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The American Library in Paris

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e-Libris 10 November 2020

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In the event that this *e-Libris* is cut short by your email service, please click the link at the bottom of the email to see the newsletter in its entirety.



Armistice Day is Wednesday 11 November; programs, curbside lending, and book returns will be unavailable that day. The catalog and e-resources will remain at your service via our website.

Curbside Lending

Curbside lending continues and slots are filling up! [Schedule your appointment today.](#)
No appointment is necessary for returns. Return books Tuesday–Saturday, 10h30–13h.

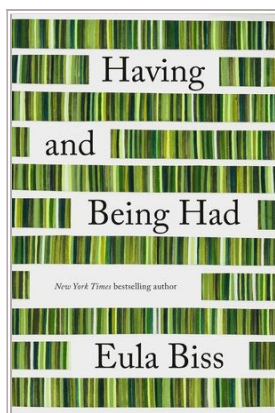
The current *attestation de déplacement dérogatoire* permits “déplacements pour [...] le retrait de

commande” and décret n° 2020-1331 du 2 novembre 2020 allows visits to libraries (établissements de type S) solely for “le retrait et la restitution de documents réservés.” No travel distance or time limit is indicated on either of these official documents.

If you can't wait for your curbside lending appointment to get your hands on some new reading material, don't forget our [OverDrive database](#) with popular e-books ready to download to your device. We've recently added new e-book titles, including *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller, *The New Wilderness* by Diane Cook, and *The Dead are Rising* by Les Payne.

Programs for Adults

All programs, including *Evenings with an Author*, book groups, and workshops, will continue virtually for the present time.



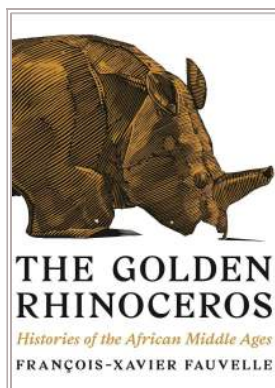
[Evenings with an Author: Eula Biss in conversation with Susan Harlan](#)

Tuesday 10 November at 19h30 via Zoom

Join us for a conversation between Eula Biss and Susan Harlan about Eula's latest book, *Having and Being Had*. Having just purchased her first home, the poet and essayist embarks on a provocative exploration of the value system she has bought into. Through a series of engaging exchanges—in libraries and laundromats, over barstools and backyard fences—she examines our assumptions about class and property and the ways we internalize the demands of capitalism.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



[Evenings with an Author: François-Xavier Fauvelle](#)

Tuesday 17 November at 19h30 via Zoom

Please join us for a book talk on *The Golden Rhinoceros: Histories of the African Middle Ages*. From the birth of Islam in the seventh century to the voyages of European exploration in the fifteenth, Africa was at the center of a vibrant exchange of goods and ideas. It was an African golden age in which places like Ghana, Nubia, and Zimbabwe became the crossroads of civilizations, and where African royals, thinkers, and artists played celebrated roles in the globalized world of the Middle Ages. Tune in to see this unsung era brought marvelously to life.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



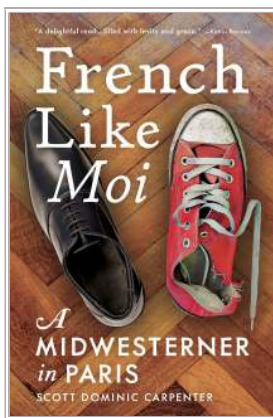
Evenings with an Author: Judy Collins and Sara Somers

Wednesday 18 November at 19h30 via Zoom

Join us for an open, honest conversation about addiction with legendary singer Judy Collins and friend of the Library Sara Somers, to celebrate the release of Sara's memoir *Saving Sara*. In her new book, Sara offers readers an inside view of a food addict's mind, with the hopes of educating her readers and promoting life-saving conversations between loved ones and those suffering with addiction. Judy has long inspired audiences with sublime vocals, boldly vulnerable songwriting, personal life triumphs, and a firm commitment to social activism. Judy's memoir, *Cravings*, is the culmination of Judy's desire to share what she's learned.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



Evenings with an Author: Scott Carpenter in conversation with Erin Byrne

Tuesday 24 November at 19h30 via Zoom

Join Erin Byrne as she interviews Scott Dominic Carpenter about his hilarious new memoir, *French Like Moi: A Midwesterner in Paris*. When Scott moved from Minnesota to Paris, little did he suspect the dramas that awaited: scheming neighbors, police denunciations, surly demonstrators, cooking disasters, medical mishaps—not to mention all those lectures about cheese! Scott guides us through the merry labyrinth of the everyday, one hilarious faux pas after another.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



Evenings with an Author: Peter Gumbel

Wednesday 25 November at 19h30 via Zoom

In 1939, with Europe on the brink of war, Peter Gumbel's grandparents fled Nazi Germany for England. In 2019, appalled by the result of the Brexit referendum and the ugliness it exposed in UK politics and wider society, he became a citizen of Germany, the country that had persecuted his grandparents eighty years earlier.

In his latest book, *Citizens of Everywhere*, Gumbel uses the story of his family to explore existential issues of identity and belonging in today's unsettled world.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.

