIII.—A FEW THOUGHTS ON THE BOTANICAL GEOGRAPHY OF CANADA

By S. Sturton, Esq., Associate Member

I will not here speculate on Geology, but there are certain facts which geologists admit, and such facts I may be allowed to make use of.

There have been great changes in the land to the north; there was less land when the climate was warmer, more land when the climate was more severe. If you look at a globe or map of the circumpolar regions you will see that Europe, and Asia, as far east as the Gulf of Obi, only extend, on an average, to 70° north; our own continent directly north of us extends to 80° north, which accounts for the extreme rigour of our climate. As you travel westward the climate becomes milder because the land to the north is decreased. We may therefore safely infer that during the glacial period the cold of Europe was occasioned by more land to the north, perhaps connecting Spitzbergen, Norway, Iceland, and Greenland. This is scarcely a theory, for we know that Europe had that glacial period which would certainly be occasioned by such a tract of land to the north as I am pleading for.

Alpine plants will bear any degree of winter cold if they have enough summer heat to bring them into flower and mature their seeds. And during this glacial period we are not to consider our country was a land of perpetual ice and snow. The sun had the same altitude at midsummer then as now, and beneath those burning rays plants would spring up and flower even as they do now. And further, to prove that the glacial period of Canada was much the same as now, we have only to consider that at the present time icebergs are scoring the rocks and depositing boulders in true "glacial

period" fashion in a part of the Atlantic, where the cold is not so extreme as at Quebec. So that the cold of the glacial period would not prevent the passage of our northern plants in high latitudes.

But we will pass from theories to certainties. Now in both hemispheres we find the remains of the mammoth, and I believe that animals and plants have migrated from one continent to the other by the same means, and that the bridge of passage for one has also been the bridge of passage for the other. And not only do we find the mammoths on both continents, but we also find them frozen in the cliffs on the American side of Behring's Straits; thus placing beyond doubt one point of passage for these animals, and wherever these animals roamed there must have existed for their support a flora equal to that northern flora of our country, the northern passage of which by land we contend for.

During the latter ages of the Tertiary period, when the Fauna and Flora began to assume their present appearance, the main features of the land were much the same as now. Europe and Asia were then separated by the broad Atlantic, and the gulf-stream then issued from the gulf; for the different fauna in the opposite Pacific shows there the gulfstream did not flow through the Isthmus, into the ocean beyond; and also the fact of the megatherium having wandered from Brazil to the United States, shows that there was a land communication between North and South America for him to pass over. And the fossil remains of Australia show that the zoological provinces were much the same then as now.

TRANSACTIONS

👉 **BOTANICAL GEOGRAPHY** (continued from previous page)

It is considered and with evident truth that during the Tertiary period the climate oscillated, and that several cold waves of great length of time, at different periods, passed over these northern parts. Now we will suppose that the mammoth and these plants crossed via Behring's Straits or Greenland while the climate there was a little warmer (perhaps, as warm as Canada is now,) that a cold wave came slowly on from the north, bearing animals and plants southward before it, and located them for some time, in comparatively southern regions; that at length the cold wave retreated and the plains becoming too warm for the arctic plants, they followed the retreating wave or ascended mountain tops in search of those cool retreats denied to them in the plains beneath. This theory will also account for Spanish flowers being found in the British Isles, without calling to our aid an imaginary continent stretching from Spain to Scandinavia.

During these changes the Isle of Java had once so low a temperature that its trees were the dicotyledonous trees of the temperate zones, and not the monocotyledonous trees which now grow there. During that period the plains of Java were inhabited by an animal which like our alpine plants, has retreated to the mountain tops to escape from the heat below.

I will now call your attention to the alpine specimens again. The *Geum rivale*, *Streptopus*, *Barbarea*, *Linnoea*, *Primula*, *Impatiens*, *Astragalus*, *Oxytropis*, *Epilobium*, *Circaea*, *Ranunculus*, *Anemone*, *Drosera*, *Pyrola*, *Arbutus Uva ursi*, *Virburnum opulus*, *Myosotis palustris*, *Parnassia*, &c., all of which are found in Scotland, Norway, Canada, and the Alps. The *Barbarea vulgaris* is sold in our markets for watercress, which they are not, but being equally beneficial, the substitution is harmless; the true watercress has white flowers, this has yellow.

