



LIBRARY ACCESS

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2026

WELCOME TO

The Kingdom of
READMOOR

◆ GET YOUR MAP
OF WONDER!
Pg. 8

◆ CELEBRATING
OUR VOLUNTEERS!
Pg. 14

◆ MEET AN ORIGINAL
FREEDOM RIDER!
Pg. 7

ONE BOOK ONE READ

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

11am - 2pm | Central Library



**Meet Author
JASON REKULAK**

RESERVE YOUR SPOT:



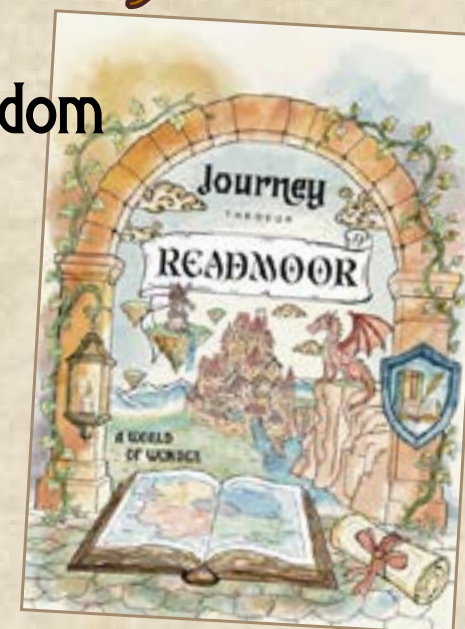
fulcolibrary.org/obor



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To celebrate **Library Card Sign-Up Month**, the Fulton County Library System has been transformed into a fantastical land—**The Kingdom of READMOOR!** Stop by a library to pick up a World of Wonder map, then complete a set of quests and win prizes!



6 Celebrating Native American History

November is Native American Heritage Month! Here are some suggested reads that offer an opportunity to explore and celebrate rich and diverse voices through literature.

7 Meet an Original Freedom Rider!

Joan Browning, one of the original Freedom Riders who demonstrated for the Civil Rights Movement, shares her story at the Milton Library.

14 Celebrating Our Volunteers!

In October, we pay tribute to our invaluable volunteers during National Friends of Libraries Week!

15 Finding a Path Forward

Our libraries have been expanding our reach and going beyond the books to offer services to our communities.

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It has been quite a year here at FulcoLibrary! As we enter our last few months of 2026, what a perfect opportunity to share all the wonderful things happening at the library.

Our **Summer Reading Program** has come to a close, and 2026 was one for the record books! Library patrons, like you, really took this year's theme, **Unearth a Story**, to heart, reading over 150,000 books in just two months! Over 18,000 youth participants read nearly 145,000 books, and 4,000 adult participants logged nearly 10,000 books. Thank you to the library patrons and library staff who made this summer so successful. Thank you to the thousands of readers for taking the time to log your reading efforts using Beanstack and for visiting us for one of the hundreds of programs and events held throughout summer. I could not be prouder or more excited to see your love of reading continue to grow. Let's keep that momentum going!

It's almost time for Fall at the Library, and we have quite a lineup of activities and programs kicking off in September. As we wrap up our **Year of the Book** events, you can expect more exciting opportunities to engage with your local library both in person, out in the community, and online!

Kicking off August 24, the Fulton County Library System will transform into the fantasy **Kingdom of Readmoor**. Stop by your favorite library to pick up the special edition World of Wonder map and join the quest. This year's **Library Card Signup Month** theme will also be enhanced by the American Library Association's Honorary Chair, **Laufey**—the acclaimed singer, songwriter, musician, and passionate book lover. Learn more about special edition Laufey library cards and the many designs available throughout the Kingdom of Readmoor, through September 30th.

Back for the fifth year is the annual **One Book, One Read** program, featuring this year's community read title, **The Last One at the Wedding** by **Jason Rekulak**. This year's program will culminate in a special author talk with Mr. Rekulak at the Central Library on September 19th, from 11 am – 2 pm, moderated by WSB-TV anchor, **Karyn Greer**. Space is limited. Registration is now open at fulcolibrary.org/OBOR. I hope you'll come out and join me for what is sure to be an exciting conversation.

