One of the things independent bookstores do best is to discover new authors, writers possessed of neither big names nor fans yet who deserve an audience. We're always on the lookout for such writers, and we're good at recognizing them when we see (or rather read) them. At The King's English and at other independent bookstores all over the country, we constantly pore over galleys (pre-release reader’s copies sent to us by publishers), reading 12 pages of this one, 50 of that, all of the next (if it’s the real thing) in hopes of finding a new voice, an original outlook, a style that staggers imagination.

This year independent booksellers banded together to form a committee to do together what we'd all been doing separately: find new voices. This 18-member committee was comprised of an owner or buyer from stores such as (among others) Politics and Prose in Washington D.C., Books and Books in Miami, Copperfields’ in California—and yours truly in SLC. Together, we read literally thousands of pages submitted to us by publishers, pre-release reader’s copies sent to us by publishers, reading 12 pages of this one, 50 of that, all of the next (if it’s the real thing) in hopes of finding a new voice, an original outlook, a style that staggers imagination.

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

As if our Birthday Week weren’t enough!

Ivan Doig
Thursday, September 19, 7 p.m.
SKYPE interview with Ivan Doig for his new novel, Sweet Thunder.

Brandon Sanderson
Wednesday, September 25, 7 p.m.
Brandon Sanderson will read from and sign his latest young adult fantasy novel, Steelheart. NOTE: This is a ticketed event; call the store for details.

Kate DiCamillo
Saturday, September 28, 3 p.m.
The one and only Kate DiCamillo joins us at the downtown library as part of the Utah Humanities Book Festival where we will feature her new book, Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures.

Maggie Stiefvater
Monday, September 30, 5 p.m.
The inimitable Maggie Stiefvater joins us to read from and sign her second book in the Raven Cycle, The Dream Thieves.

The Enchanter Heir
Tuesday, October 1, 7 p.m.
Young adult favorite Cinda Williams Chima will be with us for her new novel.

Death on the Greasy Grass
Saturday, October 5, 4 p.m.
Mystery writer Curt Wendleboe will be here signing the latest in his Manny Tanno series.

Tuesday, October 8
7 p.m.
Indies Debut Author Charlie Quinby will be here to read from and sign Monument Road, an amazing story of the power of love and community.

Friday, October 4
Early morning (time to be announced)
If you miss Daniel Lieberman the night before you can join him for a barefoot run beginning in front of the Natural History Museum. This event is free and open to the public.

6 p.m.
Indies Introduce winner, Peggy Eddleman will join us to sign Sky Jumpers.
Pickles
Wednesday, October 9, 7 p.m. Beloved cartoonist Brian Crane returns to Salt Lake to sign his latest Pickles collection.

Julie Berry
Saturday, October 12, 7 p.m. Young adult author Julie Berry returns to TKE with her new novel, All the Truth That's in Me.
PRE-ORDER NOW FOR A FIRST EDITION.

The Deepest Blue
Wednesday, October 16, 7 p.m. Local author Kim Williams-Justesen will read from and sign her new novel, a realistic story of a young teen who dares to take on the legal justice system when his estranged mother decides, for the first time, that she wants him to live with her.

Boleto
Friday, October 11, 7 p.m. Alyson Hagy will be on hand to read from and sign her novel, Boleto. If you missed her last year, here is your chance to catch up on this stunning novel of the American West.

Shannon Hale
Tuesday, October 15, 7 p.m. Shannon Hale debuts her new novel, Ever After High, the story of what happens when fairy tale characters don't want to follow their destinies!
This event is at the Provo Library, 550 North University Avenue.

Confessions of a Latter-day Virgin
Thursday, October 17, 7 p.m. Nicole Hardy comes to town to read from and sign her memoir.

Longbourn
Tuesday, October 22, 7 p.m. Jo Baker visits the bookstore to present her novel about the servants at the estate of the same name in Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice.

Friday, October 18
6 p.m. Dave Hall and Joel Long return to the 15th Street Gallery with poems and paintings as part of the monthly Gallery Stroll.
7 p.m. Origami Yoda master Tom Angleberger will visit us to fold paper and sign The Surprise Attack of Jabba the Puppett.

Motherlunge
Wednesday, October 23, 7 p.m. Kirstin Scott will be at City Arts at the downtown library to read from and sign her debut novel.

Anne Hillerman
Tuesday, October 29, 7 p.m. Yep, Tony’s daughter! will join us to read from and sign Spider Woman’s Daughter, a continuation of the Chee and Leaphorn partnership.

Celebrate
15th & 15th
Friday, September 20
Music on the patio at Caputo’s
15% off at TKE | Gallery Stroll
Three-course tasting menu for $29 at Fresco

Sign up for our free e-newsletter at www.kingsenglish.com
lurers, phoning and emailing back and forth as we culled from their midst exactly what we had been looking for—stunning new voices in fiction and non, in adult books and children’s. These were voices that made us literally shiver, whether with empathy, with fright, or in sheer delight at the language, voices that made us weep or laugh or do both simultaneously.

Here they are for your perusal and delight. We’re proud to tell you that a few of these authors are making their way to The King’s English to visit. Don’t miss any of these appearances: each will mark the start of a career that promises to be spectacular. And don’t miss reading any of these books. Every one of them is, in its own idiosyncratic way, spectacular. You’ll love all of them, I promise. I did. So did our booksellers at TKE. So did the buyers and owners from stores across the country who went to so much effort (and experienced such joy) discovering them.

**ADULT**

**August**

**The Gravity of Birds**, Tracy Guzman

Alice and Natalie Kessler, ages 11 and 14 respectively, meet an artist of 26, Thomas Bayber, who is as careless of others’ lives as he is careful of his own talent. What happens among the three of them reverberates on in the shadow of memory, half understood and never discussed or revisited. Until, many years later, Natalie, who has long lived with her younger sister in a small Tennessee town, dies, leaving Alice alone, her body riddled with arthritis, her memories hazy, her will focused almost entirely on fending off pain. It is at this point that Bayber, famous and reclusive, calls in two friends from the art world to find his unknown painting of the Kessler sisters. Suddenly, lives stagnant for years begin to quicken as memory takes on new reality. Not only is this extraordinary debut novel steeped in art, art history, and ornithology, it is also insightful in terms of such angst-fraught subjects as grief, chronic pain and the jealousy that is so often a part of sibling relationships. An intricate, interesting plot that owes something to mystery but moves outside the restrictions of the genre, fascinating and layered characters, gorgeous writing…what’s most remarkable about *The Gravity of Birds* is that it’s Tracy Guzman’s first novel. We hope that it will not be her last. – Betsy Burton, Simon & Schuster, $25

