

THE BEST BOOKS —OF 2016—

Did you know that 2016 marks the sixth year of our Best Books of the year lists? Many of the selections from our inaugural list—Best Books of 2011—are now familiar titles that some would label modern classics. Our first-year selections included *Bossypants* by Tina Fey, *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern, *Divergent* by Veronica Roth, *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness, *I Want My Hat Back* by Jon Klassen, and Hervé Tullet's ingenious and influential picture book *Press Here*.

2011 was a great year for books, and we're equally excited to share our Best Books picks this time around. Our staff has been busy reading and evaluating the noteworthy books of 2016 to determine our own definitive list of the year's best. We've looked back on our favorites all the way back to January releases, we asked friends and library patrons to tell us about their favorite books of the year, and we scoured the lists compiled by others to make sure we don't miss anything. Now we have a fantastic list of titles that we truly consider to be the Best of the Best!

Watch for our announcements on Book News & Reviews:

bcplreviews.blogspot.com

Saturday, December 31st

Tracy's Year in Books

Monday, January 2nd

Winners of the Patron Favorite Vote

Saturday, January 7th

Best Books for Young Readers

Wednesday, January 11th

Best Books for Middle Grade/Tweens

Saturday, January 14th

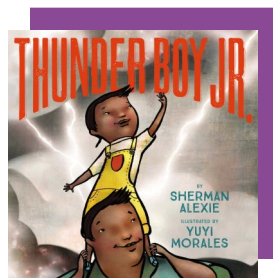
Best Books for Teens

Wednesday, January 18th

Best Fiction for Adults

Saturday, January 21st

Best Nonfiction for Adults



The illustrations in this book are superb! I love the spirit of the character and his yearning to be himself. The sky is the limit!

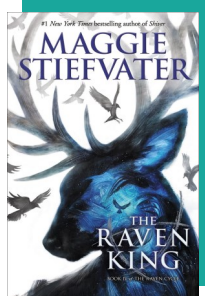
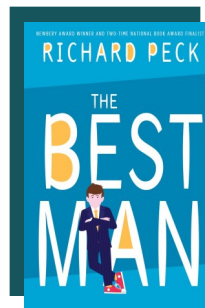
Allison White

BCPL Outreach & Programming Supervisor

Hilarious and fast-paced, this story is told convincingly from a boy's point of view. I laughed and laughed. I especially love the relationships he has with the four men in his life!

Cheryl Seabolt

Assistant Branch Manager, Ridgway Memorial



A good storyteller compels you to experience the spectrum of emotion; I laughed, I cried, etc. This is true of Stiefvater, and especially true here. The book grips you from the first sentence and doesn't let you go.

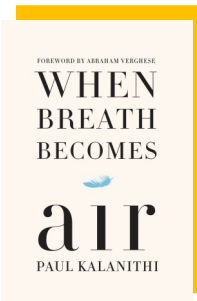
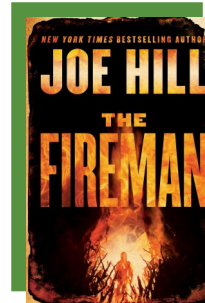
Stephanie Simmons

Reference Services, Hillview

This is a terrific read, with characters I cared about within the first 50 pages. Every time I put it down, I was burning to pick it up again to keep reading. The best book I read all year.

Beth Downs

Assistant Branch Manager, Lebanon Junction



Full of hope and wonder, Kalanithi's book will help you look at your world through a different perspective. A highly enjoyable read!

Stephanie Simmons

Reference Services, Hillview

From the Director



Library Director Joe Schweiss with longtime Circulation Clerk Barbara Corbett-Peters. Barbara is retiring at the end of December 2016.

New Year, New Library: Resolutions for 2017

Every New Year brings with it the sense that anything is possible. Many people choose this time of year to set new goals or try to transform themselves into what they want to become. Of course, it's not as simple as just declaring a desire and waiting for the magic to happen; change takes hard work, new ways of thinking, and plenty of patience. The Bullitt County Public Library is also looking to make some resolutions this year, and we think that we can be an even better library by creating a few new areas of focus and taking small steps to make some big changes.