This Fall, the Auburn Avenue Research Library will host their 3rd Annual **Collecting, Researching and Writing: The Black Diaspora Conference**. The conference seeks to unite experts, enthusiast scholars, archivists, and community leaders to celebrate, document, and advance the rich tapestry of the Black experience. The conference takes place November 6 & 7 at the Auburn Avenue Research Library. Register at fulcolibrary.org/aarl.

There is so much in store for Fulton County residents at the library this Fall; you won't want to miss all the exciting opportunities to learn more, read more, and GROW!

WHAT I'M READING:



THE PLOT and THE SEQUEL
Jean Hanff Korelitz



THE LAST ONE AT THE WEDDING
Jason Rekulak

NEW READS

HITTING SHELVES THIS FALL!



TAIPEI STORY
R. F. Kuang

Lily Chen is off to spend the summer in Taipei at an intensive language program, hoping to connect with the culture she inherited but never fully understood. She feels adrift, a foreigner in a country she thought would feel like home.



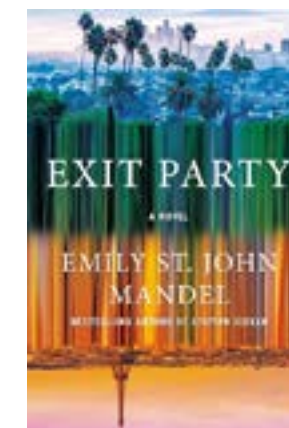
CARLA BAKES
Carla Hall

Acclaimed chef, TV host, *Top Chef* fan-favorite, guest judge on multiple baking competitions, and author of multiple cookbooks, Carla Hall returns to her first culinary love story—baking—with over 80 sweet and savory recipes.



MAZYWOOD
Tananarive Due

When Johnny—a filmmaker and grandson of the famous Black actress Mazelle Washington—brings his family to Mazywood, he expects a quiet retreat. Instead, he uncovers a legacy of rage, secrets, and terror that has haunted his family for generations.



EXIT PARTY
Emily St. John Mandel

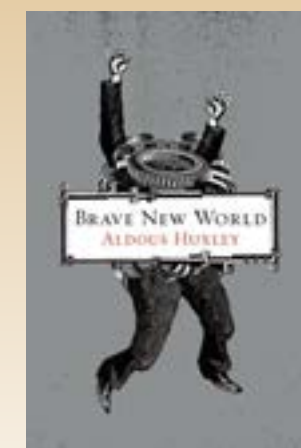
The award-winning, bestselling author of *Station Eleven* and *Sea of Tranquility* returns with a breathtaking novel of doubles, shadow worlds, and fractured timelines as a man suddenly disappears from a glittering Los Angeles party.

CHALLENGED BOOKS

Celebrate Banned Books Month! Discover stories that have challenged ideas, sparked conversations, and defended the freedom to read. Explore banned and challenged books and celebrate the power of diverse voices.



FUN HOUSE
Allison Bechdel



BRAVE NEW WORLD
Aldous Huxley



THE BLUEST EYE
Toni Morrison

NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



HERE COME THE AUNTIES!

Cynthia Leitich Smith

Joyful and warmhearted, this delightful book honors the blessings of every auntie in a child's life.



WISDOM CORNER

David Heska Wanbli Weiden

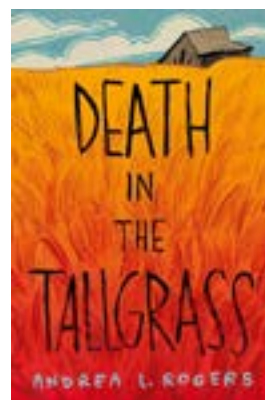
A tour de force of crime fiction, *Wisdom Corner* is an expansive look at Native American life in a shifting world.



OUR KNIVES WILL SAVE US

Nephi Craig

Indigenous chef Nephi Craig demonstrates the power of food to heal intergenerational wounds.



