

## 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.

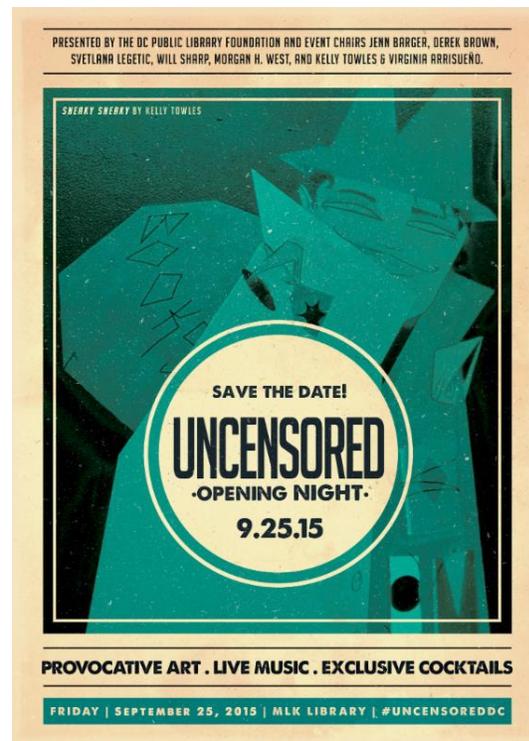
### Liberty and Libations for All

Exercise your first amendment freedom by partying with the DC Public Library.

On Friday, September 25, the Great Hall of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library will transform into a bar, lounge, concert venue, market and gallery to celebrate the freedom to read, create and express with **UNCENSORED: Opening Night**.

The evening will include live music from local bands such as [Delafield String Band](#) and [Baby Bry Bry & The Apologists](#), exclusive banned-book-inspired cocktails created and served by mixologists from bars such as Mockingbird Hill, Zaytinya, 2 Birds 1 Stone and Jack Rose, and an art exhibition showcasing works by D.C.-based artists.

Although **UNCENSORED** was designed to celebrate creative freedom, it also serves as a celebration of our city's creative culture. Individual tickets cost \$50/person, or you can become a host and bring three friends for \$250. Purchase your tickets [HERE](#). Find out if you're ready for Banned



Books Week by taking *Buzzfeed's* [How Scandalous is Your Reading History](#) quiz.

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## Literary Tradition Informs Wes Anderson's Films



Have you ever noticed that several Wes Anderson films begin with shots of book covers announcing the film title? Additionally, books are constantly in frame, often in the hands of his characters.

In his visual essay, [Books in the Films of Wes Anderson](#), Luiz Azevedo of *The A to Z Review* explores how literary tradition informs Anderson's work. Aside from arming the characters with an intellectual identity, the incorporation of books throughout his work reinforces their essential role in society.

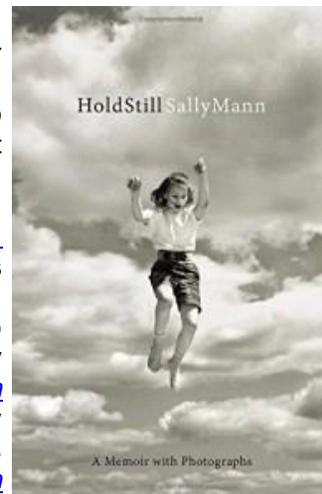
Through his movies, Anderson conveys his fascination with books as material objects but also because "...books preserve stories, for they exist within them and live on through them."

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## The Experts' Guide to Summer Reading

Although summer is technically winding down, September temperatures in D.C. run hot enough to classify as an extension of beach season. This means we still have time to explore summer reading recommendations from the most trusted literary sources in town: local authors and librarians!

In July, *Washington City Paper's* Artsdesk asked [seven D.C. authors what they're reading this summer](#). Which read is beloved local poet and founder of *Gargoyle Magazine*, Richard Peabody, most excited about? He can't wait to uncover the life and controversial work of photographer Sally Mann in her revealing book, [Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs](#). Favorite D.C. author and DC Public Library Foundation board member George Pelecanos recommends David Nicholson's book of short stories, [Flying Home: Seven Stories of the Secret City](#), about the lives of overlooked Washingtonians.

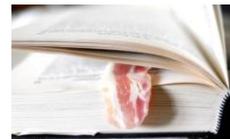


For additional summer reading recommendations, consult [Brightest Young Things'](#) list of top picks featuring suggestions from DC Public Library librarian Elsbeth Purdy. [Blood Drenched Beard](#) by Daniel Galera will satisfy those with an appetite for mystery while Kate Bolick's [Spinster](#) explores the joys of solitude by celebrating the independent, modern woman.

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## Quick Picks

**Strange Findings.** Bacon as a bookmark, a letter to the president, underpants and lots of marginalia. See what else one librarian discovered in the stacks of Salt Lake City's public library in [this Book Riot post](#).



**Epic Excursions.** *Atlas Obscura* has created a very detailed map of [American Literature's Most Epic Road Trips](#). If you've got some vacation days to burn, hop in the car and retrace the tracks of Sal Paradise and other bold bohemians.

**Pensive Poses.** What do cigarettes, suits and cats have in common? They all make our favorite authors look like total bada\$\$es. [Flavorwire](#) features Joan Didion, Maya Angelou, Richard Brautigan and more, looking cooler than a cucumber.



**Sweet Pairings.** Satisfy your mind and your sweet tooth. Put the summer diet on pause because [Electric Lit's infographic on dessert + book pairings](#) is bound to inspire a visit to your favorite local bakery.

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## 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:

- [Chuck Brown Tribute: Remembering and Preserving Go-Go](#)
  - MLK Library, Saturday, August 22 at 1 PM
- [DC Shorts Film Festival for Families](#)
  - Various locations, Saturday, September 12 at 11 AM
  - [Click here for locations and tickets](#)
- [FRINGE Music in the Library: LeDroit Chamber Players](#)
  - MLK Library, Friday, September 18 at 12 PM
- [UNCENSORED: Opening Night](#)
  - MLK Library, Friday, September 25 at 7 PM
- [UNCENSORED: Information Antics Art Exhibition](#)

- MLK Library, September 25 - October 17
  
- **[FRINGE Music in the Library: Boat Burning](#)**
  - MLK Library, Friday, October 9 at 12 PM

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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!