



# The Athenaeum Voice

July 2019

## **Director's Words**

Summer is here, kids are out of school, and we are enjoying the more leisurely visits from families, year-rounders, and our returning summer residents!

If you weren't able to come to our first Game Night on June 13th, we missed having you join in, but don't despair! We will have another evening of games in the fall!

I want to remind you that our Staff & Trustees are busy organizing the Athenaeum annual book sale - please remember to come by our tent at the Hilltown Brouhaha, Saturday, July 13th, 9am-3pm, to browse through the thousands of books and movies we have available!

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

If you are looking for a community volunteer task that can be done as it suits your schedule, we still have many, many book donations to sort before the sale on the 13th! Whether you have a spare hour or many spare hours, please give us a call at 413-623-5483 or stop by to find out more! We welcome your help with this ongoing organizational work for our community fundraiser!

Huge THANKS to all who heard our call for books, bags, and boxes and had some to share! We have been receiving a wonderful amount of donations from you all!

And as always, thank you for helping us be the Becket Washington community library - without your love of books, movies, conversation, and community spirit, we would not be the dynamic meeting place that we are!

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Brouhaha in less than two weeks!

Jodi Shafiroff

**DON'T FORGET THAT  
ATHENAEUM SUMMER HOURS**

BEGAN JUNE 25TH

Tuesday: 1-7pm

Wednesday: 10am-2pm

Thursday: 1-7pm

Saturday: 10am-4pm

*And we are closed Thursday, July 4th for the holiday!*

Victor Incardona, of the local branch of the U.S. 2020 Census Recruitment office, will be at the library on three July afternoons to talk with any interested local residents about the jobs available working with the Census Bureau from now through the end of 2020.

Dates:

Tuesday **July 2** 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Wednesday **July 10** 10:00AM-2:00PM

Tuesday **July 16** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019**  
**WASHINGTON TOWN PARK**  
To learn more or to register, visit:  
**[www.HilltownBrouhaha.org](http://www.HilltownBrouhaha.org)**



**4th ANNUAL**  
**hilltown**  
**brouhaha**  
Becket Washington Community Fair

This project is supported in part by a grant from the Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and also by grants from the Becket and Washington Cultural Councils.

Like the **BWCP** Facebook page for the latest news:  
**[www.Facebook.com/BWCP.Community](http://www.Facebook.com/BWCP.Community)**

## Monthly Book Club

All are welcome to join us at the Athenaeum on  
Tuesday, August 6th at 1:30pm  
to discuss  
Less by Andrew Sean Greer



Who says you can't run away from your problems?

You are a failed novelist about to turn fifty. A wedding invitation arrives in the mail: your boyfriend of the past nine years is engaged to someone else. You can't say yes--it would be too awkward--and you can't say no--it would look like defeat. On your desk are a series of invitations to half-baked literary events around the world.

**QUESTION:** How do you arrange to skip town?

**ANSWER:** You accept them all.

*What would possibly go wrong?*

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Our Book Club meets at 1:30pm on the first Tuesday of the month to discuss the book over tea/coffee and make our next selection.

Regular attendance is anywhere between 6 and 16 people. We generally wrap up by 2:45 or 3pm. We read fiction and non-fiction.

**Here are a few that we've read over the years:**

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

The President is Missing by Bill Clinton & James Patterson

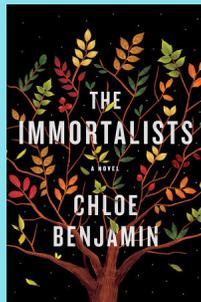
Born a Crime by Trevor Noah

Girl Waits With Gun by Amy Stewart

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

The most recent 24 selections are available in our Book Club section. All others are shelved in their appropriate section and have "Book Club" in green on their spine label.

## In the Adult New Book Section:



*The Immortalists*  
by Chloe Benjamin

If you knew the date of your death, how would you live your life?

It's 1969 in New York City's Lower East Side, and word has spread of the arrival of a mystical woman, a traveling psychic who claims to be able to tell anyone the day they will die. The Gold children—four adolescents on the cusp of self-awareness—sneak out to hear their fortunes.