I will now go one step further and attempt to prove that arctic and other species of our common flowers are only varieties sprung from one common parent stock. Show any person a *Pyrola*, he will recognize all others as *pyrolas* immediately; the same with many

other of our species, and he will not notice the difference till pointed out in a scientific manner. We have near Quebec the *Ilepatica triloba* and *H. acutifolia*. I have found the change pass by imperceptible gradations from the *three* round lobed leaves of the former to the *four* and *five* acute lobes of the latter, and though the two species are very well separated in books it is impossible to separate them in nature, therefore I class them as varieties.



William Jackson Hooker,
Flora Boreali-Americana (1840)

The main objection against species being varieties rests upon the difficulty of crossing and obtaining fertile hybrids. This is what I should have expected a priori, for the delicate organs of reproduction participate in the change and unfit them for mutual fertilization. But many hybrids are fertile, and nature does not refuse to continue a hybrid plant by cuttings. Besides it is a necessary law of nature that a hardy alpine variety should not lose its hardiness, by continually crossing with its relatives in the warmer plains below.

That plants from England, cultivated in the plains of Bengal, should not by that great change of climate be forced to become new species is

again no more than I should expect a priori, for if an English plant can grow and thrive in Bengal, what is there to force that plant to make changes in itself? If the climate already suits the plant no further change is required to suit the plant, to the climate. If climate does effect change in plants, it is when, after successive struggles for ages, they adapt themselves to new circumstances which would be fatal to the life of the unadapted plant.

If the *Epilobium angustifolium* were to attempt to ascend mountains or higher latitudes it would be arrested by unsuitability of temperature, and if it succeeds ultimately in any of these attempts it must adapt itself to altered circumstances and become a similar, more hardy, alpine variety exactly as we find it, and of which I have here specimens collected in the Alps and at Quebec. Professor Dawson in his ascent of Mount Washington gives a most graphic account of how the plants struggle to ascend, and are we to consider

TRANSACTIONS

that this struggle would continue for ages and none of the strugglers succeed in reaching the mountain top in an altered form?

I consider we have many direct proofs of these transmutations. I will particularly instance the water crowfoot of England, and *Ranunculus Purshii* of this country. The leaves which are submerged are all dissected into threads, if partly emerged the leaves above the water are ordinary leaves, if entirely out of the water all the leaves are ordinary leaves, and yet notwithstanding this great difference of leaves every Botanist is obliged by the force of facts to make it one species. Then look at these two species of *Geum*, they can be most readily distinguished by their radical leaves, and yet these leaves do not differ so much as do the leaves of the same *Ranunculus* in and out of the water, and if we have to abandon leaves as distinguishing species much less can we take the color and size of the petals which every florist knows to be most variable. I think you will therefore grant me that these may be only two varieties of one common species—if so you must go one step further and grant me that as these two varieties grow side by side and do not hybridize naturally, therefore when plants are altered by change of station their delicate organs of reproduction are so altered as to be usually incapable of fertilizing one another.

If these plants and others which might be mentioned afford us instances of alterations taking place under our eyes, the science of Botany reveals far greater changes as taking place now or that have been arrested in the state of changes, and suffered to go no further.

In a symmetrical flower the sepals, petals and stamens are all on the same numerical plan, and where the stamens are in excess of the normal number they are found to be multiples of that number, and placed in successive circles in alternate order. Some flowers are evidently intended for symmetrical but have undergone a change. Our *Chelone* and *Penstemon* are good examples; the plan of each flower is evidently five and yet there are only four stamens, the fifth being sterile. Our common mustard is another evident deviation from a regular plan; it has four sepals, four petals and six stamens, whereas it should have four or eight stamens. In this case it is explained by the theory of reduplication or chorisism; that is, that two of the stamens are split into four, so that in reality we have only the four stamens which the plan requires. Again the *Ledum* is on the plan of five, and yet we find two

species one with five and another with ten stamens, and sometimes intermediate forms with six or seven stamens; these latter being the transitional state from five to ten. If these changes are allowed then most of our species are only varieties. The *Pyrals* are so much alike, that if they are arranged in a gradual scale of deviation we at once see that even the extreme links of the chain are with the intermediate united together as one common species. Our numerous *Asters* and *Solidagos* do not hybridize naturally, and yet florists in England make them cross by tying their heads together, and I believe these hybrids are fertile.

I would also call attention to the fact that almost all animals which are common to both worlds have polar representatives, as the Bear, Buffalo, Deer, Fox, Lynx; while Lions, Tigers, Sloths, &c., which cannot bear extreme cold and have no polar representatives, are confined to one continent.

So that from zoology as well as from botany I draw the same inference, that almost all plants and animals which are common to both continents are those which in their present or arctic varieties are capable of bearing great cold, and therefore migrated in the north, (either east or west) where the land approximated.