RESOLUTION 1: *Be more patron focused.*

We are already making big changes to the way we add materials to our collection to ensure that we have more of what our community wants, but that is only part of it. We are going to be asking more questions, collecting more feedback, and making more changes based on the responses that we get. It can only get better if everyone participates, so be on the lookout for library-hosted focus groups and other appearances throughout the county and be prepared to talk.

RESOLUTION 2: *Let everyone know that we offer more than just what is on our shelves.*

The library is a great place to find books, videos, and other materials to check out, plus we have computers and great Wi-Fi, but that is really just a portion of what our library system provides. BCPL reference staff can assist you in a job hunt or career change, from helping you navigate an online employment search and punching up your resume to teaching you the computer skills you need to become a stronger job candidate. They can also help you trace your family history, guide you in a research or homework project, introduce you to powerful business tools, or even show you how to use that fancy new gadget you got for Christmas.

Our programming staff regularly provide events to entertain and astound, but many programs also serve a secondary purpose. For example, Toddler Storytime and Story-hour provide a fun learning opportunity for kids while also helping parents get early literacy training and tips. We are going to promote all of our lesser known benefits and services at every opportunity

and hope you will join us in spreading the word.

RESOLUTION 3: *Change our spaces with the times.*

Libraries used to be able to put up some shelves, provide a few tables and chairs, and be done thinking about furnishings for a few decades. Things have changed. We are very aware of how precious physical space is within our growing community, so we are reviewing our facilities and vow to make improvements as needed to provide the best environments we can. From providing more outlets and versatile seating to transitioning infrequently used rooms into new spaces designed to encourage exploration and creativity, Bullitt County Public Library will make the most of what space we have to offer.

With some perseverance, healthy pacing, and expansion of our horizons, we can achieve these resolutions and be the library that Bullitt County needs in 2017.

Joe Schweiss, Director
Bullitt County Public Library

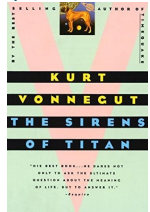
Director's Picks

I finally watched ...



Morris from America

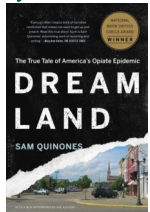
I just read (again)...



The Sirens of Titan

by Kurt Vonnegut

I just started...



Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic

by Sam Quinones

Hours & Locations

Sunday 1:00–5:00 PM (Ridgway only)

Mon.–Thu. 9:00 AM–8:00 PM

Fri. & Sat. 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Ridgway Memorial (Main Library in Shepherdsville)
127 N. Walnut Street, 543-7675

Hillview 155 Terry Boulevard, 957-5759

Lebanon Junction 11382 S. Preston Highway, 833-4648

Mt. Washington 311 Snapp Street, 538-7560

Library News

Mt. Washington Construction Update



The countdown to our spring opening has begun! The roof and masonry are both near completion, and the building's interior is taking shape. Rooms, windows, and doorways have all been framed and walls have begun to go up. Currently, we're working to make sure furniture will be ready to move in when the inside is ready. *Photos taken December 22, 2016.*



Important Dates

Saturday, December 31st & Sunday, January 1st

CLOSED for New Year's
All BCPL locations will be closed on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. However, you can still access all of our online services while we're closed, including e-books, research databases, and streaming movies.

Tuesday, January 10th

Board of Trustees Meeting
Our monthly board meeting will be held at Ridgway Memorial Library in Shepherdsville at 5:00 PM. Meetings are open to the public.

Monday, January 16th

CLOSED Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
All BCPL locations will be closed in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The Library will reopen Tuesday morning at 9:00 AM.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Reference hours are changing!

We are expanding reference coverage for each location, including a second person for peak times at our main library (see page 6 for details).

In January, regular reference hours will be as follows:

Ridgway Memorial

Sun. 1:00–5:00 PM
Mon. 9:00 AM–6:00 PM
Tue.–Thu. 9:00 AM–8:00 PM
Fri. & Sat. 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Marianne
&
Stephanie
L.

Hillview

Mon.–Thu. 11:00 AM–7:00 PM
Fri. 6th & 20th 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
Sat. 14th & 28th 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Stephanie
S.

