



April 2020

Although we miss seeing you in person while the library is closed to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Marlborough Public Library staff is still here for you. Staff are available from Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be reach by phone at (508)624-6900 or by email at marlboroughreference@cwmar.org.

We will be sharing new ways you can access a number of your favorite library materials. We will also be providing resources that can help you stay safer, well-read and get the support you need.

In these uncertain times, we are here to help, one day at a time.

City of Marlborough Services Regarding COVID-19

Although city buildings are closed all offices are staffed. The solid waste, recycling, and transfer station are operating on a regular schedule. Food programs are available for those in need or who can't access grocery stores or needed medications. **To access these services, call (508) 485-6492.**

A new Community Hotline at (508) 251-5622 is available 24/7 for those who do not have internet access and have questions or simply need information on city services.

The City of Marlborough Facebook page is updated daily with COVID-19 related information as well as the Marlborough website at Marlborough-ma.gov

Trying to decide what to cook tonight or need cooking lessons? The New York Times offers a slew of free videos on Youtube! Go to youtube.com and enter NYT cooking in the search bar. Then scroll through whatever suits you and get cooking! Have fun and stay healthy!



From the Director

We hope you and your family are staying safe during the challenging times we find ourselves in.

Library staff are available Monday through Friday from 9.a.m. to 5 p.m. to answer your calls and respond to your emails. Many people are calling to ask for help downloading e-books on to their personal devices. We have staff here to walk you through that and answer any questions you might have.

Most phone callers are asking if we are open and when we will reopen. We don't have an answer to when we will reopen. Not having answers to your questions is strange for us, but these are strange times for everyone.

Staff are also working from home and will be posting content and updates on our website and on social media posts from the Library and the City.

We look forward to seeing you once again in the Library. In the meantime stay safe and keep reading.

CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?

As you know, everything on the Internet is not true. Anyone can put anything on the Internet anytime. But, how do you know which websites, Facebook pages, tweets and everything else on the Internet you can believe? [Mike Caulfield](#), an information literacy specialist and Director of Blended and Networked Learning at the University of Washington Vancouver, has developed a system and blog to help users analyze fact from fiction and how to tell the difference.

He calls his method SIFT. It stands for:

STOP-- if something just doesn't seem right to you--take a minute and think
INVESTIGATE the source-- is it someone that can be trusted
FIND better coverage-- see if you can find it someplace else better
TRACE claims, quotes, and media to the original context

Once you take a small amount of time to work through the SIFT method, shortly it will become a habit and you won't even think about it. Check out Mr. Caulfield's blog as he "sifts" through fact and fiction about the Covid-19: <https://infodemic.blog/>.

Of course, if you don't want to do any kind of evaluation, use the [MPL's databases](#)--there is a plethora of resources; academic journals, magazines, newspapers, and more. If you have questions, don't hesitate to call the library at (508) 624-6900 and speak to one of our helpful staff.

(Mr. Caulfield's blog was taken from [Common Sense](#)--please check out some of their other resources.)

Resources for English Language Learners

Although the library's English Conversation Circles will not be in session while the library is closed, there are many online resources available to help English language learners.

Mango languages is language learning program you can access for free with your library card at www.marlborough-ma.gov/library/popular-research-topics/pages/learn-language. If you do not have a library card, please call the library at (508)624-6900 and we can help you get a temporary card over the phone.

Additional online English Language Learning sites are www.newslevels.com, www.usalearns.org, and www.esl-lab.com.

Now is a great time to borrow e-books and e-audiobooks from the library!



LIBRARIES **CONNECTING** COMMUNITIES

The C/W MARS Digital Catalog (cwmars.overdrive.com) gives you access to thousands of titles through your computer and through the Libby app and the OverDrive app on your tablet or phone. You can borrow and enjoy books and audiobooks even while our building is closed!

Library staff are available to help you with this process from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday by phone at (508)624-6900 and by email at marlboroughreference@cwmars.org

To access items, you will need to know your C/W MARS library card number and PIN. If you do not remember your PIN, or if you are having any issues with your card, please contact us at the library for help.