I have stated my belief that alpine plants are dwarfed specimens of the same plants growing in the warmer plains. We may follow the willow to the extreme north, gradually growing less and less till it becomes the exquisitely small polar willow. If these dwarfed specimens in their struggle to descend into warmer plains succeeded, they would assimilate more food, lose the alpine character and become large plants; but instead of returning to their original state they would develop into new varieties; thus after a species passed at Behring's Straits it would descend south and give rise to several varieties. It is thus that I account for many of our trees, shrubs, &c., which belong to European genera, being of different species, and for these changes must be allowed a length of time which geology will truly grant.

I therefore conclude that plants (and animals) have migrated by land, or at most, only crossed narrow seas from island to island; that they certainly have passed by Behring's Straits and probably by northern land, between Europe and America, which does not now exist; and that most of our species are only varieties of that variety which crossed at the north. ■

LIBRARY PAGES

SPECIAL GUEST DR. MÉLANIE ANNE ZIMMERMANN LEADS STORYTIME

By Azanie Roy

Dr. Mélanie Zimmerman is the new Consul General of the United States in Quebec City. Prior to arriving in Canada, she was the Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargée d’Affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Port Louis, Mauritius, accredited to both Mauritius and the Seychelles.

After learning about the Centre’s children’s reading program, Dr. Zimmerman volunteered to lead a storytime activity. On November 9, she captivated our young audience’s attention with her lively reading. She brought her friend, Oscar, a kind American Teddy bear to read with her. The children were delighted by his presence and loved holding him while Dr. Zimmerman read *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch and *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf.



Children were encouraged to participate in the activity by acting out different parts of the books. They became dragons during the reading of *The Paper Bag Princess* and fighting bulls when reading *The Story of Ferdinand*. They made noises to accompany the story and answered questions throughout the reading. Parents also had a wonderful time at the event, as many of them had been read *The Story of Ferdinand* as children and were glad to share this moment with their family.

Following the reading, participants made a craft inspired by flowers in *The Story of Ferdinand*. Dr. Zimmerman accompanied the children during this activity and answered questions about her work to the children and parents in attendance. ■

INTRODUCING THE BOOKWORM PROJECT

By Sophie Bergeron

Young readers and their parents might have noticed a new label on a few books in the children’s section. They feature a little worm named Winston, the mascot of our new Bookworm Project!

The goal of the Bookworm Project is to encourage children to engage with a story by answering questions about the books they read.

Upon opening a book with the bookworm label, Winston is there to welcome the reader to the story and ask them a few questions. To get children excited about the story, Winston asks them to reflect on their

personal experiences or to guess what is about to happen in the story. Once the reader has finished reading the book, Winston invites them to answer three questions about the story. Before closing the book, Winston has one more thing to share with the reader: a suggestion for a fun activity that young readers can do alone or with their parents!

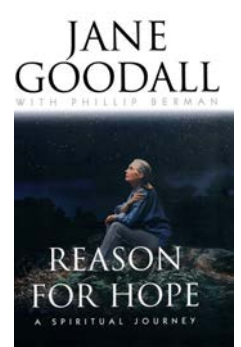
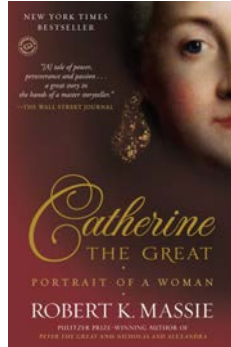
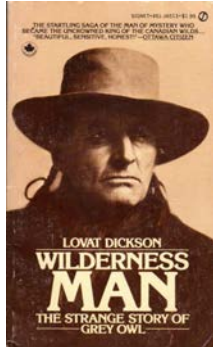
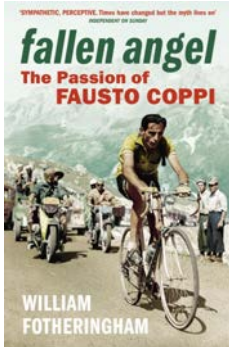
The Bookworm Project is only starting, so keep an eye out as Winston makes his way through more books of the Morrin Centre library’s children’s section! ■

LIBRARY PAGES

ON THE SHELF

ROGUES, SCOUNDRELS, AND WILD WOMEN

By Britta Gundersen-Bryden



Biographies give readers insights into human nature. They have the power to inspire and instruct. They also have the ability to fascinate and titillate. The library has many of the first type of work on the biography shelves—and more than a few of the second sort, too.

Rogue or scoundrel? William Fotheringham's 2009 account of a divorce that shocked Italy in the 1950s, *Fallen Angel: The Passion of Fausto Coppi*, demonstrates how social mores—and labels—often change over time.

