



Redondo Beach Public Library Librarians' Favorite Beach Books

ABRAHAMS, Peter. A Perfect Crime. FICTION - ABRAHAMS*

ABRAHAMS, Peter. The Tutor. FICTION - ABRAHAMS*

The Perfect Crime is about a "too smart for his own good" bad guy who goes around telling people his SAT scores while plotting revenge on his cheating wife. The Tutor's main character is a cerebral bad guy who gets outsmarted by a nine year old girl and her goofy dog.

ADDONIZIO, Kim. Little Beauties. FICTION - ADDONIZIO

A young woman with OCD helps a pregnant teenager in this novel set in Long Beach. Charming!

ANDREWS, Mary Kay. Hissy Fit. FICTION - ANDREWS*

The story begins with the main character throwing a hissy fit after catching her fiancée cheating on her. With the wedding called off, she's hired to decorate an aging Southern mansion. A great cast of characters.

BLOOM, Amy. A Blind Man Can See How Much I Love You: Stories. FICTION - BLOOM

A masterful collection of short stories by a practicing psychotherapist. Here are characters confronted with tragedy, perplexed by emotions, and challenged to endure whatever modern life may have in store.

DURRELL, Gerald. Birds, Beasts and Relatives. NONFICTION - 914.955 DURRELL

DURRELL, Gerald. My family and Other Animals. NONFICTION - 914.955 DURRELL

These two titles are only part of a very humorous series about an English family that moves to the island of Corfu in Greece. Readers will find works by this author difficult to put down.

FISHER, Karen. A Sudden Country. FICTION - FISHER (NEW BOOKS)

A woman travels the Oregon Trail while grieving her first husband and tending the newborn from her second husband. Will she learn to love her second husband or will she fall in love with a mountain man? This is a well-written western in the vein of Larry McMurtry and Willa Cather; a strange but great mix.

KIDD, Sue Monk. The Mermaid Chair. FICTION - KIDD*

A moving story about a woman who returns to the island and the mother she ran away from many years before. When she meets a Monk from the Monastery next to her mother's house, she is forced to face difficult realities in both her old and new life. A book full of surprises.

KINSELLA, Sophie. Undomestic Goddess. FICTION - KINSELLA (NEW BOOKS)

Due to a series of unfortunate events, workaholic attorney Samatha Sweeting loses her job and finds herself employed as a housekeeper in the British countryside. Will she go back to her old life and does she want to?

KIRINO, Natsuo. Out. FICTION - KIRINO

A black comedy of murder, betrayal and revenge; I'm looking forward to her next award winning book.

LUDLUM, Robert. The Bourne Identity. FICTION - LUDLUM

In the first book in the Bourne trilogy, a man searches for clues to his identity while trying to stay one step ahead of the assassins on his trail. This is the one book my father couldn't put down.

MONROE, Mary Alice. The Beach House. FICTION - MONROE (LARGE PRINT & PAPERBACK)

At the request of her mother, the story's main character returns to the Low country of her childhood summers where she settles in at the family's beach house and renews old acquaintances. A nice read.

*ALSO AVAILABLE AS AN AUDIOBOOK

NICHOLSON, Joy. The Tribes of Palos Verdes. FICTION- NICHOLSON

NICHOLSON, Joy. The Road to Esmeralda. FICTION - NICHOLSON (NEW BOOKS)

The first is a somewhat dark novel involving the surfer culture in Palos Verdes. The second is the story of a young couple who move to a small Mexican town to escape the rat race of L.A. only to find that greed and violence also exist in the remote reaches of the world. Beautifully written, this author is one to watch.

NUNN, Kem. Tapping the Source. FICTION - NUNN

Young Ike Tucker leaves his home in the California desert for Huntington Beach to search for his runaway sister. He eventually uncovers an evil secret lurking beneath the sunbleached surface.

QUINN, Karen. The Ivy Chronicles. FICTION - QUINN

A laugh out loud book to help get you through your parenting angst.

RIMINGTON, Stella. At Risk. FICTION - RIMINGTON

This book traces the actions of MI5 from their first suspicions that terrorists will enter England. Due to the author's credentials as head of the entire MI5, it all seems totally credible.

ROMER, Elizabeth. The Tuscan Year: Life and Food in an Italian Valley. NONFICTION-641.5945 ROMER

The rituals of life and food in Tuscany have remained unchanged for centuries. This mouthwatering book combines recipes with luscious prose as Elizabeth Romer recounts one year in a Tuscan kitchen.

RUOFF, Tracy Alison. The King of Topaz Street. FICTION - RUOFF

Takes place in Redondo Beach!

SALINGER, J. D. Catcher in the Rye. FICTION - SALINGER

A classic that I was forced to read in elementary school. Having read it again in recent years, it all makes much more sense and is that much more enjoyable. Give it a try. Franny and Zooey is another favorite.

SCHLOSSER, Eric. Fast Food Nation. NONFICTION - 394.10973 SCHLOSSER

The predecessor to the film "Super Size Me". It might finally convince you to stop eating fast food.

SEDARIS, David. Me talk pretty one day. NONFICTION - 814.54 SEDARIS

Anything written by David Sedaris will make you giggle. His family stories are unforgettable and leave you laughing with his fond memories of Paris and his struggles to learn a foreign language in a strange country.

SHAMES, Laurence. The Naked Detective. FICTION - SHAMES

Very funny stuff about a guy in Key West who, for tax purposes, says he's employed as a private detective.

SIDDONS, Ann Rivers. Up Island. FICTION - SIDDONS

When Molly Redwine realizes that her husband is having an affair she moves to Martha's Vineyard. As winter closes in she searches for renewal and the strength to forge a new life for herself.

TURNBULL, Sarah. Almost French: love and a new life in Paris. NONFICTION - 944.361 TURNBULL

An Australian journalist on vacation winds up in Paris visiting an acquaintance, marries him, and learns subtleties of the French culture. Sensitive and funny.

TROUP, Gary. Bad Twin. FICTION - TROUP (NEW BOOKS)

This is the last mystery by the author who was tragically 'lost' on Oceanic Flight 815.

WALKER, Alice. Color Purple. FICTION - WALKER

Walker's outstanding book is written in diary form as a conversation between the main character, Celie, and God that takes place after the Civil War. This book was a Pulitzer Prize & American Book Award winner.

WALKER, Sam. Fantasyland: A Season on Baseball's Lunatic Fringe. NONFICTION-793.93 WALKER

A sportswriter tries to use his connections to get the inside scoop for his fantasy baseball team. A very funny look at the extremely weird world of rotisserie baseball.

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