ONECITY ONEBOOK

San Francisco Reads · Fall 2013

sfpl.org/onecityonebook

"I'd recommend LITTLE BROTHER over pretty much any book I've read this year."
NEIL GAIMAN, author of SANDMAN and AMERICAN GODS

LITTLE BROTHER

ONECITY ONEBOOK
San Francisco Reads

CORY DOCTOROW

"A rousing tale of techno-geek rebellion."
SCOTT WESTERFELD, author of UGLIES, PRETTIES, and SPECIALS
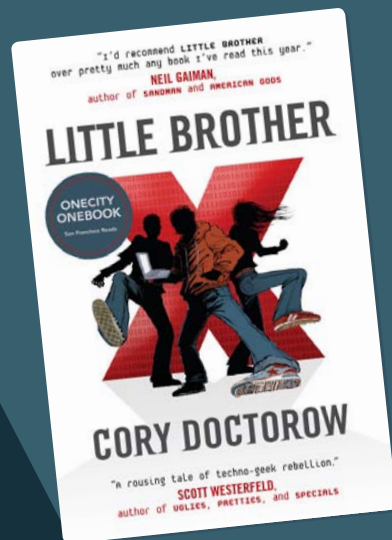
WELCOME

Dear Readers,

Imagine that a major terrorist attack strikes the Bay Area. A national security crackdown begins monitoring everyone's movement, from Muni rides to Internet downloads. Imagine the only hope is a Mission District high school hacker who fights back, using his technology skills to protect our democracy and our civil rights. This is the compelling and newsworthy story we bring to you in this year's One City One Book selection, *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow.

We are excited to be presenting a book that has such a timely connection to the news events of the day. It illustrates the importance of technology and open access in our city. We're looking forward to highlighting San Francisco Public Library's own digital strategies, while also enhancing the digital literacy of our patrons.

This book marks the first time we have selected a Young Adult novel, giving it built-in appeal for our teen audience while also being a compelling novel for adults. This book has been published in 17 languages in addition to English so we look forward to it being embraced by diverse readers throughout San Francisco. You can check it out free from any library and Mr. Doctorow has also made it available as a free digital download.

Enjoy the adventure,

City Librarian Luis Herrera

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Updated event info at **sfpl.org/onecityonebook** or (415) 557-4277

ABOUT THE BOOK

Marcus, a.k.a "w1n5t0n," is only seventeen years old, but he figures he already knows how the system works—and how to work the system. Smart, fast, and wise to the ways of the networked world, he has no trouble outwitting his high school's intrusive but clumsy surveillance systems.

But his whole world changes when he and his friends find themselves caught in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco. In the wrong place at the wrong time, Marcus and his crew are apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security and whisked away to a secret prison where they're mercilessly interrogated for days.

When the DHS finally releases them, Marcus discovers that his city has become a police state where every citizen is treated like a potential terrorist. He knows that no one will believe his story, which leaves him only one option: to take down the DHS himself.

Photo by Jonathan Worth

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Cory Doctorow (craphound.com) is a science fiction author, activist, journalist and blogger—the co-editor of Boing Boing (*boingboing. net*) and the author of young adult novels like *Homeland*, *Pirate Cinema* and *Little Brother* and novels for adults like *Rapture Of The Nerds* and *Makers*. He is the former European director of the Electronic Frontier Foundation and co-founded the UK Open Rights Group. Born in Toronto, Canada, he now lives in London.

Little Brother can be downloaded for FREE at **http://craphound.com/littlebrother/download/**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ROGUE AGENT! THE ONE CITY ONE BOOK 2013 SCAVENGER HUNT

A rogue government operative has a plan that will jeopardize the privacy of all citizens, and it's up to you and your team to help stop him/her before time runs out! Scour the Library and the streets of San Francisco to solve clues, crack codes, and help bring the perpetrator to justice in this information-based scavenger hunt based on Cory Doctorow's *Little Brother*.