**The Residue Years**, Mitchell S. Jackson

One of the most unique books of the year, *The Residue Years* is an autobiographical novel about a struggling African American family trying to survive in ‘90s Portland at the height of its crack problem. The perspective switches between Champ, a young man trying to improve his family’s situation by selling the drug, and his mother, Grace, who is trying to stay clean and to bring her family back together. The meandering stream-of-consciousness style, which makes the raw scenes more overwhelming and the “safe” scenes more resonant, is reminiscent of Jack Kerouac. Prepare for a very powerful read. – Meagan Gonsalves, Bloomsbury USA, $26

**September**

**The President’s Hat**, Antoine Laurain

The President of France, after dining at a Parisian brasserie, inadvertently leaves behind his hat. Daniel Mercier, seated at the adjoining table, takes possession of the hat, and the next day at work finds himself unaccountably voluble, as if under a spell. The result of Mercier’s newfound eloquence is a swift promotion which he feels he owes entirely to the talismanic hat. Then, when he accidentally leaves said hat on a train, it falls into the hands of a blocked writer…to say more would be telling. Suffice it to say the hat changes more than one life as it passes from hand to hand (or perhaps head to head) in this charming French confection of a novel possessed of wit somewhere between that of Alan Bennett’s in *The Uncommon Reader* and Muriel Barbery’s in *Elegance of the Hedgehog*. Irresistibly witty and thoroughly entertaining, *The President’s Hat* is sure to please Francophiles or anyone else with sense of whimsey. – Betsy Burton, Gallic, $14.95

**Knocking on Heaven’s Door: the Path to a Better Way of Death**, Katy Butler

For writer Katy Butler, her father’s path from his first stroke to his ultimate death was a painful and protracted one—a six-year nightmare during which death was blocked at every turn while life became increasingly insupportable. A once vibrant man, he had been fitted with a pacemaker he didn’t need as a preventative pre-surgery measure; once in, that pacemaker could not be turned off despite a series of strokes and a long sure slide...
into dementia. Two things make this blistering book stand out: the first is a dead-honest personal story that doesn't attempt to hide the anger, denial, even cowardice of family members as they cope with the unimaginable—the fact of inevitable but unbearably protracted death. The other is the implacable insistence on life at any cost that drives the medical establishment into creating the WORST kind of death possible. As we see the price racked up by unnecessary medical procedures and drugs, the price paid by the family and the patient/victim of all this, the lesson is clear. There is a better way to die. But it's not likely to occur until doctors come to realize that fact. For those of us entering old age, it can't happen soon enough. – Betsy Burton, Simon & Schuster, $25

**The Faithful Scribe: A Story of Islam, Pakistan, Family, and War**, Shahan Mufti

Mufti, born in the U.S., grew up in Pakistan but was attending college in Vermont when 9/11 occurred. A young man with a foot in both cultures, he was drawn to journalism by his desire to understand what brought those cultures into conflict and by curiosity about his family's place in each. Pakistan is an intriguing country formed artificially, just as was Israel, and a place intended from the outset to be an Islamic Democracy. Recounting the way the Islamic legal system was integrated with religion but was then plucked away as Western influence grew, discovering at the same time his own family's connection to that system, are Mufti's twin foci as he takes us back through the lives of his parents and then his ancestors and at the same time his country's complicated history, its relationship to the Western world and the world at large. Mufti manages to let us see Pakistan from its own perspective and from ours—something of vital importance to all of us if we are to understand the world as it exists today. – Betsy Burton, Other Press, $26.95

**Burial Rites**, Hannah Kent

Accompanied by a man of God who is clearly out of his depth, a woman is taken by horseback across the bleak winter landscape to settle in with a family who wants no part of her. The landscape and people of Iceland, evoking not only a sense of time and place but also grim context, form stage, cast, and audience for the unspooling tale that has brought this mysterious woman to her present position: a prisoner awaiting almost certain execution for a crime she may or may not have committed. The truth, as it slowly emerges, seems inevitable since it grows so surely out of the characters. Hannah Kent has written a stunning novel, one which takes historical truth and, through the art of fiction, brings it to vivid life. The fact that it’s her first makes Burial Rites even more impressive. – Betsy Burton, Little, Brown and Company, $24

**October**

**Monument Road**, Charlie Quimby

No matter how hard you try to kill yourself, sometimes fate has other plans. Leonard Self has spent a lifetime working hard and barely getting by. He's not that different from most of the folks in Glade Park who farm, wed, have children and pray for rain under the red rock towers of the Colorado National Monument. Where he is different is in his quiet, content marriage to Inetta. Over a shared lifetime of hard work and intermittent happiness they have created a relationship that is seamless in its acceptance of what each day brings. So when Inetta dies of cancer and asks Leonard to spread her ashes off of Artist’s Point in the monument, he decides he might as well throw himself off too. Meanwhile in nearby Grand Junction, a cast of characters who owe something to Brady Udall and perhaps to John Irving as well are leading parallel lives that intersect and ultimately intertwine with Leonard’s as he drives on toward cliff’s edge. This is a novel that will stay with you for a long time—it’s the best book I’ve read in eons! – Anne Holman, Torrey House Press, $16.95

**The Rosie Project**, Graeme Simsion

Not many books can make me laugh out loud at four o’clock in the morning, but this one did. Meet Don, a distinguished geneticist who’s high on the Asperger’s continuum and who has decided it’s time he found a wife—using scientific methods, of course. Meet Rosie, a feminist, extroverted barmaid who’s searching for the identity of her biologic father. Meet Gene and Claudia, two psychologists attempting to co-exist peacefully in an open marriage. Told in the pitch-perfect voice of someone wired differently, who has coped with his differences through his intellect, compulsive interest in his career, and an even more compulsively scheduled life, this is a love story that is also a tale of coming of age in middle age. It is crisply written; the characters are complex and fully conceived, the dialogue is both clever and compelling, as is the plot. But most of all it is hilarious. Uproariously so. Save Graeme Simsion’s novel for the aftermath of some personal disaster when you’re sure nothing will ever make you laugh again. The Rosie Project will, I guarantee. – Betsy Burton, Simon & Schuster, $24

**The Lion Seeker**, Kenneth Bonert

At the heart of this big, bruising debut novel set in the Jewish community of Johannesburg, is Isaac Helger, who has a wild mop of red hair, a wiry build, and a heart full of anger and confused notions of right and wrong. His mother, a tough-minded woman who loves Isaac fiercely, is determined to rescue her family from her native
Lithuania no matter the cost. His father, a watchmaker and a gentle, principled man, loves his son no less fiercely and as Isaac grows he struggles with their very different ways of viewing the world. In fact struggle is at the very heart of this novel: the struggle against prejudice and oppression from outside and from inside; the struggle to distinguish love from self-love, hatred from self-hatred; the struggle to first obtain and then understand truth. But most of all The Lion Seeker is about a young man learning to know—and to live with—himself and those who love him. – Betsy Burton, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $28

