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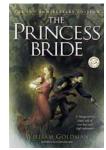
The Library will be closed February 20 and 21 for Presidents' Day.

Regular Hours: M/W/F/S 9-5 T/Th 9-7 Sunday 1-5

Beloved Love Stories

In honor of this cold month's holiday celebrating love, staff members offer some warmth with their favorite tales of romance.

The Princess Bride by William Goldman (1973). Just your usual "girl falls in love with boy, boy becomes pirate, girl becomes engaged to prince, boy kidnaps girl, prince kills boy, boy returns from dead, boy rescues girl from evil prince, girl and boy live happily ever after, maybe" love story. Awesomely romantic. (Ingrid Richter, Head of Systems)



Portrait of Jennie by Robert Nathan (1940). A wildly romantic fantasy about an artist meeting, and painting, a girl who may or may not be real.

Beautiful New York City atmosphere. (Diane

Srebnick, Development Assistant)



The Thorn Birds by Colleen McCullough (1977). Famous or

infamous due to its 1983 miniseries adaptation, my favorite piece of schlock is surprisingly rich in its portrayal of Australian life and culture from the 1920s to the 1960s, plus everything from World War II to Vatican II --including, of course, forbidden love. (Sara Holliday, Events Coordinator)



At Swim, Two Boys by Jamie O'Neill (2002).

Set on the brink of the Easter Rising, *At Swim, Two Boys* is the story of Jim and Doyler, two young Irishmen whose friendship

turns romantic as the riots near. O'Neill's novel is charming, messy, difficult, and tender, but always engaging. It's particularly great for fans of Irish literature or historical novels, but it should appeal to anyone looking for a great read. (Patrick Rayner, Circulation Supervisor)



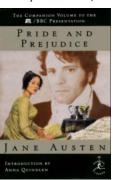
The Persian Bride by James Buchan (2000),

the only love story that has ever made me cry on the subway, is at once a gripping tale of impossible romance and a brutal slap of war and torture. Set over a quarter century in Iran, this title is both a tour de force and a hazy, elegiac, opium-laden dream. Not for the faint of heart or stomach. (Julia Weist, Children's Librarian)



Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen (1813). It may be cliché,

but the romance of the two strong-willed and independent characters of Elizabeth Bennett and Mr. Darcy is still my favorite literary love story, no matter how well-mannered and respectable. This classic by Jane Austen shows how overcoming one's own preconceptions and biases to see through to the truth of another's character can lead to a most rewarding and fulfilling relationship. (Brandi Tambasco, Circulation Assistant)



February Events

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ruth Wolff

Notable Women--And a Few Equally Notable Men

Nine Plays by Ruth Wolff, with scenes performed by Simon Jones and actors from The Actors Company Theatre, guest appearance by Tina Chen

TONIGHT! Monday, January 31, 6:30 p.m., Members' Room \$20 with <u>advance registration</u>/\$25 at the door



In connection with the publication of nine of her biographically based plays, playwright and screenwriter Ruth Wolff shares insights into the

art of dramatizing lives, plus anecdotes of personalities onstage and off. With subjects as diverse as Christina of Sweden, Mary and Percy Shelley, Sarah Bernhardt, George Sand, Frederic Chopin, Edith and Woodrow Wilson, Hallie Flanagan, Joshua Slocum and Tzu-hsi, Dowager Empress of China, Wolff's plays have been performed throughout the US and around the world.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Richard Panek

The 4% Universe:

Dark Matter, Dark Energy, and the Race to Discover the Rest of Reality

Thursday, February 3, 6:30 PM, Members' Room \$10 with advance registration/\$15 at the door

Science writer Richard Panek tells the dramatic story of how astronomers discovered and now race to explain a cosmos-shattering conclusion about our universe: only 4% of it consists of the matter that makes up you, me, our books, and every planet, star, and galaxy.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Hazel Rowley

Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage
Tuesday, February 15, 6:30 PM, Members' Room
\$10 with advance registration/\$15 at the door

Acclaimed biographer Hazel Rowley describes the remarkable courage and lack of convention at the heart of one of the 20th century's most celebrated and scrutinized partnerships: Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt. Introduced by Ellen Feldman.



The Writing Life (for members only)

THE WRITING LIFE DAYTIME TALK SERIES

The Secrets of a Successful Writing Group
Tuesday, February 8, 10:00 AM, Whitridge Room
free of charge; registration required

What makes a writing group successful? How can you ensure that you get the most out of your own writing group? **Katharine Davis,** author of the novels *A Slender Thread* and the award-winning *East Hope,* shares the manifesto that brought success to her own longtime writing group and discusses the benefits of both giving and receiving critiques.



THE WRITING LIFE EVENTS IN 2011 ARE GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY JENNY LAWRENCE.

Ongoing Writers Groups

The Library hosts five ongoing monthly discussion groups for member writers. No registration is necessary, but for space availability and more information, contact Carolyn Waters at cwaters@nysoclib.org. All sessions take place in the Whitridge Room on the third floor unless stated otherwise.

Nonfiction Writers Group: Monday, February 14, 3:00-4:45 pm (Marshall Room; meet in lobby) Fiction Group I: Tuesday, February 15, 5:00-6:45 pm

Poets Group: Tuesday, February 22, 4:30-6:30 pm

Fiction Group II: Wednesday, February 23, 11:00 am-1:00 pm Memoir Writers Group: Monday, February 28, 3:00-4:45 pm

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