Assemble a crack team of puzzle solvers, and bring your wits, a spirit of adventure, and your best walking shoes. The One City One Book Hunt is FREE, but you must register your team online before Friday, September 13 in order to play. Find more information and register your team here. *sfpl.org/scavenger*

Saturday, Sept. 14

✖ The hunt takes place in the San Francisco Public Library, the area surrounding City Hall/UN Plaza, and parts of The Mission District. Players may use any form of transportation, but we suggest BART or Muni.

✖ Each team should have at least one internet enabled device equipped with a QR Code scanning app.

✖ Hunt check-in begins at 1 p.m. on the library steps on Larkin Street, near the corner of Grove. The hunt will start at 2 p.m., and end in the Mission at 5:30 p.m.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, Sept. 7, 4 p.m.
Discussion for Teens!
Ortega Branch
3223 Ortega St., (415) 355-5700

Sunday, Sept. 22, 6 p.m.
Facilitated discussion
in partnership with Borderlands
Books: Fantasy, Science Fiction
& Horror Bookstore
Borderlands Café
870 Valencia St., (415) 824-8203

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 6:30 p.m.
Mission Bay Branch
960 Fourth St., (415) 355-2838

Saturday, Oct. 5, 3 p.m.
Noe Valley Branch
451 Jersey St., (415) 355-5707

Tuesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.
Sunset Branch
1305 18th Ave., (415) 355-2808

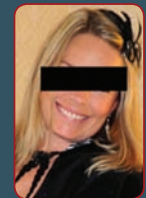# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

AUTHOR EVENT

Cory Doctorow
in conversation with Nico Sell
Wednesday, Oct. 2, 6 p.m.
Main Library, Koret Auditorium
100 Larkin St. (415) 557-4277

Cory Doctorow, author of *Little Brother*, SF's One City One Book selection for 2013 will be joined in conversation by Nico Sell.

Nico Sell, a security expert and longtime organizer for Defcon, is the cofounder of Wickr, a free app that provides military-grade encryption of text, picture, audio and video messages and the best available privacy, anonymity and secure file shredding features.

Book sales and signing follow.

Photo by Jonathan Worth

LEARN IT

Could It Happen Here?
Little Brother in San Francisco
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6 p.m.
Koret Auditorium, Main Library
Cory Doctorow's *Little Brother* may already be five years old, but its "day after tomorrow" setting seems closer than ever to reality. From the Occupy protests to newly revealed government surveillance programs, the real-world San Francisco is starting to look more and more like Doctorow's version. But how close is it, really?

   In this panel, held during Banned Books Week, tech policy experts, computer programmers, and crypto activists, including staff from the Electronic Frontier Foundation, will discuss some of the key elements and technologies described in the novel.

Concepts in Crypto
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 6 p.m.
Western Addition Branch Library, 1550 Scott St., (415) 355-5727
Tuesday, Oct. 29, 6:30 p.m.
Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room, Main Library, 100 Larkin St., (415) 557-4277
Cryptography is not just an essential tool for communicating securely even when people are trying to listen in, but an important component of technological literacy. But it can also be intimidating and difficult to understand. In this workshop, Micah Lee and Parker Higgins from the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) give an introduction to some of the basic building blocks of encryption.

   Micah Lee is a staff technologist for EFF and the project maintainer of HTTPS Everywhere who has been writing a variety of code for over a decade. Parker Higgins is an activist at the EFF, specializing in issues at the intersection of freedom of speech and copyright, trademark, and patent law.

One City One Book and the Bookmobile at the Lit Crawl!
Saturday, Oct. 19

SFPL's Bookmobile will be parked along the Litquake Lit Crawl route (check the map). Check out books and DVDs and get a library card (wait, you don't have one yet!?). Drop by throughout the evening for *Little Brother* book giveaways, free swag and to snap a picture in the LB cover blow-up. #ocobsf13

Online Privacy Tools
Wednesday, Sept. 4, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Ingleside Branch, 1298 Ocean Ave., (415) 355-2898
Privacy is both an essential factor in computer security as well as an essential human and civil right. We will look at a handful of tools that may help us protect our online communications and decrease the amount of (meta-)data available to any three-letter-agency.

