

## A Gift of the Gods: A Conversation with Madeline Miller

by Michaela Riding, TKE Bookseller



Miller will be at  
 TKE Oct 23, 7 p.m.

I was smitten with Madeline Miller's novel *Circe* when it was first published. So when we heard she would be coming to visit The King's English on her book tour, I hoped I could interview her. TKE said of course, and Madeline graciously agreed. To whet your appetite in anticipation of her visit, our conversation follows.

**Michaela Riding** - We all vaguely remember *Circe* from our 8th grade reading of "The Odyssey;" she's the witch who turns Odysseus' men into pigs. For most of us

who didn't become classicists, our vague memories stop there. But you have woven a tale for her so complete, so rich, she will stay with us forever. We at the bookshop are completely in love with her, thanks to your amazing novel. What first drew you in about *Circe*?  
*(continued on page 4)*

## On the Occasion of TKE's 42nd Birthday: Antidotes for Troubled Times

by Betsy Burton

That we are living in troubled times few would deny. Too many of us feel lost in some wasteland with no discernable landmarks and no apparent way out. Into such a world Terry Tempest Williams has given birth to a book addressing the wilderness in which we are all lost that is both providential and profound, one that forces us to look squarely at the political and environmental landscapes not from the peaks of wilderness but from bedrock. *Erosion* is moving, personally insightful, and globally significant. Although it won't be available until early October we thought you should hear about *Erosion* now, on the occasion of our birthday. *(Please turn to page 9.)*



And (speaking of troubled times), Margaret Atwood's *The Testaments*, the sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, is to be published on **September 10th**, the very day TKE turns 42 (auspicious or what?), making it the world's best birthday present for us. Atwood's publisher said in *The Guardian*, "We've never needed Margaret Atwood more." We absolutely agree. Atwood herself said in that same article, "Dear Readers: Everything you've ever asked me about Gilead

and its inner workings is the inspiration for this book. Well, almost everything! The other inspiration is the world we've been living in."

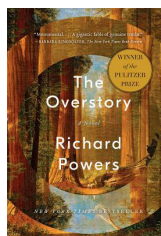
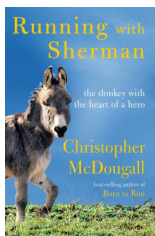
However dark the world, we have to think that light glimmers somewhere. Otherwise, how could we go on? Good books light up our world at TKE, of course, as do young booksellers such as (among many) Michaela Riding, whose interview with Madeline Miller begins in the adjoining column. But to show you you're never too old to have fun (or maybe never too old to learn the hard way), longtime TKE bookseller Jan Sloan has officially joined our family as stockholder and part owner. You know her—that tall stately woman with gray hair, exquisite taste in fiction, natural history and everything else that's good in the world of books, and a braying laugh that makes us want to laugh back. Aging ought to be fun, right? We intend to make it that way in our dotage. As birthday presents go this is about as good as it gets at TKE.



## A Few Events to Write Home About

**Saturday, September 14:** TKE's Birthday! 25% off everything but special orders all day long! See full calendar on page 2 for details.

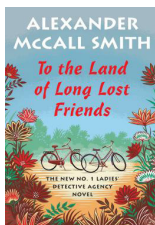
**Wednesday, October 16, 7 p.m.** Christopher McDougall joins us to discuss his new memoir, *Running with Sherman: The Donkey with the Heart of a Hero*. Kip the Donkey will be on hand for this event!



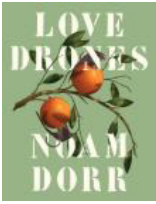
**Thursday, October 17, 7 p.m.** Richard Powers will read from, discuss and sign his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Overstory* at the University of Utah Union Ballroom in an event co-sponsored by the Tanner Humanities Center. Tree walk at University of Utah earlier that day; call store for details. Eventbrite tickets will include a paperback copy of

the book.

**Tuesday, October 29, 7 p.m.** One of TKE's favorites, Alexander McCall Smith, returns with another in the *No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* series, *To the Land of Long Lost Friends*. The event will be held at Rowland Hall's Larimer Auditorium. Eventbrite tickets include a copy of the book.



## Autumn Events for Adults

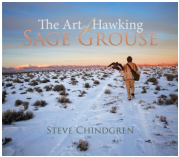


**Wednesday, September 4, 7 p.m.** Noam Dorr will read from and sign his collection of essays, *Love Drones*.

**Wednesday, September 4, 7 p.m.** Plant whisperer Summer Rayne Oakes will show us *How to Make a Plant Love You* at Thyme & Place,



362 East 900 South.



**Saturday, September 7, 5 p.m.** Local falconer Steve Chindgren will share *The Art of Hawking Sage Grouse*. This event will feature raptors from the Hogle Zoo!

**Friday, September 13, 6 p.m.** Join us for a guided walking tour of Salt Lake's historic apartment building facades at the Sampson Apartment building, 310 South 300 East.

**Saturday, September 14: TKE's Birthday!** 25% off everything but special orders all day long!

**11 a.m.** Jennifer Adams will read and sign *The Sleeping Beauty: My First Ballet Book*;

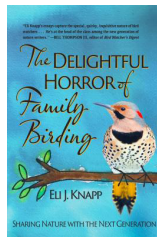


**2 p.m.** Lisa Michele Church will discuss *Historic Apartment Buildings of Salt Lake City*

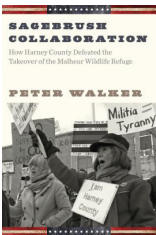


**3:30 p.m.** Let them eat cake! Birthday cake, that is, with a bit of the bubbly. It's not every day a bookshop turn 42! See page 5 for details about our birthday bookmark contest; you could be a winner!

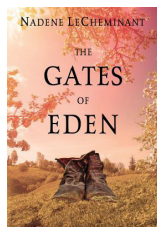
**Wednesday, September 18, 7 p.m.** Eli Knapp will regale us with *The Delightful Horror of Family Birding* at Tracy Aviary.



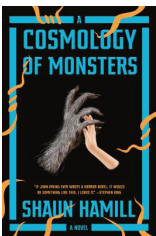
**Thursday, September 19, 12:15 p.m.** The Stegner Center will host Peter Walker with his book, *Sagebrush Collaboration: How Harney County Defeated the Takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge* at the S. J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah.



**Thursday, September 19, 7 p.m.** Nadene LeCheminant will debut her novel, *The Gates of Eden*.



**Saturday, September 21, 4 p.m.** Shawn Hamill will scare us with his horror novel, *A Cosmology of Monsters*.



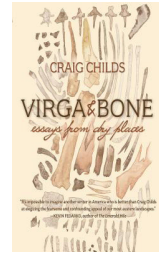
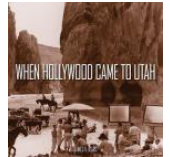
**Wednesday, September 25, 7 p.m.** Poets Katharine Coles and Francesca Bell will read from and sign their latest collections, *Wayward*



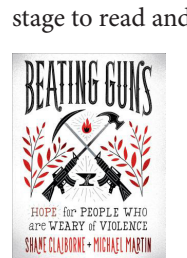
and *Bright Stain*, respectively.

**Thursday, September 26, 7 p.m.** Christopher Nelson and Betsy Sholl will read from and sign their works at the Alumni House at Westminster College, 1840 South 1300 East.

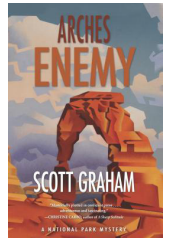
**Thursday, September 26, 7 p.m.** Utahn James V. D'Arc will share his updated book, *When Hollywood Came to Utah*.



**Wednesday, October 2, 7 p.m.** Craig Childs will discuss his latest book from Torrey House Press, *Virga & Bone: Essays from Dry Places*.



**Friday, October 4, 7 p.m.** Scott Graham (*Arches Enemy*) and C. Joseph Greaves (*Church of the Graveyard Saints*) will share the



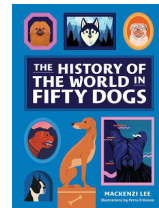
stage to read and discuss their latest novels.

**Saturday, October 5, 12 p.m.** Join us for a discussion of *Beating Guns: Hope for People Who are Weary of Violence* at All Saints Episcopal Church, 1710 Foothill Boulevard.

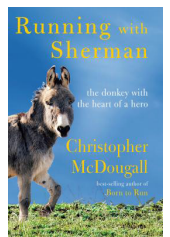
**Thursday, October 10, 7 p.m.** Jacob Paul returns to Salt Lake and TKE with his novel, *Last Tower to Heaven*.



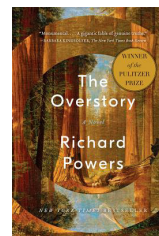
**Tuesday, October 15, 7 p.m.** Author and TKE bookseller Mackenzie Lee will talk about *The History of the World in Fifty Dogs*.



**Wednesday, October 16, 7 p.m.** Christopher McDougall joins us to discuss his new memoir, *Running with Sherman: The Donkey with the Heart of a Hero*. Kip the Donkey will be on hand for this event!



**Thursday, October 17, 7 p.m.** Richard Powers will read from, discuss and sign his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Overstory*, at the University of Utah Union Ballroom in an event co-sponsored by the Tanner Humanities Center. Eventbrite tickets will include a paperback copy of the book.



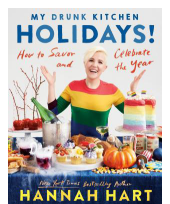
**Wednesday, October 23, 7 p.m.** Madeline Miller will join to discuss her novel, *Circe* (see front page).



**Thursday, October 24, 7 p.m.** University of Utah Distinguished Professor Kathryn Bond Stockton will read from and sign her book, *Making Out*.



**Friday, October 25, 7 p.m.** Hannah Hart will help us get ready for Halloween with *My Drunk Kitchen Holidays!*



*Holidays.*

**Tuesday, October 29, 7 p.m.** One of TKE's favorites, Alexander McCall Smith, returns with another in the *No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* series, *To the Land of Long Lost Friends*. The event will be held at Rowland Hall's Larimer Auditorium. Eventbrite tickets include a copy of the book.





