

Kathleen's Recent Reads—January 2025

Non-Fiction

Just Like Glass : A Family Memoir by Amy Chapman

When their father dies suddenly at the end of the school year in 1958, the Wight family retreats to their summer camp in Bethel to begin to heal. This unusual memoir, written by one of the children, is told mainly from the point of view of her mother, but also with contributions from her siblings. The evocative writing will make you wish that, despite their tragedy, you were a part of this remarkable family.

The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness by Jonathan Haidt

An eye-opening exploration of the data beginning to accumulate regarding the correlation between the rise of the virtual world and the decline of mental health in youth. A must-read for anyone with young children.

The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair That Changed America by Erik Larson

From architecture to history to America's first serial killer, there is something for every reader in this sprawling examination of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The event drew characters as diverse as John Jacob Astor, Buffalo Bill, and the Infanta of Spain; the most famous American architects of the nineteenth century designed the venue, and the story of their mad scramble to complete the project in time is as engrossing as that of the man who took advantage of the opportunities offered by the fair for his own dark ends.

Northeaster: A Story of Courage and Survival in the Blizzard of 1952 by Cathie Pelletier

Using extensive research, Pelletier vividly portrays the victims and heroes of the storm in an unforgettable account of one of Maine's deadliest storms.

Fiction

The Midnight Feast by Lucy Foley

The guests at a lavish country hotel's opening weekend get more than they expected when long-buried secrets are unearthed in this suspenseful page-turner.

All Fours by Miranda July

July examines a taboo subject in this wild ride of a book, in which an artist reckons with physical, emotional, and psychological change as she enters menopause. Thrilling and exhilarating women's fiction.

Audiobooks

Outlive by Peter Attia, M.D.

After critically examining his role in the way medicine is currently practiced, Attia, a former oncological surgeon, made a drastic change in his own practice. By focusing on quality of life rather than simply extending life, he came to understand there are changes we can universally make to break the current pattern of years of ill health and decline, and shares his theories in this book.

Funny Story by Emily Henry

After leaving her job, family and home for a new life with her fiancé in northern Michigan, a young woman suddenly finds herself starting over yet again in this heartwarming tale from the popular writer.

Abide With Me by Elizabeth Strout

After the loss of his wife, a young pastor must contend with the emotional fallout for himself, his family, and his community. A beautiful reflection on faith and small town life.