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CONNECT *Dream* **DISCOVER**
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What's new in June in non-fiction

Fiction is by far and away the category at the library most in demand according to our statistics of what's checked out. Even dedicated fiction readers, though, pause now and again for non-fiction of interest. Newest books recently on the shelves give us an excellent variety of non-fiction to suit many interests.

Melinda Gates' book, **The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World**, is one of those books that's a best seller before it could possibly be a best seller (but then quickly becomes one). I find that fascinating and keep promising a column on how that happens – stay tuned.

The hallmark that makes this book a wonderful read is the combination of a Gates' special – compelling data – with vulnerable story telling by women around the world. Writer Tara Westover (author of **Educated**) calls this book “a lesson in listening” which in the process, introduces readers to remarkable women. As Gates says, “When you lift up women, you lift up humanity.” Lifting women from poverty through education, work, business opportunities, and control over their lives and health is the way to improve an entire culture. While seeing that in print makes it seem obvious, the complexity of the issues doesn't make it easy.

Margaret Roach's **A Way to Garden** is more than your average where to plant the tulip bulbs book. Roach describes her work as “horticultural how to and woo-woo,” meaning that we do need to know how to plant the tulip bulbs, but we also need a feel for the process of growing. Roach believes in gardening as world enrichment and improvement, a life philosophy. Her book is described as both practical and inspiring. Those who love gardening will find a lot to love in this book. Those who want to learn about gardening will find they've learned more than they thought they might.

Anna Quindlen's **Nanaville: Adventures in Grandparenting** is a book after my own Nana-heart. Quindlen has given readers a great deal of support and smart commentary through various life stages, and now as a grandmother, she has plenty to say about this life experience also. A couple of key thoughts that anchor this book are that grandparenting by its nature calls for more following, less leading than other life stages such as raising one's own children; and that it pays to keep in mind the question “have the parents asked you” when you're just dying to give advice.

Ian K. Smith's **The Clean 20: 20 Foods, 20 Days, Total Transformation** hops on the clean (non-processed foods) eating train with the sort of advice book we like. We know at the start that we don't have to be bombarded with hundreds of notions but can look for that definitive twenty. The twenty foods he lists cover every major food group, excluding none. Clean eating isn't only unprocessed fruits and vegetables. Smith claims we can eat quite well on his list of twenty and see a big difference in 20 days.

We close our list of new non-fiction with a travel book to that most wonderful-to-visit country, Italy. Frances Mayes' **See You in the Piazza: New Places to Discover in Italy** focuses on the more hidden gems where the locals eat and stay rather than those listed in the usual tour guides. Her interest is on local cuisine and what better country could there be to see what the local people are cooking and enjoying.

Of course, we also have a long list of new fiction for June (including Alexander McCall Smith, Ian Rankin, and John Sandford's newest that I've had a chance to read – I recommend all three). The best non-fiction, however, also takes us to wonderful places.

See you at the Library!

Upcoming Events: Tues. June 11 **Books for Lunch** at 12:30; Wed. June 12 **Constitution Seminar** at 6:30. Mon. June 17 **Summer Reading Opening Day of Events**. Follow us on our website, FB, and Instagram.