If you don't have a library card, you can sign up for the OverDrive Instant Digital Card. When you access the CW MARS OverDrive collection, you will be prompted to log in. If you do not have a library card number, click to get a free one instantly using your mobile number. For complete instructions, go to www.cwmars.org/help/overdrive-faq.

All Massachusetts residents are eligible for a Boston Public Library e-card, which gives the holder access to the Boston library's electronic materials. For information about getting a card click this link: https://www.bpl.org/ecard/?_ga=2.31013631.1711848591.1585591932-1825390528.1585591932.

Many people enjoy borrowing museum passes from the library, but since museums are closed, there are a number that are offering virtual tours. One is Tower Hill Botanical Gardens. Enjoy your virtual tour at

<https://www.towerhillbg.org/2020/03/28/virtual-tour-whats-bloom-early-spring/>

Adult Services



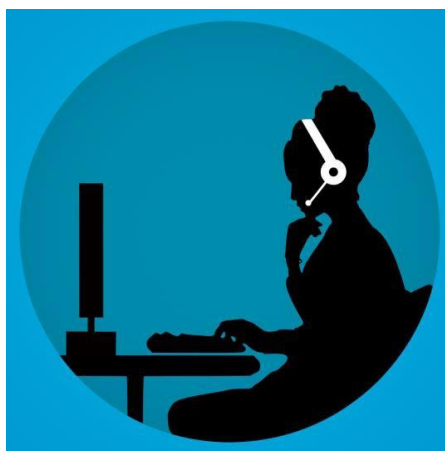
The library offers an abundance of online tools that you can access from home. We invite you to check out these interesting online reference and resource options at <https://www.marlbrough-ma.gov/library/reference-research>. Here's one example of the exciting options: [Gale OneFile: Culinary Arts](#) offers a variety of information from major cooking and nutrition magazines as well as book reference content from Delmar.

For the latest information on Covid-19 from the Centers for Disease Control, go to www.cdc.gov/. This site provides information on ways to protect yourself from the virus, how to care for yourself at home, information on how to cope, how parents can help their kids cope and much more.

For the MPL Community Resource Directory, go to www.marlbrough-ma.gov/library/community-resources/pages/crisis-and-community-resources. Please note, some of the resources in this directory may potentially have limited access during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Massachusetts free multilingual confidential 211 Helpline available to provide additional resource and referral services for a variety of crisis, financial, shelter needs, health care needs, social service needs, as well as current information on COVID-19 and more.

Contact the Massachusetts 211 Helpline by dialing 211 or search online from their site at mass211.org/

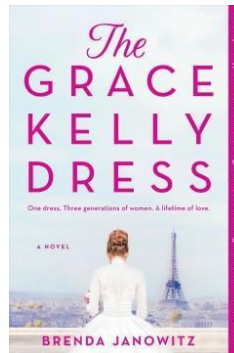
Have questions about our online services or other library questions? The library reference staff is here to help at (508) 624-6900.



Adult Services



Adult Book Recommendation



***The Grace Kelly Dress* by Brenda Janowitz**

Sometimes (especially now) it is helpful to read an old-fashioned love story--one with (spoiler alert) a happy ending. This book, which is not about Grace Kelly, has three happy endings as there are three separate, but intertwined, stories. With the skill of Carolyn Keene and the Nancy Drew Mysteries, each chapter leaves the reader hanging and wanting to know what comes next. Actually, I found the book so enthralling that I read the whole thing in one sitting and enjoyed every minute of it. Last year, *The Gown* came out and was a best seller and in September, *Meet Me in Monaco* was published, but those dealt with royal weddings. This book is the story of not royal, but still (in their own way) extraordinary people in ordinary circumstances. A wonderful entertaining read for anyone who wants to smile at the end.

-Diane, Reference Librarian

Young Adult!



YA Book Recommendations



Tweet Cute

by Emma Lord



Pepper's family owns Big League Burger, a huge chain restaurant that seemingly ripped off "Grandma's Special" grilled cheese from a small family restaurant called Girl Cheesing. Jack runs the Twitter account for Girl Cheesing and gets into a Twitter war with Big League Burger. He doesn't know that his classmate Pepper is the one who runs the Big League Burger account. This book has romance, mistaken identity, and many, many descriptions of delicious food!