The Cartographer of No Man’s Land, P. S. Duffy
Angus MacGrath leaves his wife and son behind in Nova Scotia, intending to join the behind-the-lines war effort working as a cartographer in London. His motives are twofold: against the direct wishes of his father, who disapproves of the war, he feels a duty to serve, and he hopes to find some trace of his brother-in-law and dear friend who is missing in action. War rarely allows for individual plans; in short order this artist and man-of-the-sea finds himself swamped in mud and blood in the trenches of the front line. Angus learns fast and bonds even faster with the men at his side, as, at home in Nova Scotia, his son tries to make sense of the war. And so the tides of that war carry us back and forth between family and the battlefront in a novel that is at once spellbinding and enlightening, granting us blinding insights into war, into despair, into love, and into the ties and tensions between fathers and sons. – Betsy Burton, Liveright, $25.95

The Night Guest, Fiona McFarlane
Ruth, an elderly widow asleep by herself in an isolated house, hears tigers prowling in the front room. A bad dream? Dementia? The house reeks of danger but when she calls her son the next day it’s clear that he doesn’t believe her. Then a strange woman appears claiming she’s been sent as a caregiver by the government. Frida settles in despite Ruth’s initial protest and before long there’s yet another visitor: Ruth’s first love, a fellow missionary of her father’s in Fiji years before. Tigers, lover, caregiver—all are “night guests,” all with un-guessable intentions, in this mesmerizing and brilliantly written tale that is mysterious yes, even terrifying, but illuminating in terms of faith and betrayal, innocence, sanity, dependence, and aging. I couldn’t put it down and I can’t forget it. – Betsy Burton, Faber and Faber, $26

The Last Animal, Abby Geni
Whether it be an ostrich or an octopus, a manatee in the ocean, a butterfly collection in a museum, or a flight to freedom, these lively stories are populated by denizens of the natural world, and by those who relate to that world, those who cannot. Reasons for leaving are clarified, intellectualized rationales are simplified, a mysterious death at a summer camp is mythologized, as intriguing, quirky characters, all at crossroads of one kind or another, are surprised by events or sometimes by unwanted knowledge. An impressive debut by a writer with an interesting sensibility, an arresting voice, and a clear and compassionate understanding of the vagaries of humanity. – Betsy Burton, Counterpoint, $24

DEBUT AUTHORS

If You Could Be Mine, Sara Farizan
Farizan bursts onto the literary map with one of the most refreshingly unique stories of the decade, set in modern Iran. When 17-year-old Sahar discovers that her best friend and secret girlfriend Nasrin has become engaged, she makes the drastic decision to undergo sex reassignment surgery to be allowed to remain with the one she loves. But as the time for her surgery approaches, she begins to question whether it is more important to keep her love or her identity. While this book is written for teenagers, I highly recommend it for adults as well. This would make a superb book club choice. – Meagan Gonsalves, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, $16.95 (15 and up)

All Our Yesterdays, Cristin Terrill
Cristin Terrill’s All Our Yesterdays just might have the most gripping opening scene of any book you’ll read this year. It is a challenging read, and incredibly good. Time travel, nonstop suspense, and thoroughly surprising plot twists combine to make this an unforgettable read. – Christopher Rose, Andover Bookstore, Andover, MA, Hyperion $17.99

Gated, Amy Christine Parker
Debut author Parker explores a terrifying cult called The Community (think of a doomsday Colorado City). Lyla was just a child when her family moved in after 9/11. Now The Community is gearing up for the end of the world and will do anything it has to do to protect itself from the evils of the outside world. Lyla has always believed Pioneer, their hypnotic leader, but when she realizes that the other world—and one young man in particular—are not evil incarnate, she starts to
INDIES INTRODUCE...

**Dancer, Daughter, Traitor, Spy**, Elizabeth Keim

This book has something for everyone: 1980s Soviet Union, 1980s Brooklyn, obscure musical references, prima ballerinas, and even a hint of the supernatural. With characters and a plot line as compelling as its title, *Dancer, Daughter, Traitor, Spy* is not to be missed.

– Becky Quiroga, Books & Books, Coral Gables, Florida, SoHo Teen, $17.99

**How to Love**, Katie Cotugno

*How to Love* is told in two time frames: the before and the after. It is quiet, compelling, fresh, and realistic and tackles tough issues such as religious beliefs, teen pregnancy, first love and first heartbreak. It is never stale, and speaks to so many teens with so many issues all at once.

– Becky Quiroga, Books & Books, Coral Gables, Florida, Balzer + Bray, $17.99 (October 1st)

**Jumped In**, Patrick Flores-Scott

I loved this book! Slacker Sam has rules about being a slacker; they work pretty well for him until he meets another slacker, Luis, with equal talent. They both think that they have things under control until it becomes clear that their English teacher knows their tricks. Poetry, music, and friendship are things for which slackers do not usually reveal their enthusiasm, but Sam and Luis learn that there can be surprises in life when you let them happen. – Ellen Scott, The Bookworm of Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska, Christy Ottaviano Books, $16.99

**Sky Jumpers**, Peggy Eddleman

New local author, Peggy Eddleman jumps to the top of the list with her middle-reader take on a dystopia. At the annual Fall Festival, Hope fails (not for the first time) at inventing something valuable, breaking her latest entry when she is forced to jump through the “bomb’s breath,” a band of deadly gas left over from the “green bombs” of WWII. Then bandits attempt to steal the valuable medicine, and Hope’s talents might just be able to save the medicine and much more. Eddleman’s clear portrayal of a world being rebuilt, combined with fast-paced adventure and a main character readers will love, make this a great introduction to dystopian fiction! – Margaret Brennan Neville, Random House, $16.99 (10 and up) 

*Editor’s note: Peggy Eddleman will join us on Friday, October 4, 6 p.m. to sign Sky Jumpers.*

**The Twistrose Key**, Tone Almhjell

*The Twistrose Key* is a thrilling, utterly convincing fantasy packed with adventure and heart. In the middle of a fierce storm, a mysterious package is dropped at young Lin Rosenquist’s door. The key contained in the package will start Lin on a vital, dangerous quest. She reaches Sylver, a wintry place filled with animals that have been fiercely loved by children. Will Lin be able to save this magical land from the trolls who want to conquer it? Almhjell’s writing offers touches of Nordic folklore that give her tale a timeless quality. Vivid prose enhances the story: “Snow rested lightly on the steep roofs and crooked windowsills, tucking in the tired cobblestones and covering the gutters, and the river bridge was decked out for a winter ball with white cones on its red pillars.” Beautiful! And as with all great stories, both hero and reader are better for having taken the journey. – Christopher Rose, Andover Bookstore, Andover, Massachusetts, Dial, $16.99

**Randi Rhodes, Ninja Detective**, Octavia Spencer

Written by an Academy Award-winning actress, *Randi Rhode's Ninja Detective* is surprisingly good! It has all the things a kid's book should: humor, adventure, and mystery. A perfect back-to-school read for any child. — Becky Quiroga, Books & Books, Coral Gables, Florida, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, $16.99 (October 15th)

*Rooftoppers*, Katherine Rundell

Sophie was just a baby floating in a cello case when she was pulled from a shipwreck in the English Channel. She’s always hoped/believed that her mother survived the shipwreck and when the authorities want to take her away from her guardian, Charles, and put her in an orphanage, Sophie knows that her mom is the only person who can save her. A clue takes her to Paris and to the “rooftoppers,” another group of orphans who live in the hidden spaces on the tops of buildings. This novel is a pleasure to read, lyrical, moving, and joyful; it would make a wonderful read-aloud.

