

*Join our community celebration of reading.  
Contribute a Love Letter to your favorite book.*

During the Literary Festival, the walls of the Firehouse will be covered with hundreds of Love Letters from the Newburyport community to their favorite books. Help make it a success by contributing your one of your own.

All you need is a favorite book, or character or author, and a piece of 8.5 x 11 paper (standard size copy paper). The book can be fiction, poetry, non-fiction, a graphic novel. It can be one you read last month, last year, or twenty years ago.

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*Here are a few of things to keep in mind:  
Hold the paper vertically.*

*Your letter should include the title of the book and the author.*

*In your letter, tell why you love the book. You can include a quote from the book, a description of a favorite scene, or a connection with an event in your life that made the book resonate.*

*Remember that your letter will be one of hundreds on the walls of the Firehouse. Try to make it interesting visually. You don't have to be an artist to do that. Use colored paper. Write the title large and put it at the bottom of the page or up the side. Think about the tone of the book and make it look like the book feels- dark for a dark book, bright colors and shapes for a cheerful, humorous book, soft pastels for a quiet book. You can decorate the edges with borders, use rubber stamps, photocopies, stencils, cut or torn paper, photographs. Your writing can be done on a computer or by hand. Lines don't have to be straight. Letters can be different sizes. Let go and express yourself. And most of all, have fun.*

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Letters must be delivered to the Newburyport Public Library Front Desk (there's a box) or mailed unfolded to Love Letters/Newburyport Literary Festival/Box 268/Newburyport, MA 01950 by April 7.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 9-12 AM**

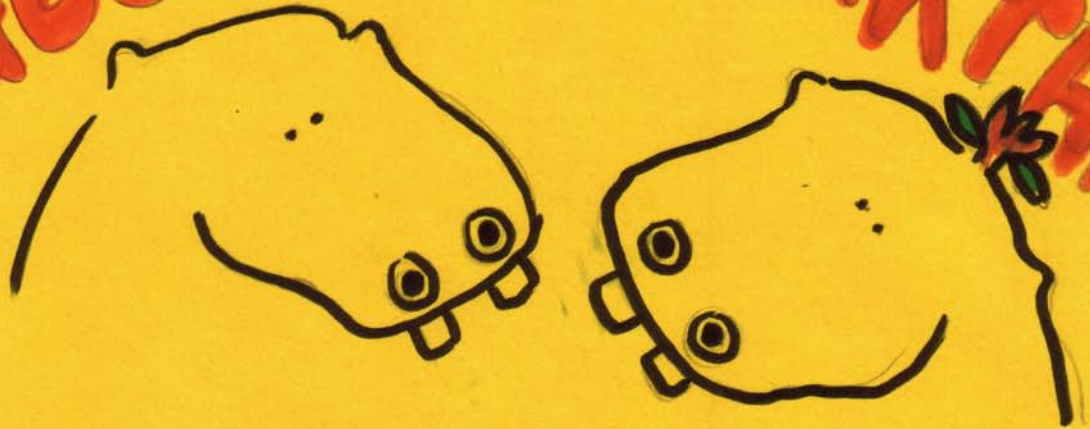
**LOVE LETTER WORKSHOP**

in the Program Room of the Newburyport Public Library

Join us for a creative session making Love Letters. We'll supply the paper and have markers, rubber stamps, stencils, cut paper for collage, etc. Feel free to bring your own materials as well.

