



Photo by Marco Proz

# PEARL'S PICKS™

Recommended Reading from Nancy Pearl

Pearl's Picks delivers reading suggestions from the most-widely known librarian of our time—Nancy Pearl. Your readers hear her regularly on National Public Radio, read about her in the papers and have bought over 100,000 copies of her *Book Lust* series. Now, Nancy's suggestions for good reading can enliven your library's website and have readers lining up for more of the books on your shelves.

Pearl's Picks is like adding one of the best readers in the country to your staff—and she's available 24/7.



With Pearl's Picks, each month your library receives a richly diverse assortment of reading suggestions selected and annotated by Nancy Pearl. There are titles chosen for readers of all ages and they include a mix of fiction and non-fiction too! When choosing books for her lists, Nancy looks not only for the best in a genre or on a topic but those that are guaranteed to deliver a great reading experience! The books are also readily available through major book-buying channels and most titles are already in library collections. (You also receive a list of the titles to be included 30-days in advance so that you have time to obtain any titles that you might be missing).

You determine how best to feature these suggestions on your website, allowing you complete freedom to integrate Pearl's Picks into your site's look and feel.

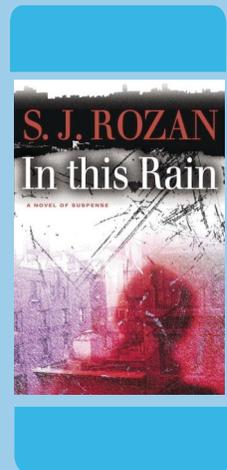
*"Pearl's Picks gives readers a peek beyond the best-seller list and points them to all those wonderful books that were worth adding to your collection but didn't get the five-figure ad budget and author tour. My goal with this service is to increase use throughout the library—not just the titles on the new book shelf."*

– Nancy Pearl

How It Works

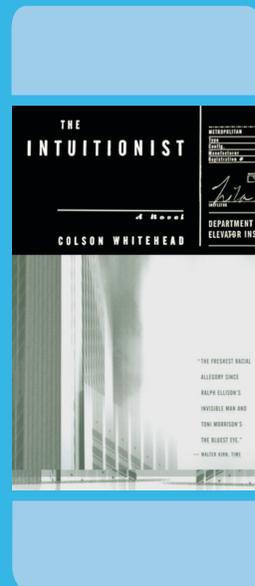
Sample Annotation

In her last two books, S. J. Rozan has abandoned her mystery series characters Bill Smith and Lydia Chin to write stand-alone suspense novels. Her newest stand-alone, **In This Rain**, takes place in and around the construction industry in New York City. (In addition to being an award-winning mystery writer, Rozan is an architect, so she knows whereof she writes.) It's a fast moving, hard-hitting, nicely complex thriller, filled with a whole host of interesting and realistic characters. Three years before the book opens, Joe Cole, former inspector for the city's Buildings Department, went to prison for a crime he didn't commit. Now, out on parole, he can only watch from the sidelines as deaths from accidents at construction sites begin to pile up. But are they accidents? Is someone sabotaging these multi-million dollar projects? Who? And why? Cole's former partner, Ann Montgomery, is determined to find the truth, and asks for Cole's help. They soon discover that the path to that truth just may involve some of the highest profile politicians in the city, and if they choose to proceed, they do so only at their peril.

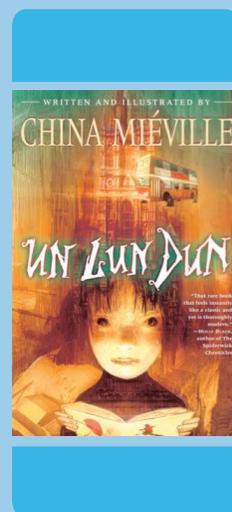


See back of flyer for more of Pearl's Picks!

Some books begin with such an imaginative premise that you worry they won't be able to live up to their beginnings. Colson Whitehead's **The Intuitionist** fully delivers on the promise of its premise. Part science fiction, part noir mystery, Whitehead's novel creates its own world and its own genre. Set in an unnamed city filled with skyscrapers (made possible by the invention of the elevator – the history and technology of which therefore play a central role in its culture and this novel), Lila Mae Watson is the first black female elevator inspector. Not only is she set apart by her race and gender, but Lila Mae is among those inspectors known as "Intuitionists," who belong to the minority philosophical school which advocates judging an elevator's safety by instinct, as opposed to the "Empiricists," who depend upon scientifically derived checklists of elevator safety factors. As the novel opens, the Elevator Guild's elections are coming up, and both Intuitionists and Empiricists are searching for the lost writings of James Fulton, the father of Intuitionism, and his plans for the perfect elevator which will render all current vertical transport systems obsolete, and resolve the conflict between the two philosophical systems once and for all. As Lila Mae becomes involved with this search and all its ramifications, the novel explores race and gender issues relevant to 21st century American society. Whitehead's stylish prose will bring to mind the novels of both Kurt Vonnegut and Thomas Pynchon.



As I read **Un Lun Dun**, China Miéville's satisfying first fantasy novel for teens, I could imagine that his literary influences might include Norton Juster's **The Phantom Tollbooth**, Neil Gaiman's **Neverwhere**, Lewis Carroll's **Alice in Wonderland**, and even J. R. R. Tolkien's **The Lord of the Rings**. Miéville conjures up a wonderful alternative world – both like and unlike London - where words are alive, houses are constructed from all sorts of material that's mildly obsolete in London (hence, "moil" houses), books talk, giraffes are far from gentle animals, wraiths abound, prophesiers more or less correctly predict the future, and a dark cloud dreams of polluting the world into extinction. But wait – the prophecies proclaim that Shwazzy will arrive in the nick of time and save UnLondon from certain smoggy doom. Turns out that Shwazzy is really 12-year-old Zanna, who magically arrives from London with her best friend, Deeba (who adopts a cardboard milk carton in UnLondon and names it Curdle), and heroically undertakes to fulfill what's been foretold. But nothing happens quite as it's supposed to, and there are many scary encounters and death-defying adventures (as well as puns and other wordplays) before good prevails, at least for the time being.



# PEARL'S PICKS is available exclusively from NoveList®

Contact your EBSCO sales representative today to begin delivering reading suggestions from our profession's only action-figure.

Exclusive

**Contact** EBSCO Publishing International Headquarters  
**Address** 10 Estes Street, Ipswich, MA 01938 USA  
**Phone** (800) 653-2726 (978) 356-6500  
**Fax** (978) 356-6565  
**E-mail** [information@ebscohost.com](mailto:information@ebscohost.com)  
**Web** [www.ebscohost.com](http://www.ebscohost.com)