**The Second Mrs. Astor** by Shana Abe

Madeleine Talmage Force was 17 when she attracts the attention of John Jacob “Jack” Astor. Despite their 29-year age difference, and the scandal of Jack’s recent divorce, Madeleine falls headlong into love—and becomes the press’s favorite target. On their extended honeymoon in Egypt, the newlyweds finally find a measure of peace. Happily pregnant, the couple plans to return home in the spring of 1912 aboard the RMS Titanic. Four months later, a widowed Madeleine gives birth to their son. But will Madeleine accept the role assigned to her, or carve out her own path?

**Moderated by Stephanie Laurino, Library HQ**

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**Murder They Wrote: Virtual Mystery Book Discussion**

**Thursday, January 12 at 10:30 am on Zoom**

**The Stranger Diaries** by Elly Griffiths

High School teacher Clare Cassidy specializes in the Gothic writer R. M. Holland. When one of her colleagues is found dead with a line from Holland’s iconic story left by her body, Clare’s life collides with her favorite literature. Unsure whom to trust, she turns to her diary, the only outlet for her suspicions and fears. Then one day she notices something odd in her diary, writing that isn’t hers.

**Moderated by Jeanmarie Kantor, Library HQ**

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**Love to Read: A Romance Book Discussion**

**Wednesday, January 18 at 10:30 am on Zoom**

**The Second Mrs. Astor** by Shana Abe

Madeleine Talmage Force was 17 when she attracts the attention of John Jacob “Jack” Astor. Despite their 29-year age difference, and the scandal of Jack’s recent divorce, Madeleine falls headlong into love—and becomes the press’s favorite target. On their extended honeymoon in Egypt, the newlyweds finally find a measure of peace. Happily pregnant, the couple plans to return home in the spring of 1912 aboard the RMS Titanic. Four months later, a widowed Madeleine gives birth to their son. But will Madeleine accept the role assigned to her, or carve out her own path?

**Moderated by Stephanie Laurino, Library HQ**

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**Virtual Short Story Discussion**

**Thursday, January 26 at 10:30 am on Zoom**

**“The Yellow Wallpaper”** by Charlotte Perkins Stetson

A woman confined to an upstairs bedroom of a summer home secretly journals her experience while her physician husband is convinced that she will quickly recuperate from what he considers a temporary illness.

The story will be emailed after registration.

**Moderated by Mary Patterson, Hazlet Library Branch**

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