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NEW ARRIVALS!

Fiction at the Ames Free Library

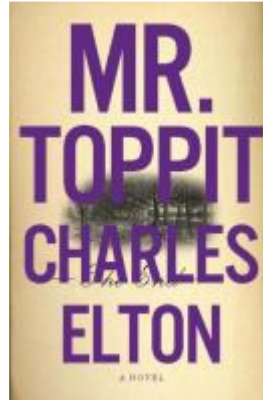
December 2010



Zone by Mathias Enard

Francis Servain Mirkovic sells secrets back to those who wished to keep them secret over the years his territory has been the Mediterranean where he has worked, loved, and looked upon horror; Written as a modern epic, Zone is a glimpse inside the mind of a spy on his final mission reflecting on the course of this life while on a train from Milan to Rome to sell secrets to the Vatican, it is a single stream-of-consciousness sentence that rarely focuses on anything other than Mirkovic's frantic thoughts as his train stays its course to Rome.

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Mr. Toppit by Charles Elton

A tale of the negative side of fame and legacy, Elton's first novel elevated by the shadow of their father who's "Hayseed Chronicle," a children's book series, posthumously enralls the world when it is read over the air by the American tourist who was with him at the end. His son's life is hijacked by the public, due to being the obvious inspiration of the series' protagonist, while his daughter is envious of being left out, and the American DJ has motives outside of the recognition her discoverer brought. And then there is the mystery of Mr. Toppit himself, the antagonist of the series who is only mentioned at the very end.

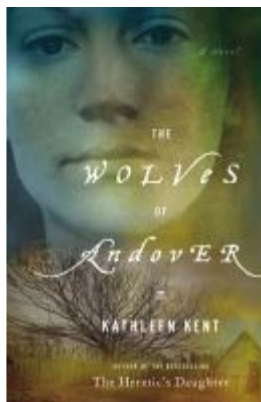
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How to Live Safely in a Science Fiction Universe by Charles Yu

Living and working in Universe-31, a universe owned and run by Time Warner Time for recreational purposes, Charles Yu is time-machine repair man accompanied by a self-doubting operating system and a dog that doesn't exist, or to put it bluntly, Yu is lonely. He is on a personal quest to find his father and their relationship before a past version of himself catches up with him. Yu has written a tribute to the science fiction of the fifties and sixties in its outlandishness and as a vehicle to explore self and reality.

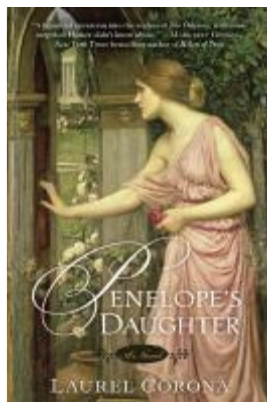
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The Wolves of Andover by Kathleen Kent

A prequel to "The Heretic's Daughter," Kent weaves a historic/romance/thriller about her ancestor, Martha Allen, who, at 23, is sent to a farm to assist her pregnant cousin. At the farm she becomes enthralled by an older, large Welsh farmhand who saves her from wolves stalking the farm. Things turn both complicated and dangerous when assassins are sent by King Charles the II in an act of revenge for the death of his father by Cromwell.

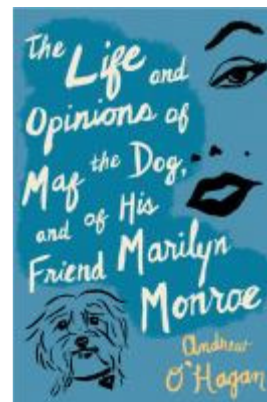
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Penelope's Daughter by Laurel Corona

A reimagining of Homer's Odyssey from the perspective of the daughter Odysseus never knew he had (she did not exist in Homer's epic). Xanthe's life is shaped a father who left for war when she was still in utero and who did not return for 20 years. When her home is invaded by suitors looking to claim her mother and her father's domain, she is sent to Sparta in secret to protect her from being forced into a political marriage. Corona writes of the strength and inventiveness of classic Greek women in a world and history dominated by males.

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The Life and Opinions of Maf the Dog, and of His Friend Marilyn Monroe by Andrew O'Hagan

Maf, short for Mafia Honey, a Maltese Bichon given as a gift to Monroe by Sinatra and leads the reader on a tour of sixties celebrity high culture as Monroe brings him along various parties and meetings. Maf is witty and educated for a canine and discusses with the reader and other dogs his feelings on art and literature, and, of course, the insecurities and triumphs of his owner. A simple, fun read for dog owners and fans of Monroe.

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