Lebanon Junction

The circulation staff will be fielding reference questions or referring them to other locations initially, but we will soon be offering dedicated in-house reference services 3 days a week!

Mt. Washington

Mon.–Thu. 11:00 AM–7:00 PM
Fri. 13th & 27th 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
Sat. 7th & 21st 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Trish

2016: A Photo Retrospective

We are proud of the programs, services, and events we brought you in 2016, so here's a look at our year in pictures.



We can't wait for all of the wonderful things we have planned for 2017!

Events by Location

Don't Miss...

Ridgway Memorial

(Main Library in Shepherdsville)

*TODDLER STORYTIME (Ages Birth–2)

Every Thursday 9:30–10:00 AM

Join the fun as we sing, read stories, and play games while teaching early literacy and social skills.

*STORYHOUR (Ages 3–5)

Every Thursday 10:30–11:30 AM

We use books, songs, and simple crafts to develop early literacy skills and encourage socialization.



ANIME GAMING NIGHT

(Middle & High School Ages)

Thursday, January 5th 4:00–7:00 PM

Drop-in Event

Drop in at our monthly social night for teens and tweens to enjoy favorite anime, viral videos, karaoke, classic card and board games, free refreshments, fun giveaways, and Minecraft!

SCI-FI GAMING NIGHT (Middle & High School Ages)

Tuesday, January 17th 4:00–7:00 PM | Drop-in Event

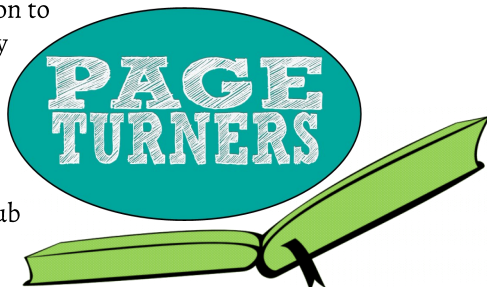
Calling all tweens and teens who are into sci-fi, fantasy, fandoms, retro gaming, web gaming, and making new friends! Join us for our newest gaming night, held the third Tuesday of each month. We're seeking out young nerds and geeks to boldly go where no one has gone before...at the library. May the force be with us!

*PAGE TURNERS (Middle & High School Ages)

Wednesday, January 18th 5:00–6:00 PM

Our book club for tweens and teens is starting 2017 with a new name! Now that we've finished Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson series, we're moving on to

Coraline, a wonderfully eerie fantasy by Neil Gaiman. A limited number of copies are reserved each month for registered book club members.



**DISCUSS AWESOME BOOKS, HEAR ABOUT NEW RELEASES,
HANG OUT & MAKE NEW FRIENDS**

*TODDLERS ON THE MOVE (Ages Birth–4)

Thursday, January 19th 12:30–1:15 PM

Toddlers will enjoy a continuous, action-packed fitness class with a focus on motor skills, coordination, and endurance with Stretch N' Grow's trained and certified Youth Fitness Specialists.

*COLORING WITH FRIENDS (Children of All Ages)

Tuesday, January 24th

6:00–7:00 PM

Bring the kids in for an evening of colorful creativity and meeting new friends. Participants will go home with a mini coloring book and crayons.



*FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: FINDING DORY (All Ages, Rated PG)

Thursday, January 26th

6:00–7:45 PM

Join us to see everyone's favorite friendly-but-forgetful blue tang search for her long-lost relatives and learn a few things about friendship and family along the way. Enjoy free snacks and fun, interactive activities during the show!

Hillview

*TODDLER STORYTIME (Ages Birth–2)

Every Wednesday 9:30–10:00 AM

Join the fun as we sing, read stories, and play games while teaching early literacy and social skills.

*STORYHOUR (Ages 3–5)

Every Wednesday 10:30–11:30 AM

We use books, songs, and simple crafts to develop early literacy skills and encourage socialization.

*MINECRAFT MEETUP (Ages 9–15)

Saturday, January 14th 1:00–3:00 PM

Join other Minecrafters for an afternoon inside River Cloud, BCPL's own Minecraft virtual world where build challenges, red-stone tricks, and new adventures await. We will be playing in creative mode for part of the session, but we'll also explore exiting adventure and survival maps. Space is limited.

