



the ORLA
newsletter.

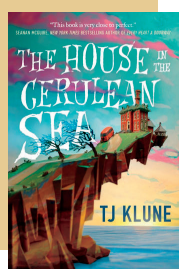
MAY 2023



GROW

AT YOUR LIBRARY





THE HOUSE IN THE CERULEAN SEA

TJ KLUNE

"This is a whimsical story about a man charged with visiting orphanages for children with magical powers to determine whether or not they should remain open based on the quality of care provided and

adherence to the rules set by 'Upper Management' at the government agency DICOMY (Department in Charge of Magical Youth). In this society, magical beings must be registered and average, normal citizens are encouraged to, 'see something, say something' in order to maintain civil order. Employees of DICOMY are trained to stick to their specific assignments and ignore any other aspect not directly pertaining to their job. Overall, it leaves the reader with an Orwellian impression. We focus specifically on a level 4 classified assignment to an orphanage under the supervision of a peculiar caretaker. The personal growth story of the

main character is predictable though encouraging. The provided details about the overarching societal order and authoritarian body will leave the reader wanting for more, but do provide good foreshadowing for events that occur. Though the focus is on magical children and their experiences, the implications of real-life societal issues are clear. The negative experiences appear included to heighten self-awareness and empathy in our own societal behaviors while also introducing plenty of light-hearted and witty events to enjoy. Without a doubt, the best part of the story is the narrative provided through the children. The diversity of each and inclusion of recognizable fantastic beings was well done. You'll find yourself running the emotional gamut based on their experiences, but the one that stuck out most often was amusement which made this an enjoyable read." – *Dan Flaherty, Oil Region Library Association*

WHAT WE'RE READING

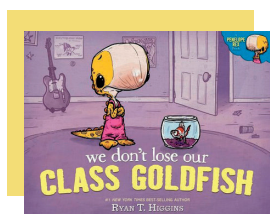
SPARE

PRINCE HARRY, DUKE OF SUSSEX



"*Spare* was an amazing story, but it left me feeling worse about the toxicity of the royal family and bleak about any hopes of improvement. Though the story is about Harry, broken into childhood, soldiering, and Meghan, it is really a continuation of Diana's story: a powerful, highly dysfunctional family using the media to discredit one another with lies. Despite having everything, the Windsors live in a type of emotional poverty they can't even understand. Harry broke free enough to see there might be a better, though not as luxurious, way to live. Royalist, anti-establishment, or just curious, *Spare* unabashedly delves into the life of Harry and makes for an interesting read." – *Zoe Oakes, Franklin Public Library*

JUVENILE



WE DON'T LOSE OUR CLASS GOLDFISH

RYAN T. HIGGINS

"Penelope Rex is back in this third tale about a T. Rex who is just like any other kid. She struggles with handling all her different feelings sometimes - and in this outing, she's dealing with fear. Penelope is scared of what might happen to her mother if she steps on a crack, she's worried that dinosaurs might actually be extinct, but most of all, she's scared of the class goldfish, Walter. Who wouldn't be? He's got

unblinking eyes, menacing fins, and bitey teeth that bit Penelope's finger! When it's her turn to take Walter home for the weekend, Penelope is terrified. She can't focus on anything, and it just gets to be too much, so she decides that Walter should sleep in the kitchen. When she wakes up to find him gone in the morning, she panics and searches all over for him - after all, he is her responsibility and she doesn't want to let her classmates down! During her hunt, she ultimately realizes that maybe Walter isn't so bad after all. This is a funny book about conquering your fears, and Penelope's expressive face lends a lot to the story. This book can be used to discuss emotions and responsibility with children while also having a laugh. And honestly? I'd also be scared of a goldfish that was able to move its bowl closer to me while I was sleeping!" – *Annie Welsh, Oil Region Library Association*



WANNA SUBMIT YOUR OWN BOOK REVIEW?

Email a review of a book you read recently (good or bad!) to promotions@oilregionlibraries.org to be featured in a future issue of the ORLA Newsletter!

