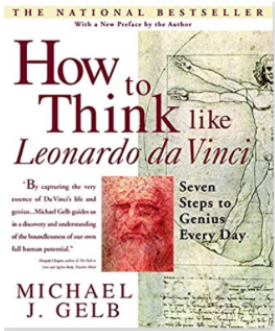


Inquiring Minds: Books I've recently read in the middle of the night

#62 Aug 2021 "Easy reading is damn hard writing." —[Nathaniel Hawthorne](#)

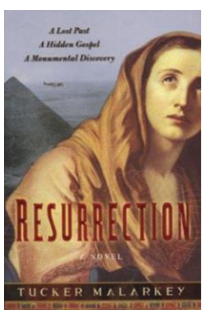
[more quotes on Reading](#)

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[HOW TO THINK LIKE LEONARDO DA VINCI](#) by [Michael J. Gelb](#) (1998)

Our friend Judy said she had me in mind when she came across this book in one of our neighborhood home library boxes. A wonderful insight into the talents and the man of Leonardo, this best selling book is based on the 7 Principles of helping one see and think like the world's most talented Renaissance Man: 1) be curious, 2) think independently, 3) refine one's senses, 4) embrace uncertainty, 5) think with the whole brain, 6) care for the mind and body, and 7) search for interconnectedness. The book has so much more, including exercises to develop these traits, and Gelb has given workshops to thousands worldwide. [Here's a 20 minute Youtube of Gelb himself talking about these principles here.](#) My most memorable quote of daVinci is: "the average [person] looks without seeing, listens without hearing, touches without feeling, eats without tasting, moves without physical awareness, inhales without awareness of odor of fragrance, and talks without thinking."

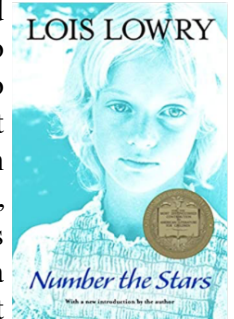


[RESURRECTION](#) (2006) by [Tucker Malarkey](#) is a historical novel recommended by a friend from high school because he thought I would be interested in the subject of finding the lost gospels which, according to the story line, would revolutionize the teachings of Christianity. "Don't let the author's last name fool you," Buz said,

"this is a well-written, exciting and informative book which explores another theory on the origins of Christianity." I reserved it from our local library, read it in ten days, and now Patricia is hooked on it.

[NUMBER THE STARS](#) (2011) is a [John Newbery Award](#) Winner for young adults, so I read it to preview for our granddaughter Lois since it deals with a

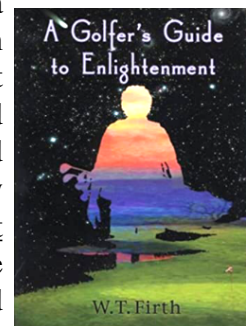
sensitive topic, and I checked with her mom if she could handle it. "In [Lois Lowry's](#) unforgettable John Newbery Award winning novel, a ten-year-old Danish girl's bravery is tested when her best friend is threatened by Nazis in 1943." I read it in two days in order to give it to Lois to take on the family trip to Cape Cod. She probably finished it on the plane flight. Not being a fan of large books, especially these days, I was thoroughly engrossed in this book which moved with the pace of a Dan Brown novel. Another excellent find in a local library book box.



[HOPE IN THE DARK: UNTOLD HISTORIES, WILD POSSIBILITIES](#) (2016), by [Rebecca Solnit](#), was called by *The Guardian* "One of the best books in the 21st century." I found it on [Maria Popova's](#) free but intense [brain pickings.org](#) in which she delves into all sorts of science, art, and human interest stories which made my brain throb. Back to the book by Rebecca Solnit, it features a history of very positive people in the midst of great adversity, such as Victor Frankl, Albert Camus, and others. I am looking forward to reading it when it arrives to our local library through the county-wide library reservation system.

[THE GOLFER'S GUIDE TO ENLIGHTENMENT](#) by

pro golf instructor W.T. Firth is a delightful compendium of Zen approaches to golf put in short poetic form. My Zen-like friend Mike gave it to me when he and Paul, Jim, and I played Blackberry Farm, a 9 hole golf course, without keeping score. It was a stress-free game of golf, going with flow and letting go of expectations. We enjoyed the whole experience—weather, friends, golf, and some good shots every once in a while. **-best, Joe**



MANY OF THE DVDS OF [THE GREAT COURSES](#) MAY BE RESERVED THROUGH YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY.