With this issue of WWR, the YCP community shares opinions on a diverse selection of books. Check out the Library’s Popular Reading Collection for titles to add to your summer reading list. Don’t blink! Summer will be here before you know it.

**City on Fire** by Garth Risk Hallberg (2015)

At almost 1,000 pages, “City on Fire” can look intimidating but it’s worth your time and new bicep muscles to tackle this New York City story. Covering the year between the 1976 bicentennial and the 1977 blackout, reporters, cops, punks, art dealers, the city’s rich, a group of hippies and their friends and families try to figure out where they belong in this changing world and evolving city. Whether you are gay or straight, Black, white or Asian, part of the counter culture or a scion of business, the characters’ lives intertwine and overlap as they all look for love, happiness and perfect piece of art. ~ Suzanne Delle

**Sandrine’s Case** by Thomas H. Cook (2013)

In this crime novel, Professors Samuel and Sandrine Madison teach at a liberal arts college in a small southern town (literature, history, respectively). She enjoys the simplicity of the town, believing that it is there that she and Samuel, with their liberal viewpoints and advanced degrees, can make a difference. He’s bitterly resigned himself to a life surrounded by what he perceives to be myopic, provincial and hostile townspeople and below-average students. So, when Sandrine is found dead, Samuel is the prime suspect, and at the mercy of the “illiterate.” Their often tumultuous marriage is dissected and scrutinized as Samuel stands trial for Sandrine's murder. He is forced to examine himself--who he was and what he has become.

~ Karen Rice-Young

*My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I’ve finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already.* ~ Dave Barry
Furiously Happy: A Funny Book about Horrible Things
by Jenny Lawson (2015)

Have you ever looked at the people around you and realized that your brain doesn’t work in the same way as everyone else’s? You are not alone. It’s ok to have weird thoughts. There are a lot of us out there!

I first encountered Jenny Lawson in Let’s Pretend This Never Happened, a collection of the stories she’s told over the years while writing as The Bloggess. Her mind wanders into some of the darndest places and she provides wickedly funny, unfiltered comments along the way. (REALLY unfiltered: language alert for the faint of heart.)

Furiously Happy is every bit as funny, but it’s also a ray of hope for anyone who has ever struggled day to day with depression, anxiety disorders, self-injury, or other forms of mental illness. Jenny shows us that our broken parts are what make us beautiful and unique. Our toughest hours can also bring us laughter and healing. After a string of unhappy life events, she sent out this challenge to the universe: “I’ve HAD IT. I AM GOING TO BE FURIOUSLY HAPPY, OUT OF SHEER SPITE.” That was the start of the #FURIOUSLYHAPPY movement as kindred spirits from around the world reached out and shared their stories and funny experiences. (Example: Mortification Keeps Us Human)

Here are a few memorable thought trains you get to ride with Jenny in this book…
*the MilkBone-eating pharmacist
*the cat with the tinkle bell issue
*Rory the Raccoon and the 2 AM cat rodeo
*snow globes and the TSA
*What does a chameleon do when you place it in a bowl of Skittles?

Read this book to laugh out loud and experience moments of pure joy. ~ Vickie Kline


Carmen Bin Ladin grew up in Geneva, Switzerland. She met her future husband, Yeslam Bin Ladin, (brother to Osama Bin Ladin) in her hometown. In 1974, after she and Yeslam enrolled in the University of Southern California, they were married. Life in America had been her dream and their life in California was good. It was when Yeslam insisted they return to his home, Saudi Arabia, that things went south. Forced under an abaya, Carmen found she had no identity. Under Sharia Law she had no voice, nor the freedom to make even the simplest decisions. Carmen is frank as she recalls her observations and the oppressive realities living in this fanatical Bin Ladin family. If you’re curious about life Inside the Kingdom, read this book! ~ Barb Zmolek
Opposing Viewpoints

*Opposing Viewpoints* is a database with more than 20,000 pro/con essays to help a student gain varying perspectives on a wide range of topics. The database features topic overviews; articles from newspapers, periodicals, reference sources; charts and graphs; statistics; and other media-rich, authoritative content. Topics range from capital punishment, espionage and intelligence, human trafficking, immigration, marijuana, same-sex marriage, water pollution, and many other current issues covering all disciplines.

This database would be a great resource for use in the First Year Experience, Foundations in Communications, and other introductory courses for developing critical thinking and information literacy skills.

As with all the Library’s electronic resources, you can get to *Opposing Viewpoints* from the E-Resources A-Z tab on the Schmidt Library website: http://library.ycp.edu. If off-campus, enter your YCP network username and password to gain access.

Direct questions about this resource to the Library Research team at 717-815-1356.

*The next What We’re Reading will be published in October. Submit your book reviews of 100 words or less as a Word file to bjacoby@ycp.edu.*

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