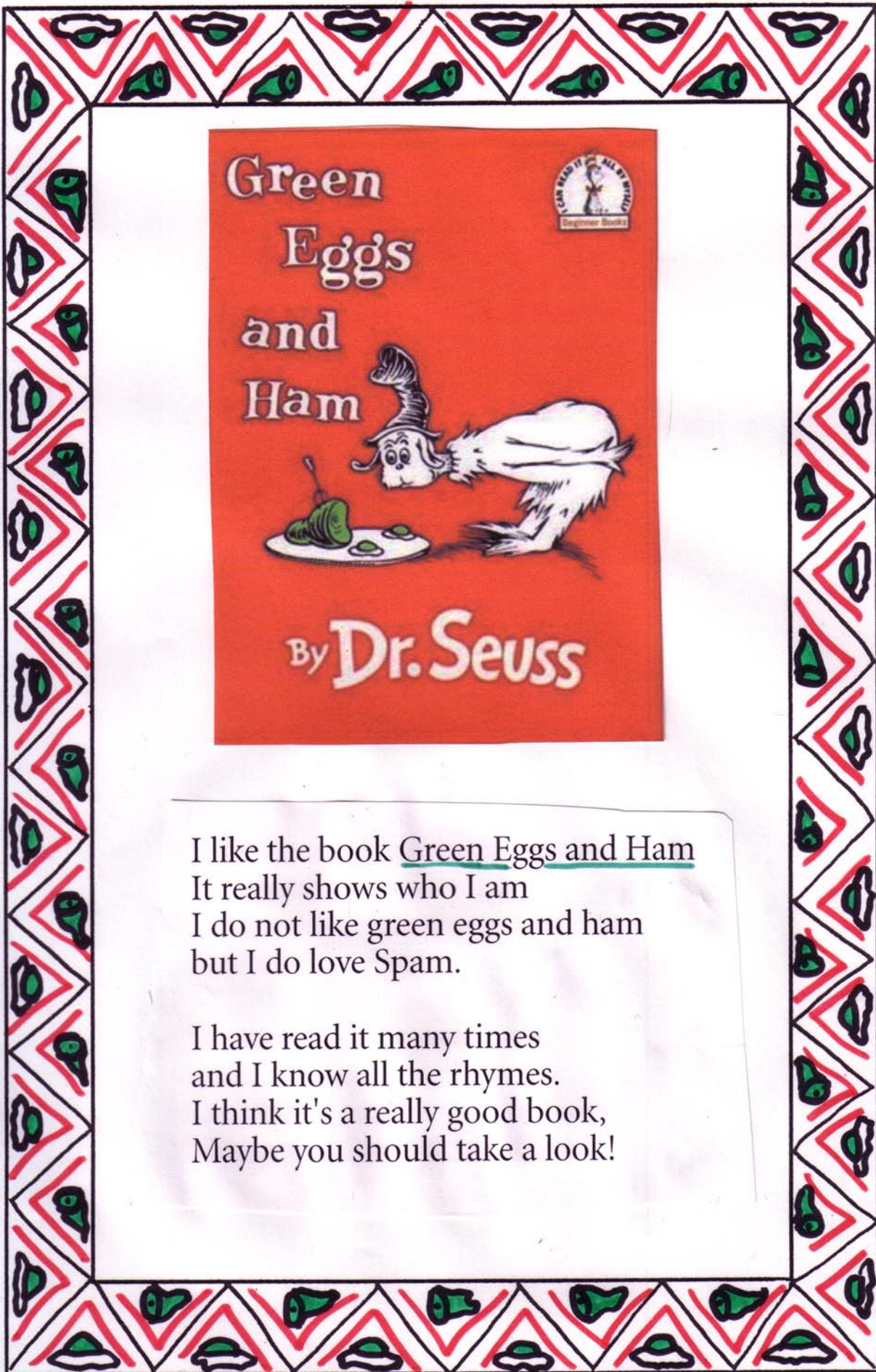
Dear

GEORGE AND MARTHA



You are my favorite  
characters in my favorite books.  
I like you because you are so  
funny and because you are such  
good friends.

Susan



Green  
Eggs  
and  
Ham



By Dr. Seuss

I like the book Green Eggs and Ham  
It really shows who I am  
I do not like green eggs and ham  
but I do love Spam.

I have read it many times  
and I know all the rhymes.  
I think it's a really good book,  
Maybe you should take a look!

