



We asked Seattle Central employees what they read over the summer, and here is what they shared. Call numbers are included for titles in our collection.

***Three Cups of Tea*** by Greg Mortenson [LC2330.M67]

"One man's mission to promote peace -- one school at a time"

***The Girl From Foreign*** by Sadia Shepard

"A search for shipwrecked ancestors, forgotten histories, and a sense of home."

--BRENDA ARON, FACULTY  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

***Radical Evolution*** by Joel Garreau [GN281.G37]

"A thought-provoking overview of emerging technologies (Genetics, Robotics, Information Technology, & Nanotechnology) and their impact on what it means to be 'human.'"

***The Class*** by Francois Begaudeau

"An autobiographical novel by a Paris middle school teacher. I read it after seeing the movie in which the main character (the teacher) is played by the author. The most realistic movie about teaching I've seen."

***Feed*** by M.T. Anderson [PZ7.A54395Fe]

"A novel about the future in which the internet is a device implanted in the brain, connecting everyone to everything...corporations and advertising in particular."

***Skid Road: an Informal Portrait of Seattle*** by Murray Morgan [F899.S457M67]

"An interesting book about the city's founders and early history. Reading it you learn quite a lot about the people many of our streets are named after."

***The Hill With A Future: Seattle's Capitol Hill 1900-1946*** by Jacqueline B. Williams.

"A detailed overview of the history of Seattle Central's neighborhood with a lot of great pictures of things that used to be where other things are now (and some that are still there)."

-- GREG BACHAR, FACULTY  
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

***East of Eden*** by John Steinbeck [PS3537.T3234E3]

***A Prayer for Owen Meany*** by John Irving

"Both always manage to keep me enthralled and I gain a new insight each time read them."

-- DENEVA K. FLATH  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, SEATTLE MARITIME ACADEMY

***Find Your Strongest Life: What the Happiest and Most Successful Women Do Differently*** by Marcus Buckingham

"Marcus Buckingham is a credible and gifted author who has created a great resource for women. He shares lots of evidence that the women who are the happiest and most fulfilled are those who don't "juggle" everything in their lives. Instead, the women who do the opposite, by having a "strong life," draw in a few important things into them. This book helps women figure out this life skill of drawing a select few things that are important to them and then draw strength from these. In order to find their strengths, Buckingham shares a Strong Life Test for women to take to determine their strong life roles. There are nine strong life options that he explores in the book for women to select from. I found the Strong Life Test and strong life information a great way to positively help me focus on what is important in my life."

-- KRISTINA HAYEK, ED.D, PHR  
PROJECT MANAGER- OCP

***The Time Traveler's Wife*** by Audrey Niffenegger

"The novel is about a librarian who travels involuntarily through time, and his artist wife whose life takes a natural sequential course."

-- PATRICIA HOWITZ  
LIBRARY STAFF

***Song For Night*** by Chris Abani

"A poignant, lyrical novella about a child soldier in Nigeria. (How Abani waxes poetical and lyrical on this subject can only be understood by reading it.)"

-- PORTIA JEFFRIES, FACULTY  
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

***Fun Home*** by Alison Bechdel

"A sometimes funny, sometimes tragic, but most of all thought provoking memoir detailing a lesbian's coming of age, her father's apparent suicide, and her subsequent discovery of, and reaction to, his "hidden" life; told in graphic novel form."

-- JEFF KEEVER  
DIRECTOR OF AUXILIARY SERVICES

**Theft: A Love Story** by Peter Carey

"A crazed and passionate Aussie artist falls hard for a pretty, shady art trader and with his disabled brother in tow they commit a number of crimes, some statutory and some not. Very funny."

**The End of the Affair** by Graham Greene

"A married woman and a sullen writer have an affair, but she calls it off, to his consternation, when her prayers come true."

**This Gun For Hire** by Graham Greene

"Political murder, shame, kidnapping, pursuit, suspense, everything you could want."

**A Handful of Dust** by Evelyn Waugh

"The idle rich are destroying themselves and the precious heritage of England, but it's fun to watch them do so."

**Brideshead Revisited** by Evelyn Waugh

[[PR6045.A97B76](#)]

"Beautiful and sad, the Flyte's aristocratic world is collapsing on the brink of World War Two, and though Charles Ryder is in love with two of them, he cannot postpone the end."

**American Pastoral** by Philip Roth [[PS3568.O855A77](#)]

"You are the parent of a teenage nihilist, you are also a Jew in the exurbs and a high school football star. All of it drives you to despair, and why shouldn't it?"

**The Burned-Over District** by Whitney R. Cross

[[BR555.N7C7](#)]

"In the early part of the 19th century, western New York experienced an unprecedented revival of protestant religion; we are still feeling the repercussions."

-- TOM LENON, FACULTY, BITCA

**Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home, and School** by John Medina.

"Informative yet funny, with practical suggestions."

-- LAURA MANSFIELD

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Gunpowder: Alchemy, Bombards, and Pyrotechnics:**

**The History of the Explosive That Changed the World** by Jack Kelly

"It's like a trashy romance for nerds!"

-- DYLAN MARTIN

IT SERVICES

**The Geography of Bliss** by Eric Weiner

"It was great!"

-- RACHEL SEELEY, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

**A Dirty Job** by Christopher Moore

"Wacky and humorous tale of a San Francisco shop owner who discovers his new purpose in life as a modern-day grim reaper and father."

-- JENNIFER SHAVIT, LIBRARIAN

**You Have No Rights** by Matt Rothschild, Editor of The Progressive Magazine

**The End of America** by Feminist writer Naomi Wolfe

"These two non-fiction books are very good"

**1996** by award winning African American Writer and Screenwriter Gloria Naylor

"This book is particularly interesting."

-- SEANA SPERLING

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACADEMIC ADVISOR

**Why Don't Students Like School?: A Cognitive Scientist Answers Questions About How the Mind Works and What It Means for the Classroom** by Daniel T. Willingham.

"The brain is designed not to help us think, but rather to help us avoid thinking because it taxes our resources; so how can we encourage thinking?"

--BRYCE WALB, COUNSELOR

STUDENT ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE (TRIO)

**Ship of Ghosts** by James D. Hornfischer

"The story of the U.S.S. HOUSTON, FDR's Lost Cruiser. This is the story of her survivor's unflinching account of heroism and honor in World War Two and the unsung warriors who witnessed one of the most remarkable battles of the war. A great read for all history buffs."

-- PAUL WEISS

WOOD CONSTRUCTION CENTER

**The End of Overeating** by David A. Kessler, M.D.

"An examination of the obesity epidemic and what to do to reverse it."

-- CYNTHIA A. WILSON, FACULTY

SEATTLE CULINARY ACADEMY

**The Worst Hard Time** by Seattle author Timothy Egan [[F595.E38](#)]

"The book describes the personal accounts of those who experienced the era of the Dust Bowl of the Great Plains during the 1930's. Exceptional storytelling and a very readable historical account. (It reminded me of similar tales shared by my dad who lived through this.)"

-- KARLEEN WOLFE, FACULTY

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES