If you have a child in your life, why not ask for books to share with them. You can request picture books, chapter books, graphic novels and non-fiction.

Mail A Book Services, 94-11 217 Street, Queens Village, NY 11428, 718-464-0084

Queens Library is an independent, not-for-profit corporation and is not affiliated with any other library system.
Ring in the New Year with Friends

New Years Teleconference

Please join us on December 31st from 7-9 pm
And again on New Years Day from 11am-1pm

Hosted by Queens Library Older Adult Services
First time callers please contact Mail-a-Book @ 718-464-0084 for access numbers

Queens Library is an independent, not-for-profit corporation and is not affiliated with any other library system
Happy Valentine’s Day
From all of us at Mail a Book

Lovebirds drawn by
Erika Rudnicki
Recommended Reading

An Anonymous Girl by Greer Hendricks ©January 8, 2019

Liar Liar by James Patterson ©January 14, 2019

Never Tell by Lisa Gardner ©February 19, 2019

The Wedding Guest by Jonathan Kellerman ©February 5, 2019

The Winter of the Witch by Katherine Arden ©January 8, 2019

Turning Point by Danielle Steel ©January 8, 2019
The Chatter Box

Book Reviews Written by you

Just the Funny Parts: My 30 Years on the Hollywood Jungle Jim by Nell Scovell
Reviewed by Marion Mango

Subtitled “A few hard truths about sneaking into the Hollywood Boys’ Club,” this part memoir, part how-to, part survival manual affords the reader the rare privilege of sitting in on the often funny and just as often antagonistic antics that are part and parcel of putting together a sit-com in the Writers Room. Should the walls be padded? Should those walls have ears --- and earmuffs? A resounding “yes” to all!

According to Nell, in Hollywood the glass ceiling isn’t actually made of glass, but of a special metal that may shatter, but always reconstitutes itself into something thicker. “You rise up fighting, you go down fighting; either way, you’re always fighting.” Thank goodness this Boston-born, self-described “nerdy, New Englander” survived it all!

You have more than likely laughed at Nell’s jokes, but you just didn’t know until now. For more than thirty years, she worked behind the scenes of such popular programs as: NCIS, Murphy Brown, Coach, The Simpsons, Bob Newhart, Monk, The Muppets and Charmed. She was one of the only two women to write for Letterman, created and executive produced Sabrina, The teenage Witch, directed two TV movies, contributed to the film “Honey We Shrunk Ourselves”. Nell also co-authored with Sheryl Sandberg the New York Times best-seller “Lean In,” which was the genesis for a world-wide movement. She also has written articles for Vanity Fair, Vogue, Spy magazine and the New York Times. Nell and her husband have two college-aged sons.

Enjoy this gleeful glimpse into the wacky world of creating comedy!

Share your creativity

Drawing. Watercolor, Poetry, Essays, Memories, Recipes. Send your work to Mail a Book. Originals will be scanned and returned to you. Who knows you may end up on the cover of our Newsletter.
Desk Set starring: Katharine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Joan Blondell and Gig Young
DVD/1957 /103 minutes/ Romantic Comedy
Reviewed by Marion Mango

Are you feeling forlorn, lovelorn, sipping too much Chase and Sanborn coffee—perhaps in need of a chuckle or two (and I don’t mean the candy—although that might not be such a bad idea !) ? Then this romantic comedy is a exactly what the doctor should prescribe. The inimitable Hepburn and Tracy star in this bright, witty, light-hearted romp with more than able assistance from Joan Blondell and Gig Young. Hepburn plays Bunny Watson, head researcher of the reference department in a prestigious New York City broadcasting company, who has waited, not too patiently, for her boss, Mike (Gig Young), to pop the question. Then one day he receives a long-anticipated promotion and Bunny is all atwitter (don’t reach for your phones, please). Could her hopes and dreams at last be realized? Then a fly in the ointment appears in the person of Richard Sumner (Spencer Tracy). His scrutiny of the research department’s daily activities alarms the staffs who are fearful of being replaced, especially when it is discovered he is a computer expert. Acutely aware of the sparks flying between Bunny and Richard, Mike tries to intensify his “Claim” on Bunny, all of which leads to hilarious happenings and many a delightful scene.

In their illustrious careers, Hepburn received twelve Oscar nominations, winning four, and Tracy nine, garnering two. When asked why he chose not to explore method acting, he replied: “I’m too old, too tired and too talented to care.” The screenplay was written by Phoebe and Henry Ephron whose daughter, Nora, is famous for such popular hits as “When Harry Met Sally” and “Sleepless in Seattle.”