Dear  
**THE LION**

You were such  
a wonderful book  
to read. I always  
think of you when

**THE**

**WITCH**

**& THE**

for the world to  
become magical

**WARDROBE**

I am  
walking in  
a snowy woods  
I am waiting

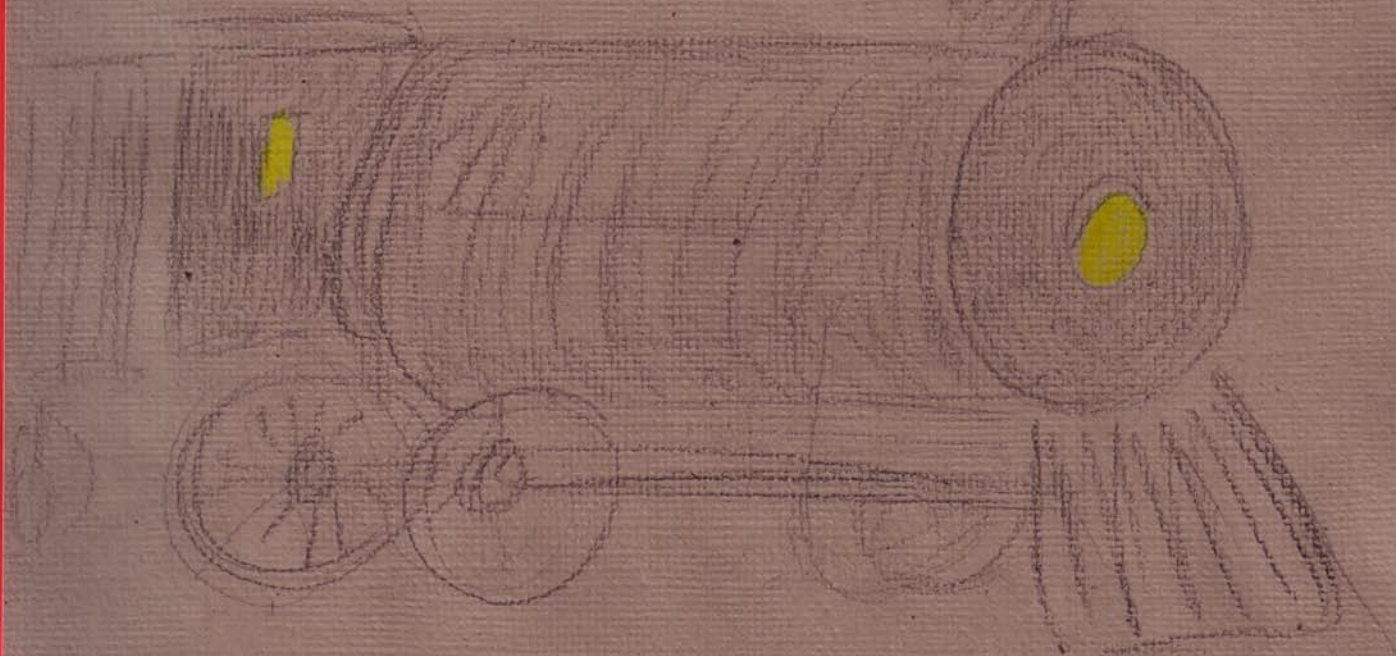
Dear

# THE POLAR EXPRESS

Chris Van Allsburg

"the bell still rings for me  
as it does for all who  
truly believe."

We read you every  
Christmas. I love looking  
at the pictures as much  
as I do reading the  
book.





Dear  
**MOBY  
DICK**

When I was assigned to read you in high school, I didn't. I read Cliff Notes instead. When I read you again in college and then later, I fell in love. With whaling. I was ready to go and find a whale boat to work on. The chapters between the story about whaling that I hated so much in high school made that world come alive.