DEATH IN THE TALL GRASS

Andrea L. Rogers

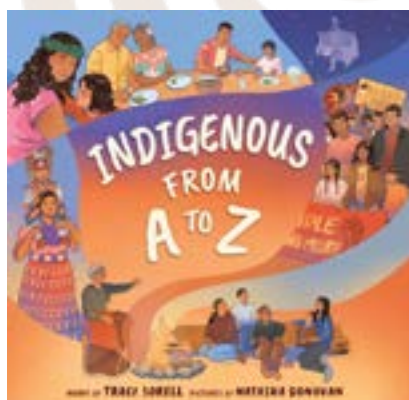
Like *Holes* for a new generation, this murder mystery interweaves Cherokee history and culture.



CLOUD RUNNER

Joy Harjo

Three-term U.S. Poet Laureate returns with a moving collection about grief, loss, and how art can transform suffering.



INDIGENOUS FROM A TO Z

Traci Sorell

A stunning alphabetical introduction to the rich history of Native peoples across the USA that speaks to both the vast diversity among Native Nations and the many connections they share.

EVENT

PERFORMANCE

SANDY SPRINGS LIBRARY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

2:00 PM



The Metrolanta Native American Organization will be presenting an all-ages program to celebrate Native American Heritage Month. The event will begin with a presentation about Native American culture, followed by a craft for kids and a dance performance at the end.

AMERICA
250



MILTON LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
6:00 PM

MEET

JOAN BROWNING

ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FREEDOM RIDERS

The Milton Library is proud to host Freedom Rider **JOAN BROWNING** as she shares the powerful story of the **Freedom Riders**, a diverse group of courageous individuals who risked their lives in 1961 by riding interstate buses through the American South to challenge segregation. Her presentation explores the history of the Freedom Riders, offering gripping accounts of six pivotal months that helped transform America's conscience and advance the Civil Rights Movement.

MORE EVENTS FOR ADULTS

MENOPAUSE SUPPORT

NORTHEAST / SPRUILL OAKS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

4:30 PM

Share experiences, learn from others in this welcoming and supportive group for women navigating perimenopause and menopause.

LEARN JAPANESE

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

6:00 PM

Have you ever wanted to learn the Japanese language or brush up on your skills and knowledge? You are in for a treat with Mr. Ram as your instructor.

MAHJONG CLUB

ADAMS PARK LIBRARY

MONDAYS

5:45-7:45 PM

Mahjong newcomers and aficionados are welcome to join us each week to learn and play both American and Hong Kong versions!

DISCOVER KANOPY

CLEVELAND AVE LIBRARY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

3:30-5:00 PM

Learn all about using Kanopy, the online database that you have free access to with your library card! Access movies and documentaries from award-winning filmmakers.

DAY OF THE DEAD

MECHANICSVILLE LIBRARY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

2:00-4:00 PM

Learn more about the Mexican and Latin American traditions of Santa Muerte and the Day of the Dead from scholar of religion Brian Carwana.

A RECIPE IS A STORY

METROPOLITAN LIBRARY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

2:00-4:00 PM

We're celebrating Community Table Week and stories that bring us home at Metropolitan. As a pre-Thanksgiving feast, we're inviting you to share a recipe and the family story behind it.



WELCOME TO READMOOR!

To celebrate **Library Card Sign-Up Month**, the Fulton County Library System has been transformed into a fantastical land—**The Kingdom of READMOOR!** Readmoor is divided into regions: Skyhaven, Evergrove, Lapis Cove, Sunspire, and Capital City. Each branch is its own realm with its own special name, and each will be decorated to reflect its theme.

Stop by a library to pick up a World of Wonder Map, then visit other locations to complete a set of quests and win prizes, including our selection of six limited-edition library cards designed by Laufey!

JOIN THE QUEST!

Apply for your library card online! Then visit a branch to pick up your Quest Map!



