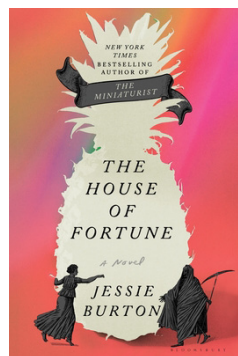


## Party Dispatch

Dear Neighbors,

It's our 45th birthday, and we are thrilled! To celebrate, we are allowing ourselves the luxury of all bookstore luxuries: rereading. With the richness that is perpetually coming out from publishing houses in the form of new author debuts, final installments of trilogies, and riveting new masterpieces by favorite authors, we enthusiastically say "Yes!" And yet, we insist on also revisiting some of our old favorites. What books have tempted us to such decadent heights? Let us share with you. Each of our reviewers has chosen one of their old favorites to read anew alongside the hot-off-the-press releases. Come by the store and soak up all these delicious morsels: like the fresh bubbles of champagne and great-grandma's tried-and-true cake recipe, they go so well together. —Michaela Riding

## 45th Birthday Celebration!

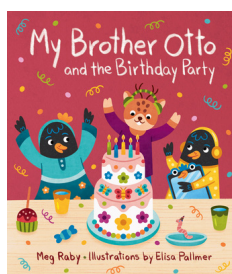


**Friday, September 9**

**6 p.m.** NYT bestselling author of *The Miniaturist*, Jessie Burton, will discuss and be signing her new novel, *The House of Fortune*

**Saturday, September 10**

**11 a.m.** A special Birthday Storytime featuring Mr. Rob and author Meg Raby and her new picture



book, *My Brother Otto and the Birthday Party*



**1 p.m.** Enjoy snacks and a toast to the bookshop!

15% of all purchases on Saturday will be donated to our new 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Brain Food Books, which will provide books to children in need across the state. \*Donation does not apply to gift cards or unpaid special orders.

## Brain Food Books: Because Kids Need to Read



The King's English Bookshop (TKE) is thrilled to announce our not-for-profit, Brain Food Books (BFB)!

TKE has had the good fortune of working with BFB, a local 501(c)(3), for over a decade now. A local pediatrician, Barbara Bean, wanted to give books to each patient at their well child appointments. Supporting a local bookstore was important to her as well. Dr. Bean raised and spent thousands of dollars over the years for this project until her retirement in 2019. Through a chance conversation with Calvin Crosby at The King's English in 2021 where they shared a common drive to have books be accessible to kids throughout the state, Barbara offered to re-start BFB and turn it over to us to continue the great work of getting books into kids' hands.

The difference between the original BFB and the one that will go forward is mostly one of scale. Dr. Bean was giving books to each of her patients one at a time. We will be giving books to entire classrooms, schools, pediatric clinics and daycare centers based on their needs in addition to letting kids pick books one at a time.

In more good news, Dr. Bean has agreed to remain involved with us as an advisor along with her husband, Jim Haisley, recently retired as an attorney for the University of Utah. If the name sounds familiar, it's because you'll remember Rachel Haisley as one of our booksellers. She is now happily ensconced at the Marriott Library putting her Master of Library Science degree to good use.

Our logo is also designed by bookseller Kurstin Spangler. If it sounds like it's all in the family, it's because we are a community of book lovers and we are eager to include you!

Want to find out more about how to get books into kids' hands?

Come to our launch in-store on Sept 10 or Donate Here:

**Brain Food Books**

@thekingsenglish

**venmo**



## One of Our Own at The King's English: Kathy Ashton

*By Betsy Burton and Barbara Hoagland*

Early in 1990, TKE's then-partners Barbara Hoagland and Betsy Burton, having decided that we needed another bookseller, set up an interview with Kathy Ashton, a woman about whom we knew little. She walked into the office at the appointed time and, before we knew it, we were talking books as if it were the most natural thing in the world to stand nose to nose in a book-stacked room with a stranger discussing Umberto Eco and Angela Thirkell. Her eyes alit, she mentioned E.B. White's letters and our eyes lit up as we listened to her, recognized her eclectic taste, her articulate passion. "You're hired," we said in unison.

It was a moment of genius on our part. TKE has never had a better bookseller, or editor for that matter. The three of us birthed the *Inkslinger* together, but Kathy, whose way with words on paper was as impressive as in person, was its editor-in-chief for many years. She developed its template and its style, collecting blurbs from TKE booksellers and matching their content to a theme she'd use to build a front page and inspire an essay or interview—or to wrench one from our muddled heads if (as seldom happened) she hadn't written anything herself.

Kathy who, for health reasons, had recently left the MA program in English at the University of Utah where she was adored by professors and students alike, knew as much about art as about literature, having been a docent at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts in the '80s. She had a quiet elegant beauty, a strong sense of style (she combed through the closet of one of us, sending half the clothes off to Goodwill), and a mordant wit belied by her calm demeanor. Her brilliant blurbs moved us to tears as well as laughter, and so did her essays and interviews (oh, those author interviews!). At the bookshop, her face would glow as she plucked this or that book off a shelf to show to a customer. That innate enthusiasm, coupled with the circumspect but impassioned way she'd hand-sell the books she loved and the compassion with which she'd listen to customers describe the books they longed to find, combined to make her the consummate bookseller.

