

# LIT PICKS

## A curated selection of the Web's literary tidbits

"Lit Picks" is our DC Public Library insider's guide to the literary pieces we're reading, liking and sharing. We hope you enjoy our look at some of the best and most interesting items the Web has to offer on books, reading and life.

## Help DC Public Library Combat Summer Slide

Did you know that low-income students lose more than two months in reading achievement during the summer months? DC Public Library's Summer Reading program works to combat the loss of math and reading skills during summer break.

DC Public Library is excited to launch this year's Summer Reading program, around the theme *Every Hero Has a Story*.

Our local heroes, the **Washington Nationals**, have generously agreed to serve as program sponsors, providing two free game tickets to children, teens and adults who complete the program. Other completion prizes include a coupon for a free meal at **Chipotle** and the chance to win a Kindle Fire. In addition to reading activities and programs exploring historical heroes, the library will offer STEAM-focused programs such as [Science in the Summer](#) and [Google Maker Camp](#).



### Be a hero by sponsoring a child for a summer's worth of library programs:

\$250 supports one program at a neighborhood library

**\$100 supports one child's participation in the entire Summer Reading program**

\$50 provides every participating child with five new books to take home

**[CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!](#)**

Adults need to stay sharp over the summer too! Sign up [here](#), and prep for your free Nationals game by browsing *Esquire's* [20 Best Baseball Books](#).

---

---

## The Giving Trees: Forest as Future Library

[The Future Library project](#) is slowly - **very** slowly - accumulating quite the collection of works from famous authors. The Future Library project was launched in 2014 by conceptual artist Katie Paterson. Over the next 100 years, 100 authors will contribute one text a year to the project, and in 2114, these works will be printed on paper made from trees that were planted in Oslo's Nordmarka forest last year.

David Mitchell has just been announced as 2015's writer and Booker Prize-winning author Margaret Atwood is the 2014 contributing author. Atwood recently journeyed into the forest to deliver her latest manuscript, titled *Scribbler Moon*. She compares the concept to "Sleeping Beauty. The texts are going to slumber for 100 years and then they'll wake up, come to life again. It's a fairytale length of time. She slept for 100 years." Click [here](#) to revisit Atwood's famous works.

Speaking of future libraries, have you seen the latest designs for the future Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library? [See the central library reimagined](#), and [share your ideas](#) about D.C.'s future library.



---

---

## Don Draper Leverages *Green Eggs and Ham* to Sell Toast



Are you mourning the devastating loss of *Mad Men*? If so, you must read [Don Draper's fictionalized reviews of children's books](#). Written with the nostalgia, candor and existentialism that are trademark to Don's delivery style, you can picture these words coming straight from Draper's mouth.

Although Don is skeptical of the relationships in *Charlotte's Web*, he identifies an advertising opportunity for a grocery client with Dr. Seuss' *Green Eggs and Ham*. He believes that the world could like green eggs and ham if served with the proper toast: "This is the greatest advertising opportunity since the invention of cereal. You know what would go great with this? Toast. Toasted. It's toasted! Draper... out."

If only Don were available to lead [DC Public Library's Fun in the Sun storytime at CityCenter](#).

---

---

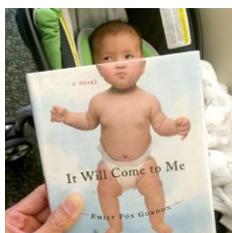
## Quick Picks

**Does the Metro Need a Literary Makeover?** Imagine a metro with little free libraries, maps that feature the locations of libraries and bookstores, and metro cards with inspirational book quotes. *Book Riot* shares simple suggestions for [making the metro more bookish](#). Not only would these changes promote city-wide literacy, they would provide necessary distractions when stuck on the red line.



**[Jack Kerouac Wants You to Chill](#)**. Kerouac was such a fan of meditation that he wrote a poem detailing how to disengage your thoughts and engage in mediation. He compares the natural ecstasy from the experience to the rush of heroin or morphine, triggering the brain to release what he refers to as "holy fluid." His words can serve as a beginners guide to achieving mindfulness and serenity. Namaste.

**One Man's Trash is Another Man's Library**. Although these [lending libraries are miniature](#), their impact is far from small. In addition to bringing communities together, these converted spaces make wonderful use of miniature and obsolete objects, creating improbable and unusual libraries.



**Resting #Bookface**. Unlike [Resting B\\*tch Face](#), all face types are eligible to partake in #Bookface. See how librarians across the country are bringing [cover art to Instagram](#). In order to create #Bookface, one must line up their "...face or another body part alongside a book cover that features a matching body part so that there appears a melding of life and art."

---

## Upcoming Library Events

Please join us at the DC Public Library for any of these wonderful upcoming events, and check out the [calendar](#) for even more fantastic programming at your local library:

### Our City Festival

- [This DCopian Life](#)
  - MLK Library, Friday, June 5 at 8 PM
- [Aqua4: \(di\)Visions of Washington Water](#)
  - MLK Library, Saturday, June 6 from 12 - 5 PM
- [4/4: Hand Dancing + House Music](#)
  - MLK Library, Saturday, June 6 at 7 PM

- [Our Voices](#)
  - MLK Library, Sunday, June 7 at 3 PM
- [Film Screenings at Goethe--Institut](#)

## Music Shows

- [Basement Show with Give, Puff Pieces and The Maneuvers](#)
    - MLK Library, Thursday, June 11 at 6:30 PM
  - [FRINGE Music in the Library: The Coolots](#)
    - MLK Library, Friday, June 12 a 12 PM
  - [FRINGE Music in the Library: MWebb](#)
    - Shaw Library, Wednesday, June 24 at 7 PM
- 
- 

The DC Public Library Foundation thanks you for your support! Now is a very exciting time to invest in the future of the DC Public Library. If you haven't already, please give this year! Click [here](#) to learn more about the Literati and the Ex Libris Society giving memberships, and donate today!