Not only time but also geographical and national perspectives influence biographers. *Benedict Arnold: A Traitor in Our Midst* by Barry K. Wilson (2001) is a Canadian take on one of North America's more notable (or notorious?) 18th-century military officers.

Sometimes dust jacket notes capture the essence of a book. This is so in the case of *The Unruly Life of Woody Allen* by Marion Meade (2000). Allen is certainly not the only personality for whom the following is true: "The lines separating art and fact, myth and reality, public and private life, became increasingly blurred."

Charlie Chaplin played any number of semi-rogues. His life is the subject of *Charlie Chaplin and His Times* by Kenneth S. Lynn (1997) and *My Autobiography* (1964).

In *Wrong Way: The Fall of Conrad Black* (2004), Jacquie McNish and Sinclair Stewart, both *Globe and Mail* business reporters, detailed how Black ran his newspaper empire "like a fiefdom."

Who could resist a biography entitled *A Pirate of Exquisite Mind: Explorer, Naturalist and Buccaneer, The Life*

of William Dampier by Diana and Michael Preston (2004). While the book is divided into five parts, it is Part 2: "The Buccaneer" that earned the book a place here.

Too Close to the Sun: The Audacious Life and Times of Denys Finch Hatton was penned by Sara Wheeler (2006). This early-20th-century adventurer inspired Karen Blixen to write *Out of Africa* (1937). Blixen's memoir is also in the library.

Wilderness Man: The Strange Story of Grey Owl by Lovat Dickson (1973) tells the story of British-born Archie Belaney, the man who took on the persona of Grey Owl in one of Canada's most notable cases of cultural appropriation. Nonetheless, Belaney was able to bring public attention to the need to preserve important wilderness habitats in northern Ontario.

Jean-Paul Crespelle was an art critic who knew not only his subject but also most of his subject's lovers. *Picasso and His Women* (1969) provides glimpses into the private (and-not-so-private) life of a modern art icon.

Wild women were often viewed with raised eyebrows. Sometimes their lives bordered on scandalous; more often they were simply unconventional—for their times. Consider Cornelius Otis Skinner's 1967 biography of Sarah Bernhardt, the queen of early 20th-century theatre: *Madame Sarah*. (No, not "madam.")

The adjective "unconventional" certainly fits Canadian artist Emily Carr. The library has fourteen works about, or by, Carr. Try *Opposite Contraries: The Unknown Journals of Emily Carr*, edited by Susan Cream (2003).

LIBRARY PAGES

👉 **ON THE SHELF** (continued from previous page)

Side-by-side on the biography shelves readers will find *Catherine de Medici* by Leonie Friede (2003) and *Catherine the Great* by Robert Massie (2011). Though not contemporaries, readers can imagine the conversation that would have ensued had the French queen consort and the Russian empress met for afternoon tea (or something stronger).

The subject may not be well-known, but how can any reader resist a biography with the title *Rebel Heart: The Scandalous Life of Jane Digby* by Mary Lovell (1995)? Digby was a Victorian-era divorcee (scandalous enough) who wooed—and was wooed by—an Arab sheik. In the end, she married him and made her home in the desert (doubly scandalous).

Closer in time and place, readers may want to try *More than a Woman: An Intimate Biography of Bette Davis* by James Spada (1993) or Jane Fonda's autobiography, *My Life So Far*, the 2005 sequel to an earlier book.

The term “wild women” takes on a different meaning when applied to those who followed their passion to

study our primate connections. At a time when many primates—including the chimpanzees of Tanzania—were (and still are) under threat, Jane Goodall w/ Phillip Berman, offered *Reason for Hope: A Spiritual Journey* (1999). Though not a biography, readers will also find Dian Fossey's *Gorillas in the Mist* (1983) in the library.

Few artists were as complex and creative as Frieda Kahlo. Author and psychiatrist Salomon Grimberg took a unique approach to biography by combining interviews, photos and reproductions of art in *Frieda Kahlo: Song of Herself* (2008).

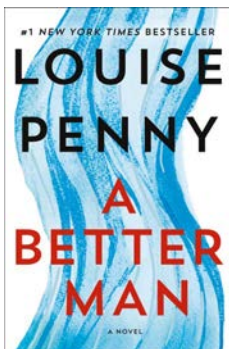
She was exciting, yes, and a spy, maybe. But did she deserve to be executed by a firing squad? Sam Waagenaar explored one of the most intriguing women of the 20th century in *The Murder of Mata Hari* (1964).