   Jan Schaumann is a Staff Security Engineer at Twitter and an adjunct professor of Computer Science at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Protecting Your Privacy Online
Monday, October 7, 7 – 8 p.m.
Sunset Branch, 1305 18th Ave., (415) 355-2808
Wednesday, October 30, 7 – 8 p.m.
Excelsior Branch, 4400 Mission St., (415) 355-2868
This hands-on session will teach how to protect your privacy on the Internet with tools including: encrypted Off-The-Record chat using Pidgin or Adium, and anonymous browsing using the Tor Browser Bundle. We will be installing and using software, so you will get the most out of it if you can bring a laptop.

   Jacob Hoffman-Andrews works on security issues as a programmer at Twitter.

Your Civil Liberties as a Digital Citizen
Thursday, Oct. 24 at 6:30 p.m.
Main Library, Koret Auditorium
An overview of what your rights are—and aren't!—in the digital world, along with online safety and privacy recommendations.

   As Senior Director of Trust and Safety at Twitter, Del Harvey works to define policy and to ensure user safety and security in the challenging realm of modern social media.

Little Brother can be downloaded for FREE at
http://craphound.com/littlebrother/download/
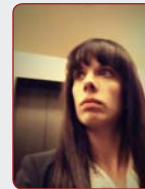
MAKE IT

Circuit Hacking Saturdays at SFPL!

Noisebridge, San Francisco's coolest hackerspace, comes to the library as part of San Francisco's citywide book club, One City One Book.

Mitch Altman will teach you all of the skills you need to solder stuff together in one session. Kits to make cool, practical, intriguing, hackable things that you can make and bring home will be available.

Limited to 20 people at each event, first-come, first-served. Doors open 10 minutes before start time. For teens and adults, ages 13 and older.

Saturday, Nov. 16, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Mission Bay Branch
960 Fourth St., (415) 355-2838

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2-5 p.m.
Bernal Heights Branch
500 Cortland Ave., (415) 355-2810

LEGO Robotics: Hack a Robot!

At this workshop teens and tweens will learn how to assemble a motorized LEGO robot and to program it to do various actions. Ages 11-19. Workshop space is extremely limited. To register for a spot in the workshop or to add your name to the waitlist, please contact Eric Hannan at *ehannan@sfpl.org* or (415) 557-4426.

Saturdays, Sept. 28 & Oct. 12, 2 – 5 p.m.
Main Fisher Children's Center
100 Larkin St. Second Floor, (415) 557-4277

LED Robot Plushie Workshop + *Little Brother* Book Discussion

Learn how to light-up your craft projects with Amelia Strader, of GoGo Craft. She will take you through the process of making and then adding LEDs to this adorable robot plushie. Materials included. While you craft, you can chat about *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow. For teens ages 13 – 19. Limited to 12 participants. Contact the branch to sign-up. Workshops run 2 hours.

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 3 p.m.
Excelsior Branch
4400 Mission St., (415) 355-2868

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2:30 p.m.
Chinatown Branch
1135 Powell St., (415) 355-2888

Friday, Oct. 11, 3:30 p.m.
Portola Branch
380 Bacon St., (415) 355-5660

Friday, Oct. 18, 3:30 p.m.
Potrero Branch
1616 20th St., (415) 355-2822

Saturday, Oct. 19, 2 p.m.
West Portal Branch
190 Lenox Way, (415) 355-2886

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 5 p.m.
Bayview Branch
5075 Third St., (415) 355-5757

Friday, Oct. 25, 3 p.m.
Glen Park Branch
2825 Diamond St., (415) 355-2858

Saturday, Oct. 26, 1 p.m.
Main Fisher Children's Center
100 Larkin St. , (415) 557-4277

Thursday, Nov. 7, 3:30 p.m.
Mission Branch
300 Bartlett St., (415) 355-2800

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WATCH IT

Large Screen Videos

Thursdays at Noon
Koret Auditorium, Main Library

October 3
Hackers (1995, 105 min., PG-13)

October 10
The Net (1995, 118 min., PG-13)

October 17
Sneakers (1992, 121 min., PG-13)