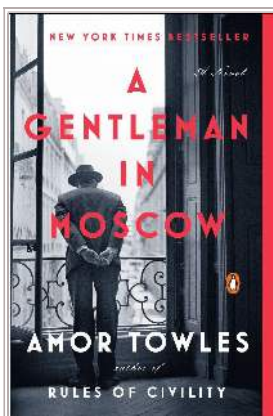


Writing Workshop with Mamta Chaudhry
Thursday 3 December at 19h00 via Zoom

In this writing workshop with author Mamta Chaudhry, we'll focus on the passage of time and the persistence of memory. Clocks and calendars in fiction, poetry, and memoir don't always keep step with the chronology of real life; instead of marching relentlessly forward, time often loops back on itself, blurring the boundaries between past and present. We'll explore strategies to structure and layer time to make your writing richer and deeper.

Library Members only; meeting via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



Evenings with an Author: Amor Towles in conversation with Mark Mayer

Wednesday 16 December at 19h30 via Zoom

Please join us for a special conversation with author Amor Towles (moderated by Mark Mayer) about writing, inspiration, and his hugely popular novel, *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Published in 2016 and on the *New York Times* bestseller list for over a year while in hardcover, it was named as one of the best books of 2016 by the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Washington Post*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *NPR*.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.

Introducing Friday Firesides



We're delighted to bring you a new, virtual opportunity to connect with fellow readers in the Library community. Friday Firesides, a cozy social hour on Zoom, will be meeting weekly for the next month and is open to all Library members, worldwide.

Fireside Fridays

Weekly at 17h00–18h00 on Zoom

13 November, 20 November, 27 November, 4 December

Participation is free, and you can attend as many firesides as you'd like.

[Sign up now](#) to reserve a slot! When registering, please indicate which fireside(s) you would like to attend. You will receive more information, including a meeting link and details, in the coming

days. These lively, informal discussions will be organized and led by Programs Manager Catherine Olien. Contact programs@americanlibraryinparis.org with any questions.




We hope this special, limited series will deliver moments of warmth, brightness, and levity for the chilly month ahead.

Reading List and Video from "Writers Reading during the Pandemic"

If you had the pleasure of joining our 29 October panel "Writers Reading During the Pandemic" with Joyce Carol Oates, Edmund White, and Sheila Kohler, you know that our trio of acclaimed authors shared a long list of what they have been reading, watching, and thinking about of late. Program attendee Diane Stamm kindly compiled this list for us, and we're sharing it with you on our [website](#).

If you missed the live program, the recording is available on our [YouTube channel](#).

Programs on our Podcast, Facebook, and YouTube

-  Past programs on YouTube, including our recent panel on the American Dream from the French perspective, and Evening with podcaster Oliver Gee.
-  Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.
-  Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author.

Programming for Kids and Teens



KIDS' NEWS AND EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

CURBSIDE LENDING FOR KIDS: Our Children's and Teens' Services team is working hard to prepare packages for our "click and collect" [curbside lending program](#). If you don't know what to borrow, you can select the option to have our librarians put together a selection of books for you and your children.

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS: Programs for children of all ages continue in November with virtual events throughout the month. Regular Saturday programs continue, with events each Saturday. RSVP and Library membership is required to attend. Check our [calendar](#) for program information.

Here are some highlights:

- [Conquer the Mythical Beasts Game Event](#) (ages 6–12) on Saturday 14 November
- [The EU and You Workshop](#) (ages 6–12) on Saturday 21 November.
- SPECIAL EVENTS ABOUT READING: We know that you are missing connecting with other bookworms in the community, so we've added two virtual events for children focused on conversation around your latest reads:
 - [Thanksgiving Bake and Book Talk: 25 November](#)
 - [Thanksgiving Bake and Book Talk: 28 November](#)
- [Monster Dance: A Reading and Q&A with Eva Lou and actor Denis O'Hare](#) (ages 3–8) on Saturday 5 December.



The Hero's Journey: A writing workshop with Amy Plum (ages 12–18)
November 27 @ 19 h 00 min–20 h 30 min

TEEN PROGRAMS AND INFO

CURBSIDE LENDING FOR TEENS: Check out the latest non-fiction, fiction, and graphic novels for young adults via our [curbside lending program](#).

TEEN NIGHTS: Teens ages 12-18 can meet other bookworms and English-speakers in Paris at one of our many Friday night Teen Nights, which are still happening—virtually. We have a [Rock'n'Roll Quiz Night with Rock U](#), coming up, as well as a [workshop with novelist Amy Plum](#).

YA FANTASY BOOK CLUB: Our popular [Fantasy Book Club](#) returns in November, and is open for teens and adults. Bring your latest fantasy read along to discuss!

Press Room

Library Director Audrey Chapuis was recently featured on the France Culture radio show *Comme Personne* by Sarah Mansoura. In her [interview](#) Audrey introduces the Library's history and mission to a francophone audience and shares her path to Paris and to becoming director of our 100 year old institution.

Visit the [Press Room](#) on our website to listen to the story and read the synopsis.



Upcoming virtual events by the Library's partner Pandemonium U:

[Why people in a few French villages rescued refugees in WWII and still help migrants today with Maggie Paxson, author of *The Plateau*, singing and in conversation with Pamela Druckerman](#)

Friday 13 November @ 9:00 am Pacific / noon NY / 17:00 London / 18:00 Paris

[The Many Lives of the Louvre—the world's most famous museum with James Gardner, author of *The Louvre*, in conversation w/ James McAuley & Pamela Druckerman](#)

Friday 20 November @ 9:00 am Pacific/noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

SAVE THE DATES:

Dec 4: William Drozdiak on "Who is Emmanuel Macron?"

Dec 11: Rachel Mesch on "Before Trans—Surprising gender stories from 19th century France"

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As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our

community. How can you help the American Library in Paris throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

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DONATE

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The American Library in Paris
10 rue du Général Camou
Paris, France 75007
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