* Asterisks indicate that registration is required for a limited number of reserved seats. Additional space will be available on the day of the event on a first-come, first-served basis.

Live with Bethany Griffin

Join our Skype chat with local YA author Bethany Griffin!



*COLORING WITH FRIENDS (Children of All Ages)

Monday, January 23rd 6:00–7:00 PM

Bring the kids in for an evening of colorful creativity and meeting new friends. Participants will go home with a mini coloring book and crayons.

Lebanon Junction

*TODDLER STORYTIME (Ages Birth–2)

Every Tuesday 9:30–10:00 AM

Join the fun as we sing, read stories, and play games while teaching early literacy and social skills.

*STORYHOUR (Ages 3–5)

Every Tuesday 10:30–11:30 AM

We use books, songs, and simple crafts to develop early literacy skills and encourage socialization.

Wii BOWLING (Ages 18 & Up)

Every Thursday 10:00–11:30 AM | Drop-in Event

Join the fun in the meeting room as we chat and laugh while bowling on the Wii game console. Coffee and tea are provided.

*BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB (Ages 18 & Up)

Thursday, January 12th 12:00–1:30 PM

Bring your lunch and discuss *The Last Mile* by David Baldacci. Tea and coffee will be provided. A limited number of copies are reserved each month for registered book club members.

*FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: FINDING DORY (All Ages, Rated PG)

Thursday, January 12th

6:00–7:45 PM

Join us to see everyone's favorite friendly-but-forgetful blue tang search for her long-lost relatives and learn a few things about



friendship and family along the way.

Enjoy free snacks and fun, interactive activities during the show!

To register, visit the PROGRAMS page at www.bcplib.org or call the Outreach & Programs Department at 543-7675 ext. 5. All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

*COLORING WITH FRIENDS (Children of All Ages)

Tuesday, January 10th 6:00–7:00 PM

Bring the kids in for an evening of colorful creativity and meeting new friends. Participants will go home with a mini coloring book and crayons.

*SAY IT WITH HEARTS VALENTINE BANNER (Ages 14 & Up)

Thursday, January 19th 6:00–7:30 PM

Using everyday household materials, create a special message for the one you love! All materials provided.

*LIVE WITH BETHANY GRIFFIN (Ages 12–19)

Monday, January 23rd 6:00–7:30 PM

Join us as we Skype with local author Bethany Griffin to learn about her writing process and where her creativity comes from. Bethany is a teacher and the author of several novels for young adults, including *Handcuffs*, *Masque of the Red Death*, and *The Fall*. Free refreshments will be served.



Participants will be entered to win a copy of THE FALL!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- A parent or guardian must remain on library premises with youth ages 15 and under.
- If Bullitt County Public Schools are closed, Toddler Storytime and Storyhour will be canceled.
- Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/bcplib for the earliest possible notification of weather closings or event cancellations.

Events by Location

Mt. Washington

*TODDLER STORYTIME (Ages Birth–2)

Every Friday 9:30–10:00 AM

Join the fun as we sing, read stories, and play games while teaching early literacy and social skills. **We're sorry, but guaranteed registration for this program is now closed.**

*STORYHOUR (Ages 3–5)

Every Friday 10:30–11:30 AM

We use books, songs, and simple crafts to develop early literacy skills and encourage socialization. **We're sorry, but guaranteed registration for this program is now closed.**

*COLORING WITH FRIENDS (Children of All Ages)

Monday, January 9th 6:00–7:00 PM

Bring the kids in for an evening of colorful creativity and meeting new friends. Participants will go home with a mini coloring book and crayons.

*BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB (Ages 18 & Up)

Tuesday, January 10th 12:00–1:30 PM

Bring your lunch and discuss *The Last Mile* by David Baldacci. Tea and coffee will be provided. A limited number of copies are reserved each month for registered book club members.

*SAY IT WITH HEARTS VALENTINE BANNER

(Ages 14 & Up)

Tuesday, January 17th 6:00–7:30 PM

Using everyday household materials, create a special message for the one you love! All materials provided.

I-SPY (All Ages)

Drop in each week to receive a list of five items to find in your local branch. When you have located all five items, return to the Circulation Desk to enter your name in a drawing for a special I SPY book!