# Autumn Events for Kids and Young Adults



**Tuesday, September 3, 7 p.m.** Author and TKE bookseller Mackenzi Lee will discuss and sign her Marvel middle grade novel, *Loki: Where Mischief Lies*.

**Wednesday, September 4, 7 p.m.** Caroline Bliss Larsen will read from and sign *Marvin's Monster Diary 2 (+ Lyssa)* at Provo Library.



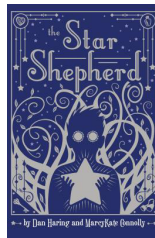
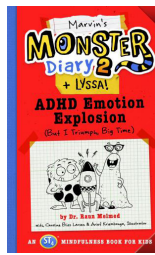
**Thursday, September 5, 7 p.m.** Shauna Holyoak will read from and sign her new chapter book, *Kazu Jones and the Denver Dognappers*.

**Monday, September 9, 7 p.m.** Dan Haring and MarcyKate Connolly will discuss *The Star Shepherd*.

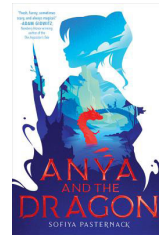
**Wednesday, September 11, 7 p.m.** The YA & Wine Book Club will host 20 local authors for their first annual Mix and Mingle. See our website for details.



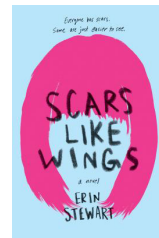
**Saturday, September 14, 11 a.m.** Jennifer Adams will present her new *My First Ballet Book: The Sleeping Beauty*.



**Saturday, September 21, 11 a.m.** Local illustrator Sam Ricks will join us for storytime with *Stinkbomb and Ketchup-Face and the Pizza of Peril*.



**Monday, September 23, 7 p.m.** Sofiya Pasternak (*Anya and the Dragon*) and Kwame Alexander (*Crossover*) will read from and sign their new books at the Provo Library.



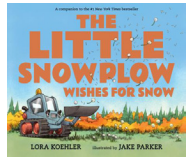
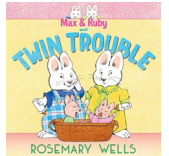
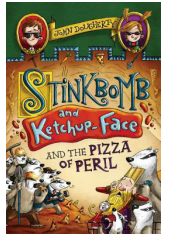
**Monday, September 30, 6 p.m.** Rosemary Wells will present her new picture book, *Max & Ruby and Twin Trouble*.

**Thursday, October 3, 7 p.m.** Erin Stewart debuts *Scars Like Wings*.

**Thursday, October 10, 7 p.m.** Shannon Hale, Leuyen Pham and Raina Telgemeier will share their new graphic novels at the Provo Library. Ticket prices vary and are available on Eventbrite.

**Saturday, October 12, 11 a.m.**

Lora Koehler and Jake Parker will get us ready for winter with *The Little Snowplow Wishes for Snow*.



Fighting over Loki



Jarrett Krosoczka and Shannon Hale



We love our local authors!



Markus Zusak with TKE staff



The Gruffalo waiting for the bus, like Gruffalos do (ha!)



Kurstin, Mark and Will with their favorite graphic novels



## A Gift of the Gods: A Conversation with Madeline Miller

(continued from page 1) **Madeline Miller**

- Thank you! I've been interested in Circe since I was a child and first heard there was a witch in Greek myth who turns men into pigs. That kind of power in the hands of a woman, particularly a woman who isn't punished for it by the end of her story, is quite unusual in the world of myth. So that fascinated me. How did she come to have that kind of power? More importantly: why is she turning men to pigs? Homer never asks, or answers, that question. But the novelist in me wanted to imagine the story and psychology behind it. Also, the Circe section in "The Odyssey" is narrated by Odysseus, who is the great liar of ancient literature, and definitely not an objective source. So right away I felt I was being invited to imagine what it might look like from her perspective.

I wanted to put her life at the center, her whole life, not just her encounter with Odysseus. She is only a cameo in his story, so it's only fitting to make him only a cameo in hers!

I was also moved by Homer's descriptions of Circe as "the dread goddess who speaks like a mortal." As a novelist, I immediately begin seeing a character caught between worlds—who doesn't fully belong either in her divinity or her humanity.

Finally, let's not forget she has lions as pets.

**MR** - She really is incredible. You've said before that Homer and other classical storytellers are really good at telling what happened in stories, but don't delve at all into why. So, why do you think this is?

**MM** - It has to do with the epic genre, which focuses on larger-than-life action and reaction, vengeance and counter-vengeance. The duels, the battles among the gods, Achilles' rage, Odysseus' endurance, everything is painted on a huge canvas. There is emotion and psychology present, motivating the characters' actions ("The Iliad" begins after all with "Sing, goddess, of the rage of Achilles"), but it isn't explored psychologically, just because that's not the style.

Emotion was instead the province of ancient lyric poetry. The lyric poet Catullus takes us in sometimes excruciating detail through his desire, love, affection, hurt, hope, and rage. In a handful of lines, the poet Sappho captures one of the most perfect descriptions of jealousy that I've ever read. So I saw myself as bringing that lyric sensibility into epic material.

**MR** - I was struck by how much of the drama in Circe's life was hiding in plain sight in her family tree. She's the aunt to Medea, aunt to the Minotaur, and cousin to Prometheus. What was it like filling in those dramas?

**MM** - Very creatively exciting and satisfying. I had loved these stories as a child and studied them seriously as a graduate student, so letting those two parts of myself work together to create something new was a delight. I also enjoyed keeping the focus on Circe. I never wanted to tell a story just because it was a great story—it had to always be about the way it affected her.

I enjoyed making more leaps with Circe's story than I did with Achilles'. There are many fewer myths about Circe, so there was more

room to invent.

**MR** - I read somewhere that you spent some time on an archaeological dig site. What was that like, and did anything from that experience inform your books?

**MM** - I could not have written either *Circe* or *The Song of Achilles* without having spent significant time in Greece and Turkey (where Troy is). It's all the subtle and small visceral things, the light on the water, the smell of the air, the way the dust feels. The dig itself was good research too. It was outside in the Greek summer sun, and the labor was often quite difficult. So I got to feel for myself the types of heat, the difference between sun and shade, the humidity... All of it helped me summon Circe's world.

**MR** - One of my favorite aspects of any novel is when it evokes a strong sense of place. I was delighted to see the map of Aiaia on the endpapers—always a promising sign for a well-thought-out setting. Do you have any favorite books with maps in them? Are there any places you would write about just to include the map (or have an excuse to visit for research)?

**MM** - I always love a good map! And I love authors who are good with place and with coming up with evocative place names. Ursula K LeGuin is a master of this in her Earthsea series: Roke, Gont, The Inmost Sea, Havnor, Osskil, Selidor, Iffish.... George RR Martin's place names are quite wonderful too: Braavos, Astapor, Casterly Rock.

As for writing about places so I can visit them, I usually go the other way—I visit places that inspire me to want to write about them, even if only in small and unrecognizable ways. Sunsets, storm clouds, pelting rain, small lizards, rock formations, these things all inspire me to see my imaginary world more clearly. What does the light look like on the water? How does the air smell? Writing about Aiaia was exciting because it was an imaginary place, so I could combine a few different landscapes to create it.

**MR** - We pester authors about how they write, sometimes literally, down to the pen brand and the time of day. For myself, I'm a textile lover and was seduced by your descriptions of Daedalus with his looms and his woodcraft. And wouldn't we all love to know a little witchcraft? What do you think it is about the power of craft that wields such fascination for us all?

**MM** - Craft for me is so engaging because it is a wonderful blend of the practical and the artistic. It's hands and brain together. Circe's dedication to craft was one of my favorite things to imagine about her. I loved that she had a vocation, and I loved that she wasn't just instantly good at it. Her power comes not from something she's born having, but from her skill, knowledge, experience and dedication.



**MR** - There is something simmering in the book world right now about the classical stories, giving special attention to the women. *Circe*, of course, but other recent examples include *House of Names* by Colm Toibín, *Silence of the Girls* by Pat Barker, and *The Porpoise* by Mark Haddon. Why do you think so many are returning to these tales now?



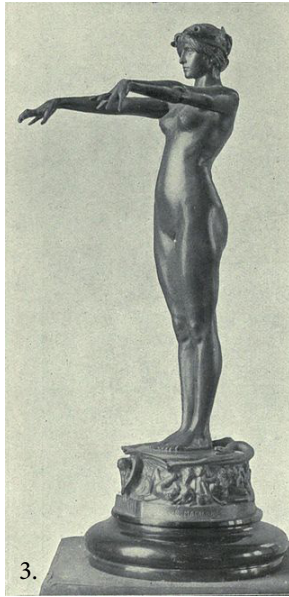
## A Gift of the Gods: A Conversation with Madeline Miller

**MM** - I see two possible reasons for it. First, I think we are currently eager for new voices. Nearly all of the protagonists of these old stories are aristocratic males, and nearly all of the writers were too. So they are ripe for re-examination and expansion from other perspectives.

I also think that we are at a moment of global instability and uncertainty, and in those moments I think humans naturally look to the past. There is a comfort to knowing that we aren't the first generation to make mistakes.

**MR** - What is something that is exciting you right now? Any current or future projects, big or small, of your own or friends, that you are bursting to talk about?

**MM** - Emily Wilson, whose new translation of "The Odyssey" I think



is brilliant and should be the new standard in classrooms, is currently at work on an "Iliad" translation. I am so excited to see what she does with it!

My own current project is a novel inspired by Shakespeare's "Tempest." I'm also a Shakespeare theater director, and it is a true pleasure to be back in his language and world. (And I'm still keeping an eye on the ancient world—I am also planning a novel inspired by Virgil's "Aeneid").