– Margaret Brennan Neville, Simon & Schuster, $16.99 (8 and up)

**Randi Rhodes, Ninja Detective**

Don’t miss this annual event abuzz with celebrated local, regional, national, and international authors!!!

The six-week festival is statewide, free, and runs from September 17th through the end of October.
**MaddAddam**, Margaret Atwood
The final volume of the brilliant dystopian trilogy that began with *Oryx and Crake* finds Toby telling stories to the “Children of Crake” those peaceful, perfectly beautiful, genetically altered semi-human beings that the brilliant Crake created before destroying most of what was left of the human race. As Toby, one of the few remaining humans, tells the Crakers the stories they so love to listen to, she’s forced to define words and terms they don’t know again and again. Their ignorance is unfortunate; they unwittingly allow two murderers to escape, endangering everyone. And so begins the last episode of Margaret Atwood’s wittiest, fiercest, and most prescient of books. *MaddAddam* is chock-full of excitement and derring-do, of love and death and betrayal. It couldn’t be clearer about environmental issues and the fate of humankind. But beyond all else it is about storytelling—about not just the stories we tell but the ways they spread and grow until ultimately, they become a mythology—a framework for a way a whole people see the world. – Betsy Burton, Nan Talese/Doubleday, $27.95

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**Sweet Thunder**, Ivan Doig
Morrie, his bride Gracie, and her ex-miner handymen have settled in Butte, Montana, home of the most massive open-pit copper mine in the world. The happy couple, back from their world tour, are now owners of one of the biggest mansions in Butte, courtesy of the wealthy Samuel Sandison. He gives them ownership on the condition that they provide him room and board forever. Sandison donated the funds to build the town’s first library, mainly to house his rare book collection, but also to provide a place where townspeople can go to spend a quiet hour or two browsing the stacks. Ivan Doig provides some of the most realistic settings in all of Western literature, and he outdoes himself here, in his wonderful characters, some familiar some new, and a story line that will keep you glued to the page. One of my favorites of the year. – Kathy Ashton, Riverhead, $27.95

Editor’s note: Ivan Doig will SKYPE into TKE on Thursday, September 19, 7 p.m. to discuss his new book with his many fans. Please join us!

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**The Lowland**, Jhumpa Lahiri
This story of two brothers raised in Calcutta, India, during the ’60s and the separate paths their lives take is the nexus for Lahiri’s latest exploration into the complexities of family and cultural displacement. The story spans generations and continents, yet retains an intimacy that is exquisitely painful. Subhash, the elder brother by 15 months, is contemplative and compliant whereas the younger Udayan is volatile and passionate. Following college, Subhash travels to America for post-graduate studies. Udayan becomes embroiled in the socialist politics that eventually lead to revolution in India and marries a young student, Gauri. When tragedy strikes in the lowland outside his parents’ home, Subhash travels back to an altered country where he attempts to help Gauri piece her life and his own back together. The ensuing story depicts the hold of memory, secrecy, and gradual revelations of a violent past as it impacts the future. Against a backdrop of largely unfamiliar Indian history and familiar American events, the fates of Lahiri’s characters are startlingly personal and heartbreaking. Lahiri surpasses herself with each new novel, while the quiet beauty of her writing remains constant. – Linda Gurrister, Knopf, $27.95

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**A Marker to Measure Drift**, Alexander Maksik
Jacqueline is physically safe now, far from her Liberian home, but she cannot hide from the memories. During the day she tries to blend with tourist groups on the small Greek island that is her refuge and hides in caves or small copses during the night. Her mother’s ghost hovers in corners, coaxing her to taste this, sip that, try to sleep. In this powerful and mesmerizing new novel, Maksik lulls us a bit at first, asks us to accept this beautiful young woman who drifts around the edges of life, unknowable. Katerina, a young waitress, offers friendship first as coffee, finally trust, until Jacqueline, grateful, tells of the dread, the horrors, the sound of the guns, the screams of the victims, their pleas for mercy; the swish and thunk of machetes wielded by children, their laughter emphasizing delight in the slaughter of innocents. This is not an easy book, nor is it one you are likely to forget, laying bare as it does this nightmare of the soul that is today’s Africa. – Kathy Ashton, Knopf, $24.95

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**Lookaway, Lookaway**, Wilton Barnhardt
A High Southern Gothic comedy of manners, the downright hilarious, *Lookaway,* *Lookaway* is set in Charlotte, N.C., one of those Southern cities where family is all. The cast of characters features Jerene Jarvis Johnstone, a steel magnolia down to her fingertips—queen of the local social scene, trustee of the local art museum, incomparable hostess—presiding over the funniest (and most godawful) Christmas dinner ever. Her husband, Duke, masterminds the local Civil War re-enactors, who give their all at the annual “Skirmish (too small to be called a battle) at the Trestle.” Their older daughter Annie has spent her life trying to make her parents miserable: loud, brash, blonde, at least 50 pounds overweight, and an aggressive sex addict. Their older son Bo (Joseph Beauregard Johnstone, like his father) ministers to a Presbyterian congregation that barely tolerates him but loves his wife Kate. The Johnstones’ other son Josh is gay, as is his best friend Dorrie. Jerelyn is in training to be the best debutante of her season. Other family members populate the story, but its main thrust is the remarkable lengths that
this family will go to protect its name and position. Hysterically funny, beautifully written, it’s the perfect heir to Barnhardt’s *Gospel*, always at the top of my list for funny books. – Kathy Ashton, St. Martin’s, $25.99

**Night Film**, Marisha Pessl

Pessl returns with a terrifying and exquisitely complex novel which far exceeds her splendid debut, *Special Topics in Calamity Physics*. Investigative journalist Scott McGrath is still recovering from the last time he tried to take on legendary (and disturbing) cult horror-filmmaker Stanislas Cordova when Cordova’s daughter is found dead in an abandoned warehouse. The cause of death is determined to be suicide, but, given the unsettling circumstances surrounding her life and the eerily reclusive nature of her father, McGrath isn’t so sure. He finds himself once again trying to unmask the sinister facade protecting Cordova, and this time the consequences might be too dire to escape. – Meagan Gonsalves, Random House, $28

**Snow Hunters** by Paul Yoon

In this spare and elegant novel, Paul Yoon tells the story of a North Korean man named Yohan. After three years in a POW camp at the end of the Korean War, Yohan makes his way on a cargo ship to Brazil. Here he becomes an apprentice tailor to a Japanese man, Kiyoshi who becomes his first friend in his new life. The novel alternates between Yohan’s new life in Brazil and his former life in Korea, highlighting experiences and relationships that are important to him. In portraying his life, the bleakness and hardships are countered by joy and kindnesses. What is not said is often more powerful than what is. This is a book that should be read slowly and savored.

– Sally Larkin, Simon & Schuster, $22

**The Affairs of Others**, Amy Grace Loyd

Celia Cassil, a widow who clings desperately to her husband's memory, is holed up in the apartment house he left to her, her only encounters with her tenants, on stairways or in elevators. She re-reads the books they read together, cleans to avoid thinking, searches through the empty apartments, looking for she knows not what, and takes pills to blot out memory, to cling to memory. For five years this is her life. Then the upstairs apartment is subleased to a woman who's involved in an abusive—and highly sexual—relationship, the sounds of which keep Celia up at night, pacing, fearful. To make matters worse, another tenant, an aging sea captain who's escaped from a retirement home and whom she watches over, disappears. The couple below her split up. And suddenly her safe harbor is no longer safe. Emotionally harrowing and sexually scorching, *The Affairs of Others* would be off-putting if it weren’t surprising when one expects it to be predictable, hard to put down, except during the harrowing parts when it’s hard to keep going. Exceedingly well-written, dead-honest emotionally, it makes clear to the reader that from the outside one can never know why others do what they do. – Betsy Burton, Picador, $24

**The Fountain of St. James Court; or, Portrait of the Author as an Old Woman**, Sena Jeter Naslund

Ryn has just finished what she thinks may be her last novel, and she walks slowly across St. James Court, past the fountain at its center to the far end to post the manuscript. It is late, the court lit by a long row of wrought-iron lamps that cast a soft glow on the old-fashioned mailbox. The subject of the novel, the 18th century French portraitist, Mme.Louise-Elisabeth Vigée-Le Brun, whose most famous subject was Marie Antoinette, was renowned in France for her artistic talents from the time she was a small child. Because of her fame, she was offered commissions all over Europe by the aristocracy and royalty and became one of the wealthiest women in Europe. But this is a love story as well as an historical novel. Vigée marries for love and lives to regret it in this fascinating and skillfully wrought tale. – Kathy Ashton, Morrow, $26.99 Editor’s note: Sena Jeter Naslund will be at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts on Thursday, September 26th at 7 p.m. as part of the UHC Book Festival.

**Motherlunge**, Kirstin Scott

“Sometimes, when two people love each other very much, they want to get closer.” This is Thea’s opening and closing line, in between which this loving, straightforward, and perceptive 21st century, 20-something girl/mother says what she must to her daughter about sex, love, and life. In this debut novel, which won the AWP Novel Award, narrator Thea presents the facts of (her) life in 38 chapters. The odd-numbered chapters hold specific information ranging from how to hold onto a ladder underwater to a description of female anatomy to “advice for if you’re ugly,” seeds for the longer even-numbered chapters that become Thea’s oblique telling of her past. With wry humor, the narrator is at turns tender, indignant, outraged, and resigned about coping and not coping with her mother’s mental illness. If Scott’s cast of characters is small, their effects on one another loom large in Thea’s clear-eyed account of her seemingly unflappable older sister, her devastated long-suffering father, her loving if dysfunctional mother, and her perfect boyfriend Eli. Family dynamics, layers of time, moments of being all bear down to form each mini-chapter of fact, information, and advice until past and present merge in what amounts to a love letter not only to Thea’s daughter, but also to her mother, father, sister, and Eli. – Michelle Macfarlane, New Issues Press, $15 Editor’s note: Kirstin Scott will read from her work at the downtown library on Wednesday, October 23, 7 p.m. as part of the City Arts program and the Utah Humanities Book Festival.
Wilson, A. Scott Berg
Woodrow Wilson shot from President of Princeton University, to Governor of New Jersey to President of the United States in a breathtaking 25 months. During his presidency he guided the country from an isolationist nation to involvement in the “War to End All Wars” and then ideologically pushed the League of Nations concept to a country weary of all involvement in Europe’s problems. He was a proponent of progressive ideas that were ultimately realized in Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal. Berg’s intimate and detailed biography reveals a man who was quite possibly the most influential figure of the early 20th century. Wilson was a passionate teacher and brilliant thinker whose intellectual shadow hovers even into the 21st century—Berg’s biography of him is likely to become one of the classics of presidential history. – Barbara Hoagland, Putnam, $40

Huguette Clark, heir to an enormous fortune, lived the last 20 years of her life in a hospital in New York City, despite the fact that she was neither ill nor in need of any kind of medical care. When she died at 104 it was discovered she left her vast estate to her nurse and the doctors who cared for her. Dedman and Newell exhaustively researched the life and times of this reclusive and mysterious woman. Her father was W. A. Clark, a 19th century entrepreneur and Gilded Age robber baron who made millions in the copper mines of Montana and Arizona, built the only self-financed railroad in the U.S. linking Salt Lake City to Los Angeles, and developed Las Vegas as well as vast areas of the Los Angeles basin. His daughter and heir was a reclusive eccentric who owned mansions and New York City apartments that were never inhabited. Empty Mansions is a revealing and intriguing look at the creation of vast wealth and the emptiness of a life as heir to it. – Barbara Hoagland, Ballantine, $28

JFK’s Last Hundred Days, Thurston Clarke
The day-by-day perspective of JFK’s Last Hundred Days shows where Kennedy was headed, as a president and person, just before his death in Dallas. Thurston Clarke’s narrative shows a JFK not only resisting suggestions to send combat troops to Vietnam, but also moving towards withdrawing some, if not all, of the 15,000 military advisors in the country. Following passage of the Limited Test Ban Treaty, Kennedy considered various ways to wind down the Cold War with the Soviet Union, including the idea of a joint American-Soviet moon mission. The author also portrays a Kennedy increasingly committed to leadership in the struggle for full civil rights for African-Americans. JFK’s promiscuous private encounters are also part of this story, including an afternoon tryst with 62-year-old Marlene Dietrich. In spite of his extra-marital activity, Kennedy’s commitment to his marriage and family deepened in the days following the death of his infant son Patrick in August, 1963. Clarke’s history of the last days of Camelot is fast-paced, full of fascinating personal detail about Kennedy and those around him. For those who have wondered what the ’60s would have been like if Kennedy had lived, this book makes the case that he would have taken the country down a different path. – Lawrence Leigh, Penguin Press, $29.95

Lawrence in Arabia, Scott Anderson
The four young adventurers, all low-level officers, who are chronicled in Anderson’s new book, had a remarkable influence on the Arab Revolt against the Turks in World War I. Curt Prufer, a German academic attached to the German Embassy in Cairo; Aaron Aaronsohn, agronomist and committed Zionist; William Yale, fallen scion of American aristocracy representing Standard Oil’s interest; and in the heart of it all, T. E. Lawrence, young archeologist riding into legend as the head of an Arab army will captivate anyone interested in obtaining a greater understanding of how the modern Middle East was formed. – Sue Fleming, Doubleday, $28.95

