DON'T TALK TO ME: PASSIVE READER'S ADVISORY

Bill Carroll – Carnegie-Stout Public Library
Angie Johnson – Carnegie-Stout Public Library
Amy Muchmore – Carnegie-Stout Public Library
What is Passive Reader’s Advisory?

If you don’t have the luxury of a desk or staff dedicated to Reader’s Advisory, passive RA can be a solution.

Passive Reader’s Advisory can have two meanings:

- Patrons who don’t or won’t ask for help finding their next book
- Reader's advisory in the form of displays, bookmarks, shelf talkers, and/or form based readers’ advisory.

How do we provide Passive Reader’s Advisory? Here are a few ideas.
PAPER RA

- A resource patrons can take with them.
  - Bookmarks
  - Form Based RA
Bookmarks

- Frequent requests
- Genre specific
- Topical/timely
- Thematic
- TV/Movies
Bookmarks

Wall of Bookmarks

Bookmarks made with Publisher
Form Based RA

- Paper form
- Digital Form on website
- Response time
- Method of delivery
- Throw in something outside of the box.
- Feedback Survey
Recommendations for Reader Doe

**Beach Town** by Mary Kay Andrews (FIC Andrews)

Greer Hennessy melts palm trees. As a movie location scout, picturesque is the name of the game. But her last project literally went up in flames, and her career is on the verge of flaring out. Greer has been given one last chance, if she can find the perfect undiscovered beach hideaway for a big-budget movie. Cypress Key, Florida, seems perfect. There’s just one problem: Eaton Tabor, the town’s mayor. He objects to her plan—and they are way too attracted to each other for either of them to see reason.

Appeal factors: Romantic, strong sense of place, engaging story.

**In Serena’s Web** by Kay Hooper (ROM Hooper)

At twenty-six, Serena Jameson is a handbook—brilliant, manipulative, and passionate, at least when it comes to righting the wrongs of the world. Her father, a renowned computer magnate, is worried about Serena’s impetuous nature—as well as a far too tangible threat—and entrusts a colleague, handsome Brian Ashford, to ferry her on a trip across the country. But as usual, Serena has ideas of her own. A novice in affairs of the heart, Serena asks Brian to give her a crash course in seduction so that she can tame the notorious womanizer Joshua Long. But what starts as a simple lesson in love becomes a complex erotic dance, as both men find themselves caught in the snare of Serena’s undeniable will.

Appeal factors: Fast-paced, suspenseful, steamy, similar to Nora Roberts, book #1 in series.

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**BookMatch Feedback Survey**

Thank you for using our BookMatch recommendations service! Please take a moment and let us know how we’re doing. You can return the form to the Recommendations Desk. Thank you!

How did you hear about our Personal Recommendations Reading Lists (circle one)?

- Staff Member
- Friend or Family
- Advertisement
- Other

How would you rate the form you filled out?

- Too specific/too many choices
- Too short/not enough options
- No changes needed

How long was the wait for your reading list?

- 0-3 days
- 4-6 days
- 7-10 days
- 11-14 days
- 15+ days

How would you rate your reading list?

- Most books look interesting
- Average
- Above average
- Below average
- No change needed

Were you already familiar with the titles/authors on your list?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

I had already read all of the recommendations

- Yes
- No

I know most of the authors, but some books were new

- Yes
- No

Most of the books and authors were new

- Yes
- No

Would you recommend this service to others?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Other comments?

Thank you for participating! If you have any questions, please call (563) 589-4225 ext. 2225.
Digital RA

- Reader’s Advisory done on a digital platform
  - Invite all staff to participate
  - Use a program like Hootsuite to make it easier
  - Mix up the content to appeal to a wider range of people
Blog

- Post Reviews/Readalike suggestions
- For books, movies, tv shows etc.

Staff Audiobook Review: The Boys of My Youth by Jo Ann Beard

I don’t know why it has taken me almost twenty years to notice the essay collection The Boys of My Youth by Jo Ann Beard and read (or, rather, listen to) it. First published in 1996 to a loud chorus of high praise, the book led to Beard’s being awarded both a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Whiting Award.

The collection constitutes a patchwork memoir. At the time of its publication, it drew most attention for one piece, previously published in The New Yorker. That essay, “The Fourth State of Matter,” is a meticulous and heartbreaking narrative of the 1991 mass shooting at the University of Iowa by a disturbed physics graduate student, which claimed six lives, including the shooter’s, and left another victim paralyzed from the neck down. The narrative of that horrific event is woven into finely-grained depictions of the author’s own domestic woes: a dying dog and dissolving marriage. It makes for a poignant weave that in no way diminishes the relative magnitude of the shooting.