**MR** - Thank you so much! We can't wait to see these projects come to light, and we can't wait to see you in October. It is possible that some of us will show up in our favorite goddess-inspired dress.

For more artwork of Circe and her pet lions, visit Madeline Miller's website at <http://madelinemiller.com/circe/circe-photo-essay/>

1. Circe and one of Odysseus' transformed men, Athenian pelike, circa 5th century B.C.E. Staatliche Kunstmuseen Dresden.
2. Circe, by Julia Margaret Cameron, 1865. Metropolitan Museum of Art.
3. Circe, Bertram Mackennal, ca.1893.

## Hey Kids! Enter TKE's Annual BOOKMARK CONTEST!

Your bookmark could be selected as TKE's official bookmark for next year! Enter either the grade K-3rd or the 4th-6th grade competition by designing a bookmark representing the theme of books and reading in the space provided. One bookmark from each category will be selected and the winning artists will each receive a \$50 TKE gift card, 50 copies of the bookmark to hand out to family and friends, and enough bookmarks for your teacher and class!

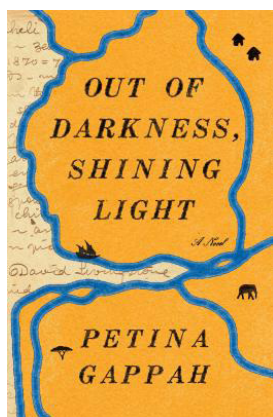
Turn your entries in to The King's English Bookshop.

1. Use Color! Past winners have used lots of bold colors in their bookmark designs. We want your bookmark to stand out!
2. Remember the theme! Make your bookmark about books and reading. (Avoid holiday themes. Your bookmark will be used the entire year).
3. Sketch your ideas on a blank page first.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_





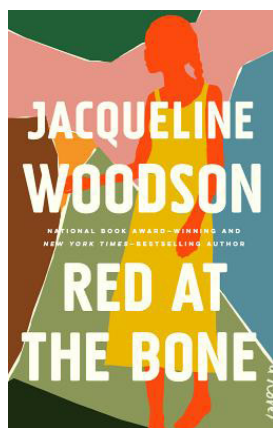
***Out of Darkness, Shining Light*,  
Petina Gappah**

First there is the tart voice of Halima, as astute and acerbic as Elizabeth Bennet's, followed by that of Jacob Wainwright, a not-yet-ordained minister so blinded by the light of his own missionary zeal that he misperceives all that he sees. Through the eyes of this unlikely pair, cook and scribe respectively, both former slaves, we see the man for whom they work, Dr. Livingston, funny, flawed, obsessively searching for the source of the Nile even as he

grows increasingly ill. His death and the epic journey of his company from the interior of Africa to the coast, and then on to England, bearing his remains, is the stuff of this imaginative and masterful novel. The path they take through hostile terrain teems with danger—from one another as well as from the outside, from hostile tribes and from starvation. But it is also scarred everywhere with traces of the slave trade that ravaged the continent and its peoples. Gappah brings to light the source not of the Nile but of the taking, buying and selling of human beings, the evidence of which is savagely vivid and indelible, echoing hauntingly through their journey. As large as life and as paradoxical, as full of sex and gossip and deceit and goodness and death as all of our lives, *Out of Darkness, Shining Light* does illuminate the world—its darkness as well as its light. — Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$27

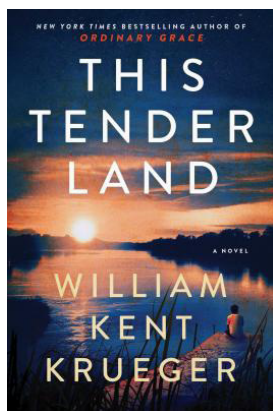
***Red at the Bone*, Jacqueline Woodson**

Two families, one poor, one middle-class are brought together by that oldest of unforeseen circumstances, teen pregnancy. As the novel opens, Melody, preparing for her motherhood at the tender age of 16, is already a year older than her mother Iris was when she gave birth. Quickly, in alternating chapters we meet Melody's father, her grandparents, her boyfriend Malcomb, and more. As the characters tell us each of their stories we put more and more pieces of the puzzle together and begin to understand on a gut level that love is love and it doesn't matter where it comes from or how it got here. Woodson is a master of spare yet poetic prose; I love her young adult novels, but her adult works are even more magical. — Anne Holman, Riverhead, \$26



***This Tender Land*, William Kent Krueger**

Odie O'Banion and his brother Albert are orphaned and sent to the notorious Lincoln School in Minnesota, a terrible place where Native American children taken from their families are sent to be educated. After a series of events forces them to flee, they set off down the Mississippi River in a canoe with their best friend Mose and a recently orphaned little girl named Emmy. Thus begins their odyssey in search of a home. Along the way they



encounter a host of characters, many adrift like themselves. A wonderful adventure and coming-of-age story filled with a colorful cast of villains, scoundrels, and heroes, this is not only a journey through America during the hard times of the Great Depression but also an inward journey of discovery for these four endearing orphans.

— Sally Larkin, Simon & Schuster, \$27

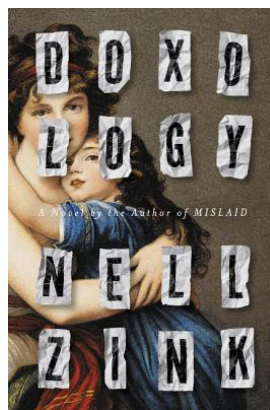
***Summerlings*, Lisa Howorth**

Eight-year-old John, who observes accurately enough but doesn't necessarily understand what he sees, lives through a long hot Washington D.C. summer in 1959 in a neighborhood plagued (or blessed, if you're precocious) by spiders, gossip, hatred for Nazi sympathizers, communists, and anyone else who is the least bit different. Trouble is, because it's D.C., politicians, spies, and diplomats from across the nation and around the world abound; everyone is different—even in the 1950s. When the arachnid invasion and the rare lizard-like creature being studied in the National Museum present



John, his two best friends, and their tomboy sidekick Beatrix with the possibility of a weapon akin to the new and fearsome nuclear bomb, they embark on a quest that turns into high adventure. This, along with their attempts to protect Ivan's gorgeous aunt, to get a look at the iron lung and the translucent frog of their next-door neighbor, and to plan a party they think will bring peace to the neighborhood, makes their summer full to say the least in a tale that is funny one minute, terrifying the next. Acidly sweet and painfully clear-eyed, a wondrous combination of great storytelling and dead-eyed truth-telling, *Summerlings* is an absolute joy to read. If you loved *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Tom Sawyer* or that effervescent memoir by Chris Rush, *The Light Years*, *Summerlings* is the book for you.

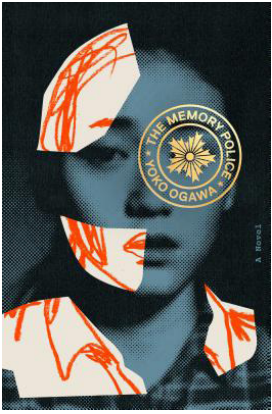
— Betsy Burton, Doubleday, \$22.95



***Doxology*, Nell Zink**

Pam, Daniel, and Joe, who have one of the worst punk bands in New York City, are struggling to scrape together enough cash to make it from one day to the next when they are met with two surprises—a baby, for Pam and Daniel, and a hit single for Joe—that change their lives forever. Through the '90s, the friends work together to raise baby Flora and further Joe's musical career, but the devastating chaos of September 11, 2001 coincides with a more personal loss. The story

of two generations coming of age, one before 9/11 and the other after, is beautiful and luminescent, but also funny and deeply engrossing. I find it hard to express just how much I loved this novel: Zink crafts such masterful prose and unforgettable characters that every word is a treat and every page is an incredible adventure. — Rachel Haisley, Ecco, \$27.99



***The Memory Police***, Yoko Ogawa, translated by Stephen Snyder

In Ogawa's latest novel, her main character is a youngish woman who lives alone yet has enigmatic relationships with two men. One, an old man, the husband of her now-deceased childhood nanny, is someone who has continued to help her in the wake of her own parents' deaths. The other is her editor, married, whose wife is pregnant. Despite the tenuous connection of these three individuals, they daringly commit to taking a quietly

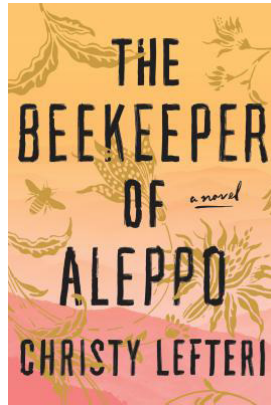
determined stand against their totalitarian island-state's erasure of its citizens' memories. A surreal story for our time.

– Michelle Macfarlane, Pantheon, \$25.95

***The Beekeeper of Aleppo***, Christy Lefteri

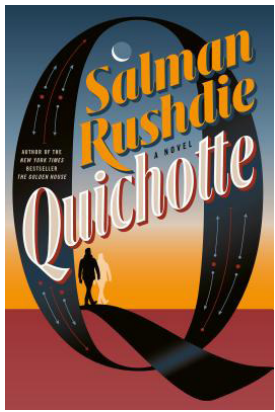
Nuri is a beekeeper in Aleppo and his wife Afra is an artist. They are living normal, happy lives until war breaks out, taking literally everything from them and forcing them to leave their home. Thus begins their journey as refugees, traveling through Turkey, Greece, and finally arriving in England. Along the way they must face not only their great loss but also hardship, fear and danger. This is a timely and heart-wrenching tale, but also a story of hope, courage, unexpected kindnesses, and love. A gorgeous book that breaks your heart and lifts your soul.

