

# UNSHELVED

*News & notes from the  
Blue Earth County Library System*



## SUMMER READING PROGRAMS

### Explore "Trails & Tales" This Summer June 1 - July 31

Summer reading is here! Children of all ages are invited to attend entertaining and educational outdoor events, take part in virtual programming, pick up weekly Take-and-Make "Creat10" project kits, and—of course!—read or be read to as much as they can, earning prizes for their reading achievements. To get all the details, look inside this newsletter or visit [beclibrary.org/summerreading](http://beclibrary.org/summerreading). And don't forget to stop by the library to register for all the fun to come!



### Adult Summer Reading: Book BINGO June 1 - August 31

Summer reading isn't just for kids! Adults, join the Book BINGO Reading Challenge at [beclibrary.org](http://beclibrary.org) or pick up a BINGO card from the library today. Your card will be complete when you've filled in a row, column, or diagonal—or the whole card, if you like a challenge! Turn in your card by August 31 to claim a prize and be entered in our grand prize drawing for a Book Lover's Basket. Plus, fill out the Local Business BINGO on the back and earn a second chance to win the grand prize! Thanks to our friends at Mom & Pop's and Pub 500 for sponsoring this year's BINGO.





# SUMMER READING EVENTS

## IN LAKE CRYSTAL

**1:00pm at the park by the library**

June 10: Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo  
June 22: "Tales Away" with Toby Klauenberg  
June 29: Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo Master  
July 8: Music with Maud Hixson  
July 13: Remarkable Reptiles with Jim Gerholdt  
July 14: Library in the Park  
July 20: Junk Funk Drumming  
July 27: The Halbrooks' Comedy Magic Show

## IN MAPLETON

**3:30pm at the park by the library**

June 10: Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo  
June 22: "Tales Away" with Toby Klauenberg  
June 29: Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo Master  
July 8: Music with Maud Hixson\*  
July 13: Remarkable Reptiles with Jim Gerholdt  
July 20: Junk Funk Drumming\*  
July 21: Library in the Park  
July 27: The Halbrooks' Comedy Magic Show\*

\*These events will begin at 4:00pm.

## ONLINE EVENTS

**Links available at [beclibrary.org](http://beclibrary.org)**

June 7-13: Oliver's Animal Adventures - Lynx  
June 12-18: Caricature Drawing Workshop  
June 14-20: Oliver's Animals - Kinkajou  
June 21-27: Oliver's Animals - Python  
June 28-July 4: Oliver's Animals - Guinea Pig  
July 1-8: "Reading Colors Your World" with Carol McCormick  
July 5-11: Oliver's Animals - Tortoise

## AT SIBLEY PARK

**10:30am at Sibley Park Shelter #3**

June 8 : Arn Kind's Pirate Adventures  
June 10: Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo  
June 16: Library in the Park  
June 22: "Tales Away" with Toby Klauenberg  
June 24: The U of M Raptor Center  
June 29: Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo Master  
July 8: Music with Maud Hixson  
July 13: Remarkable Reptiles with Jim Gerholdt  
July 20: Peter Bloedel's Perpetual Variety Show  
July 22: Library in the Park  
July 27: The Halbrooks' Comedy Magic Show  
July 29: Library in the Park: Celebration

## AT THE BEC LIBRARY

June 15 @ 10:30am: **Kids' Comic Workshop**

- With author Trisha Speed Shaskan and author/illustrator Stephen Shaskan.
- Ages 7-13. Limit of 20 participants.

June 17 @ 10:30am: **Teen Writing Workshop**

- With author Kirstin Cronn-Mills
- Limit of 20 participants.

July 15 @ 6:00pm: **Hasse Family Petting Zoo**

## WITH THANKS TO:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| • The Glen A. Taylor Foundation               | • C&S Supply            |
| • Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund               | • Dino's Pizzeria       |
| • Friends of the Deep Valley Libraries        | • Buffalo Wings & Rings |
| • Mankato Makerspace                          | • Dairy Queen           |
| • Mankato Moondogs                            | • Wow! Zone             |
| • The Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota | • FUN.com               |

**AND OUR VOLUNTEERS!**



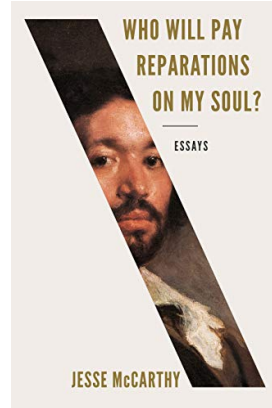
# STAFF PICKS



## Adult Fiction

### **The Children's Blizzard** **Melanie Benjamin**

I just got done reading this book based on the famous blizzard of 1888, which hit the Midwest and killed several including many schoolchildren, known as the Schoolhouse Blizzard. — *Janet*



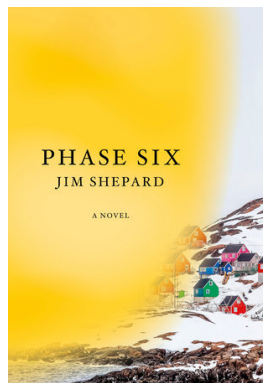
## Adult Nonfiction

### **Who Will Pay Reparations on My Soul?**

**Jesse McCarthy**

Sharp, thoughtful, well-researched essays on books (Toni Morrison, Claudia Rankine), art (Velázquez, Kehinde Wiley), music (D'Angelo, trap music), and more. — *Mairead*

