The Cemetery of Forgotten Books: The World of Carlos Ruiz Zafón

The Shadow of the Wind (2004) is the first of three books by Ruiz Zafón set in Barcelona after World War II. While the city slowly comes back to life after years of war, Daniel Sempere, 10, mourns the loss of his mother and finds solace and escape in a book called The Shadow of the Wind by Julian Carax. When Daniel is older, he realizes someone is systematically destroying all of Carax’s books, and upon investigating, he is pulled into a dark tale of murder, deceit and doomed love. A passionate love story to books, this classic has topped bestseller lists in over 20 countries.

The second book, The Angel’s Game (2009), follows the fortunes of David Martin, a struggling author who has been asked by his publisher to write a book that has the power to change hearts and minds. In return he will receive a fortune, but he is led into a web of intrigue connecting his book to a darkness that only seems to grow deeper and deeper.

The third installment is The Prisoner of Heaven (2012), set in 1957. A mysterious stranger visits the Sempere & Sons bookshop and threatens to divulge a dark secret that is buried two decades in the city’s past.

These three books could be read separately, but to see the characters develop, the reader might want to start with The Shadow of the Wind.

Suspending: The Detective John Corey Series by Nelson DeMille

Nelson DeMille is a publishing powerhouse with several different series as well as many stand-alone books. The John Corey series is terrific suspense, anchored by its wisecracking, cynical protagonist: a New York cop with a strong desire protect his country. In the first book, Plum Island (1997), Corey is recovering from a gunshot wound when he is drawn into the investigation of the death of two biological researchers on Plum Island.

In the second book, The Lion’s Game (2000), Corey is pursuing the world’s most dangerous terrorist known as “The Lion” in a race against time.

Night Fall (2004), the third book, portrays Corey as part of the Federal Anti-Terrorist Task Force, investigating TWA Flight 800, which exploded in 1996 over Long Island Sound. Suspenseful and gripping, the story is based on the actual crash as well as the testimonies of eyewitnesses that claim the plane was shot down.


DeMille’s latest book, The Cuban Affair (2017), introduces a new character, U.S. Army combat veteran Daniel “Mac” MacCormick. We can only hope that MacCormick will be able to fill the shoes of his predecessor, John Corey.

- Mary Anne
Great Voices: Audiobooks

Kick back and enjoy as these skilled performers deliver top-notch listening experiences. All audiobooks are available through Ocean State Libraries. Starred entries are also available on Hoopla Digital.

Do you read nonfiction? Try: Edward Herrmann
Award-winning actor Herrmann’s assured delivery is perfect for bringing true tales to life.
- *The Bully Pulpit* by Doris Kearns Goodwin
- *Einstein* by Walter Isaacson (*)

Looking for an escape? Try: Davina Porter
Porter is a master at juggling characters and plots, fully immersing readers in the stories.
- *Elizabeth Is Missing* by Emma Healey (*)
- *The Miniaturist* by Jessie Burton (*)
- *Outlander series* by Diana Gabaldon

Prefer emotional tales? Try: Bahni Turpin
Turpin’s smooth narration enhances any story, whether it’s a historical epic or young adult novel.
- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
- *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

Seeking suspense? Try: Titus Welliver
Star of the Amazon series *Bosch*, Welliver inhabits the character in the audiobooks as well. His laid-back delivery is a natural fit for detective stories and westerns alike.
- *Blue-Eyed Devil* by Robert B. Parker
- *The Burning Room (Harry Bosch series)* by Michael Connelly

Love realistic fiction? Try: Julia Whelan
One of the most versatile voices in the business, Whelan performs thrillers and domestic dramas with aplomb.
- *Fates and Furies* by Lauren Groff
- *Since We Fell* by Dennis Lehane
- *A Window Opens* by Elizabeth Egan (*)

- Jen

**Staff Picks**

Chris chose: *All Our Wrong Todays* (2017) by Elan Mastai
Thought provoking: What would happen if you could travel back in time and accidentally change one thing? Can you ever fix it? Should you? Quick, funny, and sad too. Very fast read.

Katie read: *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She’s Sorry* (2015) by Fredrik Backman
I thought this book was well written, hilarious, but also touching and thoughtful. I would recommend it to adults and teens as well.

Jana enjoyed: *Season of the Dragonflies* (2014) by Sarah Creech
Magical realism at its romantic best. A matriarchy of business women who have led the family company with confidence and power find themselves faltering after a key misstep. This was a light, easy read.

Niles selected: *Patton, Montgomery, Rommel: Masters of War* (2009) by Terry Brighton
This biographical account of the three top tank commanders in World War II follows them in battle in North Africa and later in the European theater. All three were flamboyant, charismatic, and controversial, and Brighton’s survey of their victories and losses, personally and on the battlefield, make for a compelling read.

Wil watched: *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (DVD)
*Rogue One* is where Star Wars gets real. (Spoiler alert!) Yes, Obi Wan dies in *A New Hope*, and Darth Vader dies in *Return of the Jedi* — but not really. Getting the plans to the Death Star is a true suicide mission and every character you meet may never be seen again.