– Sally Larkin, Ballentine, \$27



***Quichotte***, Salman Rushdie

If you like reading books by a genius, this one is for you! The plot is fanciful and non-linear, spooling backward into the past, forward, into the future, and focusing on seven Indian characters. First among them is Quichotte (pronounced key-SHOT) an "aging, TV addict," who travels through seven valleys with his imaginary-morphed-to-real son Sancho on a quest to win his impossible beloved, Salma, a TV star. Quichotte is the invention of Sam, writer of eight

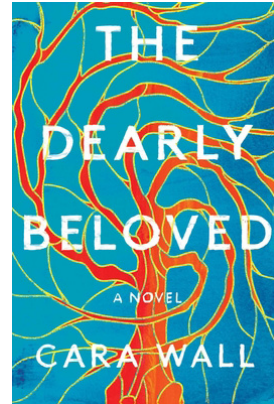


"modestly (un)successful spy fictions," whose life parallels that of his character. "I am part of him; he is part of me." With themes of estrangement, reconciliation, and atonement, Rushdie appeals to the reader's intellect, sometimes using word-tumbling, out-of-breath yet grammatically-controlled sentences and piquing our interest with prolepsis, asides, and a staggering number of allusions to TV, literature, movies, contemporary and past political figures and events. Through the words of Sam/Author, Rushdie comes close to articulating his purpose in Quichotte: "...wanting to take on the destructive, mind-numbing junk culture of [our] his time just as Cervantes had gone to war with the junk culture of his own age...also to write about impossible, obsessional love, father-son relationships, sibling quar-

rels, and yes, unforgivable things; about Indian immigrants, racism toward them, crooks among them; about cyber-spies, science fiction, the intertwining of fictional and 'real' realities, the death of the author, the end of the world....and about opioid addiction, too." Bravo! – Carol Kranes, Random House, \$28

***Middle England***, Jonathan Coe

Reviewers have called this novel, the third in a series written by Coe following his 2001 *The Rotters' Club*, a dark comedy. Dark it is, with splashes of slapstick and British humor. The setting is modern England, Brexit country, with just enough political explanation to make the characters and action relevant to an American audience. Beginning with Benjamin, a low-key novelist coming to terms with his life, his sister coming to terms with her marriage, and their aging parents coming to terms with a new England, the novel moves from family to family and from friend to friend. Characters divide into camps—working man, intellectual, politician, recluse, LGBTQ, etcetera in a book about a divided country in a divided world. It is hard reading at times, perhaps because it's uncomfortably close to the current divisions the world is experiencing. Just as a fine piece of music needs light moments before its explosions, *Middle England* is a balance of poignant and sentimental episodes, angry flare-ups, and the battle of clowns both real and political. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Knopf, \$27.95



***The Dearly Beloved***, Cara Wall

1963. New York City. Twelfth Street and Fifth Avenue. Third Presbyterian. Enter Charles and Lily, James and Nan. Charles, from the world of New England academia, and James, from Chicago's roughest neighborhood, have just been offered a joint pastorate. Their wives, too, see the world through vastly different lenses; Lily is a non-believer, Nan, a minister's daughter. How can these four individuals forge lives together? Throughout 50 years of shared living—careers, friendships,

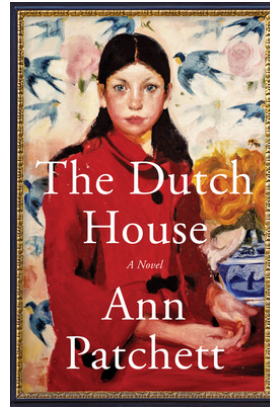
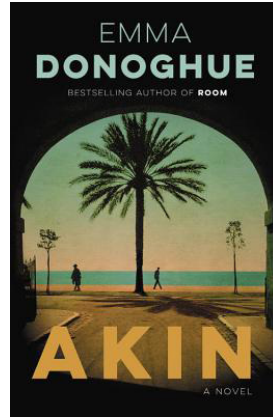
marriages, families—how will these particular four build and manage their lives, suffer, and somehow survive life's trials, together? Wall's novel, celebrating difference, tolerance, fortitude, and faith, is a novel for all of us, right now. – Michelle Macfarlane, Simon & Schuster, \$26.99

***Akin***, Emma Donoghue

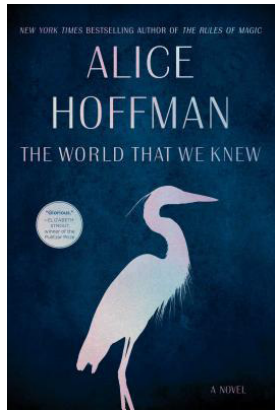
A nearly octogenarian widower, retired chemistry professor Noah is packing for a trip to Nice, the site of his birth and early childhood, when he gets a call from a social worker. The young son of Noah's nephew Victor (once adored, then despaired of, now dead) is homeless and destitute. Twelve, rebellious, possessed of nothing but a beaten-up cell phone and a talent for dirty language, Michael is beyond angry at a world that killed his father, jailed his mother and abandoned him. He wants nothing to do with the great uncle who never bothered to get to know him—and the feeling is mutual. But thanks to the machinations of fate and social services, the two



embark on a journey that begins with jet lag and endless (often very funny) bickering and slowly morphs into a search for the source of photos taken in Nice during WWII by Noah's mother. Are they evidence of collaboration or resistance? As the punk kid and the octogenarian mull over the guilt or innocence of Noah's mother, the facts surrounding the jailing of Michael's mother and of Victor's death, surprising commonality emerges in a big-hearted, masterful novel that is not only suspenseful, hilarious, and wrenching but is also possessed of a lingering resonance that I suspect will not fade any time soon. – Betsy Burton, Little, Brown, \$28



father marries Andrea, they quickly realize that she has set her sights on their historic home, known as the Dutch House, and doesn't even see them as part of her equation. In short, she makes Cinderella's stepmother seem reasonable. Over the years, as the siblings grow up and become adults they remain haunted by the house and the way their lives could have been. Then Fate steps in, as it will, and history re-writes itself. This is my favorite Ann Patchett book since *Bel Canto*. – Anne Holman, HarperCollins, \$27.99



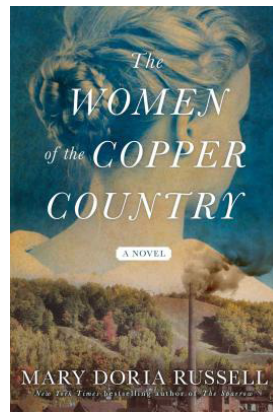
*The World That We Knew*, Alice Hoffman

In 1941 when the world is crawling with demons, in order to save her daughter, Hanni must commit the sin of working a miracle. She doesn't hesitate, and thus begins an achingly gorgeous and magical tale of a uniquely female golem created not only to protect, but to love, in a fight against the evils of WWII. Historic and mystical, this tender story of young German Jews and Protestants caught up in the chaos created by Nazis lands somewhere between *The Nightengale* and *All*

*the Light We Cannot See*. You will never think of a golem the same way again. – Michaela Riding and Sue Fleming, Simon & Schuster, \$27.99

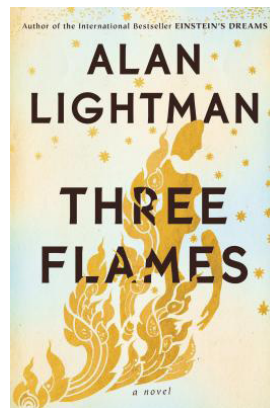
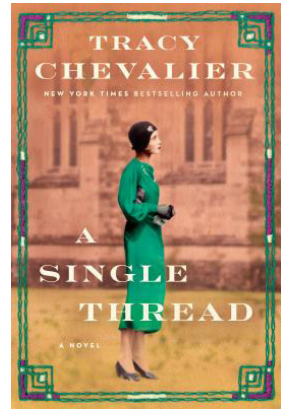
*The Women of the Copper Country*, Mary Doria Russell

As men and boys are killed or injured in the Calumet & Hecla Copper Mine even as the mine owners exploit their families, along comes Anna Klobuchar Clements with her powerful voice, her impassioned belief in justice, and, eventually, the support of Mother Jones and the women of the union movement. A big girl and an even bigger woman who lives a life filled with the pains of the copper miners and the battles for workers' rights, Anna becomes known as America's Joan of Arc, leading a fierce strike and facing her punishment. The portrayal of the treatment of strikers and women prisoners in this book, based on historical events in the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company in Calumet, Michigan, is not only powerful, it contains a pertinent message about modern workers' rights. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Atria Books, \$27



*A Single Thread*, Tracy Chevalier

In the aftermath of WWI the "surplus" women are left to pick up the pieces. Violet Speedwell refuses to feel sorry for herself after losing both her brother and fiancé. She finds she cannot live with her continually grieving and constantly harping mother, so she moves 12 miles down the road to Winchester to be a typist in an insurance business. Hardly the life she'd once imagined, she finds herself sitting in the choir at a special dedication service for the "broderers" of the famous cathedral. These are the women who carry on the centuries-old tradition of bringing comfort and beauty to the worshippers in the Anglican Church. In this society, which Violet joins only reluctantly, she finds not only purpose for her nights, but also a group of women who support and console one another. Chevalier's lovely prose draws the reader into the beauty of the old church, into the intricacies of needlework, and into the little known tradition of bell-ringing as well. Violet, when confronted by a sinister farmer, discovers the depth of her own abilities and courage and finds hope in her newfound community of friends. – Anne Stewart Mark, Viking, \$27



*Three Flames*, Alan Lightman

Except for Khmer expressions and its few references to the ethnic foods which flavor *Three Flames*, Lightman's novel does not paint a particularized picture of Cambodia. What it does provide is a persuasive message that women can stand up for their rights and strive for a better, independent future through education. Told in six chapters through the voices of six members of a struggling farming family, the novel begins when the mother Ryna recognizes the Khmer Ridge commander who murdered her father 33 years before and vows revenge. In this patriarchal society, the domineering father Pich marries off his 16-year-old daughter Nita, whom teachers call "the best student in the entire class," sends his oldest daughter Thida to work in a factory and later sells her to pay off his gambling debt. Son Kamal, who works at his father's side planting, harvesting, and fighting fungus, dreams of marrying the most beautiful girl in the village. Only the

