

Vreeland, Susan
Girl in Hyacinth Blue (1999)

When a college professor invites a colleague to view a painting he has kept hidden for years, the questions begin piling up. Is it a Vermeer? Why has it been kept hidden? And what actually is the painting's astonishing history?

Winman, Sarah
Still Life (2021)

An exploration of friends who, once joined by lost art and the beauty of Florence, find themselves drawn back and back as they discover their actual selves and uncover what is truly meaningful to them.

REAL ART, REAL CRIMES

Amore, Anthony
The Woman Who Stole Vermeer (2020)

The astonishing true story of Ruth Dugdale, Ox-bridge PhD, former heiress, and incomparable art thief. Told with inimitable style by Amore, Chief Investigator for the Isabella Stewart Gardner, tasked with recovering the paintings stolen in the largest art heist in history!

(Also check out his *Stealing Rembrandts*)

Boser, Ulrich
The Gardner Heist: The True Story of the World's Largest Unsolved Art Theft (2009)

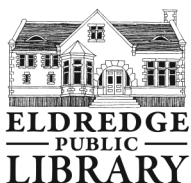
An exploration of one of the most audacious art thefts in history, this novel explores the theft of almost half a billion dollars worth of art. This true story looks at the theft from every conceivable angle.

Dykstra, Natalie
Chasing Beauty (Coming in 2024)

The story behind the woman who changed how we think about art in America, this intimate look at Isabella Stewart Gardner is a glimpse into what the elite world expected of women and what happened when one woman defied those expectations.

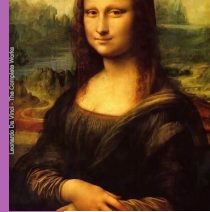
Finkel, Michael
The Art Thief: a true story of love, crime, and dangerous obsession (2023)

All about a thief who stole for the love of art, this book examines the history and motivations of Stéphane Breitwieser, who committed over 200 successful art robberies in only eight years!



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ART AND ART CRIME

Paintings, statues, and other works of art are wondrous and mysterious. Therefore, they are also frequently coveted. These books bring that world of beauty and intrigue vividly to life.

All the items mentioned on this list are available through the CLAMS system. **Items in bold are owned by the Eldredge Public Library.**

Archer, Jeffery
False Impression (2005)

What do a rich old lady, a Van Gogh painting, and 9/11 have in common? That's what the FBI and Interpol are trying to find out. It will take all the wits and secrecy of Ann Petrescu, presumed missing since 9/11, to find the solution to this puzzle!

Barr, Lisa
Woman on Fire (2022)

When a wealthy designer tasks a famed investigative journalist to find a painting that was stolen by the Nazis over 75 years ago, he in turn tasks his up-and-coming assistant, Jules, with the case. But the chase is on as a cunning European curator has reasons of her own for tracking down the painting

Brown, Dan
The Da Vinci Code (2003)

In this now-famous blockbuster, Brown combines art history with conspiracy theory. The gruesome murder of the curator of the Louvre triggers an investigation that will uncover a dizzying array of symbols and clues and a secret that people will kill to keep buried.

Charney, Noah
The Art Thief: A Novel (2007)

A triple theft leads to a triple investigation. From Rome to Paris to London, this story includes something for lovers of art history, travel, and mystery alike. And while the puzzles deepen, so too does the reader's understanding of art!

Chevalier, Tracy
Girl with a pearl earring (2000)

Told from the perspective of one of Vermeer's servants, this novel explores the painter's mysterious life. As the protagonist becomes closer and closer to Vermeer, she moves from assistant to model to so very much more.

Updated 2024

Gunning, Sally Cabot***Painting the Light: A Novel (2021)***

Local author Sally Gunning tells the story of Ida Pease, former artist, now consigned to a farm on Vineyard Haven. When tragedy strikes, Ida must explore the remains of her husband's life and discover what is truth and what fiction.

James, Tania***Loot (2023)***

It is 18th century India and the enormous mechanical tiger of Tipu Sultan has been stolen by the British. Now Abbas, the gifted young woodworker who helped build the automaton, must travel all the way to England to track it down and redeem himself.

Li, Grace D.***Portrait of a Thief (2022)***

On the surface, Will Chen looks like a model Harvard senior. But when a mysterious benefactor asks him to be part of a team hired to steal five priceless pieces of Chinese art and return them to China, he must succeed or risk another loss to the colonizers.

Morelli, Laura***The Last Masterpiece (2023)***

A story of two women connected by Nazi-stolen artwork, the Uffizi Gallery, and Hitler's horrible plan to destroy priceless works of art. All is deception and excitement until the very last moments of this book!

Morton, Carson***Stealing Mona Lisa: A Mystery (2011)***

Ocean's 11 meets *Moulin Rouge* in this exciting heist adventure set in 1911 Paris. Based on the actual theft of the *Mona Lisa*, this story features an eclectic and exciting ensemble of characters and mystery from start to finish.

Moyes, Jojo***The Girl You Left Behind (2013)***

A dangerous obsession and a painting with a troubled history connect two women a century apart. Sophie's portrait, painted by her husband before he leaves for World War I, causes her heartbreak as surely as it does to Liv when she receives it as a wedding gift almost one hundred years later.

Nesbø, Jo***Headhunters (2011)***

A priceless Ruben's painting, missing since the end of World War II, may end up solving all of Roger Brown's financial woes. The only problem is that he's going to need to steal it from a client.

Parker, Robert B.***Painted Ladies (2010)***

When Spenser fails to protect both his client and his client's painting, he decides to dig even deeper into the case. Unfortunately, his suspect may ensure that this is the last case Spenser will ever investigate!

Rankin, Ian***Doors Open (2008)***

When Mike Mackenzie finds himself with a bit too much free time, he decides to work with two artistic friends to rob the Scottish National Gallery, all while making it look like no crime has been committed.

Rothschild, Hannah***The Improbability of Love (2015)***

While the painting that Annie picked up seems like a great gift for a subpar boyfriend, it is in truth a lost masterpiece. But there are those willing to kill to keep the painting's secrets from coming to light.

Santloafer, Jonathan***The Last Mona Lisa (2021)***

The theft of the *Mona Lisa* continues to fascinate us 100 years later. It certainly fascinates Professor Luke Perrone, descendant of the man who originally stole the famed painting. As he attempts to uncover the truth of the theft, he finds himself in a world of danger and lies that he can scarcely believe.

Shapiro, B.A.***The Art Forger (2012)***

Claire Roth has made a deal with the devil. A struggling young artist, she agrees to forge one of the paintings famously stolen from the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum in exchange for a prestigious one woman show. But what else does her own personal devil want in return and what will it cost her?

Silva, Daniel***Portrait of an Unknown Woman (2022)***

Though Gabriel Allon is happily enjoying his retirement, a London art dealer is able to lure him into another investigation. This time, he is tracking down a stolen painting and, in order to do so, he must pose as the greatest art forger in history.

Smith, Dominic***The Last Painting of Sarah De Vos (2016)***

Lies come home to roost in this novel about a 17th century painting and its 20th century inheritor. Full of excitement and intrigue, this novel reminds us that how we can never totally be free of our choices.

Tartt, Donna***The Goldfinch (2013)***

Theo's grief has only been assuaged by his mother's favorite painting of a small goldfinch. But as he grows and weaves his way between the worlds of the wealthy and the artistic, he finds himself drawn into a criminal underworld that will change him forever.