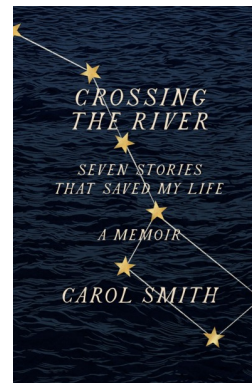
# NEW & NOTABLE ON THE SHELVES



## Adult Fiction

### **Phase Six** **Jim Shepard**

A spare and gripping novel about the next pandemic—completed before COVID-19 even emerged—that reads like a fictional sequel to our current crisis.



## Adult Nonfiction

### **Crossing the River** **Carol Smith**

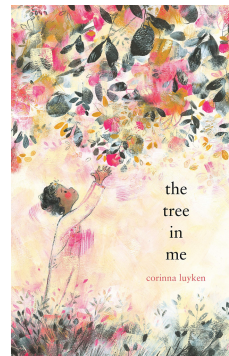
A powerful exploration of grief and resilience following the death of the author's son that combines memoir, reportage, and lessons in how to heal.



## Picture Book

### **Joy** **Yasmeen Ismail**

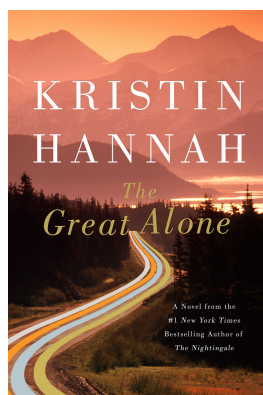
Oh, boy! A lively kitten is full of joy until she takes a tumble. Can comfort from someone special help her feel happy again?



## Picture Book

### **The Tree in Me** **Corinna Luyken**

A stunning and sensitive portrait of the strength within each of us and the nourishment we receive from nature, by the author of *My Heart*.

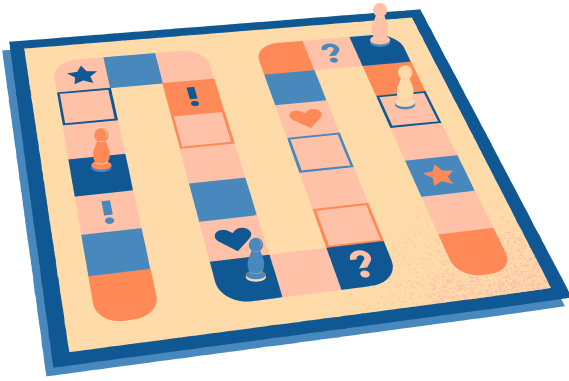


## Blue Earth County Library Book Club

**Tuesday, June 29 at 6:00pm**

Join us (online!) to discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. In this bestselling novel, a desperate family seeks a new beginning in the near-isolated wilderness of Alaska only to find their unpredictable environment is less threatening than the erratic behavior found in human nature. Please call 507-304-4001 to request the book and visit [beclibrary.org/calendar](https://beclibrary.org/calendar) for the Zoom link.

# LIBRARY ACTIVITIES & SERVICES



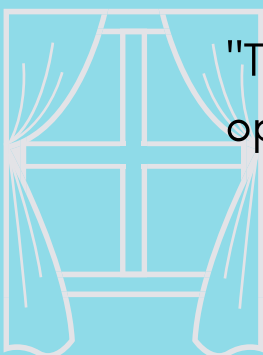
Did you know that you can **check out board games** now? We have everything from classics like Clue, Life, Monopoly, and Scrabble to contemporary favorites such as Agricola, Carcassonne, Mysterium, Pandemic, Settlers of Catan, and Ticket to Ride. Patrons can borrow up to three games per household for one week. Stop by for a game and start playing today!

Have you heard about our **Books by Mail** program? We provide postal delivery of books, audiobooks, movies, and other library materials at no charge to you, supported by MNRAAA and the CARES Act. We hope you'll reach out if you or someone you know would benefit from this service! Please call 507-304-4001 or visit [beclibrary.org](https://www.beclibrary.org) to get started.



Don't know what to read? Ask a Book Nerd! Fill out the form at [beclibrary.org/247/Ask-a-Book-Nerd](https://www.beclibrary.org/247/Ask-a-Book-Nerd) and we'll suggest some titles just for you! Forms available for adults, kids, and homework needs.

**Get "social" with us, why don't you?** We're on social media—and if you are too, we'd like to be friends! Find the BECLS on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and Twitter (@beclibrary) to learn what new books are hitting our shelves, read recommended articles, participate in prize giveaways and other challenges, and get a little dose of the library from the comfort of your home (or phone).



"The library is an arena of possibility,  
opening both a window into the soul  
and a door onto the world."

— Rita Dove, former Poet  
Laureate of the United States



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[www.beclibrary.org](https://www.beclibrary.org)  
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