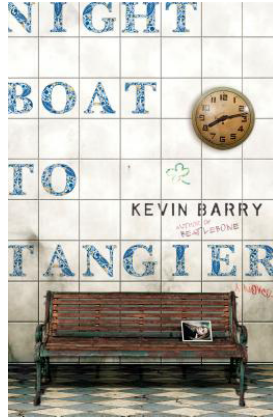


## FICTION

youngest daughter Sreypov defies her father, refusing to marry and continuing her education. In this poor country “Love wasn’t important in marriage...What was important was having a safe home with not too much fighting and a husband who wasn’t drunk all the time.” – Carol Kranes, Counterpoint, \$25

**Night Boat to Tangier**, Kevin Barry

Waiting at the ferry terminal in the Spanish port of Algeciras, two aging Irishmen, longtime drug smugglers Maurice Hearne and Charlie Redmond, anxiously await Maurice’s estranged daughter (or is she?), whom they expect either to arrive on a boat coming from Tangier or to depart on one heading there. As they wait, the two men reflect back on their history: on the violence, the passion and the years of exile that brought them to this moment. Exquisitely told, full of stunning language and ambivalent characters, this stream-of-consciousness novel evokes the stark beauty of Irish modernist literature while embracing the struggles and pitfalls of 21st century Ireland. – Rachel Haisley, Doubleday, \$25.95



**The Secrets We Kept**, Lara Prescott

Prescott’s debut novel begins during the height of the Cold War as two secretaries are chosen from the center of the typing pool at the Agency to help smuggle Boris Pasternak’s masterpiece, *Dr. Zhivago*, out of the USSR. Sally, the gorgeous blond with past experience coaxing secrets from gullible men, schools Irina, the novice and a Russian immigrant, in the art of the drop, how to ferry classified documents, and the skill of blending in. Also a love story between Pasternak and his mistress,



muse, and protector Olga, the tale shifts from East to West as the players work to bring change to the world through art and literature. Based on true accounts and biographies, Prescott brilliantly brings to life the covert spy adventures of the late 1950s and the heartbreak and deprivation of life in Soviet Russia. – Anne Stewart Mark, Knopf, \$26.95

**The Last Train to London**, Meg Waite Clayton

Just when I thought, “Oh, no, not another WWII orphan book!” along comes this cast of wonderful characters—especially the children themselves: Stephan, a would-be writer; his little brother Walter with his talking Peter Rabbit doll; and Žophie, their Christian friend, the young math genius. Stephan and Walter are Jewish children of a wealthy chocolatier in Vienna whose wife is dying of cancer—a situation which makes their Papa hesitant to get them out. Žophie’s mother, Käthe, is the editor of a newspaper critical of the Nazis. Perhaps most compelling of all is the woman who saves them—Geer-



truida Wijsmuller-Meijer of Amsterdam, Tante Truus to the children. Childless herself, she risks everything to save as many children as she can in a heart-thumping tale based on the real Vienna kindertransport which followed the aftermath of Kristallnacht violence. This story will stay with you long after you finish its haunting epilogue.

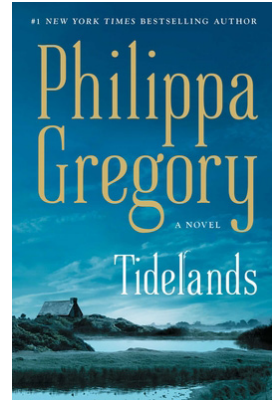
– Anne Stewart Mark, HarperCollins \$27.99

**Tidelands**, Philippa Gregory

Followers of Gregory may expect the pomp and ceremony of palaces and kings, but with *Tidelands* she moves into the fens and bogs of 17th century Sussex. Alinor is both a “wise woman” and an abandoned wife and mother. She lives in poverty, relying on her healing skills to feed her young son and daughter and, like so many lone, strong women, is feared rather than pitied. It is 1648, the middle of the English civil war, and King Charles and the Catholics are in danger from

Cromwell and the new parliament. Along comes a handsome young man lost on the marsh who reeks of danger, and Alinor cannot resist him. The characters in this book are the common women and men of the time—especially women with a will to survive—living in poverty and in fear of God and man alike in a world rife with the real—and the superstitious—dangers of that time and place.

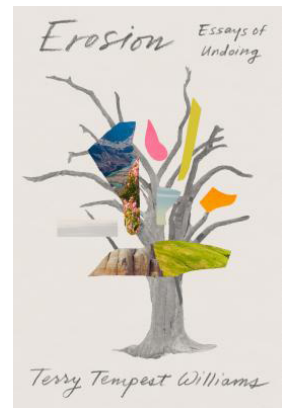
– Wendy Foster Leigh, Atria Books, \$28



## NONFICTION

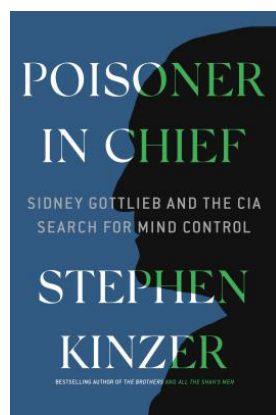
**Erosion: Essays of Undoing**, Terry Tempest Williams

Once in a great while a book strips you to the marrow. *Erosion* did this to me. Undid me completely. I’ve been—we’ve all been—desperate in this time of desecration and destruction. Terry Tempest Williams holds up a mirror for us, reflecting our pain by showing us hers in both a personal and a global sense, not only forcing us to look squarely at the political and environmental landscapes, but to regard them from new angles. In the first essay she makes clear that the world she so loves is disintegrating, herself along with it, and that the only way to fight off despair is to not just see the erosion of so much that we love for what it is, the pain of it, but, as her father tells her, to stare it down. The pain of it. The grief. The metaphors for doing so are as rich and varied as the earth she writes of. The night vision of owls, the helping hand of community, the reality reflected in bleached bones.... The cast of characters who populate our ravaged world are all there in vivid prose and poetry as well: owl, sage grouse, prairie dog, polar bear, protesters, storytellers, drillers, politicians, all crisscrossing the eroding landscape, hiding, flying wild, denying, meeting, fighting. The price she’s paid for her own fight is recited, the loss of a job, a way of life, a landscape, as she seeks answers in other places, at Harvard Divinity School where she now teaches, attempting to learn about the ongoing erosion not only



of place but of community and of the body politic, of democracy. The erosion, in other words, of all we know. Her brother dies. Suicide. The unthinkable pain of it. Our future, eroding as we watch. The need to fight—and, finally, the hope that can come. The fight for Bears Ears now in court, the fight for San Juan County, won against all odds. Her view is not from the peaks of wilderness but from bedrock—the only place we can viscerally *feel* the need for change.

– Betsy Burton, Sarah Crichton, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$27



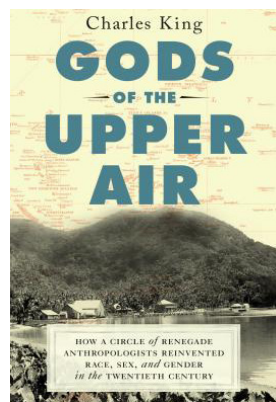
***Poisoner in Chief: Sidney Gottlieb and the CIA Search for Mind Control***, Stephen Kinzer

The end of World War II brought into play a new kind of war—the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the United States. Experiments that had been conducted by the Nazis on concentration camp inmates were examined by spy networks across the globe for ways in which individuals could be broken down and made into unwitting agents for whichever

agency could control them. One of their most horrendous such experiment was the CIA's MK-ULTRA run by Sidney Gottlieb. Under his auspices, secret prisons were established and filled with “expendables” who endured tortures that ranked with the worst of the Nazis. From the use of LSD on unsuspecting victims to experiments in various forms of mind control, Gottlieb's and MK-ULTRA's goal was the assassination of world leaders not deemed valuable to the U.S. Kinzer's book is a shocking revelation of an agency gone rogue and a cautionary tale for the world we find ourselves in today. – Barbara Hoagland, Holt, \$30

***The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11***, Garrett M. Graff

The first comprehensive and authoritative history of September 11, 2001, compiled from hundreds of interviews with government officials, first responders, survivors and family members, *The Only Plane in the Sky* tells the fascinating and deeply necessary story of that day as it unfolded from the perspectives of those who experienced it. Award-winning journalist Graff has marked himself as a superb researcher and writer with this well-curated collection of primary sources. A great read for all nonfiction buffs



and geared toward readers with any level of familiarity with the events of the day. – Rachel Haisley, Avid Reader, \$30

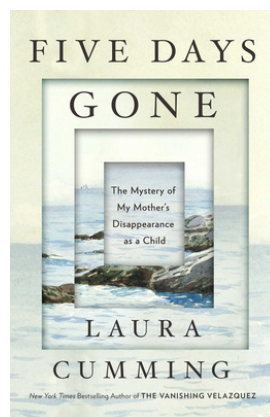
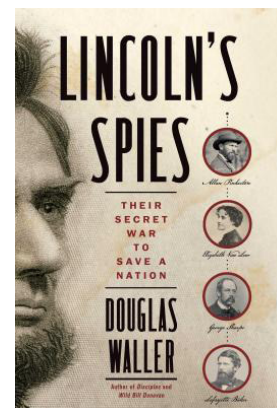
***Gods of the Upper Air: How a Circle of Renegade Anthropologists Reinvented Race, Sex and Gender in the Twentieth Century***, Charles King

In the early 20th century Frank Boas, a German immigrant who taught at Columbia University, began to question the veracity of accepted knowledge. Was one's intelligence, one's nature—nurturing or

warlike, for example—determined by their race, sex and nationality? His research showed that humanity was an undivided whole, and the fascinating intersection of this work with that of Margaret Mead, Ruth Benedict, Ella Cara Deloris and Zora Neale Hurston, all of whom studied under him, redefined the relationship between behavior and biology. A truly remarkable read. – Jan Sloan, Doubleday, \$30