ORLA Board Sees Member Changes

Anne Bakker, a longtime ORLA Board of Directors member and most recently Secretary, has resigned from her position after 30+ years of library boardsmanship with ORLA and previously the Franklin Public Library. We thank her for her years of dedicated service, communal mindset and guidance!

The ORLA Board of Directors has also welcomed Jessica Struthers as a new board member. Jessica has been a dedicated library patron and is currently Chair of the Oil City Library Advisory Council. We're excited for her involvement and grateful for her interest in serving on our Board of Directors!



KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE

Busy Butterflies

TUESDAYS 5-5:30

FRIDAYS 3:30-4

MAY 2ND - JUNE 2ND

at the Franklin Public Library

Busy Butterflies is a program for children in grades K – 3rd. We will meet at the Franklin Public Library twice a week beginning Tuesday, May 2nd. We will meet Tuesdays from 5:00PM – 5:30PM and Fridays from 3:30PM – 4:00PM. Our last meeting will be Friday, June 2nd.

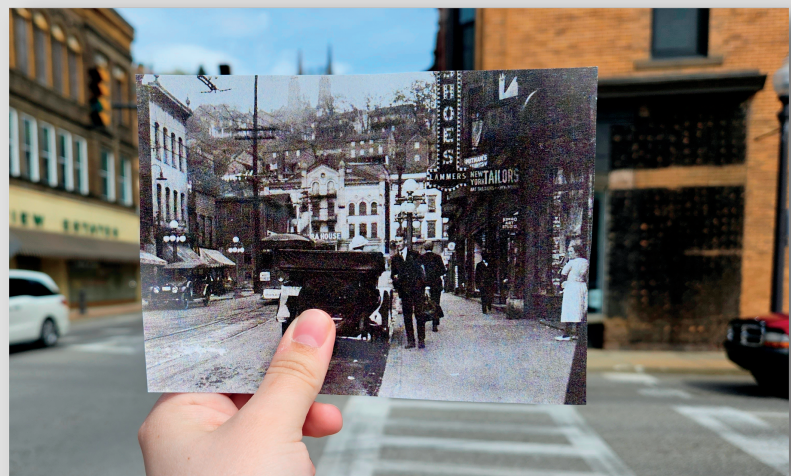
During this 5 week program, we will be watching caterpillars turn into butterflies! We will record our observations, learn about the life cycle of a butterfly, read stories, do crafts and complete a few STEM projects. On the last day, we will release the butterflies into nature!

Registration is required and limited to the first 24 participants. Please call (814) 432-5062 or stop by the Franklin Public Library to register!



WRITTEN AND CREATED BY **EMILY ANTKOWIAK**

Each month, I take one historical image & photograph it superimposed over the same area as it appears today. This allows you to see what Venango County looked like in the past with a modern reference. My hope is to share neat photos from the library's archives to make them and their history more attainable.



This view of Oil City's Center St. features the Opera House in the background. It was located where Country Fair is today and was built in 1871. The building burned down and was rebuilt, only to burn down again in 1898. A third building was erected, and then demolished in 1946. The Opera House didn't house only opera shows; it was used for community meetings, musicals, graduations and more. It was later repurposed and housed a roller skating rink, shops, bars, various businesses and offices.



THEN

NOW



Do you have an image or location you'd like to see featured? Email eantkowiak@oilregionlibraries.org with your suggestions!



GROW

AT YOUR LIBRARY



This May, we're excited to share the ways we're growing - many of which directly involve YOU! Learn more below about expanded collections & services at your library this spring.



GROWING our collections



ORLA locations are looking to expand their Realia Collections (tools & equipment that you can check out with a library card) with gardening items such as small garden hand tools, soil blockers, rotatillers & watering tools. If you'd like to donate any of these items (in good, usable condition) to your library, please let us know!