Enjoy this laugh-loaded lingering in the world before computers.
A House Full of Daughters: A Memoir of Seven Generations by Juliet Nicolson
Reviewed by Marion Mango

In this fascinating, remarkably realistic work of memoir and history, the author rises to the challenge of embracing the good and avoiding the pitfalls that have stymied seven generations on the maternal side of her prominent family, which consists of diplomats, high-end publishers and artists.

There is one bond that all women share: we are all daughters. Whether sister, only child, single, married, mother, widow, divorcee that all-encompassing role applies to us.

Starting with the life of her dangerously beautiful, flamenco-dancing great-great-grandmother, Pepita from the slums of Malaga, Spain to her flirtatious, manipulative great grandmother, Victoria; to her infamous, eccentric grandmother, Zita Sackville-West; to her mother’s Tory background; and her own career as a famous historian, Ms. Nicolson uncovers long-hidden and much glossed-over truths about her family’s history. She powers though some heart rending emotions to arrive at an honest and forthright acceptance of her family’s foibles. Her ancestry also includes British Prime Minister William Gladstone, the famous poet Laureate Alfred Lord Tennyson and Archbishop of Canterbury rumored to have preached the sermon Nell Gwynne’s funeral. Juliet’s great-grandmother, the aforementioned Victoria, served in Fin De Siècle Washington, DC, as hostess for her father, Harold Nicolson, then Ambassador to the United States. Philippa, her mother survived the rigors of World War II in an English boarding school located in the countryside.

A House Full of Daughters will engage the hearts and minds of daughters and sons everywhere. Enjoy the read!

**Reading** books aloud to **children** stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word. ... Even after **children** learn to **read** by themselves, it's still important for you to **read** aloud together.

**Read Aloud: Change The World**
Poetry

Written by You

Trudy Shapiro

I pick up my book
And sit in my chair
I need not go anywhere
It takes me wherever
I'd like to be
As it keeps me company

Trudy Shapiro

My friend and I
We sit and chat
And talk about
This and that
Sometimes we're silly
Sometimes profound
But in friendship
Forever bound

Trudy Shapiro
People We Meet  
By Mary Stallings

Some people are obnoxious, 
some people are kind.  
Some make you wonder, 
what's on their minds.  
But what I remember most, 
is the way they treat me.

Happiness  By Mary Stallings

Happiness is a warm grand child, 
that keep you in smiles.  
Happiness is a playful pup, 
always waiting for his sup.  
Happiness is a walk in the park, 
but be sure you're in before dark.

Happiness is crocheting, 
make you calm when broaching.  
Happiness is reading a good book, 
which I'm always on the look.  
Happiness is a warm embrace, 
that brings a smile to your face.

Happiness is when your kids express memories, 
of growing up with me.  
It brings a smile to your face, 
that no one can erase.

Happiness is a loving heart, 
always willing to do their part.  
Happiness is the joys life brings, 
that make you want to dance and sing.

Halloween  by Mary Stallings

Halloween for trick or treaters, 
met at the doors of friendly greeters.

Witches on broomsticks, 
Goblins in corn sticks, 
Ghost in sheets, 
trying to scare kids they meet.

Bobbing for apples, 
enjoying a sample.  
Some pumpkins was carved, 
some pumpkins was starved.

Bags of candy, 
come in handy  
Halloween was a kid's fun day, 
now a day for mischief play.
Submitted by Rita Tabb

“as night approaches night 
I approach the light 
wherein respite finds me 
& indeed I am alright.”

“thou art my maiden fair”
he sayeth to me, ‘tis true
as I shalt always love thee
so kind of thee, ‘tis true
she sayeth thou shalt love me
and love me much ‘tis true
as I am your fair maiden
‘tis such ‘tis true.”

"reading gives us someplace to go when we
have to stay where we are." (anonymous author)

to my journal...

as in heavens as such to him,
“leave me alone,”
to which he replied,

“alone ‘tis I, as such I shalt die”
distraught & bereft,
she said,

"as such I shalt lament,
you think we are through,
‘tis love I shalt embrace you”

they’ve become lovers too!
**The Man in the Glass**

(Unknown author) Submitted by Esther Lewis

When you get what you want in your struggle for self and the world makes you King for a day, just go to the mirror and look at yourself and see what THAT man has to say.

For it isn't your father or mother or wife whose judgment upon you must pass... The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life is the one staring back from the glass.

Some people might think you're a straight shooting chum and call you a wonderful guy... But the man in the glass says you're only a BUM if you can't look him straight in the eye.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest for he's with you clear to the end. And you've passed your most dangerous test if the guy in the glass is your friend.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway of years and get pats on the back as you pass, but your final reward will be heartache and tears if you cheated the man in the glass...

---

**Sweet Love**

We hope to inspire a Man and Woman to be kind to one another and keep their hearts afire with hope, perseverance, and prayer, the desire for love forever.....beautiful....sweet ..... love.........

by

Thursdays Love Birds of MAB (2013)
(Alice, Marion, Elaine, Harriet, Ron, Julia, Joan)
Daffy-nations by Marion Mango

debunk: eject from bed

dire: hair colorist

rigatoni: Broadway bribe

kidnap: small siesta

Pregnant: kidding

Lots of Ocelots by Marion Mango

I oscillate in my love of ocelots ---
they really are a curious lot.
Though their name means "jaguar"
in Nahuatl,
(and rhyming that is almost impossel),
their tawny coat ---
yellow or grayish---
would perhaps keep others in abeyance.
I would follow them from Texas to Patagonia
(wouldn't want them to feel all alonia!).
Also known as "felix pardalis),
you wont find them causing malice on the streets of Dallas.
I would gladly face lack of acclamation could I give them lots of osculation!

Weather or Not by Marion Mango

People always say "it's raining cats and dogs",
but to my way of thinking, that seems rather flawed.
Life would be much more fun and create lots of laughs if it were raining koalas and giraffes!

Punny by Marion Mango

Puns are fun---especially in Punxsutawney PA
Library Books for Homebound Readers

New York City Public Libraries’ Mail-a-Book and Books by Mail programs send books, videos and audio books free to homebound readers, caretakers and children in every city borough.

By Susan Shafer

Mary Higgins Clark fans, take note: Mail-a-Book has just sent a new Clark mystery to your mailbox. No fee for the postage!!

Hey, admirers of Ruth Bader Ginsberg, open that package! Inside is RGB’s biography sent to you at no cost!

Mail-a-Book, a program sponsored by The Queens Library, has for years sent books, videos, and audio books gratis to homebound readers who live in Queens and can’t shop at a library on their own. Now funded by grants, Mail-a-Book reaches homebound readers throughout New York State.

“Anyone at home who can’t get to a library should be able to get everything that others get when they walk into a library—programming, materials, information, socialization and learning opportunities,” says program manager Madlyn Schneider.

So how do you sign up for the Mail-a-Book program? After registering by phone (718-464-0084) or by written application, you confer with a librarian, indicating specific titles you may wish or books that cover your favorite interests, ranging from mysteries and history to cooking. Your librarian will then select books in the category you request. A library card is not necessary. Books are then mailed—two books per bag—with a prepaid return mailbag. Readers may keep the books for 45 days, then return them to the library in a canvas bag. You may renew your books up to three times. There are now between 700 and 800 Mail-a-Book members who request new books from a librarian and also get advice.

Clearly, one perk of the Mail-a-Book program is the socializing that occurs when librarians and customers talk on the phone about books. Since many readers are homebound and have limited opportunities to interact with others, even short phone conversations provide connection.

MORE THAN JUST MAILING BOOKS

Mail-a-Book also interacts with members in other ways, such as teleconferencing sessions to a group of readers on a variety of topics. Just call 877-950-2020, a toll-free phone number, and enter a passcode to participate. A librarian begins the talk with an initial question; then members exchange viewpoints and informal book reviews take off. Book talks provide stimulating interactions and friendships often occur.

“Mail-a-Book manages other teleconferencing sessions over the course of a month, such as art discussions, guest speakers (a nurse, for example), general group chats and even Trivial Pursuit and Bingo,” says librarian Willie Simmons. A newsletter with dates and times for sessions is often included inside the bag of books you order.
Children of all ages—whether sick at home temporarily or disabled permanently—also receive books. Just imagine the joy these children experience when a picture book such as *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* or an engrossing story such as *Dear Mr. Henshaw* arrive in the mail.

I first heard about Mail-a-Book through a case manager for my elderly husband, who I’ll call Hank. Thrilled about the program’s possibilities, I phoned the Queens Library’s special number and expressed Hank’s interest. The next day a librarian called to register him, requesting that I identify my husband’s disability and explaining how the program works. Hank was also invited to speak to the librarian to verify his interest.