Book Club Favorites available as webcomics

Our teen book group, **Reading at the Table**, has been anxiously awaiting the release of *Check, Please! Book 2: Sticks and Scones* by Ngozi Ukazu. The library will still be closed on the release date, but remember that these books started as a webcomic! You can start from the beginning [here](#)! Note: This comic contains some strong language and college-age situations.



Eric Bittle—former Georgia junior figure skating champion, vlogger extraordinaire, and amateur pâtissier—is starting his freshman year playing hockey at the prestigious Samwell University in Samwell, Massachusetts. And it's basically nothing like co-ed club hockey back in the South. For one? There's checking (anything that hinders the player with possession of the puck, ranging from a stick check all the way to a physical sweep). And then, there is Jack—his very attractive but moody captain. This is a story about hockey and friendship and bros and trying to find yourself during the best 4 years of your life.

Another favorite, *The Tea Dragon Society* by Katie O'Neill, is also available as a webcomic. It's a sweet, simple story with soothing, candy-colored illustrations. Perfect for calming your mind during this stressful time. Check it out [here](#)!

After discovering a lost tea dragon in the marketplace, Greta learns about the dying art form of tea dragon care-taking from the kind tea shop owners, Hesekiel and Erik. As she befriends them and their shy ward, Minette, Greta sees how the craft enriches their lives—and eventually her own.



Young Adult!



More romance titles with an internet twist:

Fangirl
by Rainbow Rowell

Lucky Caller
by Emma Mills

Starworld
By Audrey Coulthurst
and Paula Garner

The Upside of Falling
by Alex Light

Can't get enough e-books and audiobooks?



Many of the Boston Public Library's subscription services are available to all during the library's closure to the public. We specifically recommend that teens check out TeenBookCloud and AudioBookCloud. These services offer collections of books, graphic novels, and audiobooks with no waiting period! Click [here](#) and scroll down to access these services without a BPL card.



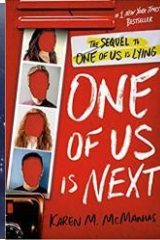
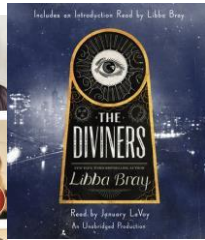
Do you miss Teen Write-In?

Check out [Authors Everywhere on YouTube](#). Follow along with video workshops from some of your favorite children's authors on this YouTube channel created and run by middle grade author Susan Tan: "On this channel, you'll find workshops, readings, activities, art projects, writing games, writing advice, and more. We hope that we can offer you some fun, some distraction, and a creative outlet for any feelings that might come up during this time." Some of our favorite videos include:

[Finding Inspiration In Your Family History with Christina Diaz Gonzale z](#),
[Imagining Setting with Ginger Johnson](#),
[Writing Feelings in Unusual Times with Tammar Stein](#),
[Writing Sensory Detail with Arianne Costner](#)

Or you can just listen to an author read you a story and see if it inspires you! Here are some great ones: [Jason Reynolds reads from Ghost](#), [Grace Lin reads the prologue of Mulan: Before the Sword](#), [Sayantani DasGupta reads Chapter One of The Serpent's Secret](#).

Young Adult!



One of Us is Lying by Karen M. McManus

This book has been extremely popular since it came out, and I finally managed to get my hands on the audiobook. It has an extremely intriguing tagline: "Five strangers walk into detention and only four walk out alive. Everyone is a suspect, and everyone has something to hide." The release of the sequel *One of Us is Next* makes this a perfect time to catch up on book one.

Still on the waiting list for *One of Us is Lying*? Try these twisting, turning mysteries: *Neverworld Wake* by Marisha Pessl, *Truly Devious* by Maureen Johnson, *There's Someone Inside Your House* by Stephanie Perkins, or try Agatha Christie's first Poirot novel *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* in an unusual format. Journalist Phoebe Judge is narrating one chapter a day in podcast form:

[Phoebe reads a mystery](#)

The Diviners Series by Libba Bray

In 1920's New York, teenager Evie is just trying to have a good time and keep her supernatural power under wraps. But when a series of cult-like murders begins, Evie realizes her secret gift could help catch a serial killer. Along the way, she meets other kids with special powers, The Diviners, and together they realize this is not like any criminal the police have seen before. Something dark and ancient has been unleashed. This series is truly creepy and rich with historical detail. The fourth and final book is available now, so it's the perfect time to dive in. Go for the audiobooks if you have 82 hours and 13 minutes to fill! The narrator, January LaVoy, brings every character to life.