ORLA also recently received a grant from the Samuel Justus Charitable Trust of the PNC Charitable Trusts to enhance nonfiction collections across Venango County. Look forward to lots of new nonfiction titles in areas that have not received significant updates in some time.

The Oil City Library's recent partnership with area elementary schools, dubbed "Books on Wheels", is now expanding to the Pathways Adolescent Center in downtown Oil City. We'll now be making regular book deliveries to their facility, as well as continuing to make deliveries to Smedley & Seventh Street Elementary schools.

GROWING our services



The Franklin Public Library is also working on expanding Adult Outreach & book delivery services to local nursing homes. We hope to expand these types of services to areas all over Venango County.



GROWING and swapping

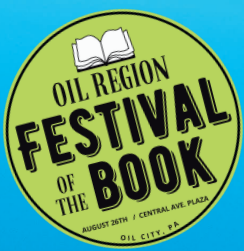
We're excited to announce that we're starting a Seed Swap at the Oil City Library! Seed Swaps operate by providing packets of fruit, vegetable & flower seeds for people to take home & plant, while also giving the opportunity for people to leave their own seeds for others to take home & grow.

This initiative helps to support community growers, saves money & allows growers to try different varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers. We welcome any donations of unopened seed packets, partially used or harvested seeds from your own garden in the fall! Thank you to Agway in Oil City for being our first official Seed Swap partner, as they donated several new packets of seeds to get us started. We plan to officially launch the Seed Swap in Spring 2024!

GOT SEEDS?

If you have unopened (or partially used!) packets of seeds or recently harvested seeds, please consider donating them to the Oil City Library's Seed Swap. Thank you to Agway of Oil City for being our first official Seed Swap partner!

SEED SWAP



CALL TO AUTHORS

We're excited to announce that the 3rd Annual Oil Region Festival of the Book will be held Saturday, August 26th in the Central Avenue Plaza! The Oil Region Festival of the Book provides an opportunity for community outreach to local & regional published authors.

Participating authors will be provided space at the festival to engage with our community and to share and sell their works. Food vendors, guest speakers, and children's activities will also be present at the Oil Region Festival of the Book alongside local authors.

Interested in being a featured author? Get started at www.tinyurl.com/oilregionfotb

News From the Beekeeper

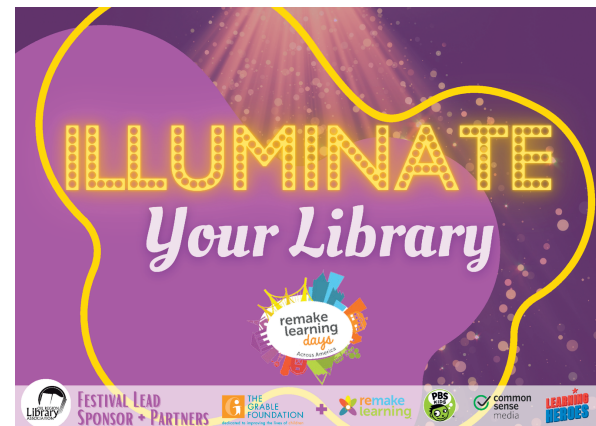


Welcome to Spring! I've been busy with Spring inspections of the hives in the home apiary & look forward to bringing some of the honey bees to the libraries for the Summer. I hope to have the Observation Hives ready to install at Oil City and Franklin Public Libraries sometime in mid to late May. I'll be collecting swarms from now until the end of summer, so if you run across a swarm of honey bees (in our area, that is reachable) please call me at (814) 657-4510 & leave a message with the time, location & any other information you think would be useful & I will try to collect the "free bees". If you are considering beekeeping as a hobby & need some hands-on experience or mentoring, call & have a chat with me!

- The Beekeeper 

Remake Learning Days Event Planned at Oil City & Franklin Libraries

Join us on May 6th at the Franklin Public Library or on May 20th at the Oil City Library from 11:00AM - 2:00PM for ORLA's Remake Learning Days event! Open to ages 11-18. The libraries will provide all supplies needed to make a paper lantern. However, these events will be first come, first serve (while supplies last!). No registration required.