There are not any biographies of rogues, scoundrels and wild women on the young readers' shelves (with the exception of those individuals whose once-stellar legacies have been revisited in light of 21st century understandings). But there are plenty of examples of interesting historical figures and fictional characters who are sometimes more naughty than nice. ■

A BETTER MAN

BY LOUISE PENNY

Review by Gail Cameron



It has been almost a year since the last Chief Inspector Armand Gamache novel, and I had been waiting with bated breath to get my hands on this 15th book in the series. I dove right in and devoured the book cover to cover. It felt like I was catching up with close family friends that had been away for far too long. I confess to being a fan!

This novel brings us up to date with our favorite characters dealing with several dramatic life-threatening events simultaneously, both in and out of Three Pines. We find Inspector Gamache re-joining the Sureté du Québec after his suspension, although in an inferior position. He is now second-in-command to his son-in-

law Jean-Guy Beauvoir, head of the homicide division. While social media is delivering a hard blow to his reputation, Inspector Gamache needs to deal with more pressing matters. The spring waters are rising at an amazing rate, causing widespread flood warnings. More importantly, there is the disappearance of a young woman thought to be in imminent danger. Time is running out. There are several persons of interest and many emotions involved. What would you do? Where do you draw the line?

Times are changing, choices are being made and life in Three Pines will not be the same. Louise Penny immerses us in a place where community and friendships are ingrained and enviable. I would love to say more but I'll let you discover it for yourselves!

Enjoy! I certainly did! ■

LIBRARY PAGES

NEW ACQUISITIONS

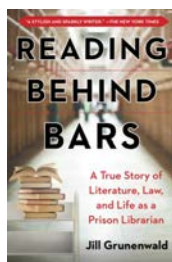
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*A Road Called
Down On Both
Sides*

Caroline Kurtz
BIO K95 2019
Biography

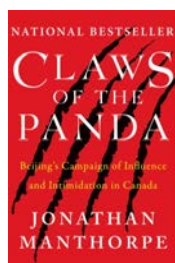


*Reading Behind
Bars*

Jill A. Grunenwald
BIO G89I 2019
Biography

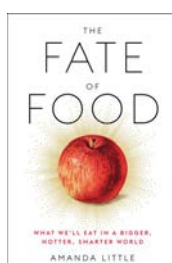


Albatross
Terry Fallis
F195 2019
Fiction



*Claws of the
Panda*

Jonathan
Manthorpe
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Non-Fiction

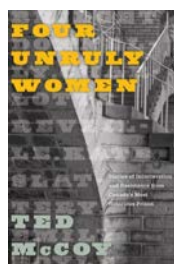


*The Fate of
Food*

Amanda Little
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Non-Fiction

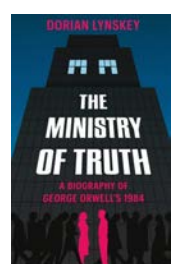


All Fall Down
Jennifer Weiner
W423 2014
Fiction



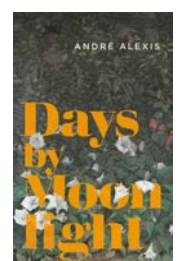
*Four Unruly
Women*

Ted McCoy
365 M129
Non-Fiction

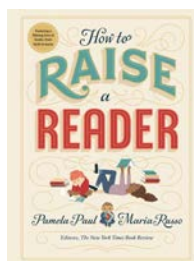


*The Ministry of
Truth*

Dorian Lynskey
BIO O79 2019
Biography

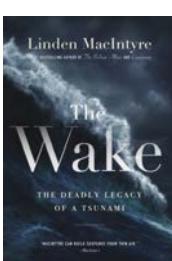


*Days by
Moonlight*
André Alexis
A384 2019
Fiction



*How to Raise a
Reader*

Dan Yaccarino
649.58 P324
Non-Fiction

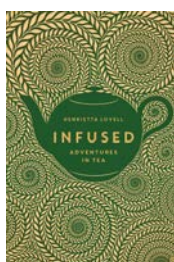


The Wake

Linden MacIntyre
363.349 M158
Non-Fiction

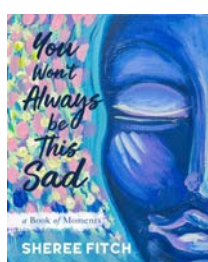


Five Wives
Joan Thomas
T458 2019
Fiction



*Infused:
Adventures in
Tea*

Henrietta Lovell
641 L899
Non-Fiction



*You Won't
Always Be This
Sad*

Sheree Fitch
152.4 F546
Non-Fiction



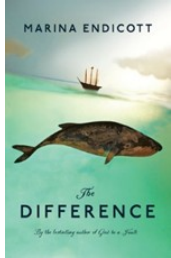
Island
Johanna Skibsrud
S628 2019
Fiction

LIBRARY PAGES

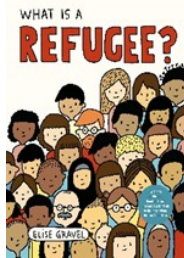
NEW ACQUISITIONS

Some of the new titles in the library collection are listed below.