***Lincoln's Spies***, Douglas Waller

During the Civil War Lincoln made use of spies to determine troop movements, arms locations and any other intelligence he could obtain that would facilitate Union victories. Waller examines the actions of four of these secret agents, including Allan Pinkerton, founder of Pinkerton Detectives and Elizabeth Van Lew, a wealthy Virginia heiress who worked for the Union cause from the seat of the Confederacy in Richmond. Their actions enabled Lincoln to end the war sooner than could otherwise have happened, creating in the process the model for future secret intelligence gathering. The stuff of great spy novels—and every word is true! – Barbara Hoagland, Simon & Schuster, \$35



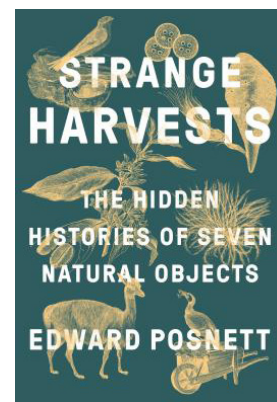
***Five Days Gone***, Laura Cumming

Exquisitely written, endlessly surprising, this is a daughter's investigation into the five days her mother went missing in childhood. As Cumming pursues facts, listens from an adult perspective to family stories and examines the visual evidence of extant photographs, the strands of mystery surrounding her mother's childhood begin to ravel into a skein of visible lies. What finally emerges is not only the truth of that childhood (or what can be known of it) but also a truer version of the family

history that has so impacted the daughter's life. Photography itself is a vivid piece of *Five Days Gone*, as is art. The mother was, once she escaped the confines of childhood, an artist and weaver, her husband, a painter, the daughter, an art critic. Paintings and photographs come alive on the page as Cumming detects in their visual narrative new angles from which to view her own family's past. From Vuillard to Vermeer, Brueghel to Degas, Ghirlandaio and Fra Angelico to Thiebaud she draws on artists' creations to understand remembered pictures of her mother's childhood, revealing in the process the multifaceted and achingly human truth that her brilliant language brings so movingly to life. – Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$26

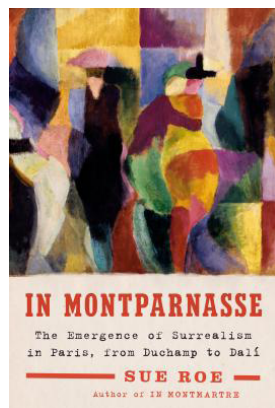
***Strange Harvests: The Hidden Histories of Seven Natural Objects***, Edward Posnett

For lovers of the obscure: a written curiosity cabinet of some of the strangest luxuries, proof of humanity's bizarre interactions with the natural world. From eiderdown to civet coffee, from guano to





edible birds' nests and more, Posnett takes you on a journey around the world to see in detail how such oddities are acquired, traded, and used, encouraging us to ponder whether capitalism and global market forces will permit their use to continue. The perfect addition to your nature and travel writing bookshelves—perhaps next to your own curiosity cabinet? – Michaela Riding, Viking, \$27



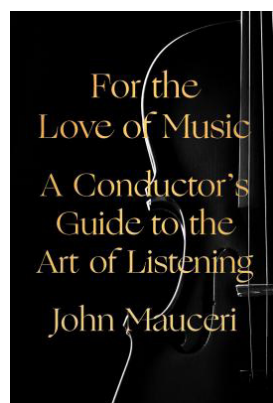
***In Montparnasse: The Emergence of Surrealism in Paris, from Duchamp to Dali,*** Sue Roe

Artists at work during and after WWI reflect the anxiety, anger, and energy of the time between the two world wars as, in both Europe and America, the world was awirl with ideas, energy and experimentation—an era in which tradition in the visual arts no longer involved images in stone or on paper alone. Montparnasse may have been the center of artistic movements, but diverse artistic

experiments were international. The Dadaists of WWI grew into the Surrealists who created with words, photography, film, dance, and everyday objects. Duchamp, Man Ray, Ernst led up to Dali; Freud and Andre Breton's writings were as important as the works of Picasso or Miro. Roe ends the book with Dali's frenetic journey through Europe and America between the wars, leaving readers wondering what would come next in the search for originality. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Penguin Press, \$30

***For the Love of Music: A Conductor's Guide to the Art of Listening,*** John Mauceri

Mauceri has written a charming book giving the reader clear ideas about classical music, its impact on all of us, and most importantly how to listen. Interspersing his own musical development with more involved ideas behind enjoying classical-music (having an understanding of the structure, of how music and time have a special relationship, of how to enjoy live performances) makes this a delightful read. It will lead you anew to your own collection of CDs or to YouTube to listen—and to listen again. – Deon Hilger, Knopf, \$25.95



***The Outlaw Ocean,*** Ian Urbina

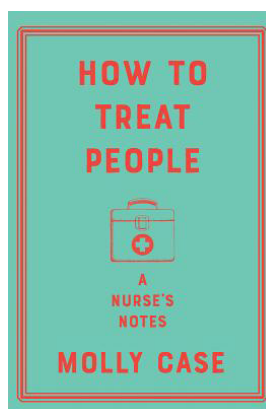
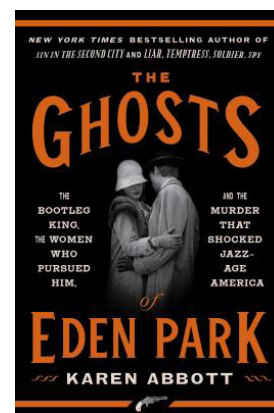
Pirates, mercenaries, smugglers, and other mindboggling scoundrels inhabit the vast oceans that Urbina examines. These oceans are the last frontier on a globe where there is very little that has not already been mapped and colonized. Urbina delves into this mostly lawless world as he reveals the horrors—and the bravery—of both the people who confront the villains and the villains themselves. A first-rate adventure story that is also an exposé of the ruthlessness

engendered by the lack of law enforcement. Mesmerizing.

– Barbara Hoagland, Knopf, \$30

***The Ghosts of Eden Park,*** Karen Abbott

America's brief experiment with alcohol prohibition is a fascinating story populated by epic characters, both on the side of the law and against it. Before Elliott Ness or Al Capone, there was George Remus, a German-American lawyer and pharmacist who became the nation's most successful bootlegger. By the summer of 1921, Remus owned 35% of all liquor in the United States. On the opposing side there is Mabel Walker Willebrandt, an up-and-coming federal prosecutor determined to bring Remus down. This epic true-crime story, which combines a riveting narrative with fascinating American history, will be a great gift for fans of Eric Larson. – Rachel Haisley, Crown, \$28



***How to Treat People,*** Molly Case

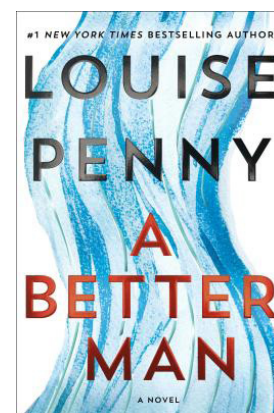
Molly Case underwent an operation as a teenager that saved her life. Less than a decade later, she became an operating nurse trainee, and she shares her experiences as a novice and ultimately as a professional nurse through memoir, art, medical history and science. With each patient story, she presents the body system involved and clearly describes affected processes and why interventions are successful. As a former nurse, I recognized the imagery, and the effect

of strangers upon one another, the rhythms of life and death where we can all find meaning through the lives of others. – Sue Fleming, Norton, \$25.95

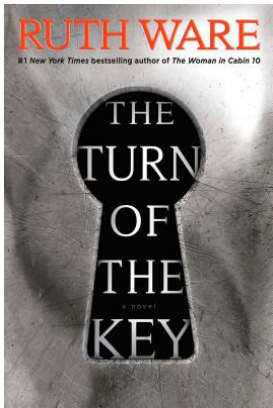
## MYSTERY/THRILLER

***A Better Man,*** Louise Penny

No longer head of the Sureté, Armand Gamache has been demoted to his former role as head of homicide in this latest Penny mystery. Although his son-in-law Beauvoir is now Gamache's temporary superior, simply because of Gamache's nature, their shared duties are handled calmly and professionally. His first day in the homicide conference room is tense; social media—an important element in this, the 15th in the series—has heightened the personal attacks on him, complete with doctored videos of his last violent battle during which he and Beauvoir were both wounded. Gamache, assigned to find a missing woman, must at the same time battle with nature when the Rivière Bella Bella threatens to break its banks and flood the town of Three Pines. His exterior calmness is put to the test as he begins to care about the missing woman and to wonder how he might react if she were his daughter. Stories overlap in typical Penny fashion and defenders of Gamache will undoubtedly



read to the very last paragraph for the story's surprise ending.  
– Wendy Foster Leigh, Minotaur Books, \$28.99



**The Turn of the Key**, Ruth Ware

“Let me tell you the truth about that night.” Rowan Caine is on remand in a Scottish jail and she’s writing to a barrister in hopes that he’ll represent her when her murder case comes to trial. She tells him of her dream job, which was to be live-in nanny with a sky-high salary in the Elincourt family’s high-tech smart house buried deep in the Scottish countryside, a house in which everything worked via apps and there were cameras in almost every room—and of the nightmare that

ensued when she actually moved in with the perfect family she had so longed to join. Rowan is under no illusions—she admits she lied to get the job, and Lord knows she isn’t perfect—but she is adamant that she didn’t kill anyone. So who did? – Paula Longhurst, Gallery, \$27.99