Mystery/Thriller

Then We Take Berlin, John Lawton
In the aftermath of WWII, Berlin was a city divided: The US, Britain, and France shared the so-called free zone of the West, while Russia ruled the East with an iron fist. Citizens were stuck in one or the other. The black market flourished, fed by goods flown in from the West; the only currency that had any value was the American dollar. Barter ruled, the American PX was pilfered by con men/quartermasters who sold to whomever offered the highest price. Private Holderness, under the colonel who recruited him, spies on British entrepreneurs moving goods stolen from the American PX through secret tunnels under Berlin, right under the noses of the Russian and American MPs. But something is awry in the world of espionage. A German countess who tutored Holderness in Russian and German is murdered. Characters from other Lawton novels appear and disappear. Love and danger wax and wane, partners appear and disappear as Lawton wields his very sophisticated and talented pen. If you love LeCarré, you’ll end up feeling the same about Lawton. – Kathy Ashton, Atlantic Monthly Press, $26

Alex, Pierre Lemaitre, translated by Frank Wynne
Like so many other crime novels, Alex starts with a kidnapping. It is a startling and brutal beginning. Beaten, suspended in a cage, Alex is frantically trying to keep the rats away. Meanwhile French detective Camille Verhoeven, who has finally returned to work after
a long hiatus, is given the kidnapping case in which there is but a single witness and no other clues or information. Alternating chapters follow first Alex's story, and then that of the detective and his team’s (a comedic group of misfits) frantic attempt to save the victim's life. This is a brutal, dark and disturbing story that is not for the faint of heart; even seasoned mystery/thriller fans will be surprised by the plot twists. – Margaret Brennan Neville, MacLehose Press, $24.95

**How the Light Gets In**, Louise Penny

Louise Penny’s Chief Inspector Gamache novels have moved from village crime to psychological studies of good and evil, and the tone and character development become richer and darker with each book. Gamache has lost control of his unit at the Sûreté du Quebec and the respect of his protégé, Jean-Guy Beauvoir. He still has one case—the murder of the last of the Ouellet quintuplets, who had lived a secret life for years before finding friendship in Three Pines. Undermining Gamache’s investigation into the quint’s murder is the infestation of evil in the powerful Sûreté. Gamache, who may have reached the end of his career and, perhaps, his mind as he faces evil personified, is never truly alone; the citizens of Three Pines and a few faithful police officers will stand by him. But are these followers enough to protect him from those with the power to crush all that he believes in? – Wendy Foster Leigh, Minotaur Books, $25.99

**Seven for a Secret**, Lyndsay Faye

When Lyndsay Faye set out to write about New York in the 1840s, she created a harsh and dirty world filled with crime and human pollution. She introduced readers to Timothy Wilde and his less-than-virtuous brother, Val, a political powerhouse who knows where the bodies are buried and is not above a little blackmail in order to protect himself and Timothy. This second in Faye’s series takes on the problems of Blacks in a divided country. Pre-Civil War New York was a mixed city containing Blacks, Irish, Jewish, English living side by side in their own ghettos in mutual distrust. In the midst of ordinary prejudices come the “blackbirders” who kidnap slaves and free Blacks alike. Timothy becomes involved when a beautiful mixed-race woman asks for help to find her “family,” which consists of a sister and her son. This is no simple task, forcing Timothy to make pragmatic compromises for the sake of her family and his. Lyndsay Faye’s novels reveal an American past filled with compromises and bigotry. These books could be used in history classrooms in order to “show” the harshness of pre-Civil War America rather than “telling” through cold facts and figures. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Amy Einhorn Books, $26.95

**Light of the World**, James Lee Burke

This is the 20th Dave Robichaux mystery and it’s another winner. Alafair is in trouble—and she’s scared. Bad guys are showing up all over, following her, threatening her. Dave calls in the local sheriff and summons Clete, who arrives with his psychotic daughter Gretchen. As is usual when either Clete or Gretchen is around, murder and mayhem ensue. Burke has won nearly every award for mystery writers and rightfully so, he has also been named a master of the genre by the Mystery Writers of America. And in this new novel he is at the top of his game: gorgeous language, compelling plot, wonderful, if occasionally terrifying, characters. – Kathy Ashton, Simon & Schuster, $27.99

**A Dangerous Fiction**, Barbara Rogan

Jo Donovan has an impeccable pedigree in the publishing world as widow of the famed writer Hugo Donovan, to whom she was everything—first reader, exacting editor, passionate lover, perfect companion, chef extraordinaire—for nearly 15 years. When Hugo died she was bereft, at sea, until his partner Molly, the other half of the Hamish Donovan Literary Agency, asked Jo to assume her husband’s role as senior partner in one of the best agencies in Manhattan. Molly, her dear friend and surrogate mother, suffering from terminal cancer, has given all her responsibilities to Jo, whose life is one of well-worn routine, until ‘Sam Spade’ appears, accosting her in the street, announcing that he has chosen her to represent him. After giving the interloper her standard line about submitting his manuscript according to protocol, Jo is attacked by the man. Her assistant and slush-pile reader, Jean-Paul, happens to come along at the critical moment, but by that time Jo has whacked Spade with her umbrella. The action escalates from there in this terrific novel. If you love books about books, you’ll love **A Dangerous Fiction**. – Kathy Ashton, Viking, $26.95

**Bones of Paris**, Laurie King

1929. Paris. The Jazz Age is in full swing, artists, poets, writers flock to the City of Light along with lots of 20-something bright young things, eager for a new life. American Harris Stuyvesant (Touchstone), now a private eye instead of a Bureau man, is asked to track down Pip Crosby, and for the money he’s being offered he doesn’t hesitate. His investigations lead him to a seedy theatre where the macabre plays alongside high comedy, and where Pip was trying to establish herself as an actress. Is there a crazed killer preying on the community of Montparnasse and could Harris be about to inadvertently place someone he cares about in great danger for a second time? Sprinkled with real ex-pats like Sylvia Beech of Shakespeare and Company, Hemingway (spoil...
Blood Game: A Jock Boucher Thriller, David Lyons

Jock Boucher has a penchant for getting himself into the nastiest, most dangerous scrapes and is contemplating leaving the Federal Bench after his latest contretemps. He receives a dressing-down by the president himself, who disabuses him of the notion. Lyons has created a plot line as convoluted as the mangrove roots that grow along the Louisiana bayous. Said line involves the richest man in the state, another who runs a consortium of all the investigative branches involved in the war on drugs, a general who commands all the armed forces stationed along the U.S./Mexico border, as well as Boucher’s best friend, Detective Fitch of the NOPD. They are all (except Fitch and the judge) in on a plan to help avenge the death of Mr. Dumont’s son who was murdered in a grisly fashion by a Mexican drug lord. Prepare to be enthralled. – Kathy Ashton, Atria $15