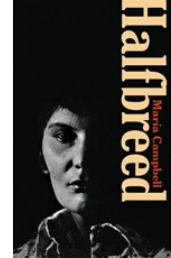
To reserve a book, please contact the library at **418-694-9147**, or visit our online catalogue at www.morrin.org



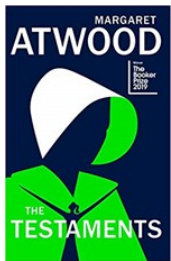
The Difference
Marina Endicott
E56 2019
Fiction



What Is a Refugee?
Elise Gravel
J 305 G775
Children



Halfbreed
Maria Campbell
BIO C189 2019
Biography



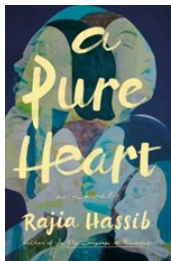
The Testaments
Margaret Atwood
A877 2019
Fiction



Hello, Universe
Erin Entrada Kelly
JF KEL 2017
Children



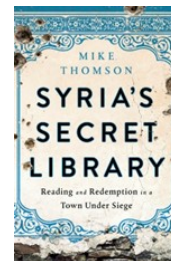
Mistakes to Run With
Yasuko Thanh
BIO T367 2019
Biography



A Pure Heart
Rajia Hassib
H344 2019
Fiction



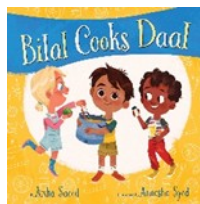
Jane, the Fox And Me
Fanny Britt
JF BRI 2013
Children



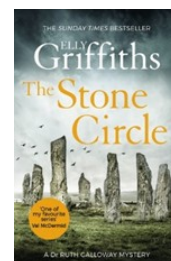
Syria's Secret Library
Mike Thomson
BIO T474 2019
Biography



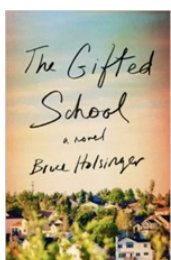
Gingerbread
Helen Oyeyemi
O98 2019
Fiction



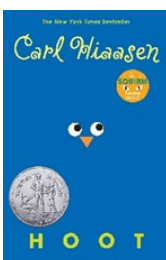
Bilal Cooks Daal
Aisha Saeed
JP SAE 2019
Children



The Stone Circle
Elly Griffiths
G853 2019
Fiction



The Gifted School
Bruce W. Holsinger
H756 2019
Fiction



Hoot
Carl Hiaasen
JF HIA 2002
Children



Things You Save in a Fire
Katherine Center
C397 2019
Fiction

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Children's activities are back in 2020 and will begin on January 11th with a Pyjama Party during Storytime.
All children's activities are free!



STORYTIME

Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m.
(Children ages 3-7)

January 11: Pyjama Party

January 18: Science

January 25: Yoga

February 1: Wild Animals

February 8: All About Snowflakes

February 15: Reptile Club



DRAMA CLUB

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
(Children ages 8 to 12)

January 21: Drama Club

February 4: Drama Club

February 18: Drama Club



S.T.E.M. CLUB

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
(Children ages 8 to 12)

January 14: All About Water

January 28: Physics

February 11: The Science of Music

February 25: Coding

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

LITERARY FEAST 2019

By Rosemarie Fischer



On October 30, the Morrin Centre held its 11th annual Literary Feast fundraising dinner. This year, the LHSQ had the pleasure of welcoming Jean St-Gelais, chairman of the board and CEO of La Capitale Insurance and Financial Services as honorary chair of the event and renowned director, actor and playwright Robert Lepage, a Quebec City native, as keynote speaker.

The evening began with a VIP event featuring St-Gelais, who was interviewed by former CBC cultural reporter Jeanette Kelly. The prison exhibit room was the perfect setting for this intimate conversation which highlighted St-Gelais's life and career in the public and private sectors.