Audiobook Review

Readalike List

Books that bite back: Paranormal romances

Looking for a romantic, steamy read with a touch of the supernatural? This month, we’re featuring authors of the highly-popular paranormal romance genre. Much more than vampires, many long-running series feature all sorts of creatures like shape-shifters (not just werewolves), immortals, the magical and strange and even zombies! Of course, there are plenty of blood-suckers for those who can’t resist their charm.

Here are some highlights from our most popular series in our collection. If you’d like to know more, stop by the Recommendations Desk or e-mail us at yourlibrary@bobsquid.lib.us

Vampires

Halfway to the Grave by Jeaniene Frost (Romance Frost) - The series

Night Huntress follows half-vampire, half-human Catherine Crawford searching for vengeance against her vampire father. In the first installment, Cat’s plans go awry when she is captured by vampire bounty hunter Bones.

Kiss of Midnight by Lara Adrian (Romance Adrian) - The first book in the Midnight Breed series features the Breed, a race of vampire sworn to protect humans from the threat of the Rogues. After meeting Breed warrior Lucan Thorne, Gabrielle Maxwell is drawn into the dangerous world of hunter-vampires. one that is on the edge of an apocalyptic blood war.

Shape-shifters

Mercury’s War by Lora Leigh (Romance Leigh) - Leigh’s Breed follows a genetically-altered race of feline and canine shape-shifters. Mercury’s War follows Pia Rodriguez as she goes undercover to expose a traitor and instead encounters Mercury Warrant, one of the greatest Breeds created, who wants her for his mate.

Kissing Midnight by Emma Holly (Romance Holly) - The Fitz Clare Chronicles, a historical paranormal romance series, features a race of immortal shape-shifters - the uryr. The first installment follows uryr Edmund Fitz Clare as he battles his attraction to Estelle Gereger as they are both drawn into London’s dark underground to prevent an ancient conflict from destroying both their worlds.
Binge Worthy TV Shows

Sometimes I think the DVR is the best and worst invention ever. The best because I can record shows when I’m not home and watch them whenever. The worst because I record a lot of TV shows and then I end up watching an entire season over the course of a day or two. For a television junkie, the DVR is a big old enabler.

Here are a few of my favorite binge worthy shows:

**Angie Tribeca on TBS**

From the mind of Steve Carell and his wife, Nancy Walls Carell, Angie Tribeca is a police procedural satire in the spirit of Police Squad! Rashida Jones plays the titular detective who gets a new partner in the pilot episode. TBS aired the first season of 10 episodes as a 25-hour marathon, so this show was truly made for binge watching. The humor is very reminiscent of the movies Airplane! and The Naked Gun. Surely (don’t call me Shirley) you will want to give this show a try.

**Killjoys on Syfy**

Killjoys follows a trio of bounty hunters, Dutch, Dax and Johnny as they work in a four planet system called The Quad. Hello, space bounty hunters! What isn’t to love about this show? Killjoys, especially in the second season is a great mix of humor, drama and action. The leader of this rag-tag trio is Dutch; and she is a woman who knows how to take care of herself. You wouldn’t want to mess with her in a dark alley. The best part of this show is her relationship (strictly platonic) with Johnny. Also Pree, every episode with Pree is automatically my favorite episode.

Nine Books for Home Makeovers

Whether you’re a fan of Marie Kondo’s Spark Joy or you’re less impressed, you might be feeling the need to give your living space a bit of a makeover, and Carnegie-Stout is here to help. Our book collection includes a wide variety of design, decoration, and organization titles to suit any taste. Whether your style is modern minimalism, vintage eclectic, or something else entirely, we’ve got a book to keep you inspired.

We’ve gathered together nine of our newer books to get you started. Check them out below!

**Love Your Home You Have** by Melissa Michaels

(747 MIC) You can love your home. Join Melissa Michaels as she shares humor, lessons learned, and encouraging advice so you can get motivated with the 31-day Love Your Home challenge: declutter, organize, and decorate your rooms with ease; and leap from dreamer to doer with confidence.

**Cut the Clutter: a simple organization plan for a clean and tidy home** by Cynthia Townsley Ewer

(648.5 EWE) A guide to conquering clutter and cleaning your home from one of America’s leading housekeeping experts. Whether you want to organize your closet, tame your fridge, or conquer the whole house one room at a time, Cut the Clutter will inform you, entertain you, and save your sanity along the way.