October 24
War Games (1983; 110 min., PG)

October 31
The Matrix (1999, 136 min., R)

Branch Film Programs

Monday, Sept. 9, 3 p.m.
Golden Gate Valley Branch;
War Games

Thursday, Sept. 12, 4 p.m.
Visitacion Valley Branch;
Source Code

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2:30 p.m.
Chinatown Branch; *Swordfish*

Monday, Sept. 23, 3 p.m.
Golden Gate Valley Branch;
Sneakers

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 6:30 p.m.
Bernal Branch; *Existenz*

Friday, Sept. 27, 3:30 p.m.
Portola Branch; *Sneakers*

Saturday, Sept. 28, 3 p.m.
Glen Park Branch, *Existenz*

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 6:30 p.m.
Anza Branch, *Source Code*

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m.
Western Addition Branch, *Matrix*

Saturday, Oct. 19, 2 p.m.
Ingleside Branch, *War Games*

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 5:30 p.m.
Mission Bay Branch, *Matrix*

Saturday, Oct. 26, 3 p.m.
Ortega Branch, *Hackers*

STORYCORPS @ YOUR LIBRARY

RECORD YOUR SAN FRANCISCO STORY

Take part in our annual One City One Book: San Francisco Reads celebration by recording your own truly San Francisco story. We are recording stories around the themes of the book and about growing up in San Francisco—tell us about your high school experience, your neighborhood and family, or social justice efforts you participated in, here in the Bay Area. We'd love to hear and collect them.

    Schedule an appointment to record your San Francisco story by calling (415) 557-4277 or email at *publicaffairs@sfpl.org*

    Interviews are collected as part of StoryCorps @ Your Library, a project of the American Library Association and StoryCorps. Funding for StoryCorps @ Your Library is provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

More information at *www.storycorps.org*. See more at: *sfpl.org/storycorps*

Times and Locations

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6-9 p.m.
Parkside Branch
1200 Taraval St. (415) 355-5770

Saturday, Sept. 21, 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 22, 1 – 5 pm.
Sunday, Oct. 6, 1 – 5 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Main Library, 1st Floor, Stong Room
100 Larkin St. (415) 557-4277

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 4 – 7 p.m.
Glen Park Branch
2825 Diamond St. (415) 355-2858

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2 – 5 p.m.
Ocean View Branch
345 Randolph St. (415) 355-5615

Saturday, Oct. 5, 2 – 5 p.m.
Golden Gate Valley Branch
1801 Green St. (415) 355-5666

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Bernal Heights Branch
500 Cortland Ave. (415) 355-2810

Saturday, Oct. 19, 2 – 5 p.m.
Anza Branch
550 37th Ave. (415) 355-5717

BAY AREA HACKER RESOURCES

Ace Monster Toys
✖ *http://acemonstertoys.org/*
This East Bay Hackerspace is dedicated to education, hacking and maker culture. A membership-based group that presents free, open-to-the-public classes and events. Non-members are welcome.

Counter Culture Labs
✖ *http://www.meetup.com/Counter-Culture-Labs/*
Help us build a community lab for the East Bay, focused on DIY biology and citizen science. A place to explore, learn, work on projects, tinker with biology and other sciences. Open to biotech professionals, scientists and citizen scientists.

Hack the Gallery
✖ *http://hackthegallery.net/*
This newborn Hackerspace located at North Berkeley's Open Fine Art Gallery promotes creative and collaborative community projects, free meetups and events. Help us make this a truely active community space for and by the community.

HackerDojo
✖ *http://www.hackerdojo.com/*
This community shares a common love of creating wonderful things and understanding how the world works. You don't need to be a programmer to use the space. It is a do-ocracy run by members, including several self organizing teams.

LOLspace (Oakland Makerspace)
✖ *http://oaklandmakerspace.wordpress.com/*
Founded and led by people of color—LOL! Liberating Ourselves Locally—is an Oakland Maker Space that works for a future where our community can be involved in all aspects of creating things that sustain us, such as food, clothing, energy, technology, shelter and art.