After the cocktail in the library, guests proceeded to College Hall, which was beautifully decorated for the evening. Kelly, the evening's master of ceremonies, welcomed everyone to the event and announced the start of the silent auction, which was held online for the first time. There were 46 auction items to bid on, including a silver pendant necklace with an amethyst stone donated by Zimmermann Québec jewelers, a hand-woven, arrow-patterned scarf given by Catherine Lessard, and an always-popular bottle of whisky donated by Québec Whisky.

For the first time, the Literary Feast was catered by the Montego Resto-Club. After a delicious appetizer of foie gras and duck rillettes, LHSQ president Barry Holleman introduced St-Gelais. After a brief allocution, St-Gelais announced that the Fondation La Capitale would be making a multi-year commitment of \$60,000 over 4 years to support the Morrin Centre's mission. This announcement was followed by a warm round of applause from the more than 130 guests present at the event.

This exciting announcement was followed by a delicious main course of grilled veal medallion and potato confit with Italian tomato compote served with bocconcini salsa. The meal was as good as it sounds and the service was excellent.

Following the meal, the audience was treated to a captivating and candid talk with Lepage, hosted by Kelly. He spoke about his play, *887*, which is a journey into his childhood memories of growing up at 887 rue Murray in the Montcalm neighbourhood of Quebec City. He explained how projects and ideas evolve and change throughout the creative process and that without initially intending it to, the play became an homage to his hard-working father, who drove a taxi to support his family. He shared his father's story, explaining that he was a World War II veteran who learned English in the army. Robert Lepage's father had very little formal schooling, and teaching his children English was his way of contributing to their education. He also based the characters of *887* on real people who lived in his neighbourhood, but not necessarily in his building. He also thanked LHSQ member Louisa Blair, who was present at the Literary Feast, for her excellent English translation of the play, which was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Awards.

He then spoke about the opening of Le Diamant theatre at Place d'Youville and how historically, the location was the marketplace where people from

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

LITERARY FEAST (continued from previous page)

upper and lower town came together. He believes that Le Diamant will become a place where people of all classes will meet and form alliances through a variety of cultural activities.

The 2019 Literary Feast was a great success and the LHSQ raised nearly \$48,000 during the event. Many thanks to the sponsors and partners whose contributions to the fundraising dinner help the Morrin Centre offer rich, engaging programming in the areas of heritage interpretation, education, and the arts. ■

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MEET OUR TOUR GUIDE FIONA DONNELLY-RHEAUME



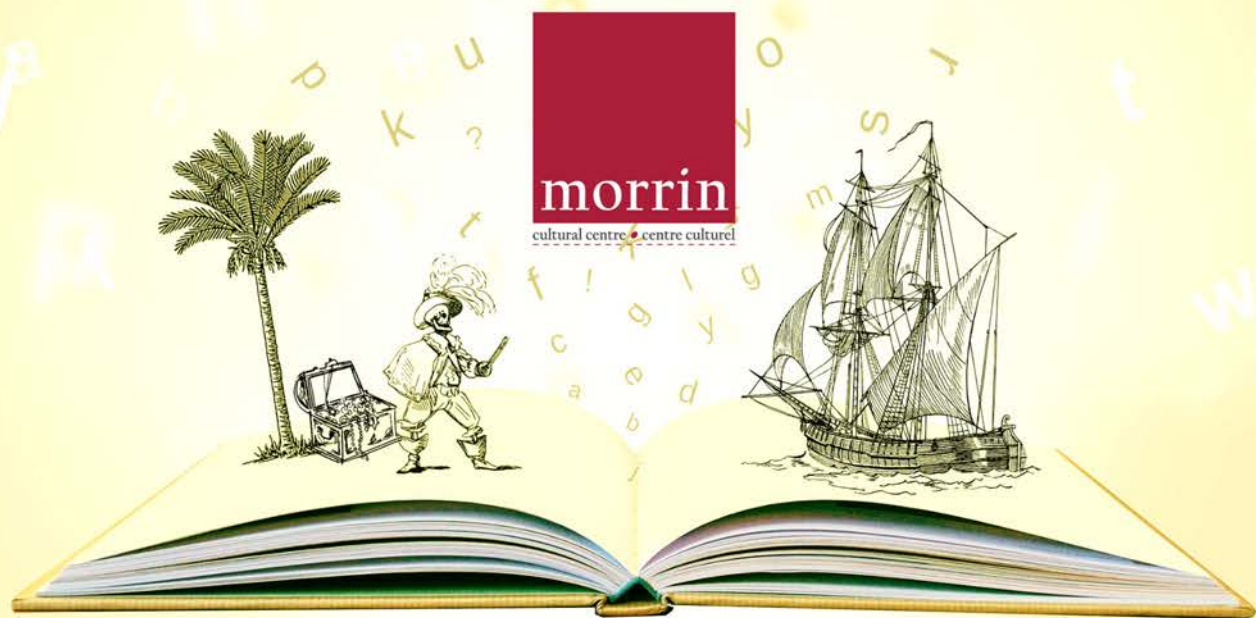
Born and bred in Motherwell, Scotland, Fiona comes to us as a recent graduate of the University of Victoria’s theatre program with a specialization in applied theatre, which uses theatre in unconventional settings with an emphasis on social justice.