Registration nearly complete, librarian Willie Simmons and I then reviewed the subjects my husband likes to read (nonfiction, including artificial intelligence, evolution and histories of the Lower East Side) and Simmons took notes.

Happy with the prospect of a service that my husband would enjoy, I then thought of my own reading needs. “Can the package consist of some books for my homebound husband and others for me, his 72-year-old, mobile, bookaholic wife?” The answer? “Yes, of course.”

“In that case,” I said, “I’d like to receive two novels by Rachel Joyce. Since I loved the *Music Shop* and *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, please send *Perfect* and *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy.*” (In *The Music Shop*, the owner of a music store solves customers’ personal problems by providing music tailored to their needs. And in *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, a shy man with a shaky marriage gains respect when he joins a walking trip to save a former colleague.)

**THE BOOKS ARRIVE!**

Since mine were “special requests” I was aware there may be a delay in receiving them, as books may be sent to the Queens Village library from other Queens branches. But within a few days, two bags carrying four books arrived. Hank and I put aside our iPads and opened the bags.

Inside were Oliver Sacks’ *The River of Consciousness*, Arlene Alda’s *Just Kids from the Bronx*, editor Don Nardo’s *Evolution* and James Trager’s *The New York Chronology: The Ultimate Compendium of Events, People and Anecdotes from the Dutch to the Present*, Hans favorite. “Let’s see what happened in New York in the years we were born,” said Hank, browsing happily through *The New York Chronology*. Then Hank quizzed me about events in New York in 1932 —Hank’s birthday year—and 1946—mine.

“Question 1,” began Hank. “In 1932, which train line opened, extending service into areas not covered by the BMT and IRT and designated trains by letters, not numbers?” he asked. (Answer? IND, or Independent)

“Question 2,” continued Hank. “In 1946, which beautician in Corona, Queens, made her first sale of face creams to Saks Fifth Avenue?” (Answer? Estée Lauder)

*The New York Chronology*—all 934 pages—provided endless fun for us native New Yorkers.

A few days later I consulted the Mail-a-Book calendar and joined two hour-long discussions by phone. In the first, a moderator read aloud some *Aesop’s Fables* and the group—about seven of us—suggested an appropriate moral of the story, drawing parallels from the animal characters to people and situations we encounter in our lives today.

In the second discussion, participants summarized books they were reading and, in certain cases, read aloud from these books to illustrate the author’s gifted use of prose. Books mentioned were Kristen Hannah’s *The Nightingale and Homefront*, Nell Scovell’s *Just the Funny Parts*, Susan Wittig Albert’s *The Darling Dahlias and the Unlucky Clover* (part of a series), and Rachel Joyce’s *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy*. 

“Library Books for Homebound Readers” Page 2
MORE BOOKS FROM THE NYPL AND BPL

A similar program to Mail-a-Book is run by the New York Public Library. Books By Mail is a free service that sends books and other library materials to “people of all ages” who are homebound and reside in the Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island.

To join, potential members download an application (available in English and Spanish) which can be found under “Accessibility” on the New York Public Library website (www.nypl.org). You will need to provide your name and address and your library card number. (If you don’t have one, you can apply for a Homebound Library Card.)

Book lovers will enjoy filling out the Reader Profile page, where you’ll indicate your general or specific reading preferences.

The application for Books by Mail also requires the signature of a health or social service professional (a doctor, nurse, or social worker) that confirms your inability to leave home (whether temporary or permanent). Send the completed application to: ASK NYPL, Attention: Books by Mail Registration, 11 West 40 Street, New York, NY 10018

Questions? Call 917-ASK-NYPL (917-275-6975) or TTY 212-930-0020 for more information.

Also, the Brooklyn Public Library’s Services for Older Adults offers Books by Mail. 718-236-1760 or mail the application.

But keep in mind: Whether you qualify for Mail-a-Book, Books by Mail, or both, your favorite books may be headed your way!

Queens Library Mail-a-Book Service 718-464-0084, will send to homebound readers anywhere in New York State.

New York Public Library Books by Mail 917-275-6975, covers the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island.

Brooklyn Public Library Books by Mail 718-236-1760, sends to homebound readers in Brooklyn.

Library Homebound Services in Westchester County, for specific libraries’ phone numbers.

Susan Shafer, a former teacher and editor, has a doctorate from Columbia University’s Teachers College. She now works nearly full-time as a playwright.

