

Librarian's Shelf
Rachelle McPhillips

"Between the Covers" @ your library This Summer

Our summer reading programs for children and teens are in full swing here at Columbus Public Library. The children's theme is "Dream Big – READ!" They have already enjoyed a visit from the Edgerton Explorit Center and met birds of prey thanks to Raptor Recovery Nebraska. With the theme, "Own the Night," teens have crafted pillows out of old t-shirts and made solar powered night lights.

The theme for adult summer reading programs this year is, "Between the Covers." Stop in this week and browse our display of nighttime themed fiction.

To celebrate summer reading, the library is offering a special promotion for our adult patrons. The first 20 adults to check out a book from our "Nighttime is the Right Time to Read" display will receive a free tote bag.

Here are some examples of the books you will find on display this week:

In "Unholy Night," Seth Grahame-Smith imagines the backstory of the three Wise Men from the Nativity. In it, Balthazar and his companions are thieves on the run who happen across Joseph and Mary. They become entangled in the family's life and their escape to Egypt.

From the author of "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies," and "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter," we might expect a bit of irreverence, but Grahame-Smith was thoughtful in his approach. In an interview he explained, "I had to establish some parameters for myself before I set out to write: One, don't put any words in Jesus' mouth. Ever. In fact, the word Jesus doesn't appear in the book."

"The Night Eternal" is the third book in a trilogy written by Guillermo Del Toro and Chuck Hogan. In the first book, "The Strain," a plane lands, stops abruptly and shuts down. Investigating the aftermath, it appears an ancient and powerful vampire has arrived in the U.S. Following "The Fall," "The Night Eternal" concludes the battle between humans and the undead.

The book opens with an excerpt from the hero's personal diary and gives us a glimpse of life in this terrifying new world:

"Now, two years later, the sun filtered through the poisoned atmosphere for only two hours each day, but the pale light it gave was nothing like the sunlight that had once warmed the earth." Popular author Chris Bohjalian joins this list with "The Night Strangers." In this award-winning novel, Chip Linton is a pilot whose career ends when his plane crashes and 39 passengers die. As he is haunted by this tragedy, his wife, Emily is spooked by an odd group of local herbalists

who take a peculiar interest in the couple's ten-year-old twins. The house they've moved into is no retreat from their troubles.

"The house itself always seems a little more peculiar to you when the girls are at school and Emily is at work. When you're alone, it's as if it suspects that this is when you're the most receptive. Or, perhaps, the most vulnerable."

Visit the library and find a great read that will keep you turning pages long after you've climbed "Between the Covers."