Fiona feels that her work as a Morrin Centre guide helps tell people’s stories as a form of museum theatre. Thus, as an applied theatre practitioner and guide, Fiona feels privileged to be able to recount parts of the lives of those who have stepped into 44 Chaussée des Ecosais as prisoner, doctor,

student, professor, guest speaker or esteemed member of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec to tell their stories and help them remain immortal.

Fiona is also a certified professional graphologist and would love to study the writing of those whose stories we tell on our tours.

Recently moving from Yellowknife, N.W.T., Fiona and her husband Alain, daughter Rosalie, and dog Flash are very excited to now call Quebec City home. ■



2019 Annual Fundraising Campaign #LHSQLibraryLove

On Giving Tuesday, December 3, the Morrin Centre launched its 2019 Annual Fundraising Campaign: #LHSQLibraryLove!

This year's campaign aims to give some love to our library, specifically its children's section. Your donations will help us build a new bookshelf for our ever-growing children's collection, upgrade the lighting in our permanent exhibit, purchase a new rug and reupholster the armchairs.

The growth of our educational programming is one of our greatest achievements in the past year. Over 150 new books have been added to our collection. Furthermore, we were able to reach more than 2,600 young people with our activities, a 300% increase over 2018. As the Morrin Centre's activities for kids are free, your donations sustain the quality of our programming and enhance the space in which children learn and develop. Thank you for your generosity!

Go to morrin.org/give and help us make space for imagination!





Thank you to all of our volunteers from 2019!

Katherine Andrews, Philip Authier, Gillian Baird,
Jean-David Banville, Rowan Bartlett, Sophie Bergeron,
Diane Bird, Neil Bissoondath, Peter Black, Miriam Blair,
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IN MEMORIAM



Barbara Wanda Salomon de Friedberg
1948–2019

It was with sorrow that we learned of the death of longtime member and generous contributor to the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, Barbara Salomon de Friedberg.

Born in England of Polish parents, her family emigrated to Canada in 1953. She attended Marionopolis College in Westmount, earning a bachelor of arts degree in 1969. She spent the next year at the University of Toronto earning a master of arts degree in history.

Barbara moved to Quebec City in 1974 to work for the Ministère de la culture as a cultural officer. Her specialty was the classification and designation of important historical buildings. She worked there until she retired in 2009.

In 1986, she became a member of the Literary and Historical Society. From 2010 to 2012, she served as honorary librarian, which suited her well given her love of and interest in books. Even after retiring from this position, we would often see her in the library and at cultural events. Her quiet presence was always much appreciated and will be sadly missed. ■



Tomas Feininger
1935–2019

We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of Tomas Feininger, a president of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec from 1993 to 1998.

Originally from Stockholm, Sweden, Dr. Feininger completed his university studies in the United States but left for Canada during the Vietnam War. He moved to Quebec City in 1978 and became a member of the LHSQ shortly afterwards. He worked for the Canadian government in its earth physics branch for many years (the department eventually became known as the Geological Survey of Canada). He was also a research scientist at Université Laval's geology and geological engineering department for many years. He lived in Old Quebec. ■



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DUE DATE
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books on time!

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PHILANTHROPY TAKES FLIGHT



AN EVENT
TO CELEBRATE PHILANTHROPY
IN QUEBEC CITY
AND THE HISTORY OF JEFFERY HALE

Guest Speaker/
Judge Michael Sheehan

JANUARY 29/2020
5:00 PM

LOCATION/
COMPLEXE CAPITALE HÉLIROPTÈRE



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philanthropyqc.eventbrite.ca

\$100

For every ticket sold, Citadel Foundation will add a donation of \$20 to suicide prevention efforts in the Quebec City Region.

A dark grey background decorated with gold glitter ornaments and wooden stars. The ornaments include a large gold ball with a silver cap, a smaller gold ball, and a gold beaded garland. Scattered around are several light-colored wooden stars of various sizes. The text "Season's Greetings" is centered in a gold serif font.

Season's Greetings



morrin