

Celebrate **National Book Lovers Day** with Our Summer Reading Recommendations

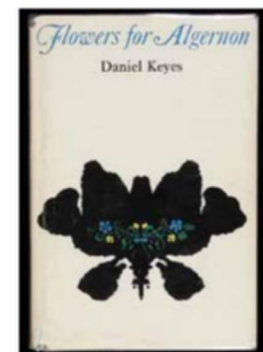
CALLING ALL BIBLIOPHILES! AUGUST 9 IS NATIONAL BOOK LOVER'S DAY AND WE KNOW THE PERFECT WAY FOR YOU TO CELEBRATE – READ! WITH SO MANY WONDERFUL CHOICES—OLD AND NEW AND SO LITTLE TIME, IT ISN'T ALWAYS EASY TO DECIDE JUST WHAT TO READ. NO WORRIES, WE'RE HERE TO HELP. WE ASKED SOME OF OUR STAFF WHAT THEIR GO-TO CLASSICS ARE AND WHAT UPCOMING RELEASES HAVE THEM EXCITED. HERE'S WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY:

TANNER'S LIST

Flowers for Algernon

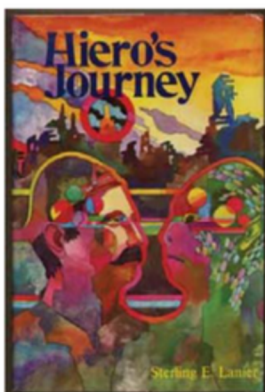
Daniel Keyes

Originally written as a short story in 1959, Daniel Keyes fleshed out the story, turning it into a full novel in 1966. The story is about Charlie Gordon, a mentally-disabled adult who, after undergoing an experimental surgery, has his IQ shoot up from 68 to 185. This



book is both an interesting study on the human condition, as well as a fairly breezy speculative 'what if?' story. The back half of the book is honestly utterly depressing and emotionally exhausting – it will easily tear your heart out as you read about the rise and fall of Charlie. Inventive writing style, great pacing and

memorable characters make this book an easy – if not slightly dark – summer read.



Hiero's Journey

Sterling Lanier

Sterling Lanier is a bit of an unknown author in science fiction. Probably best known for helping get Frank Herbert's *Dune* published, his most famous personal story is *Hiero's Journey*. Set in the far future after an event called 'The Death' destroyed civilization, protagonist Per Hiero Desteen has been sent by his tribal elders to recover a mysterious 'computer' from the evil forces of The Brotherhood of the Unclean. With allies such as a mutant moose named Klootz and a psychic black bear named Gorm, Hiero travels across the remains of Canada and the United States, facing off against mutants, brigands and worse. A pulpy, fun read of high action, interesting world building and Cold War sensibilities.

HEIDI'S LIST

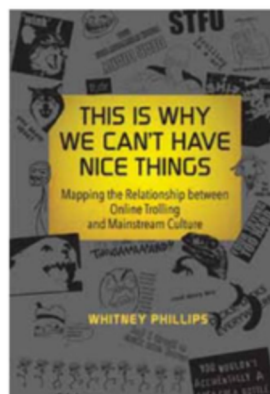
This is Why We Can't Have Nice Things: Mapping the Relationship Between Online Trolling and Mainstream Culture

By Dr. Whitney Phillips

We've all experienced it at least once or twice in our lives: trolls – trolls are everywhere. The dig-verse is rife with them. They leave snarky, disparaging

comments on news threads. They get crude, hostile and down-right mean, spamming your feed with mockery and memes. By now, most of us have come to accept them as one of the many perils of an active online presence, but do we really understand them? What drives a troll? How did this phenomenon even take off? These are exactly the questions Dr. Whitney Phillips attempts to answer in her book *This is Why We Can't Have Nice Things: Mapping the Relationship Between Online Trolling and Mainstream Culture*.

For me, digging deep into the cultural factors that drive trolling behaviors is a fascinating study. Phillips' book really probes at the historical and cultural factors that breed trolls and points the finger right back at Western society. She examines our culture – one driven by



competition, one-ups-man-ship, instant gratification, and disconnection – and draws connections to troll behaviors. It isn't always pretty. Sometimes it's a bit like looking into a funhouse mirror, to see the ordinary suddenly warped and twisted into the grotesque, which is exactly what trolls do. All the same, it's a fascinating read if you can stomach it and I highly recommend you do. It's eye-opening!

The Book of Dust

By Phillip Pullman

In 1995, Phillip Pullman took us all on a trip to a parallel universe in his *Dark*



Materials Trilogy. Though that world looked exactly like earth it was very, very different. In this version of earth, people's souls – called daemons – live outside of human bodies and take the shapes of animals, and the world, and everything in it is made up of a mysterious substance called "dust." In the original trilogy, readers followed the story of Lyra Belacqua, a little girl with the ability to decipher a strange compass-like item called an alethiometer. Lyra's romping adventures through this world and into other dimensions searching for lost friends while uncovering truths about the very fabric of time and space kept fans with their eyes glued to the page.

Well, now she's back. In the first installment of his upcoming trilogy, *The Book of Dust*, Pullman returns to Lyra's world, tracking her story from infancy and following her journey to Oxford College, where she grows up. The second installment will purportedly skip 20 years and follow Lyra as an adult. Pullman has yet to reveal what the third installment will hold but he has been very explicit about one thing – this trilogy of books is

not a prequel or sequel. Phillip says it's an "equal" and I can't wait to find out exactly what that means. For those of us who fell in love with the original trilogy, it's very exciting to go back and revisit this world, with all of its controversial mythologies and intriguing characters. Pullman has created a world so rich and complex that it definitely warrants a re-visit.

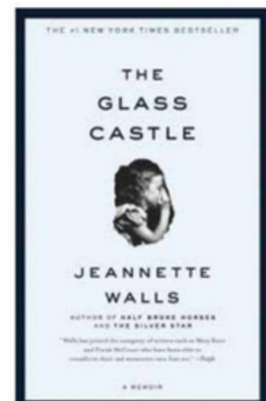
The *Book of Dust* comes out October 19, 2017 so if you haven't read the original trilogy yet, there's still plenty of time to catch up.

CARLY'S LIST

The Glass Castle

By Jeannette Walls

The Glass Castle has always felt like home to me, no matter how many times I've read it. It's typically the first book that I recommend to others and I've gifted it at least a few times in hopes that a friend will find it as captivating and sincere as I do. In it, Walls, a former columnist for MSNBC.com, reflects on her unconventional childhood in a way that will make you gut laugh while also



LOVE TO READ? WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THOSE OLD BOOKS ONCE YOU'VE FINISHED WITH THEM? DONATE THEM TO A GOOD CAUSE! HERE ARE A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT CAN ALWAYS USE A LITTLE EXTRA SUPPORT.