Thank you

Susan

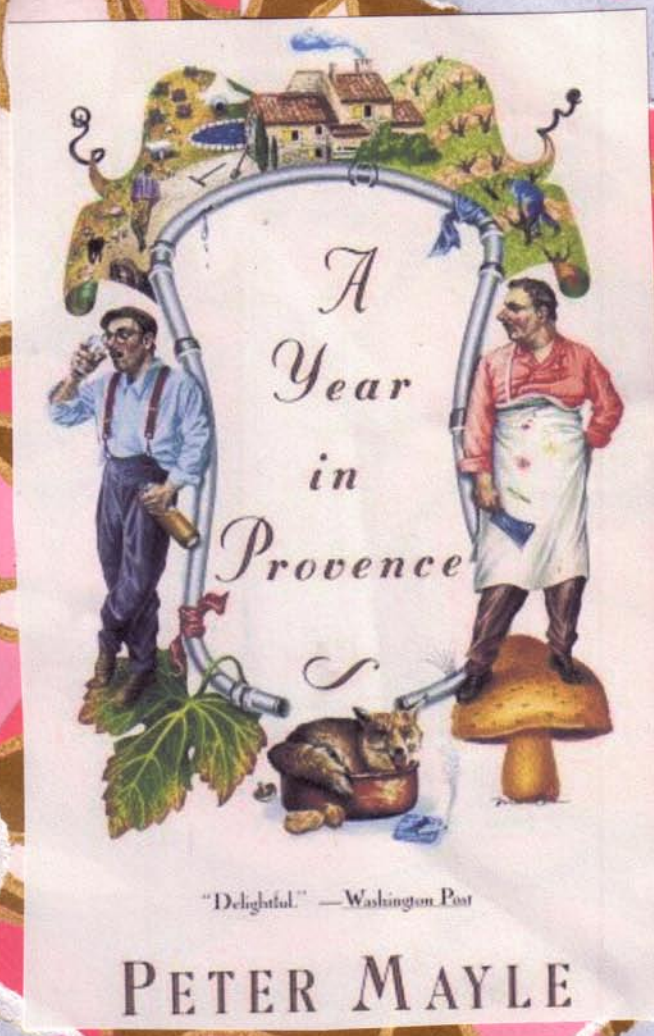
CHINUA

ACHEBE

THINGS  
FALL APART

Things  
Fall Apart  
written by  
Chinua Achebe  
is a powerful story  
that takes place in  
Nigeria and tells  
about tribal life and  
at the end of the book  
the effect of colonialism.

They can now close my eyes and  
we can relax and live comfortably  
friends. It made me also to come  
the world where life moves slowly  
A Year in Provence. Star  
Book. You made me to  
wages of Provence and  
tap our life to  
out of there is time for  
me to  
the sweet of Provence  
the wonderful even  
to bring delights and  
the delights of nature and  
love with Provence.  
I have never  
the more and  
the more into the  
the more into the  
the more into the  
the more into the



# M Y S T I C R I V E R

Dear Mystic River:

When they were children, Sean Devine, Jimmy Marcus, and Dave Boyle were friends. But then a strange car pulled tip to their street. One boy got into the car, two did not, and something terrible happened — something that ended their friendship and changed all three boys forever.

Twenty-five years later, Sean Devine is a homicide detective. Jimmy Marcus is an ex-con who owns a corner store. And Dave Boyle is trying to hold his marriage together and keep his demons at bay — demons that urge him to do terrible things.

When Jimmy Marcuss daughter is found murdered, Sean Devine is assigned to the case. His personal life unraveling, he must go back into a world he thought hed left behind to confront not only the violence, of the present but the nightmares of his past. His investigation brings him into conflict with Jimmy Marcus, who finds that his old criminal impulses tempt him to solve the crime with brutal justice. And then there is Dave Boyle, who came home the night Jimmys daughter died covered with someone elses blood.

While Sean Devine attempts to use the law to return peace and order to the neighborhood, Jimmy Marcus finds his need for vengeance pushing him ever closer to a moral abyss from which lie wont be able to return, and Daves wife, Celeste, sleeps at night with a man she fears may very well be a monster. a monster who fathered her child and hides his true nature from everyone, possibly even himself.

A tense and unnerving psychological thriller, Mystic River is also an epic novel of love and loyalty, faith and family, in which people irrevocably marked by the past find themselves on a collision course with the darkest truths of their own hidden selves.

from [DennisLehane.com](http://DennisLehane.com)

## Dennis Lehane