**The Joy of Less, a minimalist guide to declutter, organize, and simplify** by Francine Jay

(648 JAY) Jay introduces a five-step family program that will help you downsize, declutter, and maintain a streamlined life. Her minimalist lifestyle techniques will help you maximize space, free up time and energy, and keep things organized. Start living your life!
Social Media

- Twitter
- Facebook
- Pinterest
- Tumblr
- Goodreads
- Instagram

Link your social media accounts to your library homepage.
Twitter

- Tweet a link to blog review
- Tweet a link to blog readalike list
- Retweet readalike lists from other sources
Facebook/Tumblr/Pinterest

- Facebook: post link to blog review or readalike list
- Create a Pinterest board that links to blog post
- Tumblr: post entire review
Physical RA

- Things people can look at/interact with to get ideas
- Displays
- Shelf Talkers
- Binders
Shelf Talkers

- Readalikes
- Review blurbs from staff or Library Reads
- Short book descriptions with appeal factors
- These are about 2 x 4.5" in size (shelfwiz.com)

**Christmas Blackout by Maggie Black**

The last thing Benjamin Duff needs is to be stranded at his friend Piper Lawrence’s bed-and-breakfast with a dangerous intruder. But when he stops to say goodbye before moving across the world, he finds a masked man attacking Piper. Benjamin rushes to save her, crashing his truck and trapping them during a winter storm in the process. With no power or cell phones and time running out before his trip, he’ll have to work fast to catch the killer. As they fight for their lives and their feelings for each other grow, Benjamin must decide if he’s really willing to leave Piper behind.

**Appeal: Christmas, romantic suspense, fast-paced**

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**The Dead in Their Vaulted Arches: A Flavia de Luce Novel**

by Alan Bradley

“Flavia de Luce is still on the loose! This time, the almost-twelve-year-old prodigy explores some tantalizing mysteries involving her own family. Flavia uncovers surprising secrets about the characters we know and love and meets some fascinating new people, including a precocious distant cousin.”

- Nancy Russell, Columbus Metropolitan Library

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**Are you a fan of Stuart Woods?**

Screenwriter Stephen J. Cannell’s novels possess a similar cinematic appeal, fast pacing, characters who could be on the screen, action scenes, and revenge. While the plots may be more complex than those of Woods, the characters, particularly series character LA police detective Sharon Scully, will certainly appeal. Try *The Tip Collector*, the first featuring Scully.
Shelf Talkers
Displays

- Seasonal/Holiday
- Genre Specific
- Subject Specific
- Whimsical/Just for Fun

Season’s Readings 2015
Displays

Blind Date with a Book

Impulse cart by check-out desk

Cabin Fever Mini-Con 2017
Binders

- Printed copy of staff reviews
- Printed copy of Patron Picks
- Bookmarks become list of suggestions

Patron review for binder
Written on our patron picks bookmark, scanned and printed for binder.
Spark of Inspiration

Bowl of reading suggestions

Examples

• Go into the Romance section, close your eyes and pull a book to read
• Read a book that has a volcano (or just the word volcano) in it
• Read a book by Octavia Butler
• Read a book about a serial killer
• Read a Dystopian or Post-Apocalyptic novel
• Read a Fiction book that takes place during the Vietnam War
• Read a novel set during the Revolutionary War
• Read a book by George R.R. Martin
Passive RA Resources that patrons can use too:

Readers' Advisory Websites

- http://www.earlyword.com/  UP AND COMING BOOKS
- https://www.fantasticfiction.com/  BOOK SERIES ORDER
- https://www.goodreads.com/  BOOK SERIES ORDER
- http://edelweiss.abovetheatreline.com/  ARC BOOKS
- https://s2.netgalley.com/  ARC BOOKS
- http://stopyourekillingme.com/  MYSTERIES
- http://www.cozy-mystery.com/  COZY MYSTERIES
- http://mysterysequels.com/  MYSTERY SERIES ORDER
- http://www.thrillingdetective.com/whatsnew.html  MORE MYSTERY BOOKS
- http://lithub.com/  NEW LITERARY FICTION
- http://raforall.blogspot.com/  RA For All – Reader’s Advisory blog
- http://iowareadersadvisory.blogspot.com/  Iowa Library Association Reader’s Advisory Round Table blog
RA Resources continued:

**Young Adult RA**
- http://rivetedlit.com/books/ CURRENT/UPCOMING YA LIT
- http://foreveryoungadult.com/ CURRENT YA/FUN YA POP CULTURE FROM ADULT PERSPECTIVE

**Viewers Advisory**
- http://www.tvshowsondvd.com/ TV SERIES ON DVD/RELEASE DATES
- http://videoeta.com/ DVD RELEASE DATES
- https://www.commonsensemedia.org/ FOR CHECKING ON SUITABILITY FOR KIDS/TEENS MOVIES
- http://www.imdb.com/?ref_=nv_home IMDB- INTERNET MOVIE DATABASE
Wish List & Future Ideas

- Reader’s Advisory Command Center

Challenges

- Space
- Getting the word out
- Coming up with a catchy name
- Lack of understanding about the service
Questions?