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PUBLIC LIBRARIES ONLINE WEEKLY

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Issue #88

Trending...The Latest From PLOnline

- While countless public libraries have a webpage listing local and national naturalization resources, the [Kansas City \(MO\) Public Library \(KCPL\)](#) is one of the only public libraries to form a program and team specifically designed to help immigrants become citizens. KCPL created the Refugee & Immigrant Services & Empowerment (RISE) program to help connect local immigrants with quality services and resources through outreach, education, and advocacy. [Julie Robinson](#), the refugee and immigration services outreach manager said, “In many countries, people don’t have the option of going to the library. This is their first experience and they don’t understand what they can gain from a library.” Read "[Kansas City Public Library Offers Citizenship Classes.](#)"
- When I became a public librarian I had my own ideas about what the job would entail. I knew I loved books and that I loved helping people. I knew that I relished the idea of giving people access to information and ideas they couldn’t get in other places. I didn’t connect being a librarian with being an activist for social or political change. I didn’t realize how important my role would become in helping people make decisions that can change the world we live in. Read "[Public Libraries as Instruments for Social and Political Activism.](#)"
- Jami Attenberg’s extraordinary *All Grown Up* focuses on Andrea, a thirty-nine year-old who’s abandoned her passion for painting in favor of a financially safe career in an advertising firm. In elliptical chapters, Attenberg depicts the various characters in Andrea’s world: her mother, a former social activist; her brother and sister-in-law, a glamorous couple whose lives have been upended by caring for their terminally ill daughter; and the different men she’s dated. *Newsweek* called *All Grown Up* “impossible to put it down” and *Booklist* praised it as “stinging, sweet, and remarkably fleshed out in relatively few pages.” Jami Attenberg spoke to Brendan Dowling via telephone on February 28th. Read "[Jami Attenberg On Writing Her Worst Nightmare In “All Grown Up.”](#)"

incident, [as reported](#) by *The Denver Post*, is an illustrative example for all libraries who use social media. When Commissioner Don Rosier received a complaint from a library patron concerning the tweets, he contacted Pam Nissler, the library's executive director. Nissler agreed with Rosier and the angry patron, and had the tweets deleted. As Nissler pointed out, it was not the text of the tweets that was controversial, but the pictures posted with the tweets. Read "[Library Ethics and Social Media](#)."

Public Libraries Magazine - January/February 2017 Issue

Authors Bounce Back

BRENDAN DOWLING works for the Public Library Association in Chicago. Contact Brendan at bdowling@ala.org. Brendan is currently reading *Lush Life* by Richard Price.

In keeping with this issue's theme of fantastic failures, we turned to some of our favorite authors to see how they had navigated disappointments in their own careers. Their sympathetic yet heartening responses are below. To learn more about these authors and their creative process, visit PLA's interviews page at <http://publiclibrariesonline.org/category/books-more/interviews>.

Imbolo Mbue

Imbolo Mbue is the author of Behold the Dreamers (2016), which was named a Best Book of the Year by The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Guardian.

Three years ago, I received an email telling me that a renowned literary agent was going to read my manuscript. The email came from the agent's assistant, who had read and loved the manuscript, and her enthusiasm for it (she called it "phenomenal") all but convinced me that her boss was going to love it, too, and offer to represent it. I stared at the email for minutes, incredulous: after sending out hundreds of query letters to agents all over the country and receiving dozens of rejection letters, was it possible I was finally going to get an agent? Would this story, which I'd been working on for almost three years and which I deeply believed in, finally get published? Read the entire article [here](#).

Midweek Media MashUp

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Creating Educational Opportunities to Reduce Recidivism](#)
- [Worst Story Time Ever? Or Best?](#)
- [Children Who Play Outside More Likely To Protect Nature as Adults](#)

Ask Us Anything

If you have questions about PL Online, *Public Libraries*, PLA or anything else, send them in. Just hit reply and send your question on its way! We'll get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for reading!

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