The River and Enoch O’Reilly, Peter Murphy

It’s a toss-up who the protagonist of the book is: the river or Enoch. Peter Murphy gives life and mystery to both elements. Enoch Powell lives in an electronic world in which he is a radio minister on the Revival Hour. His flamboyant statements make him a phenomenon, at least until he falls back to earth with his mysterious homage to the river Rua. His rise to fame came after a voice from the Ghost Radio inspired him to become part of a religious movement in which he was a minister (although he didn’t believe in God and was a follower of Elvis). Strange as it may seem, these bizarre details make sense as you follow the tortured logic of Enoch Powell. The book moves with a watery rhythm, blending modern pop culture with poetic Irish mysticism, as Enoch Powell becomes one with the Rua. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Mariner Books, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $14.95

Bad Blood, Arne Dahl, translated by Rachel Willson-Broyles

Three generations of serial killers seem unlikely, but the National Crime Police (the Swedish version of the FBI) has been notified by the FBI that the second generation of these murderers has just eluded them and is probably on Swedish soil. Serial killers aren’t common in Sweden, so the Swedes send a team to Washington to troll through evidence the FBI has collected, hunting for something, anything, leading to his whereabouts. They head home, only to find yet another dead body: this corpse has been shot through the heart four times and turns out to be the killer’s son. The Swedish cops are wonderful characters, not exactly a brain trust, but trustworthy and diligent (mostly), and usually nab their man. The chase is all and an engrossing one it is. – Kathy Ashton, Pantheon, $25.95

The Tenth Witness, Leonard Rosen

The second in the Henri Poincare series takes place before the events of All Cry Chaos. Back in the ’70s, Henri and his partner Alec are trying to get a salvage engineering business off the ground. Both men are young and keen and during a rare break from the exhausting preparations to salvage The Lutine for Lloyds of London, Henri meets Liesel Kraus. She’s beautiful, an heiress, co-owner of Kraus Steel, a major builder of Germany after WWII. Attracted and repelled by the family’s Nazi past, Henri’s curiosity regarding the company’s current business practices brings him to the attention of Interpol, and while Interpol can threaten, there are others close to Liesel who would see Henri dead before he reveals their secrets. – Paula Longhurst, Permanent Press, $28

Tamarack County, William Kent Krueger

Set in the vicious winter cold of north country Minnesota, Krueger’s newest thriller featuring ex-Sheriff Cork O’Connor will make you shiver in sympathy; so turn up the heat and all the lights and get ready to light the fire (yes, of course, we know it’s September, but it’s not going to feel like it) before you head for your most comfortable chair, because you’ll probably be there ‘til morning. The bad guy has targeted Cork’s family, not a good idea when you’re dealing with this widower. He isn’t officially a member of the department any more, but he was the well-respected Sheriff for many years, and is often called in on the tough cases—and this is one tough case that will put Tamarack County’s finest through their paces. – Kathy Ashton, Atria, $24.99
The Dream Thieves, Book II of The Raven Cycle, Maggie Stiefvater

Summer has arrived in Henrietta, Virginia, and Blue and the boys are still trying to find the sleeping Welsh king, Glendower. In the sequel we've all been waiting for, Adam's sacrifice (from Book 1) is literally haunting him, Blue can't decide which boy she loves, and Ronan, still tattooed, is desperate to figure out what his power really means. Stiefvater not only takes us on a wild ride but also challenges readers to look at the ancient magical world with a bit more knowledge and maybe more acceptance as well. It gives me chills to think about lay lines; maybe one runs under The King's English! – Margaret Brennan Neville, Scholastic, $18.99 (14 and up)

Editor's note: Maggie Stiefvater will join us on Monday, September 30, 5 p.m. to read from and sign this new novel!

Fangirl, Rainbow Rowell

Rowell follows up her successful Eleanor & Park with another great coming-of-age story. College freshman Cath takes refuge in writing fan fiction. She has a very healthy online life but can't quite make her real life work. Enter Levi: tall, lanky, and full of questions and conversation—more than Cath's ever had in her life. The voices of Rowell's characters are pitch-perfect. Every bookseller at TKE who's read this book (Margaret, Anne, Whitney, Rachel) is raving. Join us, read Fangirl. – Margaret Brennan Neville, St. Martin's, $18.99 (15 and up)

Second Impact, David Klass and Perri Klass

Carla, high school soccer star, and Jerry, high school quarterback, go back and forth on their blog about the sports-obsessed world of their New Jersey high school. Carla's discussion about her season-ending knee injury and revelations about concussions on the football team bring criticism of the teenagers involved from school administrators and fans alike. The authors add facts about a timely topic in what is a great addition to any school library. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, $16.99 (14 and up)

Rose Under Fire, Elizabeth Wein

One of those books that stays with you, this is a companion piece to the New York Times bestseller Codename Verity. American Rose Justice, an 18-year-old ATA pilot and amateur poet, is caught by the Germans in the dying months of WWII and sent to Ravensbrück, the infamous women's concentration camp deep inside Germany. As her loved ones struggle to comprehend losing her, Rose struggles to survive. She and her fellow prisoners, closer than family, stripped of their dignity and identity, turn to small victories, little acts of rebellion, friendship, trading information for medicine, all to maintain their sanity in the face of increasingly desperate attempts by the Nazis to silence the horrors of Ravensbrück by destroying all of the evidence. Can Rose survive? Will she ever fly again? Go home again? Rose may be fictional but Ravensbrück and the atrocities carried out there are cemented in the history of the Nuremberg trials. A powerful and haunting read. – Paula Longhurst, Hyperion, $17.99

The Ocean at the End of the Lane, Neil Gaiman

When an unnamed artist returns to his small home village in the English countryside for a funeral, he finds himself recalling a terrifying childhood event involving the three witches at the end of the lane and the sinister nanny they help him dispel. Gaiman is a master at taking maternal figures and twisting them into fearful forces of malice, and the characterization we get of the despicable nanny through the eyes of a young boy terrifies and makes for a fascinatingly tight read. Think of this as Coraline for adults. This book screams to be read in one tense sitting. – Meagan Gonsalves, William Morrow Books, $26.95

William Shakespeare's Star Wars: Verily, A New Hope, Ian Doescher

Fans of Star Wars and Shakespeare alike will rejoice at this spectacular, long-overdue merging. Doescher flawlessly adapts the classic sci-fi film to a Shakespearean joy, complete with fourth-wall-breaking asides (from R2-D2, in fact), a chorus explaining the action, and a new twist on the “who shot first?” conundrum. This makes a perfect gift for the Star Wars or Shakespeare fan in your life, whatever their age. – Meagan Gonsalves, Quirk Books, $14.95
**The Blessing Cup**, Patricia Polacco
If you loved *The Keeping Quilt*, your library will not be complete until you purchase *The Blessing Cup*. Repeating the artistic format and tender storytelling that we loved in her first book, Polacco shares the history of the cup’s journey from a shtetl in pre-WWI Russia to the United States. Her family struggled mightily with prejudices against the Jews, but managed to make it to the U.S to settle in Michigan. This classic story follows the cup’s journey through four generations of family up to the present day when Polacco shares it with her own children. Definitely a classic! – Simon & Schuster, $17.99 (all ages)

**Hello, My Name Is Ruby**, Philip C. Stead
Ruby is a tiny bird with a big appetite for adventure. Join her as she soars and flies and makes new friends in the sky and on the ground. Stead’s charming chalk drawings will make you want to tear out the pages and frame them! – Roaring Brook Press, $16.99 (3 and up) Editor’s note: Phil and Erin Stead will be here to help us celebrate our birthday on Friday, September 13, 4 p.m.