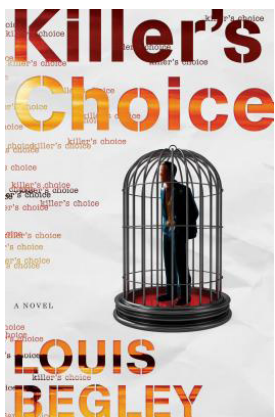
**Land of Wolves**, Craig Johnson

Sheriff Walt Longmire is home from Mexico and feeling a little bit wiser and a great deal older. But Absaroka County still has crime, and crime waits for no man, even one who is bruised and battered. One of the things I like about Johnson’s mysteries is that he always gives us some history about his corner of Wyoming. This time it’s the Basque ranchers and specifically the Extepare family. When one of their sheepherders is found dead, Longmire must determine whether it’s suicide or, more likely, murder. A great ride as always! – Anne Holman, Viking, \$28



**Killer’s Choice**, Louis Begley

What does Jack Dana, the ex-marine-turned-novelist, do when he encounters a violent brutality that threatens to disrupt his life? All becomes frighteningly personal when he hears the screams of two murder victims on the phone and receives a dark message from a shadowy criminal Jack calls “the Monster,” warning that an even crueler fate awaits him. The choice between brash confrontation and safe removal provides the tension in **Killer’s Choice**. By page 92 in this fast-moving

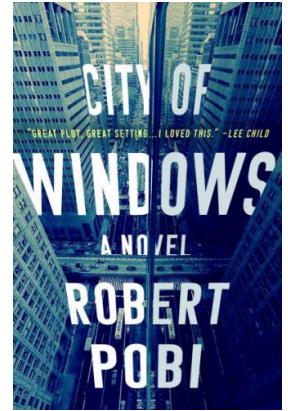


saga, Jack has faced “butchery on Penfield Road, high tech harassment and threats, and two clownish bungled aggressions.” Complicating factors include involvement with Jack’s glamorous and high-powered lover/lawyer and her wealthy family; the possible reappearance of a Texas billionaire who was believed to have committed suicide; and a kidnapping and ransom by Yellow Flower, a Chinese mafia organization. But not all is threat and violence. Sprinkled throughout are loyal FBI friends; a loving French bulldog named Satan; and Feng, a skillful combination houseman, gourmet cook, savior and

self-appointed bodyguard. In a somewhat bizarre and far-fetched conclusion, author Begley quickly orchestrates events with what one reviewer calls “his most powerful crescendo to date.” – Carol Kranes, Doubleday, \$26

**City of Windows**, Robert Pobi

Present-day New York City where a gunman is haunting the rooftops during the worst blizzard in living memory. The FBI needs the unique talents of Dr. Lucas Page who became an astrophysicist after his time at the bureau almost killed him and deprived him of several limbs in the bargain. As more victims fall and Fox News whips New Yorkers into full fear mode, Page reluctantly joins the hunt for the shooter and unwittingly places his loved ones in grave danger. A timely literary thriller that pulls no punches and moves at the speed of a sniper’s bullet. – Paula Longhurst, Minotaur, \$26.99



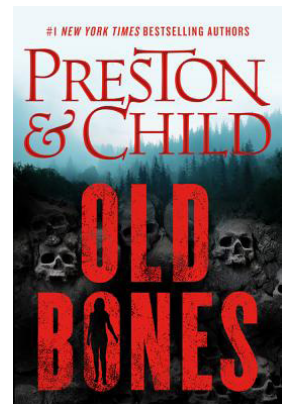
**The Long Call**, Ann Cleeves

Cleeves creates complicated detectives whose personal lives overlap their investigations. Whether it is Jimmy Perez in Shetland or Vera in Northumberland, each has a personal ghost and each is isolated from those around him or her. Cleeves’s newest detective, Matthew Venn, is excluded from family and friends by gender and religion. While investigating a murdered body on a local beach, he faces his own old ghosts and new challenges.

The disappearance of two women from The Woodyard Community Center, an art center/day care facility for adults with learning disabilities, distracts from the murder investigation yet must somehow be connected. The title of the book, **The Long Call**, referring to the screeching sound of the herring gull, sets the tone for the long and tortured road toward solving this case as Venn and his team begin analyzing themselves along with the suspects. The characters and North Devon landscape of Cleeve’s new series are complicated and addictive, perfect for lovers of Louise Penny or Susan Hill. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Minotaur, \$27.99

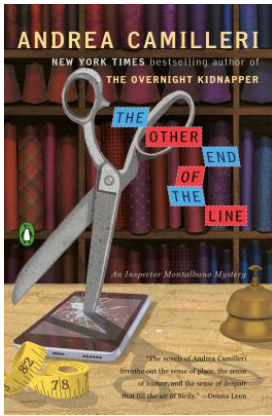
**Old Bones**, Preston & Child

Historian Clive Benton, an ancestor of the ill-fated Donner Party, has saved the journal of Tamzene Donner from the wrecking ball and approaches the Santa Fe Archaeological Institute to propose an expedition to find the ‘lost camp.’ The subsequent journey, led by Dr. Nora Kelly, comes into the sights of junior FBI agent Corrie Swanson—who is following a curious but deadly present-day lead on her first active case. – Paula Longhurst, Grand Central, \$28





## MYSTERY/THRILLER IN PAPER



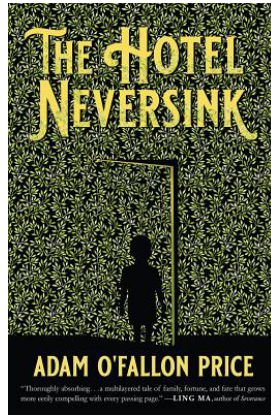
### *The Other End of the Line*, Andrea Camilleri

Not the final book in the Inspector Montalbano series because it has been hidden away for 13 years awaiting its release upon Camilleri's death (1925-2019), this one combines the current political atmosphere in a Sicily in which ship after refugee-filled ship enters their territorial waters with the investigation of the murder of a popular and beautiful seamstress in Vigata, Camilleri's fictional city. The author has said that he, "deliberately de-

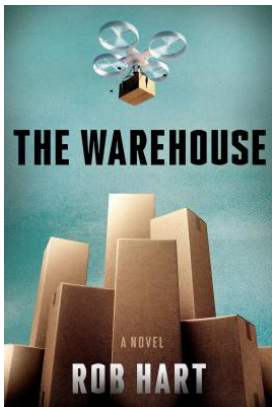
cided to smuggle into a detective novel a critical commentary on my times," and he also infuses his stories with literary allusions (Montalbano is a tribute to Manuel Vazquez Montalban, Spanish writer) and moral philosophy. As chair of film direction at the Accademia Nazionale d'Arte Drammatica in Rome, his style reflects his life in theatre and television. Camilleri lived through WWII in Sicily and was expelled from a diocesan school for throwing an egg onto a crucifix. This sense of irreverence is evident in all his Montalbano novels. For those new to Camilleri, begin with the 700-page Penguin paperback, *Death in Sicily*, which combines his first three Montalbano mysteries. Then binge on the next 20+ books in the series, ending at "the other end of the line." – Wendy Foster Leigh, Penguin Books, \$16

### *The Hotel Neversink*, Adam O'Fallon Price

Thirty years after first breaking ground in the Catskill Mountains, the beautiful Hotel Neversink finally opens. Then a young boy vanishes. This disappearance, followed by others, will mark the lives of three generations. Told by a riveting cast of characters, Price's acute prose paints a sharp, tender portrait of a family, with a hint of thriller that will keep you up all night, thinking. – Rachel Haisley, Tin House Books, \$15.95



## SPECULATIVE FICTION



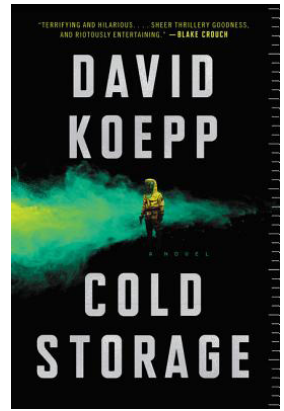
### *The Warehouse*, Rob Hart

In this suspenseful, wild-ride-of-a-tale that I could absolutely not look away from, Hart has crafted one of the most timely and interesting dystopian novels I have ever read. Ideal for fans of the up-and-coming genre corporate dystopian fiction (think Dave Eggers' *The Circle* or Nick Harkaway's *Gnomon*), this thinly-veiled allegory will have you reconsidering what and how you buy online. – Rachel Haisley, Crown, \$27

## SPECULATIVE FICTION

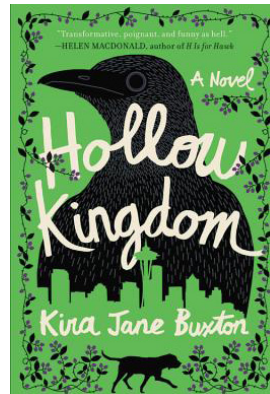
### *Cold Storage*, David Koepp

Imagine *The Andromeda Strain* written by Carl Hiaassen and you've got *Cold Storage*. 1987: a mutated virus arrives back on earth in the wilds of the Australian outback, courtesy of NASA's crashed Skylab. Pentagon bioterror expert Roberto Diaz and his commander Trini Romano are sent to contain it and they do, but not without casualties. Despite Diaz's protests, scientists take a sample of the virus back to the U.S. and place it in cold storage at absolute zero to keep it inert. 2019: Diaz is on the verge of retirement and the world has forgotten about the virus, which isn't at absolute zero anymore and is busy establishing a foothold colony at what is now a storage facility in rural Kansas. All that stands between it and global destruction are an aging Diaz, ex-con Teacake, single mother Naomi and a second-hand weapon of mass destruction with a less than reliable timer. – Paula Longhurst, Ecco, \$27.99



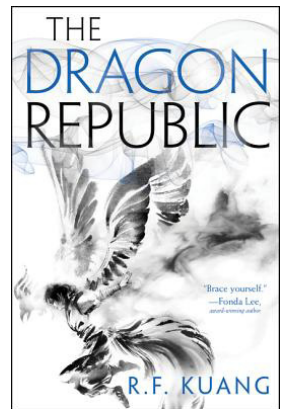
### *Hollow Kingdom*, Kira Jane Buxton

Where better to endure an apocalypse than verdant Seattle? But once S.T. realizes what he's up against, he decides to take things into his own claws. Yep, S.T. is a crow, and not just any crow. He is the corvid that will have you laughing all the way through this tale, even while he's delivering some hard truths. You will, for sure, want to step away from your cell phone. – Anne Holman, Grand Central, \$27



