

Kathleen's Recent Reads--October

Fiction

One Two Three by Laurie Frankel

Mab, Monday and Mirabel, triplets, have lived all of their short lives in the small town of Bourne, whose chief claim to fame is the town's class action lawsuit against the now-shuttered Bison Chemical, accused of pumping chemicals into Bourne's river. The rates of cancer and physical and mental disabilities are sky-high in their town, and hope is scarce. Nothing much changes in the girls' 16 years until a new family moves into town, changing the destiny of everyone. The character development of the sisters, their relationship, and hearing the story through their separate voices, is tremendously appealing.

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

Emmett Watson, newly released from a juvenile work farm, plans to return home, pick up his kid brother and head to California for a fresh beginning. Two of his fellow inmates, however, have hatched a plan requiring him to go to the opposite coast, something Emmett has no intention of doing but is inevitably drawn into. Towles is very adept at creating an immersive setting in his historical novels, and here he also creates a tale inspired the great Greek myths, with his characters constantly blown off-course a la Ulysses. A Book Club selection.

The It Girl by Ruth Ware

Traumatized by the murder of her best friend and roommate while at university, Hannah Jones withdrew from college and moved to Scotland, leaving behind most of the friends she'd made. One exception was her friend's former boyfriend, now Hannah's husband. Their precarious, hard-won serenity is shattered when a journalist questions whether the right man was convicted of April's murder, and Hannah feels compelled to reexamine the events—including her own testimony—that led to the man's conviction.

Audiobooks (Available on cloudLibrary)

The Ink Black Heart by Robert Galbraith

Robin Ellacott and Cormoran Strike dive into the fandom of *The Ink Black Heart*, a wildly successful cartoon, in an effort to find a killer after its creator is brutally murdered just days after appealing to Robin for help with online threats and bullying. The timely topic from an author (J.K. Rowling) with experience of it is thought provoking, and fans of the series will enjoy watching the twists, turns and false starts of Robin and Cormoran's relationship.

The Book of Cold Cases by Simone St. James

Shea Collins works as a receptionist, but her real passion is writing her true-crime blog. When she meets Beth Greer, the eccentric heiress who was tried and acquitted of the Ladykiller murders in the 1970s, Shea seizes the opportunity and asks for an interview. Surprisingly, Beth grants it, with the stipulation that Shea visit her in her home--the scene of one of the murders, and a place where all is definitely not as it should be. Creepy and suspenseful.