You may also enjoy these stories by Susan Shafer:

On Stage: Women in History Come Alive
Wedding Bells at 70
Mail-A-Book Tips

- Mail a Book Library materials circulate for 45 days
- If you need more time, we are happy to renew your items. Call Mail a Book to renew 718-464-0084
- We suggest that you check out at least two items at a time. If requested, we can send them to you in two separate bags. That way you will always have something to read, while we are working on your next order.
- You are allowed to check out up to 50 items on your account, but only 10 DVD’s at a time please.
- Library materials are usually chosen for you by our Mail a Book Librarian, based on preferences set up during registration (favorite authors, titles, subjects, Large Print, Regular Print, Audio, Movies). Let us know if your preferences have changed.
- “Special Request” customers choose their own library materials and are only sent items they specifically request.
- In order to remain an active member of Mail a Book, it is recommended that “Special Request” customers check out at least 2 items every 3 months.
- Return postage/postcard and plastic strip are included inside the re-usable mail bag. Check inside the book jacket.
- When reclosing the mail bag with the plastic strip, please leave a little room for us to clip open the bag. Don’t pull the strip too tight. One black strip is all that’s needed to secure the mail bag.
- Don’t know what to read next, ask our Mail a Book librarian for suggestions.
- Do you have a reference question, don’t hesitate to call.
- Customers who have access to the Internet can gain access to Queens Library’s “My Account”. Call Mail a Book to receive your account number and pin.
- It’s easy to request specific library materials. Here is how:
  - Call us at 718-464-0084
  - Email us at maila-book@queenslibrary.org
  - Send us a note with returned material
  - Through the mail (94-11 217 Street, Queens Village, NY 11423)
Large Print
Regular Print
Audio Books on CD
Movies on DVD
Music on CD

For more information:
QL Foundation @ 718-480-4273
Or Mail a Book @ 718-464-0084
Donate online:
http://foundation.queenslibrary.org/give-now

Indicate Mail a Book as your designated Library

Library materials delivered to your doorstep — Free

Help keep Queens Library’s Mail a Book service strong
MAIL A BOOK
For Children and Teens

Queens Library’s Mail-A-Book program is an award-winning outreach service that enables homebound customers the ability to borrow library material without leaving their homes or care facilities. Service is available to: children, teens, adults, seniors, and parents with disabilities that prevent them from bringing their child to the library.*

Queens Library at Queens Village
Mail-A-Book Services
94-11 217 Street
Queens Village, NY 11428
718-464-0084

Programs for children via Skype:
Picture Book Time, Arts and Crafts Projects

These items are sent to the reader free of charge through the U.S. Postal Service in reusable, zippered canvas bags. Return postage is included. A registration process is required. *Proof of disability may be required.

Library material available for children:
- Board Books
- Picture Books
- Series Books
- Chapter Books
- Audio Books on CD
- Graphic Novels
- Movies on DVD
- Music on CD

Library material available for teens:
- Classics
- Popular Young Adult Series & Novels
- Graphic Novels
- Manga
- Test Prep
- Movies on DVD
- Music on CD

Admission is free. WWW.queenslibrary.org

Queens Library is an independent, not-for-profit corporation and is not affiliated with any other library system.
NY Connects can help people with disabilities...

- Remain independent
- Understand care options
- Find transportation
- Learn about supports in caregiving
- Get answers about Medicaid, Medicare, and health insurance
- Apply for benefits
- Find housing

NY Connects can help!
Call 1-844-862-7930

Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY
Manhattan
841 Broadway
Suite 301
New York, NY 10003
212/674-2300 (tel)
646/350-2681 (VP)

Queens
80-02 Kew Gardens Rd
Suite 400
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
646/442-1520 (tel)
347/905-5088 (VP)
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Play this puzzle online at: http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2212/
## Winter Wonderland

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| S G N K H I K A L T I N S O | SNOWFALL
| A N D E I G O T E N N B L N | HOT CHOCOLATE
| N N O G T I I B D Y T B B D | FROZEN
| E A S W F S N L D P E S L E | BLIZZARD
| L L N T F R I G I P R K I R | WONDERLAND
| C I O G A A O L N I F A Z L | SKATING
| I O W N B F L S G N R T Z A | SNOWFLAKE
| C D F Z I W N L T E O I A N | SKIING
| I N L D N T N F E Y Z N R D | NIPPY
| B L A G I I O L E E E G D O | WINTER
| Z W K L D S H N H L N L O O | ICICLE
| F D E T A L O C O H C T O H | FROSTY
|                            | GLISTEN

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Play this puzzle online at: [http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/597/](http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/597/)
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