**The Tortoise and the Hare**, Jerry Pinkney
From dust jacket to end papers, this book is amazing. Pinkney brings his award-winning talent to another favorite fable, this time with a Southwest flavor. The details of each spread, especially the expressive faces of the animals, lend a modern-day flavor to a timeless story. – Little Brown, $18 (ages 3-6)

**Locomotive**, Brian Floca
Trains opened up America to exploration, settlement and industry. Floca’s bright picture book covers this aspect of American history with quick-paced, entertaining text, and interesting information about how trains have shaped our country. The artwork, including the end pages, makes this a book standout. – Simon & Schuster, $17.99 (8 and up)

**Sophie’s Squash**, Pat Zietlow Miller & Anne Wilsdorf
Sophie’s new pet, Bernice, is a squash she brought home from the Farmer’s Market. Sophie’s parents and classmates all try to talk her out of her friendship but Sophie finds her own solution. Sophie and Bernice will give readers a lot to talk about, all with a smile on their faces. – Random House. $16.99 (4 and up)

**Journey**, Aaron Becker
This wordless book follows a lonely little girl on a big adventure that begins with a red crayon. When she draws a red door it opens into a magical world and the reader is invited in. Courage and kindness take this story to a different level and there’s a wonderful surprise at the end. – Candlewick, $15.99 (4 and up)

**The Fox in the Library**, Lorenz Pauli, illustrated by Kathrin Scharer
Mouse is chased straight into the library by Fox—but when she shows Fox some books, he realizes that chickens might be better to eat. So starts a very engaging homage to reading, libraries, and all of the good ideas that come with them. Wonderful illustrations! – NorthSouth, $17.95 (all ages)

**Cool Creations in 35 Pieces**, Sean Kenney
Did you see the Lego sculptures at Utah’s Hogle Zoo this summer? Do you have countless Lego pieces in your house? Then mark your calendar for Thursday, September 12 at 4 p.m. and join Sean Kenney at the store! He uses the same 35 Lego pieces to create multiple objects. This is the “think outside of the box” book/event of the season. – Henry Holt, $12.99 (any age)
Wild Born: Spirit Animals Book 1, Brandon Mull

Brandon Mull, who needs no introduction to anyone here, is an amazing example of Utah authors! Following the 39 Clues model, he has written the first of Scholastic’s seven-book fantasy series for middle readers (another staff favorite, Maggie Steifvater, is writing Book 2). Welcome to Erdas, a world where, if you’re lucky, you have a spirit animal. As the story opens, Erdas is under attack and our young heroes, along with their spirit animals, will have to step up if their land is to be saved.

Like 39 Clues, this book has an online component where readers can get their own spirit animals! – Scholastic, $12.99 (8 and up)

Editor’s note: Brandon Mull will launch this series at the Provo Library on September 10, 7 p.m. and will join us the next day, September 11th at 7 p.m. to help us celebrate our birthday.

Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures, Kate DiCamillo

When Flora sees a squirrel getting sucked into a Ulysses-brand vacuum cleaner, she bursts into action, managing to save the animal only to realize that it has been transformed. Flora has to hide the squirrel (Ulysses) from her mother, explain it to her father and convince herself that she can survive their separation when it becomes necessary. Flora’s cynicism about her parents, herself and the world is tempered with DiCamillo’s trademark tenderness. The author’s exploration of the meaning of community, along with leavening touches of humor and philosophy, broaden the appeal of this novel. K. G. Campbell adds graphic illustrations that flesh out a most charming story. – Candlewick, $17.99 (8 and up)

Editor’s note: Kate DiCamillo will appear at the UHC Book Festival at the downtown library on Saturday, September 28, at 3 p.m.

Waiting for the Queen, Joanna Higgins

Aristocratic Eugenie and her little dog Sylvette are part of a group that barely managed to escape 1700s France and the revolution that killed so many of their peers. Landing in Pennsylvania, Eugenie meets Hannah, a Quaker who has come to New France with her brother and her father to build houses and wait on the aristocrats. The girls have nothing in common other than being the same age—not even language. However, as the harsh winter days pass, something powerful and moving sustains their emerging friendship. This intriguing story has roots in the complex relationship between France and the United States in the days when both countries were engaged in their own revolutions. – PGW, $16.95 (10 and up)

Ghost Hawk, Susan Cooper

Mention Susan Cooper and readers will think of The Dark is Rising, a classic, beloved by young fantasy readers. Her new book, a wonderful surprise, is set in the early days of American colonization. The lives of two young boys, Little Hawk and John Wakely are bound together by their unlikely friendship. John Wakely is apprenticed to a barrel maker in a village. Little Hawk is on a vision quest, but the world of the white man is changing his environment dramatically. The boys’ worlds are linked in many ways, and while many of their elders espouse violence, Little Hawk and Wakely see and hope for something different. – Simon & Schuster, $16.99 (10 and up)

The Time Fetch, Amy Herrick

When Edward needed a rock for a class project, the one he picked up turned out to be a sleeping Fetch, filled with “foragers” who, once freed, can alter the very fabric of the universe. Edward and three of his classmates are going to have to deal with this Fetch before the world is destroyed in a book that has much going for it, including traces of philosophy, mythology and ideas. Algonquin, $16.95 (10 and up)

Editor’s note: Brandon Mull will launch this series at the Provo Library on September 10, 7 p.m. and will join us the next day, September 11th at 7 p.m. to help us celebrate our birthday.

Tuesday, October 15, 7 p.m.
Shannon Hale | Ever After High
Provo Library, 550 North University Avenue
INKSLINGER’S INKSLINGERS

Kathy Ashton  Anne Holman
Anne Brillinger  Sally Larkin
Betsy Burton  Lawrence Leigh
Sue Fleming  Wendy Foster Leigh
Meagan Gonsalves  Paula Longhurst
Linda Gurrister  Jenny Lyons
Deon Hilger  Michelle Macfarlane
Barbara Hoagland  Margaret Brennan Neville

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Friday, September 20
Music on the patio at Caputo’s
15% off at TKE | Gallery Stroll
Three-course tasting menu
for $29 at Fresco

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