THE REALMS OF READMOOR:

Capital City

Central - Lexarion

AARL - The Realm of Ancestral Echoes

Skyhaven

Buckhead - The Aurarium
Dogwood - Sol Academy
East Roswell - Skyvale Kingdom
Milton - Skymeadow's Rest
Northside - Woodland Friends
Northwest - Perrywinkle Peaks
Roswell - Area 115
Sandy Springs - Blackstar
Washington Park - Moonveil

Lapis Cove

Alpharetta - Aesopica
East Atlanta - The Lost City of East Atlanta
Kirkwood - Blueprint & Bone
MLK - King's Land
Northeast - Hexapeake Bay
Ocee - Oceana
Peachtree - Peachy Hallows
Ponce de Leon - Eternal Springs

❖ EXPLORE LIBRARY REALMS

❖ COMPLETE LIBRARY QUESTS

❖ COLLECT STICKERS FROM STAFF

❖ UNLOCK REWARDS



LAUFEBY LIBRARY CARD!

This year, Icelandic-Chinese composer, singer and multi-instrumentalist **Laufey** will serve as honorary chair of Library Card Sign-up Month! We have partnered with the Laufey Book Club to offer a set of SIX limited-edition Laufey-themed library cards—including one *mystery design*.

Follow the clues on the map to discover the location of the six cards!



Sunspire

Adams Park - Orbs of J'angu
Adamsville - Starlit Stacks
Cascade - Dragonstone Kingdom
Fairburn - Dragon's Lair
Mechanicsville - Embercrest
Palmetto - Samburu
West End - Azarine
Wolf Creek - Creekstone

Evergrove

Cleveland Avenue - Clevelandia
College Park - Verde Mist Islands
East Point - Everbloom Haven
Hapeville - The Flight Path
Metropolitan - Petrichor
South Fulton - The Dennard
Deepwood
Southeast - Land of Joy

KIDS' QUESTS!

Check fulcolibrary.org/events for more!



LEARNING SPACES: AN EARLY LEARNING INITIATIVE

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 | 10 AM

Northwest Library

Learning Spaces provides a quality, formal preschool program for Pre-K students. Designed for ages 3-5.



TINKER TUESDAY

Tuesday, September 22, 2026 | 4 PM

Sandy Springs Library

A fun, hands-on program where kids can build, create, and explore using a variety of building toys! Ages 5-10.



UKULELE STORY JAM

Monday, October 5, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Northeast / Spruill Oaks Library

Join Miss Joy every Monday morning for a lively storytime filled with songs, stories, and movement! Ages 2-5 with adult caregiver.



CHILDREN'S ART CLASS WITH MS. LARA

Saturday, October 10, 2026 | 2:30 PM

Alpharetta Library

Get creative with Ms. Lara! Enjoy a hands-on workshop where we create bold, expressive works of art. Ages 5-12.



BOOK CLUB CIRCLE FOR AFTER-SCHOOL READERS

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | 3:30 PM

Adamsville-Collier Heights Library

After-school children can experience the excitement of engaging with other readers in their own monthly book club. Ages 8-12.



RISE & SHINE STORYTIME

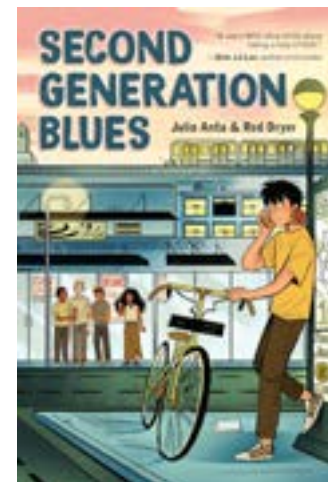
Wednesday, November 4, 2026 | 10:30 AM

East Atlanta Library

Join us on select Wednesday mornings for stories, songs, and activities! Recommended for ages Birth-5 with adult caregiver.

TEENTOBER OCTOBER 1 - 31

Teentober is a nationwide, month-long celebration hosted by libraries every October to celebrate teens, promote year-round teen services, and highlight how libraries help teens build skills and fuel their passions. The third week of October is Teen Read Week, an annual event encouraging teens to become regular readers and utilize their local library resources. Check out these events and books for teens!



SECOND GENERATION BLUES

Julio Anta & Red Dryer

A Cuban American teen struggles to choose between being the son his parents need him to be and living the life he wants.