More dark, historical fantasy: *Iron Cast* by Destiny Soria, *Serpent and Dove* by Shelby Mahurin, and *Blood Countess* by Lana Popović



JULIE RECOMMENDS...

Our Dining Table by Mita Ori

Despite being a talented cook, young professional Yutaka feels awkward eating around others. All that changes when he meets Minoru and Tane—two brothers, many years apart in age—who ask him to teach them how to make his delicious food! It's not long before Yutaka finds himself falling hard for the meals he shares with Minoru and Tane's family—and perhaps falling in love with Minoru as well. This heartfelt story with beautiful art will leave you feeling exceptionally well-fed!

The Witch Hat Atelier By Kamome Shirahama [\(click to read online!\)](#)

Coco is a girl with a simple dream: She wants to be a witch. But everybody knows magicians are born, not made, and Coco was not born with the gift for magic. She's resigned to her un-magical life working in her family's tailoring shop, until a traveling magician passes through her village, and Coco learns what everybody "knows" about magic might not be the truth. When Coco accidentally unleashes forbidden magic, she is drawn into the world of spells and sorcery and begins an adventure that will change her life forever. This series' gorgeously rendered art and intricate world building make it one not to be missed!

The Last True Poets of the Sea by Julia Drake

Wrecks run in Violet Larkin's family. Many years ago, her ancestor was the sole survivor of a shipwreck off the coast of Maine. Now Violet and her brother Sam are redefining 'wreck.' Violet can't stop partying with the wrong people and one beautiful summer day, Sam attempts to take his own life. Shipped back to Maine while Sam is in treatment, Violet becomes obsessed with finding the shipwreck that started their family legend. She is aided by fellow wreck hunter, Liv Stone, who is hiding her own secrets behind her guarded grey eyes. An engrossing story about love, friendship, family, and how the stories we tell ourselves can shape who we are.

Children's



Greetings from MPL's Children's Room staff and Spike!



We miss everyone but hope that you're taking the time to practice social distancing and perhaps discovering some new at-home activities and hobbies. We will be posting kid-friendly websites, activities, an online reading challenge, virtual storytimes, and sing-alongs from some of our favorite performers every week on Facebook and on our website, so please stay tuned for the fun.

Did you know that we offer ebooks and audiobooks for children? We have an incredible collection. You can borrow everything from *Pete the Cat* to *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. The Libby app is simple to install on your smartphone, e-reader, or tablet and then you have access to thousands of titles. For more information, you can visit our [website](#) or call us at (508) 624-6900. We'll be happy to walk you through the steps.

We regularly offer museum passes, but since museums are currently closed, there are plenty that are offering virtual tours. You can walk through the halls and exhibitions of the [Museum of Fine Arts](#) or the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#). The Worcester Art Museum is offering a storytime/art class on a weekly basis through their series [Art Together](#) on YouTube. [The Artful Parent](#) also offers some terrific art activities for children, so why not develop those artistic muscles and create a mini-museum at home.

Children's



More for Kids!

Beyond ebooks, museums, and virtual schoolwork, there are other educational offerings that can be fun to explore. [National Geographic Kids](#) has all kinds of games, videos, and information about animals. Why not learn about the armadillo or the puffin? Their *Weird But True* video series is highly entertaining and you learn all kinds of interesting facts. Did you know that girls have more taste buds than boys? Also, a piece of cake was discovered in an Egyptian tomb and it was over 4,000 years old. Talk about a stale treat!

If you're interested in tasting some new treats, check out the [Food Network's Cooking With Kids](#). They offer a variety of recipes and videos. My favorite has to be the [pancake animal gallery](#), where they show you how to make an owl and teddy bear. Don't forget to read [If You Give a Pig a Pancake](#) once you've assembled and eaten your pancakes.

