

**BEHOLD THE DREAMERS**  
by Imbolo Mbue  
(Fiction)

Jende Jonga and his family come to the United States from Cameroon hoping to raise their children with all the dreams this country holds. Feeling fortunate to secure a chauffeuring position with a wealthy financial executive, Jende and his wife begin to establish their way, only to become entwined in the troubles of the rich and powerful.

2017 winner of the Pen/Faulkner Award for Fiction; named one of the best books of the year by NPR, The New York Times Book Review, San Francisco Chronicle, The Guardian, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Chicago Public Library, BookPage, Refinery29, Kirkus Reviews

“A debut novel by a young woman from Cameroon that illuminates the immigrant experience in America with the tenderhearted wisdom so lacking in our political discourse... Mbue is a bright and captivating storyteller.”  
—*The Washington Post*

“Who is this Imbolo Mbue and where has she been hiding? Her writing is startlingly beautiful, thoughtful, and both timely and timeless. She’s taking on everything from family to the Great Recession to immigration while deftly reminding us what it means to truly believe in ‘the American Dream.’”

—*Jacqueline Woodson, National Book Award-winning author of Brown Girl Dreaming and Another Brooklyn.*

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ONE BOOK!**

We will host programs and book discussions based on the popular vote winner.

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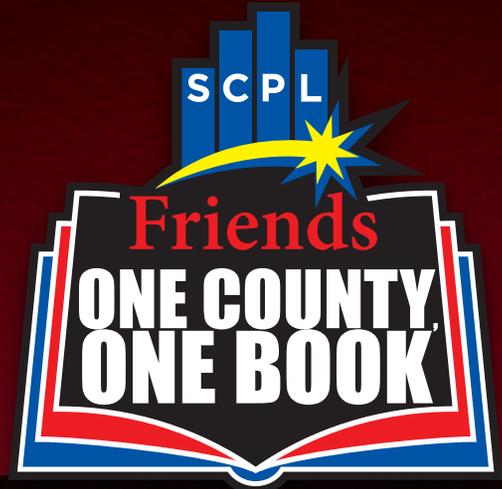
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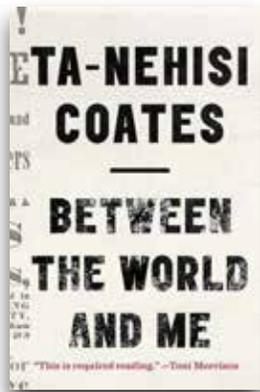


**THE FINAL FOUR CHOICES**

**BOOK SELECTION GUIDE**



**SCPL**  
Schenectady County Public Library



## **BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME**

by Ta-Nehisi Coates  
(Non-Fiction)

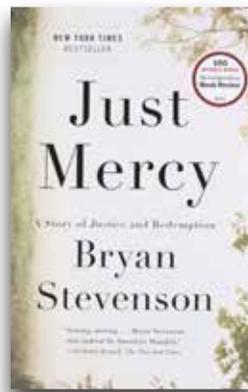
Written as an autobiographical letter to his teenage son, Coates relates his experience as a youth growing up in Baltimore. He illustrates how history has shaped the experience of navigating today's world and institutions as a black man, providing a vision forward for his son.

Winner of 2015 National Book Award for Nonfiction; finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction.

"I've been wondering who might fill the intellectual void that plagued me after James Baldwin died. Clearly it is Ta-Nehisi Coates. The language of **Between the World and Me**, like Coates's journey, is visceral, eloquent, and beautifully redemptive. And its examination of the hazards and hopes of black male life is as profound as it is revelatory. This is required reading." —**Toni Morrison**

"Powerful and passionate . . . profoundly moving . . . a searing meditation on what it means to be black in America today." —**Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times**

"Part memoir, part diary, and wholly necessary, it is precisely the document this country needs right now." —**New Republic**



## **JUST MERCY: A Story of Justice and Redemption** by Bryan Stevenson (Non-Fiction)

Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, retells the stories of his tireless work defending wrongly accused, mostly minor aged, clients. He exposes the challenges of maneuvering through an unfair and unmerciful criminal justice system, especially when the accused are poor, uneducated black Americans.

2015 Winner of Carnegie Medal for Excellence In Fiction and Nonfiction; 2015 Winner of Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Non-fiction; winner of the NAACP Image Award for Non-fiction; named one of the Best Books of the Year by The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, The Seattle Times, Esquire, Time.

"You don't have to read too long to start cheering for this man. . . . The message of this book . . . is that evil can be overcome, a difference can be made. **Just Mercy** will make you upset and it will make you hopeful." —**Ted Conover, The New York Times Book Review**

"Searing, moving... Bryan Stevenson may, indeed, be America's Mandela." —**Nicholas Kristof, The New York Times**

"Inspiring... a work of style, substance and clarity... Stevenson is not only a great lawyer, he's also a gifted writer and storyteller." —**The Washington Post**



## **MANHATTAN BEACH** by Jennifer Egan (Fiction)

This is the story of a feisty young woman, who goes from being her father's constant companion during the Depression, to working at the Brooklyn Naval Yard as the first female diver, repairing American war ships during WWII. Anna becomes the sole supporter for her mother and disabled sister after her father's disappearance. Her natural curiosity to find him draws her into connections she knew from her childhood, leading her to complex consequences.

Winner of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction; 2018 winner One Book, One New York; named one of the Best Books of the Year by NPR, Esquire, Vogue, The Washington Post, The Guardian, USA TODAY, Time, a New York Times Notable Book.

"Egan's most remarkable accomplishment yet... At once a suspenseful novel of noir intrigue, a gorgeously wrought and richly allusive literary tapestry, and a transporting work of lyrical beauty and emotional heft, **Manhattan Beach** is a magnificent achievement." —**Priscilla Gilman, The Boston Globe**

"A novel that deserves to join the canon of New York stories." —**Amor Towles, New York Times Book Review**