FOREIGNERS

E. L. Shen

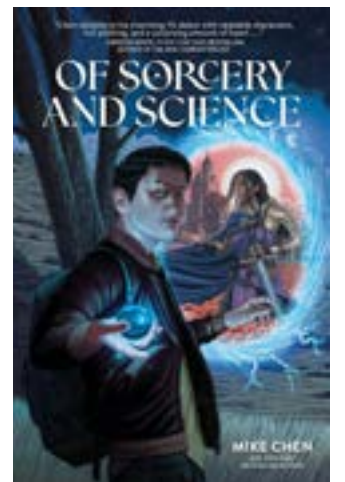
Foreigners follows an immigrant family across generations as they navigate love, belonging, and the great fictions we must weave to preserve a legacy.



THE HEALERS OF HARLEM

Nina Chhita

An amazing story of the pioneering work done by Black women at one American hospital that shaped medical care in America.



OF SORcery AND SCIENCE

Mike Chen

A teen is the Chosen One in a fantasy realm but finds himself a nobody back home until magic appears in the real world.

Thursday, October 29, 2026



TEEN CUISINE: GRAVEYARD DIRT CUPS

Roswell Library

Join us for a lesson in reading recipes and enjoy the chocolatey reward of your hard work. For teens 13- 17.

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

TOTE BAG DECORATING CLASS

Ponce de Leon Library

Celebrate Teentober by decorating a tote bag for all your library books! While supplies last. For teens 13- 17.



LEXARION

CENTRAL LIBRARY

LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP CELEBRATION!

Monday, September 21st | 4:00 PM

Enter the Realm of Lexarion, the grand headquarters of knowledge, magic, and scholarship! The Central Library Children's Department invites young explorers to receive their



official Library Card—or renew their existing one—and earn access to the wonders of the realm. Then, craft a personalized magical bookmark to take home and accompany you on every story-filled quest through the library's collection!



THE REALM OF ANCESTRAL ECHOES

AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH LIBRARY

Sept 17 | 6:30

BASKETBALL TRAFFICKING: STOLEN BLACK PANAMANIAN DREAMS

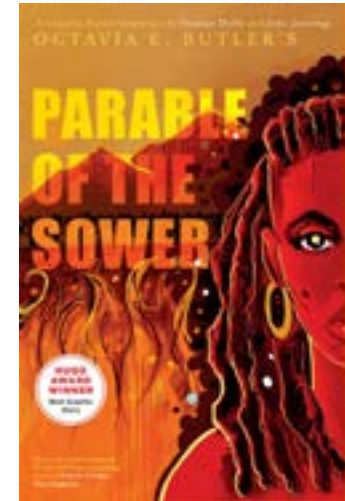
Dr. Javier Wallace and NBA All-Star, author, and philanthropist Joe Barry Carroll are pulling back the curtain on the global athletic industrial complex and the exploitation of young Black athletes.



Oct 19 | 6:30

THE AUBURN AVENUE LITERARY SOCIETY DISCUSSION: PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Join us for this novel of a young woman who survives the collapse of American society and founds a new philosophy centered on adaptability, hope, and humanity's future among the stars.



EXPLORE FOLD3

Wednesday, September 9th
2:00 PM

Explore the genealogy database in this unstructured class. Learn how to navigate and investigate Fold3 and conduct research on your family history.

HOMESCHOOL S.T.E.A.M. DAY
September 9th & October 14th
11:00 AM

Homeschooled children and teens are invited to learn and create technology-based projects through coding, A.I., and video with **We Create Tech**.

KITCHEN SEWING SERIES
Thursdays in October
2:00-5:00 PM

Learn how to make practical and fun sewing projects to add a personal, handmade touch to your home.

READ FEARLESSLY WEEK
Tue & Wed, October 6 & 7
10:30 AM

During this special storytime, we'll read two beloved books: *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak and *Red: A Crayon's Story* by Michael Hall.

FAFSA INFORMATION SESSION
Tuesday, September 8th
5:00 PM

The Georgia Student Finance Commission hosts a workshop for high school juniors and seniors about Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA).

VIDEO EDITING FOR BEGINNERS
October 8th & November 12th
4:00 PM

Gain or refresh your skills by learning how to use CapCut, a free video editing program.