Mothership Hackermoms
✖ *http://mothership.hackermoms.org/*
This is the first-ever women's hackerspace. We offer onsite childcare. We were founded in April 2012 by and for creative mothers and our families. Our expanding community includes hacker moms, hacker dads, non-moms and kids.

Noisebridge
✖ *https://www.noisebridge.net/*
Located in San Francisco's Mission District, Noisebridge is a physical space open to all, providing infrastructure and collaboration opportunities for anyone interested in programming, hardware, crafts, science, food, robotics, art and technology.

Sudo Room
✖ *https://sudoroom.org/*
A creative open membership community in downtown Oakland, is non-hierarchical and collaborative. We are all types: tech developers, citizen scientists, activists, artists and more working towards positive social change.
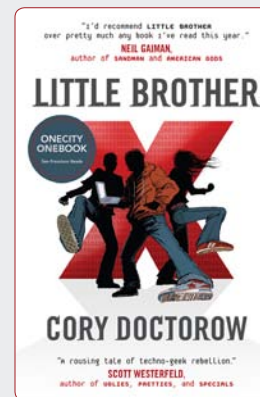
Little Brother can be downloaded for FREE at
http://craphound.com/littlebrother/download/

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does Marcus's comment that he's "one of the most surveyed people in the world" set the tone for the novel? Is the statement true? Compare the school Marcus describes in the opening chapters to your own in terms of surveillance, discipline, and student-administrator relationships.

2. In what year or decade do you think Little Brother takes place? Do you think the story could happen today? Why or why not?

3. Is Marcus a good kid or a bad kid? Can he be defined by either of those terms? How might Marcus describe his code of ethics regarding being "surveyed" and his right to circumvent the efforts of the surveyors? How might you define the "moral dilemma" of reprogramming RFIDs, as explained in the novel?

4. What is Harajuku Fun Madness? Why does Marcus trust HFM organizers, and follow their clues to real-world encounters with "enemy teams," while he is highly suspicious of government operatives attempting to similarly control him?

5. What does Marcus's refusal to give passwords to and answer questions from government interrogators reveal about his character? How are passwords a recurring motif in the novel?

6. How does the author use Marcus's mother and father to represent different points of view about government oversight of individuals? Which parent best represents your perspective?

7. List some of the technologies Marcus explains in the novel. How much of this information did you already know? How are the explanations in the novel similar to, or different from, your previous encounters with this information? Do you view the internet differently after learning this information

8. How does Marcus use the Xbox Universal and the XNet to undermine government surveillance? How does he use the internet to organize real-world protests? Is he surprised by the results of his actions? What are the most surprising similarities differences between an ARG crowd and a crowd in a real public space?

9. What is Bayesian probability and how does it relate to Marcus and Jolu's strategies for safely encrypting XNet communiqués? How does Pigspleen fit into this plan? Why does this company appeal to Marcus?

10. Describe Marcus's key system for creating an ever-enlarging circle of trusted community members. Is this is a good system? What are its flaws or risks?

MORE TO EXPLORE

The **Creative Commons license** for *Little Brother* allows you to remix it to make new and exciting stuff—videos, audios, new stories, anything else you can think of (games? toys?), and redistribute them on a noncommercial basis. Here are some examples:
http://craphound.com/littlebrother/category/remixes/

Instructables from m1k3y
Learn everything from how to blend in with crowds to how to encrypt your gmail email: *http://www.instructables.com/member/m1k3y*

The SFPL Government Information Center (5th floor) has prepared a pathfinder to the political issues and government agencies featured in the book, *Little Brother*. This guide includes relevant books from the library and websites to visit for more information. Find it at *sfpl.org/onecityonebook*

Little Brother on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/littlebrotherbook

BOOK CLUB IN A BOX

Book Club in a Box provides an all-in-one check-out for book clubs, with everything in one box that book clubs need for a great discussion. These are an excellent resource for your book group!

Ask about the Little Brother Book Club in a Box at the Main Library, First Floor Page Desk or request it online here: *sfpl.org/bookclubinabox*

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Modern Times Bookstore

Christopher's Books

BookShop West Portal

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