

# Colby librarian reviews top five most borrowed books

If you were to take a stab at guessing the top five most borrowed fiction books in United States libraries for 2005 what would they be? According to Library Journal, the statistics through September 2005 show *4th of July* by James Patterson as the most borrowed fiction this year — so far.

Below is a list of the top five most borrowed fiction books followed by a brief plot synopsis of each.

1) *4th of July* by James Patterson — Reviewed in Library Link on Sept. 23.



**Jeff Friesen**  
Library Link

2) *The Mermaid Chair* by Sue Monk Kidd — Jessie rushes to Egret Island off the coast of South Carolina after learning that her mother has chopped off part of her hand with a meat cleaver.

Jessie has never been particularly

fond of the island she grew up on, especially after the death of her father 33 years ago.

While “trying” to care for her obstinate mother, Jessie begins to suspect something mysterious about the death of her father.

To complicate her life, Jessie’s stay on Egret Island has left her feeling refreshingly free of her psychiatrist husband. And it doesn’t help that a junior monk attending the island’s secluded Benedictine Monastery seems to have taken hold of her heart.

3) *The Broker* by John Grisham — For those who haven’t already read it — Joel Backman is a high-rolling attorney pulling in \$10 million a year.

Rumor has it that he can “broker” any deal in Washington, as long as the price is right.

But his latest scheme to broker access to the world’s most powerful satellite surveillance system fails.

Left with a short list of options, Backman chooses prison where at least he will be safe. He is safe, un-

til a presidential pardon sets him free and in the sights of those that will stop at nothing to get what only Backman can give them.

4) *Honeymoon* by James Patterson — Nora Sinclair is an interior designer who is ruthless but also beautiful, talented, and wealthy.

After killing her first husband (whose inheritance made her wealthy), Nora is setting up her next ploy to kill her new husband as well as a boyfriend from another city. John O’Hara, undercover FBI Agent, is put on the case to investigate Nora (aka the Black Widow) and the serial killings. His investigation however, turns into an affair with seductive Nora that nearly costs him his own life.

5) *True Believer* by Nicholas Sparks — Jeremy Marsh, a prolific writer for Scientific American has been called in to the small town of Boone Creek, N.C. to examine some mysterious lights that have been appearing in an old cemetery.

Doris, the town psychic, wants the cemetery myth debunked and has called in Jeremy to uncover the truth.

To guide Jeremy through the

cemetery is Lexie, the town librarian and granddaughter of Doris. Lexie has lived with a guarded heart after a series of heart breaks. Therefore, she has no reason to create more heartache for herself by appearing interested in a city-slicker from New York. But as love would have it, she begins to find herself just the tiniest bit interested in Jeremy.

The next five most checked out books according to Library Journal are

— *Eleven on Top* by Janet Evanovich,  
— *The Lifeguard* by James Patterson,  
— *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini,  
— *No Place Like Home* by Mary Higgins Clark and  
— *Two Dollar Bill* by Stuart Woods.

Pioneer Memorial Library is located at 375 West 4th St. and open seven days a week. Winter hours will be as follows: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4p.m. For information call the library at 460-4470.

## Stepdad’s abuse of daughter is hard on mom

DEAR ABBY: My husband of five years, “Jeff,” is one of the most intelligent, loving, sensitive men I have ever met. However, the other day, my daughter, “Julie,” reported that Jeff had touched her inappropriately two years ago when she was 10. She also quoted some inappropriate sexual comments he has made and said he had even flashed her once.



**Abigail Van Buren**  
Dear Abby

As if that is not bad enough, she said Jeff had also been threatening her while I was at work, saying things like, “Your mother isn’t there to save you.”

He has never hit either one of us. He is all bark and no bite, although he can be very scary when he is angry.

The police and the Department of Human Services are now involved. Jeff has moved to a motel pending an investigation.

I know my first concern should be for Julie, but I feel she is safe and happy. I am more upset about my husband.

Even though I know he is an idiot for doing these things, and my daughter is afraid of him, I don’t think he ever intended to molest or hurt her. But he has.

So why do I want him back so much? I am afraid the detectives will force me to divorce him. I know Julie is not comfortable around him, but I keep hoping that family counseling and some therapy will solve the problem.

Of course, I will always choose my child first, but when do I know when to give up on my marriage?

— TORN IN TWO IN OKLAHOMA

**For that reason, I do not believe that parental notification should be mandated by law.**

**And because sex education is no longer taught in as many states as it had been before, I strongly urge parents to begin talking to their children early about the facts of life and their personal value systems, in order to create a safe and comfortable environment should a crisis occur.**

he threatened to ruin my life. He knows some things about me that are very confidential and has threatened to call my mom and tell her everything.

He claims he loves me, but then he tells me he hates me.

I don’t understand. I have always treated David with respect and tried to be a good girlfriend.

But I can’t do it anymore, and I’m afraid of how things will turn out. I can’t take David harassing me.

I don’t know if I am in danger or if this is something to worry about.

— SCARED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

**P.S. Under no circumstances should you reconcile with him. This is just a taste of what you’ll get if you do. If the harassment continues, go to the police and file a report.**

*Editor’s note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.*

DEAR ABBY: I moved away from my ex-boyfriend, “David,” seven months ago. Since then, our “perfect” relationship has changed drastically. He has been using horrible language toward me and saying he hates me. David also has said if I was near him, he would beat me. Now that I have told him it is over and have begun talking to someone else, he has decided he wants a second chance.

First, David begged me to go back to him. Then, when I refused,

**DEAR SCARED: People who love each other do not treat each other the way you are being treated. Your ex-boyfriend has become obsessed, and is trying to force you to capitulate through intimidation and blackmail. Tell him once more that it is over and you want him out of your life. Then screen your calls, block his e-mails, and if he approaches you, tell him that if he persists you will inform the police.**

**And if you must, beat him to the punch and tell your mother what he’s holding over you. It may not be your proudest moment, but it will loosen his hold over you.**

### Get Lost in the Maze!

October Hours  
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Brianna Moses

**Sat., October 8**  
**Come & Go**  
**10 a.m.-6 p.m.**  
Special Events Room  
1060 Villa Vista, Colby  
(Park at E. end of KQLS lot)  
**Drawings & Giveaways!**  
Winners ned not be present to win.

## LOCAL BUSINESSMAN MISSES FLIGHT, MISSES OPPORTUNITY, MISSES PROMOTION.

OR

## FLY MID-CONTINENT TO AVOID TRAVEL (AND CAREER) MISHAPS.

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The problem is that even if you do wake up on time (please make sure to set the alarm for a.m. and not p.m.) you could

get caught speeding on the turnpike, get pulled over by a State Trooper, get your Corolla impounded and end up explaining to your boss, J.C. Hocanadel (yes, *the* J.C. Hocanadel) why you missed your flight and your meeting, and he missed out on his merger. Or his acquisition. Whichever.

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