This fall, the Auburn Avenue Research Library will host their 3rd Annual Collecting, Researching and Writing: The Black Diaspora Conference. The conference seeks to unite expert scholars, enthusiast scholars, archivists, and community leaders to celebrate, document, and advance the rich tapestry of the Black experience.

collecting researching writing

on The Black Diaspora

c o n f e r e n c e

2026

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 6 & 7

VOLUNTEER SERVICES



The Fulton County Library System Volunteer Department (L to R: Rishi Jailall, Timothy Watts, and Marcy Meyers) give thanks to Volunteers across the library system.

***Celebrate
National Friends
of Libraries Week
at your local
Fulton County
library!***

**You've
Got a
FRIEND
in Me!**

Since 2005, **National Friends of Libraries Week** has been celebrated as a way for local communities to show appreciation for existing Friends groups while also promoting the growth of these groups to help libraries thrive. This year marks the **21st annual National Friends of Libraries Week**, which will be celebrated during the week of October 18th through October 24th. This event was originally founded by the **American Library Association** and is held as an annual initiative that is promoted and supported by library patrons, local businesses, community-based organizations, and government agencies.

Friends of the Library groups are nonprofit organizations that operate separately from the **Fulton County Library System** and are made up of caring, involved people of all ages who share a strong support for the public library system and their local

community. Friends Groups enrich the library in many ways including helping with many important tasks and projects, helping to advocate for libraries to get the support they need to flourish, as well as sponsoring programs and cultural activities to increase community involvement with the library system.

Fulton County Library branches use this time each year to creatively promote their group in the community, raise awareness about their work, and to promote membership. National Friends of the Library Week offers a wonderful opportunity for the Fulton County Library System, our patrons, and all of the members of our library community to celebrate their local Friends of Libraries Group. This Fall, the Volunteer Services Program invites interested individuals to ask library staff about joining or starting their very own Friends Group in honor of National Friends of Libraries Week.

FINDING A PATH FORWARD

SOCIAL SERVICES



Members of the FulcoLibrary Social Services team greet the public at a recent outreach event.

Often, we may need someone to help us find our way forward. That may include assistance with locating employment, education, health care and so much more. Our libraries have been expanding our reach and going beyond the books to offer services to our diverse group of patrons. Through direct support engagement, patrons receive the assistance they need and leave feeling empowered and more resilient. Through community outreach, whether through health fairs, resource fairs, or back-to-school events, the library is able to remove barriers to accessing assistance and make services more accessible for those who may not seek it in traditional settings.

It takes a village to give every patron the opportunities they deserve to live a healthy and fulfilling life. If you ever feel stuck while trying to move forward and do not know where to start, think beyond the books and look toward your local Library Social Workers. We're here to help.

OUTREACH *OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY*

The library is on the move this Fall. Find the Bookmobile at community outreach stops and explore books and resources right in your neighborhood.

NORTH ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR
Saturday, September 19
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

This event brings together families, students and community organizations to promote wellness, provide valuable health resources and connect the community with essential services. Library Outreach services will be offering Library Card registration, resource flyers, promotional materials, and free books.

ORMEWOOD PARK MAKERS FESTIVAL
Saturday, October 10
11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

This is a neighborhood event with artist booths, live music, and workshops. It will showcase local makers, as well as provide an opportunity for community participation and learning.

BRAVES FOUNDATION COMMUNITY RESOURCE EVENT
Wednesday, November 4
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

The Braves Foundation will provide essential resources, including food and medical services. Library Outreach services will be there with the bookmobile providing Library Card registration, resource flyers, promotional materials, and free books.



FREE TUTORING. ANYTIME.

PAPER

Paper.co is an on-demand, free 24/7 tutoring service available to students at all levels. Expert tutors are always available to assist with anything from difficult math problems to providing valuable feedback on essays.

DIGITAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD!



MyHeritage



Start your genealogy research with **MyHeritage-Library Edition!** MyHeritage has thousands of records spanning five centuries including photos, censuses, marriage data, and more. Find your ancestral roots or learn more about your family's history with this database.



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