

Brown Bag It with Books Wednesday, April 11, 2012

***State of the Onion* by Julie Hyzy. 2008.**

First book in a cozy culinary mystery series set in the White House kitchen. While vying for the executive chef position, White House Assistant Chef Olivia Paras becomes the target of a world-class assassin, after witnessing a murder.

***Faith* by Jennifer Haigh. 2011**

Set in Boston in 2002, a popular, dynamic priest of a large parish is accused of molesting a young boy in his church. His family members - a devout mother, sympathetic sister and estranged brother, all react to the news quite differently.

Faith is also available as a downloadable audiobook.

***Paranoia* by Joseph Finder. 2004.**

Trapped in a job he hates, Adam Cassidy, a young employee at a high-tech corporation, is caught attempting to manipulate the system and is offered a choice--prison, or spying at the headquarters of their competitor.

Troubleshooters Series by Suzanne Brockmann

This series focuses on a set of recurring characters who are NAVY Seals, FBI Agents, and Security Consultants (Troubleshooters, Inc). The books deal with terrorism, murders, the relationship between the many diverse characters and a number of the romances span multiple books.

Also available as a downloadable eBooks and a downloadable audiobooks.

***Unmeasured Strength* by Lauren Manning. 2011.**

Over 80% of Lauren Manning's body was burned during the attacks of September 11, 2001. This inspiring memoir is a story of her struggle, strength and will to live through unimaginable pain and loss.

Also available as a downloadable audiobook.

***Plainsong* by Kent Haruf.**

Plainsong is the story of how seven extraordinary members of a tiny prairie community come together, in the face of great difficulties, to form the most appealing extended family

Also available as a Book on CD.

***Think of a Number* by John Verdon. 2010.**

Recently retired NYPD homicide detective Dave Gurney is pulled back into service when an old college friend receives threatening letters from a killer who seems to have an uncanny ability to read a person's thoughts.

Also available as a Book on CD.

Maggie O'Dell series by Alex Kava.

A series of psychological thrillers that follow FBI Profiler Special Agent Maggie O'Dell as she constantly faces danger as she investigates murder and evil.

All books also available as downloadable eBooks.

***Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. 2009.**

Fifty year old Harvard professor Alice Howland is diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's Disease. This novel is the story of her inevitable memory loss and connection with reality, told from her point of view.

***The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey. 2011.**

A fantastical first novel about a childless couple who form a girl from snow and, in answer to their longing, she comes to life. The real magic of this story is that it's never as simple as it seems, never moves exactly in the direction you think it must.

***Defending Jacob* by William Landay. 2012.**

When his fourteen-year-old son is charged with the murder of a fellow student, assistant district attorney Andy Barber is torn between loyalty and justice as facts come to light that lead him to question how well he knows his own son.

Also available as a downloadable eBooks and a downloadable audiobook.

***My Stroke of Insight* by Jill Bolte Taylor. 2008.**

A brain scientist's journey from a debilitating stroke to full recovery becomes an inspiring exploration of human consciousness and its possibilities.

This book is available as a downloadable audiobook.

Cedar Cove series by Debbie Macomber.

This series of novels tells the stories of the residents of Port Orchard, WA.

Some of the books in this series are also available as downloadable audiobooks and downloadable eBooks.

Detective D.D. Warren series by Lisa Gardner

Author Lisa Gardner combines her interest in police procedure, cutting edge forensics and twisted plots into suspenseful mysteries. This series follows Detective D.D. Warren, a workaholic homicide detective who lives and breathes her job investigating murders.

Many books in this series are available as downloadable eBooks and downloadable audiobooks.

Jack Reacher series by Lee Child.

Killing Floor is the 1st of 16 books (so far) in the Jack Reacher series. An ex military police officer, Jack is now a wanderer, loner, drifter who arrives in Margrave, Georgia where he is suspected of a murder. He is determined to find the real killer.

Almost all books in this series are available as downloadable eBooks and some are available as downloadable audiobooks.

The Year of Magical Thinking (2005) and Blue Nights (2011) by Joan Didion.

Both *The Year of Magical Thinking* and *Blue Nights* are grief memoirs which addressed first the death of her husband writer John Gregory Dunne and the latter Didion's daughter, Quintana Roo Dunne Michael.

The Year of Magical Thinking is also available as a Book on CD and a downloadable eBook. *Blue Nights* is also available as a downloadable eBook and downloadable audiobook.

The Leisure Seeker by Michael Zadoorian. 2009.

An elderly couple, John and Ella Robina, decide to take one last trip in their Leisure Seeker RV rather than continuing her cancer treatments and dealing with his Alzheimer's Disease.

Nora Roberts

One of the most prolific and bestselling contemporary romance writers today. Books include stand alone titles, trilogies and series including the new *Inn Boonsboro* trilogy, *Born In* trilogy, *The Bride Quartet* and the *Chesapeake Saga*.

Many of Nora Roberts books are available as downloadable eBooks and downloadable audiobooks.

In Death Series by J.D. Robb

Futuristic police procedurals set in a mid-21st century New York City that features NYPD Homicide Detective Eve Dallas and her husband Roarke.

Many of Nora Roberts's books are available as downloadable eBooks and downloadable audiobooks.

***Code Talker* by Chester Nez. 2011**

The first and only memoir by one of the *Original Navajo Code Talkers* of WWII.

Tips:

To find books in a series, reader ratings and reviews, similar titles and similar authors, check the library catalog. www.newingtonct.gov/library

www.whichbook.net – use sliders to specify factors to find recommended books.

<http://www.literature-map.com/> - floating map of authors similar to the author you specify.

Wake County Public Libraries – many recommended book lists.