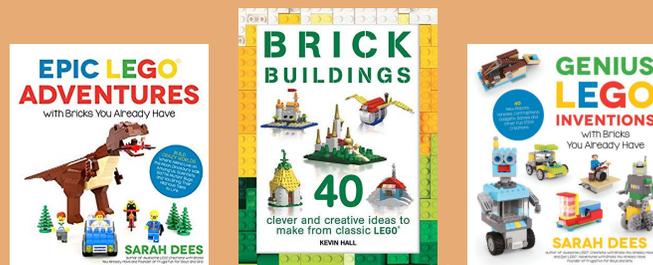
The prophecies inform their next five decades. Golden-boy Simon escapes to the West Coast, searching for love in '80s San Francisco; dreamy Klara becomes a Las Vegas magician, obsessed with blurring reality and fantasy; eldest son Daniel seeks security as an army doctor post-9/11; and bookish Varya throws herself into longevity research, where she tests the boundary between science and immortality.

A sweeping novel of remarkable ambition and depth, The Immortalists probes the line between destiny and choice, reality and illusion, this world and the next. It is a deeply moving testament to the power of story, the nature of belief, and the unrelenting pull of familial bonds.

Other new books just in:

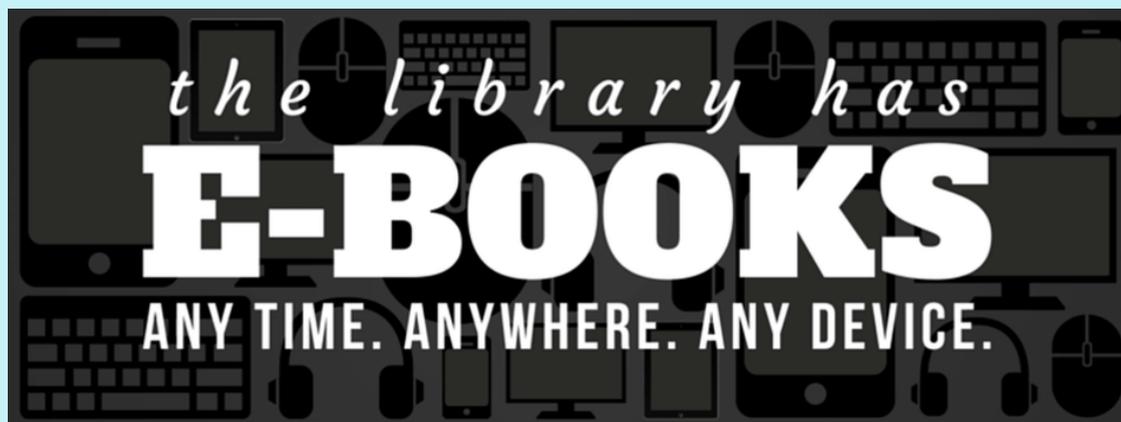


In the Children's New Book Section:



Children in the community asked for more Lego books...

**AND HERE THEY ARE!**





#### OVERVIEW

The Becket Athenaeum offers e-books, digital audiobooks, and video content! Our patrons have access to eight different library network collections: Boston, CLAMS, C/W Mars, Merrimack Valley, Minuteman, NOBLE, Old Colony, and SAILS.

Like regular library materials, electronic resources are checked out for a period of time and when they are due back, they simply leave your device and become available for the next interested patron. Also like other library materials, there are a limited number of digital copies of any given item at a time.

To get started, see below!

#### NEED HELP?

If you're new to e-books and need help, bring your device with you to the library and we'll help you get set up to take advantage of our vast collection!

**\*IMPORTANT\*** To proceed, you will need to know your library card number and password associated with your account. The password is set to the last four digits of your library card number unless you have changed it when accessing our catalog on MassCat. If you don't know your card number or are having issues, contact us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

<http://www.becketathenaeum.org/e-books.html>

Or stop by the Athenaeum for assistance from our helpful library staff!



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