

ON THE SAME PAGE 2026:

The COMFORT of CROWS

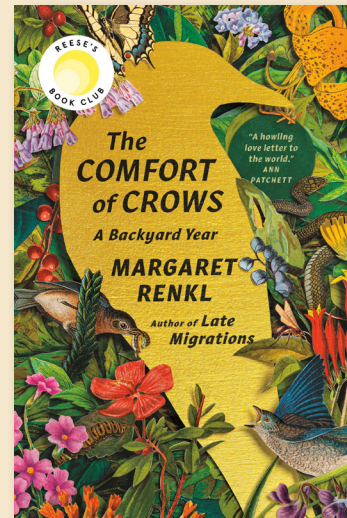
A Backyard Year

by Margaret Renkl

In *The Comfort of Crows*, Margaret Renkl presents a literary devotional: fifty-two chapters that follow the creatures and plants in her backyard over the course of a year. As we move through the seasons—from a crow spied on New Year's Day, its resourcefulness and sense of community setting a theme for the year, to the lingering bluebirds of December, revisiting the nest box they used in spring—what develops is a portrait of joy and grief: joy in the ongoing pleasures of the natural world, and grief over winters that end too soon and songbirds that grow fewer and fewer.

Along the way, we also glimpse the changing rhythms of a human life. Grown children, unexpectedly home during the pandemic, prepare to depart once more. Birdsong and night-blooming flowers evoke generations past. The city and the country where Renkl raised her family transform a little more with each passing day. And the natural world, now in visible flux, requires every ounce of hope and commitment from the author—and from us. For, as Renkl writes, “radiant things are bursting forth in the darkest places, in the smallest nooks and deepest cracks of the hidden world.”

With fifty-two original color artworks by the author's brother, Billy Renkl, *The Comfort of Crows* is a lovely and deeply moving book from a cherished observer of the natural world.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Join one of the following book discussions after reading *The Comfort of Crows* by Margaret Renkl. A limited number of free books are available at each library. Please contact your home library for details.

Between the Covers Book Club (RPLD) Thursday, October 8 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Beyond the Library Book Discussion (ICL) Monday, October 13 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
at the Fox & Turtle Restaurant in the Itasca Country Club.

Monday Night Page Turners (BPL) Monday, October 19 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Evening Book Discussion (ICL) Tuesday, October 27 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

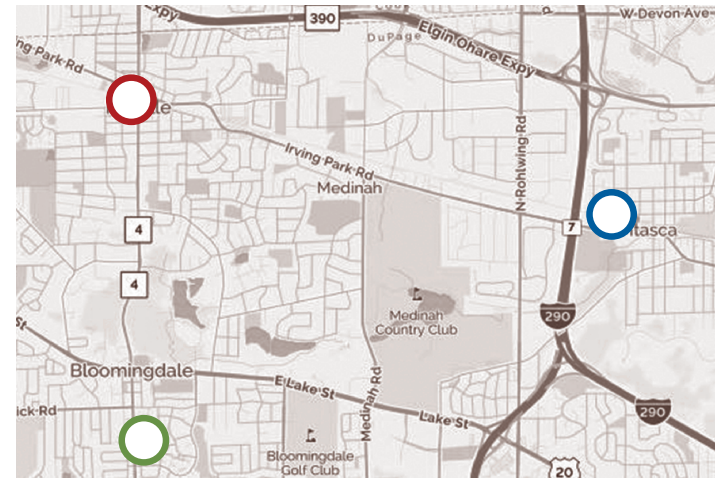
101 Fairfield Way
Bloomington, IL 60108
(630) 529-3120 • www.mybpl.org

ITASCA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

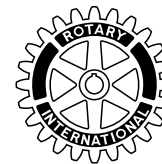
500 West Irving Park Road
Itasca, IL 60143
(630) 773-1699 • www.itascalibrary.org

ROSELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

40 South Park Street
Roselle, IL 60172
(630) 529-1641 • www.rosellepld.org



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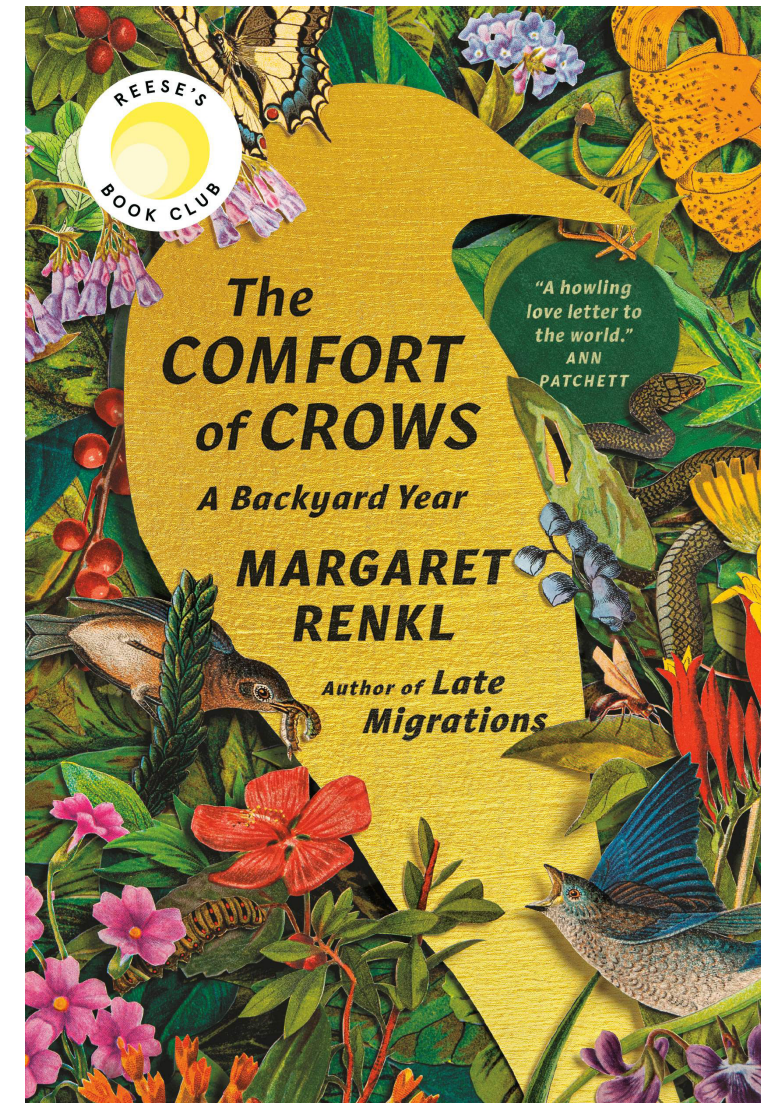


Rotary Club
of Bloomington-Roselle



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Bloomington | Itasca | Roselle

Films, Lectures, &
Book Discussions
based on the book



2026 Program Guide

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OCTOBER 2026 PROGRAMS

FALL GARDENING TIPS: SUSTAINABLE CLEANUP & SEED SAVING (BPL)

Monday, October 5 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Celebrate *The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year* with Beth Peluse from The Conservation Foundation. Learn simple, sustainable ways to winterize your yard, support local wildlife, and save seeds for next spring's garden.



12 THINGS THAT MAKE THE LIFE ON EARTH POSSIBLE (RPLD)

Tuesday, October 6 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Join Michelle Nichols from the Adler Planetarium for a fascinating look at why Earth is uniquely suited for life. Discover 12 special characteristics that make Earth capable of sustaining life—and why it remains the only known planet in the universe to do so.



BIRDS OF PREY WITH SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER (ICL)

Thursday, October 15 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Explore the world of local raptors with Jess Finn from Springbrook Nature Center. Learn how to identify owls, hawks, and falcons by sight and sound while discovering their hunting skills, adaptations, and important role in our ecosystem.



MAKE GARDEN DECORATIONS THROUGH UPCYCLING METAL (BPL)

Monday, October 19 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Create a steampunk-inspired sculpture using salvaged metal, gears, bolts, magnets, and other reclaimed materials in this hands-on workshop presented by Victoria Reeves. Learn how artists transform industrial scraps into art, then design and take home your own unique creation. Space is limited. *Please note: those with pacemakers or other embedded medical devices should use caution when working with ceramic magnets.*



THE SEASONS OF BIRDS IN DUPAGE COUNTY (BPL)

Tuesday, October 20 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Mike Warner of the DuPage Birding Club introduces the basics of birding and explores which birds can be found in local habitats throughout the year. Learn about seasonal bird populations, conservation challenges, and ways to help protect local species.



BULBS: BASICS, MYTHS, AND TRUTHS (ICL)

Tuesday, October 27 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Think you know gardening fact from fiction? Test your gardening knowledge in this interactive program separating bulb-planting myths from facts. Master Gardeners from the University of Illinois will share practical tips for planting and caring for bulbs in late summer and fall.



A WALK IN THE WOODS (RPLD)

Tuesday, October 13 | 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Rated: R

After spending two decades in England, Bill Bryson returns to the U.S., where he decides the best way to connect with his homeland is to hike the Appalachian Trail with one of his oldest friends.



WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT (BPL)

Wednesday, October 14 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. | Rated: G

Join us for some fun as we enjoy a movie two-for, which both celebrates On the Same Page and Halloween! Bumbling inventor, Wallace, and his silent canine companion, Gromit, try to trap a beast that's been ravaging neighborhood vegetable patches!

General Information:

On The Same Page programs require registration unless noted as “drop-in” in the program description. Please contact the library or visit each library's website for details and registration information.