



## Literary suggestions from our friends at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Did you know that throngs of Dickens fans stormed the piers in New York City when the ship bringing the final installment of the serialized *The Old Curiosity Shop* pulled into harbor? Now, you can storm the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and pick up one of these other riveting reads!

*The Old Curiosity Shop* by Charles Dickens

Read the original tale of Nell and her grandfather that was published in serial form from 1840 to 1841. It was an unprecedented literary phenomenon in the nineteenth century.

*Barnaby Rudge* by Charles Dickens

In addition to *The Old Curiosity Shop*, *Barnaby Rudge* was the other novel that Dickens published in his short-lived (1840–1841) weekly serial, *Master Humphrey's Clock*. In this story, a young man's innocent involvement in a revolt serves as the basis for Dickens's historical novel about the anti-Catholic Gordon Riots of 1780.

*My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry* by Fredrik Backman

Bullied at school and left out at home, seven-year-old Elsa relies on her grandmother for love and attention. Granny sets up a quest for Elsa to undertake so that she will not be so alone after Granny, who has cancer, dies. This tale of the relationship between a grandmother and granddaughter is a tribute to the everlasting bonds of deep family ties.

*Flying at Night* by Rebecca L. Brown

Learning that her abrasive hero pilot father has sustained a debilitating brain injury at the same time her young son is confirmed on the autism spectrum, Piper embarks on a journey of devotion and self-discovery while watching her son and his grandfather start to connect in near-miraculous ways.

*The Double* and *The Gambler* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

In the two short novels by Dostoyevsky, the discovery of a mysterious doppelganger turns a minor official's life upside down in "The Double," while the psychological novel "The Gambler" describes two obsessions--the pursuit of an unattainable woman and the lure of roulette.

*Middlemarch* by George Eliot

A sensitive young woman marries a bitter, despotic scholar 30 years her senior, who lives just long enough to blight her spirit. She inherits his fortune, only to learn she will forfeit it if she marries her husband's young cousin, whom she loves. When Dorothea tries to find happiness

without Ladislav, the intricate plots, subplots and character portraits lead to a satisfying conclusion in this masterpiece of 19th-century morals and social issues.

*How To Stop Time* by Matthew Haig

Although Tom Hazard looks like an ordinary 41-year-old, because of a rare genetic condition he has lived for centuries beginning with his birth in pre-Dickensian London. Enjoy some of the descriptions of England from hundred years ago as you follow Tom through his trials and tribulations.

*Norwegian by Night* by Derek B. Miller

After witnessing a murder in Oslo, elderly former Marine sniper and watch repairman Sheldon Horowitz flees to safety with the newly orphaned son of the victim and becomes haunted by memories of his own son who died in Vietnam. A thrilling novel with an intergenerational pair at its center.

*Northern Borders* by Howard Frank Mosher

Spending the summer of 1948 with his grandparents on Vermont's Canadian border, six-year-old Austen Kittredge finds a new home on their farm amidst the Lost Nation community of country fairs, game hunting, one-room schools, and family life.

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