At All Locations



February
Sneak Peek

*VALENTINE'S OTAKU BALL (Ages 13 & Up)

Friday, February 3rd 7:00–10:00 PM

Enjoy dancing, costume play, gaming, karaoke, pizza and cupcakes, and more at our 8th annual Valentine's Otaku Ball! Cosplay or semi-formal dress strongly encouraged. This year's ball has a masquerade theme, so don't forget your mask!

Notes from the Reference Department

Welcome Stephanie L. to Our Reference Team

We are excited to welcome Stephanie Lewis to BCPL's reference team! She is joining Marianne, Trish, and Stephanie S. (or Stephanie I, as we now call her) in our growing Reference Department.

After her first week of training, we asked Stephanie a few questions. Here's what she had to say:

Why did you apply for this position?

I love helping people one on one. Seeing the light bulb go off in someone's head is so rewarding and fun to witness.

I am also excited by the opportunity to be more creative in promoting the library and all of the great things we have to offer.

What are you most looking forward to?

Teaching patrons new things, like computer skills or tips and tricks for using their smartphones.

What surprised you most in your first week?

How much the reference staff accomplishes on a daily basis; it's non-stop behind this desk!



Stephanie L. (or Stephanie II) is joining Marianne at the Reference Desk at Ridgway Memorial Library. She'll be available Tuesday through Saturday.

Technology

Learn Something New in 2017!

Visit our online learning page at www.bcplib.org/online-learning

Want to expand your knowledge in the New Year? Bullitt County Public Library is committed to helping people of all ages learn new things. To that purpose, we offer many online learning tools and services designed to help you achieve your educational, personal, and professional goals.

Here's a countdown of 5 awesome things BCPL can help you learn in 2017:

#1 Learn to speak a second language.

Not only does learning a new language improve your communication and cognitive skills, it also looks great on your resume and comes in handy when you're traveling. **Mango Languages** can help you learn Portuguese, Japanese, German, Greek, Chinese, Spanish, French, Italian, Russian, and more than 50 other languages online. Mango teaches users through real-life scenarios and strives to provide authentic and useful cultural information in the lessons. There's also a mobile app.

#2 Learn to be a better photographer.

Want to do a better job of preserving the important moments of your year or find a way to see the world around you from a different angle? **Lynda.com** offers over 600 training courses and exercises on photography topics for all skill levels. Courses include everything from gear to technique to

processing and editing your photos. There are even tutorials for Instagram and making better use of your smartphone camera.

#3 Learn to code.

Are you looking for a new career path with more job opportunities, or do you think it would just be cool to make your own game app?

Treehouse offers over 1,000 videos from experts on coding, website building, and more. Courses are taught through short videos, with quizzes, code challenges, and other activities to help reinforce new skills and concepts. If you're interested in learning to code or exploring the other courses offered via Treehouse, just e-mail treehouse@bcplib.org to request access. Be sure to provide your full name and library card number for verification.

#4 Learn more about your computer.

If you've got e-mail, internet-surfing, and Facebook down pat but get flustered by malware warnings and firewall issues, take a look at the video courses offered by

tìm hiểu cái gì mới

¡Aprende algo nuevo!

學習新的東西

Do you have questions about your computer or a new tech gadget?
Schedule an appointment with our reference staff!

LearningExpress Library. This resource covers the basics of computer maintenance and internet safety (plus e-mail, internet navigation, and Facebook basics!). You can also find more advanced IT tutorials on **Lynda.com**.

#5 Learn to be a better writer.

Do you want to make writing a hobby or career, or do you just need to improve the quality of your writing for work or school? **Lynda.com** offers 20 courses and over 500 tutorials ranging from grammar fundamentals and story craft to writing business reports and speeches.

Digital Comics: Where the Action Is



Check out the action or, shall we say, the Action View!

With Hoopla's Action View feature, browsing your favorite comics becomes a dynamic, one-of-a-kind experience.

Using Action View, readers simply tap, screen by screen, to get the captions and graphics for each panel successively, creating a truly immersive experience. To activate this feature, sign into your Hoopla account, open your favorite digi-

tal comic, and simply double click on one of the panels. Just double click on it again to restore the original view.

