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Medieval times

Explore the Middle Ages with these books recommended by Belmont Public Library staff.

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Clearing up some misconceptions



Before Galileo by John Freely

The Enlightenment is largely considered the era when modern science was born, John Freely is looking to change that perception. By chronicling the evolution of science between the Ancient Greeks and the 17th century the physicist shows that the scholars of the Middle Ages deserve credit for laying the scientific groundwork that made discoveries from the likes of Newton and Galileo possible. **BELMONT/Adult 509.4 FRE**

The time traveler's guide to Medieval England by Ian Mortimer

Even those not planning their next vacation along the time space continuum will enjoy Mortimer's title about how to live in Medieval England like a true local. Learn what's on the menu, how to greet your fellow citizens, what breakout author Geoffrey Chaucer is writing, and how everyone is dealing with the threat of the Black Death. Like any good travel guide Mortimer dispels myths about where you're headed, claiming that hygiene wasn't nearly as bad and social classes were not nearly as distinct as they are commonly perceived. **BELMONT/Adult 942.03 MOR**



IN THE LAND OF GIANTS CONCEPTION

In the land of giants by Max Adams

In this title readers are invited to see modern day England through the eyes of one of the preeminent British archaeologists. Separated into ten walks around the island nation Adams explains what stories the physical remnants of medieval England can tell about the people of that time period. Adams argues that, even though hundreds of years have passed and society has evolved, the people of today are not extraordinarily different from our medieval ancestors. **BELMONT/Adult 942 ADA**

God's Crucible by David Levering Lewis

The Pulitzer Prize winning historian explores the often overlooked role of Muslims in medieval Europe. In addition to his chronicling of the wars between Christian and Muslim forces during the time period, Lewis explains the cultural impact powers like the eighth century's Al-Andalus Empire had, not only on their own time but in setting the stage for the formation of modern Europe. **BELMONT/Adult 940.1 LEW**



Fiction beyond Martin and Tolkien



Wild justice by Priscilla Royal

Upon arriving in Mynchen Buckland Priory with Brother Thomas and Sister Anne to deliver a message and a gift Prioress Eleanor learns the intended recipient, Prioress Amicia, is imprisoned for the murder of a widow in a neighboring village. Believing her fellow prioress's claim of innocence, Eleanor must work quickly in an unfamiliar landscape with her travel companions to clear Amicia's name. This is the fourteenth installment in Royal's *Medieval Mysteries* series. **BELMONT/Adult MYS ROY**

Hild by Nicola Griffith

Based on the life of Saint Hilda of Whitby this historical novel follows young Hild as she deals with the loss of her father at an early age, becomes a seer for her now king uncle, and becomes Christian in an almost purely political move, all while trying to figure out who is she is as a young woman. Beyond Hild's story woman Griffith provides an exploration of what day-to-day life was like for medieval women, making this a must read for all fans of historical fiction. **BELMONT/Adult FIC GRI**





Troubled bones by Jeri Westerson

Disgraced former knight turned tracker (the medieval equivalent of a private investigator) Crispin Guest is hired by a bishop in Canterbury to find the traitor among the monks who poses a threat to the bones of St. Thomas Becket. His mission becomes more complicated when a prioress is killed in the cathedral and he runs into his friend Geoffrey Chaucer, who has a familiar set of pilgrims from London with him. This is the fourth entry in the Crispin Guest series. **BELMONT/Adult MYS WES**

The scribe of Siena by Melodie Winawer

While going through her late brother's research on medieval Siena, modern day neurosurgeon Beatrice Trovato sees a portrait of herself. Before she knows what's happened Beatrice is transported back to 1347 Siena, just before the plague is set to hit the city. As she becomes part of the community and even falls in love Beatrice knows she must do everything in her power to save the people she cares about from the coming epidemic. **BELMONT/Adult FIC WIN**





The last days of magic by Mark Tompkins

In this version of fourteenth century Ireland, the island stands as the last bastion of magic in the medieval world. With factions warring within its borders Aisling, a half goddess and the ruler of the nation, is attempting to bring peace to all factions and unite the mortal realm with the magical. But the threats are not only within the Irish shores as Jordan, a master of dark magic, has been sent by England and the Vatican on a mission to rid the world of magic once and for all. **BELMONT/Adult FIC TOM**