JUNE 19TH - JULY 28TH

EXPLORE. EXPERIMENT. CREATE.
for all ages.



LIBRARY LOTT

Tickets are still available!
Library Lotto tickets are
good for the entire 2023
year.

EACH TICKET
\$20
ONLY 1000 SOLD

APRIL WINNERS!



MATT D.
OIL CITY, PA



JAMES W.
SEATTLE, WA



ERICA K.
OIL CITY, PA

A total of 36 winners will be determined by the **Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3** evening drawing at 7:00PM on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of each month in 2023. One additional winner will win \$500 determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing on July 25th, 2023!

OIL CREEK STATE PARK PROGRAM SERIES

at the Oil City Library



CREEK CRITTERS

What lives in your nearby creek? Join the Park naturalist to find out! We'll read a story about the helpful critters called macroinvertebrates that live in our local waterways before meeting some real macros collected from Oil Creek. After we identify the critters, we'll use our data to decide if Oil Creek is a healthy waterway.

TUES. MAY 9 • 6PM

PROGRAMS ARE FREE + OPEN TO ALL AGES!

Register at the Oil City Library, or by calling (814) 678-3072.

Northwestern Legal Services to Hold Legal Outreach Programs

What is standing? When can a non-parent file? How do Judges determine a case? If you have these questions about **How a Custody Case is Decided**, come to our next information session with Northwestern Legal Services presenter Emily D. Wig, Esquire. Join us this month at your local ORLA branch on the following dates:

- ✓ Tuesday, May 23rd at 3:00PM - Franklin Public Library
- ✓ Tuesday, May 30th at 2:00PM - Cooperstown Public Library
- ✓ Tuesday, May 30th at 6:00PM - Oil City Library

Note: No personal advice will be given during these presentations. To get those questions answered, you are encouraged to apply for services through NWLS. Learn more at <https://www.nwls.org/>



Friends of the Oil City Library Name New Officers

The Friends of the Oil City Library named new officers at their Annual Meeting on April 17th. Congratulations to our new leadership within the Friends group and thank you for your volunteer efforts!

- Sarah Margherio, **President**
- Carol DeLong, **Vice President**
- Nancy Curran, **Treasurer**
- Tessa Byham, **Public Relations**
- Mary Ann Brown, **Secretary**

Interested in joining your **Friends of the Library** group? Pick up an application at your local branch today to get involved with volunteer projects & events!

ADULTING 101

Adulting 101 is a new program at the Franklin Public Library targeted for teens between the ages of 12-18 and will provide useful tips and career options on a vast amount of topics. Each month will focus on a new theme and will hold several workshops, including informational presentations, outreach tours of businesses, and hands-on activities that coincide with the theme.

Participants can attend one of these workshops or all of them!

This program is free to attend & does not require a library card. Registration will need to be completed at the beginning of each month for the current theme.

ADULTING 101



MONTHLY THEMES

- March - Cooking Essentials
- April - Mending & Caring for Clothing
- May - Car Maintenance
- June - Knowing Your Body & Communication
(Learning about vitals, CPR, and the correct way to communicate with your peers)
- July - Budgeting and Handling Money
- August - Lawn Care & Power Tool Safety
- September - Connecting to the Arts & Your Community
- October - IT & Technology
- November - Electricity
+ Plumbing
- December - Safety



Register for the May Session **CAR MAINTENANCE**

May 19th - Car Maintenance Overview
With a Focus on:

- Safely Jumping a Vehicle
- Where to Find Tire Specifications
- How to Access Headlight Bulbs
- Vehicle Fluids
- Fuses

Register Now at
oilregionlibraries.org/teens

Upcoming Workshops



COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP
OIL CITY LIBRARY
3PM - 4PM
FREE

Join us at the Oil City Library on Tuesday, May 2nd at 3PM for a Computer Basics Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! Almost all workplaces require some computer skills. Learn to confidently navigate your way through basic systems, including the desktop environment, internet searching, emailing, and Microsoft word. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Oil City Library or by calling (814) 678-3072. Walk-ins are okay too!



COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP
FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
3PM - 4PM
FREE

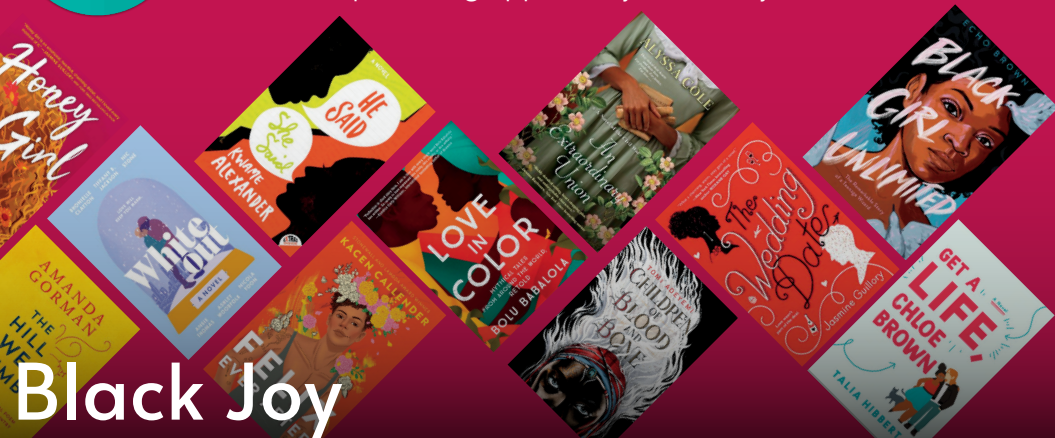
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FEATURED RESOURCES



libby

The one-tap reading app from your library.



Black Joy

Books for all ages about black characters experiencing happiness & love.

GALE COURSES

FREE, ONLINE COURSES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS.

Gale Courses offers a wide range of highly interactive, instructor led courses that you can take entirely online. As a library card holder in good standing, you are entitled to these courses at no cost. Courses run for 6 weeks and new sessions begin every month.

- INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOSHOP
- SMALL BUSINESS MARKETING
- CREATING WORDPRESS WEBSITES
- AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)
- INTRODUCTION TO QUICKBOOKS
- A TO Z GRANT WRITING
- MUSIC THERAPY & SOUND HEALING
- PLUS MANY MORE!



CULT favorites

Films with a Passionate Fanbase

kanopy



Oil City Library

2 Central Ave.
Oil City, PA 16301
(814) 678-3072

Monday.....	8:30am-8:30pm
Tuesday.....	8:30am-8:30pm
Wednesday.....	8:30am-8:30pm
Thursday.....	8:30am-5:00pm
Friday.....	8:30am-5:00pm
Saturday.....	8:30am-3:30pm
Sunday.....	CLOSED

Franklin Public Library

421 12th St.
Franklin, PA 16323
(814) 432-5062

Monday.....	12:00pm-5:00pm
Tuesday.....	10:00am-6:00pm
Wednesday.....	10:00am-6:00pm
Thursday.....	10:00am-6:00pm
Friday.....	12:00pm-5:00pm
Saturday.....	10:00am-3:00pm
Sunday.....	CLOSED

Cooperstown Public Library

187 N. Main St.
Cooperstown, PA 16317
(814) 374-4605

Monday.....	2:00pm-7:00pm
Tuesday.....	10:00am-4:00pm
Wednesday.....	CLOSED
Thursday.....	2:00pm-7:00pm
Friday.....	10:00am-4:00pm
Saturday.....	CLOSED
Sunday.....	CLOSED

FIND US ONLINE

oilregionlibraries.org



Libby, Gale Courses, & Kanopy are available to you for FREE with your library card at oilregionlibraries.org