Hoopla offers an impressive selection of digital comics and graphic novels to choose from—including The Walking Dead series, DC Comics, Star Wars, and more. To get started, visit hoopladigital.com or ask a Library staff member.

Books & Movies

NEW & COMING SOON

Listed by publisher release dates; library availability dates may vary.



January 3rd

Mulberry Moon by Catherine Anderson

The Final Day by William R. Forstchen

The Lost City of the Monkey God: A True Story by Douglas Preston

Food, Health, and Happiness: 115 On-Point Recipes for Great Meals and a Better Life by Oprah Winfrey

Below the Belt by Stuart Woods

January 10th

The Sleepwalker by Chris Bohjalian

Ring of Fire by Brad Taylor

January 17th

Ripper: The Secret Life of Walter Sickert by Patricia Cornwell

Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America by Michael Eric Dyson

The Nowhere Man by Gregg Hurwitz

Feversong by Karen Marie Moning

January 24th

Death's Mistress by Terry Goodkind

The You I've Never Known by Ellen Hopkins

Fatal by John Lescroart

Accidentally on Purpose by Jill Shalvis

January 31st

4321 by Paul Auster

The Prisoner by Alex Berenson

Caraval by Stephanie Garber

Right Behind You by Lisa Gardner

At Close Range by Laura Griffin

On Second Thought by Kristan Higgins

Me and Marvin Gardens by A.S. King

Wrath of the Storm by Jennifer A. Nielsen

From Our Shelves: What's Hot Right Now

TOP ADULT BOOKS

The Whistler by John Grisham

Turbo Twenty-Three by Janet Evanovich

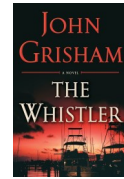
Two by Two by Nicholas Sparks

Night School by Lee Child

A Baxter Family Christmas by Karen Kingsbury

Kill or Be Killed: Thrillers by James Patterson

No Man's Land by David Baldacci



TOP YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

The Fever Code by James Dashner

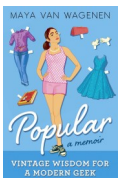
Popular: A Memoir by Maya Van Wagenen

The Giver by Lois Lowry

The Maze Runner by James Dashner

City of Heavenly Fire by Cassandra Clare

The Scorch Trials by James Dashner



TOP JUNIOR BOOKS

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Double Down by Jeff Kinney

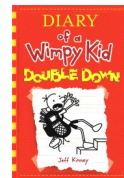
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School by Jeff Kinney

Harry Potter & the Cursed Child by J.K. Rowling

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck by Jeff Kinney

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days by Jeff Kinney

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw by Jeff Kinney



TOP CHILDREN'S BOOKS

The Twelve Days of Christmas by Jane Carbera

Pete the Cat: Snow Daze by James Dean

How the Grinch Stole Christmas! by Dr. Seuss

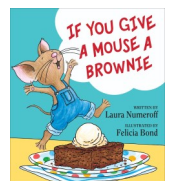
Penguin's Christmas Wish by Salina Yoon

Santa's Missing Reindeer by Dan Crisp

Pete the Cat and the Bad Banana by James Dean

Even Super Heroes Sleep by David Katz and Morris Katz

If You Give a Mouse a Brownie by Laura Numeroff



TOP E-BOOKS

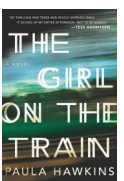
Turbo Twenty-Three by Janet Evanovich

The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs

A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

Harry Potter & the Cursed Child by J.K. Rowling



TOP E-AUDIOBOOKS

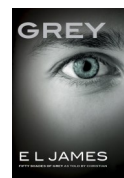
Turbo Twenty-Three by Janet Evanovich

Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard

Grey by E.L. James

Scarlet by Marissa Meyer

Curious Minds by Janet Evanovich



TOP DVDs & BLU-RAYS

Ghostbusters: Answer the Call

Neighbors 2

Captain America: Civil War

Warcraft

Finding Dory

Central Intelligence

Ice Age: Collision Course

Alice Through the Looking Glass

The Legend of Tarzan

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles:

Out of the Shadows