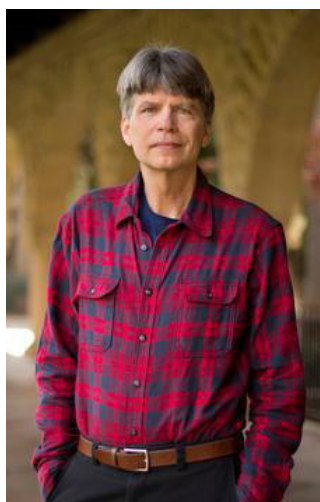
### *The Dragon Republic*, R.F. Kuang

Shaman and warrior Rin is struggling to come to terms with her own power as well as the guilt from the atrocities she committed during the bloody Poppy Wars. Death seems preferable to life to her, but she refuses to die until she's killed the wicked empress who betrayed Rin's homeland. Joining forces with the Dragon Warlord seems to be her best option, though doing so may force her into using her awesome and deadly powers again. Kuang combines 20th century Chinese history with an array of gods and monsters in the second installment of one of my favorite speculative fiction series. *The Dragon Republic* carries the superb momentum of the first book, *The Poppy War*, while adding new light and fresh ideas to the characters we fell in love with. – Rachel Haisley, Harper Voyager, \$26.99

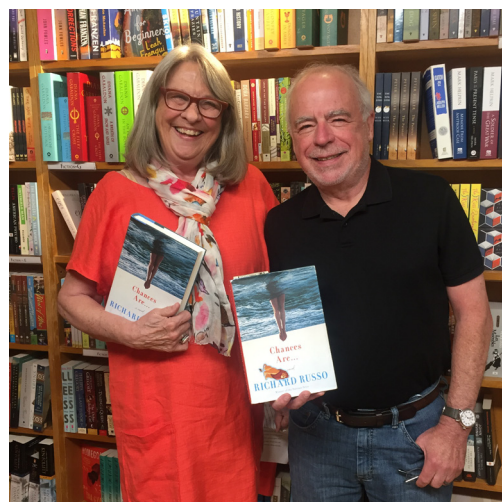




An amazing night with Amor Towles



Coming October 17!



Betsy and Richard Russo

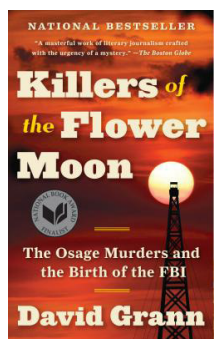
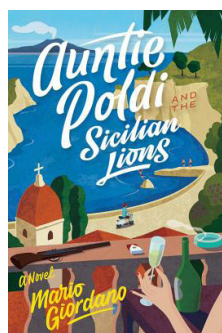
## WHAT OUR BOOK CLUBS ARE READING NOW

All are open to the public and meet at the bookshop unless otherwise noted.



**ARMCHAIR TRAVEL MYSTERY**  
3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

**September:** *Auntie Poldi and the Sicilian Lions*, Mario Giordano  
**October:** *The Department of Sensitive Crimes*, Alexander McCall Smith

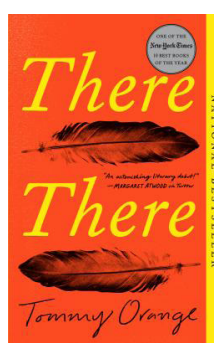
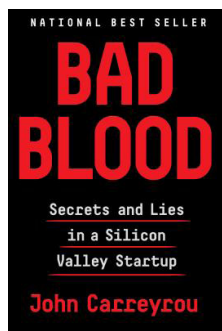


**SECOND MONDAY**  
2nd Monday of the month, 7 p.m.  
\$5

**September:** *Killers of the Flower Moon*, David Grann  
**October:** *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, Milan Kundera

**BRIAN SHORT**

2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
**September:** *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup*, John Carreyrou  
**October:** TBA



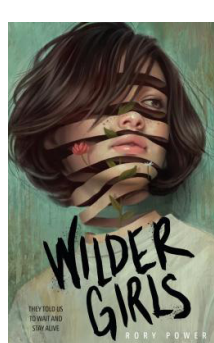
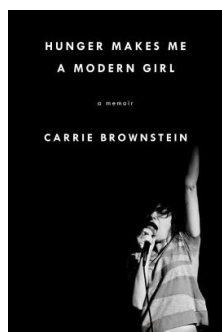
**ROZ READS!**

Last Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m. \$10 paid to Roz. See [www.rozreads.com](http://www.rozreads.com) for details.

**September:** *There, There*, Tommy Orange  
**October:** *Dark Tales*, Shirley Jackson

**SLC LESBIAN**

1st Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
at Anderson Foothill Library.  
Contact: [slc.lesbian.bookclub@gmail.com](mailto:slc.lesbian.bookclub@gmail.com) for more details.  
**September:** *Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl*, Carrie Brownstein  
**October:** *Patsy*, Nicole Dennis-Benn



**YA & WINE**

2nd Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
**September:** Local Author Mingle event! (see page 3)  
**October:** *Wilder Girls*, Rory Power

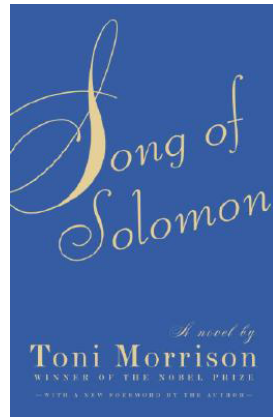


## Remembering Toni Morrison, One Bookseller's Recollection *by Betsy Burton*



Although I never met Toni Morrison, she had an outsized influence on my life. *Song of Solomon* rocked my world in ways I still can't begin to understand. Reading it was an encounter with raw truth unlike any I had ever had in a book or for that matter in life. It made me see and understand race and racism in new ways, see despair and hope differently and understand more clearly possibility and the lack of it, the stunning power of the written word when

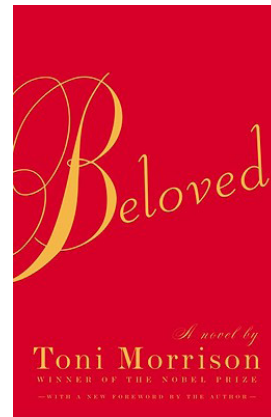
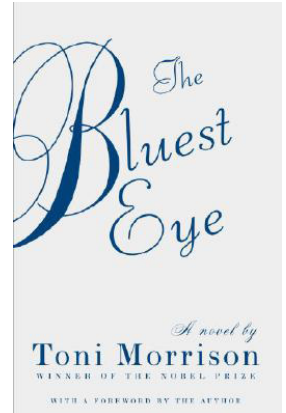
used exactly or jarringly in purposeful ways, the relationship between the natural and supernatural worlds in literature in a new way that seemed profound. Her use of language, not to mention the power of her storytelling, was breathtakingly creative and my response was positively fevered. Relatively young, I had just opened the bookshop and suddenly had a mission to handsell *Song of Solomon* to literally everyone who walked in the door. I was certain it was my sacred duty to make sure each one of them had the same encounter with reality, with truth, that I



had had—that this was why I had become a bookseller. Not the best philosophy or practice for a budding bookseller—we generally consider the customer in the equation, not just our own overwrought responses.

I went back and read *The Bluest Eye*, of course. And *Sula*. And over the years all Morrison's novels that came thereafter, *Beloved* chief among them. I still marvel, though, at the earthshaking response to my first encounter with Toni Morrison,

the way she opened my eyes and made me see. I just read Jesmyn Ward's piece in *The New York Times* titled, movingly, "I Was Wandering. Toni Morrison Found Me." I marveled at the similarity of her response to *Beloved*, mine to *Song of Solomon*—even if hers was a response to finding her own voice, mine a new understanding of the voices of others. I wondered how many people, whatever their gender or color or place in this world, had found Toni Morrison and thus were found.



## Norma Louise Warenski Matheson

1929 ~ 2019



Born in 1929 to Dr. Leo and Ardella Warenski, Norma Matheson was a legendary figure in our state and in our community. Married to Scott Matheson, she was Utah's First Lady for the eight years of his tenure as governor and has, for many of us, continued in that role ever since. Community

service was at her core. During her tenure as First Lady, she worked tirelessly on issues affecting education, children, and the elderly, visiting every senior center in the state. She served on myriad boards including, among so many, the Nature Conservancy of Utah, the Hogle Zoo, the University of Utah College of Nursing Development, the Governor's Commission on Aging (Chair), the Salt Lake League of Women Voters, her local PTA, the Children's Museum of Utah, the Utah Symphony, the Western Folklife Center... the list goes on and on. She was and will ever remain central to the life of every woman in this state (not to exclude the men who likewise honored and esteemed her) and will be remembered fondly and with great admiration by all of us. She leaves behind her brother Jim, four children, nine grandchildren, and three great grandchildren

## Carol Kinnersley Walker

1929 ~ 2019

Born in Salt Lake City on August 2, 1929, to Franklin and Ethelyn Kinnersley Crosby, Carol grew up in San Diego, California, where she was the valedictorian of her high school class. She moved to Salt Lake City to attend the University of Utah and subsequently met the love of her life, Barry Walker, at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon 70 years ago this summer. They enjoyed 66 years of marriage, spending time almost daily at The King's English during many of those years! Industrious and intelligent, Carol worked alongside Barry for many years at Walker Theater Service, later at J. Scott Anderson Interior Design, and at Cactus and Tropicals. Quite recently Carol and all of her descendants made a pilgrimage to the North Rim to honor and remember Grandpa Barry and to reminisce. She was preceded in death by her siblings and her husband and is survived by her two children, four grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren, readers one and all if they're anything like Carol and Barry!



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