Kathy was also the consummate friend, giving and empathetic when empathy was required (she was a beloved fairy godmother to neighbor and fellow-bookseller Anne Holman's daughters); droll, even cynical, upon occasion; intense when interested, always interesting herself; entertaining and outgoing even when it was hard to be so. Which it increasingly was as years passed: Kathy had MS. The intermittent kind which, coupled with her quiet strength and her unwillingness to complain, led us to believe she'd go on unchanged forever. She didn't of course. She became progressively more debilitated physically, and finally, after she'd been in a care facility for some time, her daughter Jennifer moved her to Chicago where she and her husband Walter could care for her. Which they did for several more years, lovingly, as the fog of unknowing that is a symptom of MS engulfed her.

To us, Kathy was and will always be at the very heart of TKE. We loved her like family, we respected her like a village elder even if we were more or less of an age, and we remained in awe of her brilliance, her flair, her luminous intelligence even as we howled with laughter over her wit. She still walks with us through the stacks of TKE in memory—and she always will.



Kathy Ashton and Mark Strand

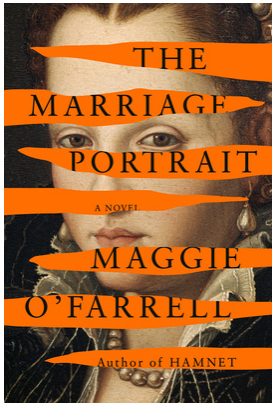


Betsy Burton, Elizabeth George, Kathy Ashton and Barbara Hoagland



Kathy Ashton and Ivan Doig





### BETSY

*The Marriage Portrait*, Maggie O'Farrell

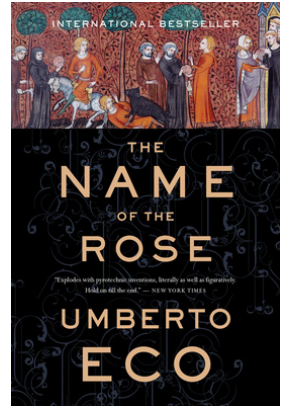
I can't remember a more vividly imagined novel than the latest from the penetrating and beguiling mind of Maggie O'Farrell. The overarching glow of Renaissance Italy, of pageantry, power and history bur- nishes the increasingly terrifying present- tense narrative of a marriage and the ed- dying counter-narrative of the childhood of Lucrezia de' Medici, youngest daughter of Cosimo de' Medici. As characters leap

to intense life—visually and psychologically—and scene after scene sears our memories, we come to know the overlooked and ignored Lucrezia, the astute quality of her observations, her blooming artistic talent, the only partially concealed passion and obstinacy of her nature. Informed by her father (when she is but 13) whom she is to marry, she at first supposes the Duke of Ferrara to be quixotic and perhaps kind—but the reader knows differently, having learned on page one (in the present tense narrative) that the exact opposite is true, that the Duke intends to kill his now 16-year-old bride and she knows it. The tension between that fact and the tale leading up to it makes for an unforgettable read, harrowing, enthralling, as complex

as its main character, as striking as her own vibrant art and as rich as the flamboyant but cruel history it portrays. A sorcerer's brew of startling verbs, intense, evocative adjectives and radiant sentences, scenes and chapters, this is a deeply hued and haunting novel full of grief and fear and self-knowledge, tension and mystery and courage, all wrapped in the inexpressible magic that is the warp and weft of brilliant fiction. A book to read and reread and keep on your shelves forever. —Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$28

*The Name of the Rose*, Umberto Eco

*The Name of the Rose*, which likewise lives on upon my shelves and in my mem- ory, has a resonance startling in similar if darker ways to *The Marriage Portrait*. Set in a labyrinthian Franciscan library in the 14th century, this tale of a murder investi- gation by a ferociously learned monk and his naïve young novice is steeped in the history and philosophy and religion of the time (and of Eco's time as well) enfolded in a narrative so compelling it is as vivid in recollection as it was when I first read it nearly 40 years ago. —Betsy Burton, Mariner, \$16







**CALVIN**

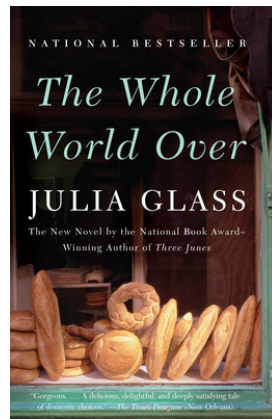
***Solito: A Memoir*, Javier Zamora**

*Solito* is Javier Zamora's journey as a nine-year-old boy from El Salvador to the United States to reunite with his parents, whom he has not seen in a few years. The group he travels with, under the expertise of their paid guide, "the coyote," supports and protects him as they would their own family. The journey takes them across Guatemala and Mexico to the U.S. Border. What is planned as a two-week trip turns into two months of hard travel, chal-

lenges, and terror. The challenges, beyond the already daunting three-thousand-mile journey, include dangerous land, unsafe water, armed men and betrayal at every turn. His story clearly illustrates the extent that people (including children) are willing to face for the perception of a better life in the U.S. A life of more promise than the one they are leaving and above all, the human drive to reunite with family, to run into the safety of the arms of your parents, even parents you barely remember. This is that story. —Calvin Crosby, Hogarth, \$28

***The Whole World Over*, Julia Glass**

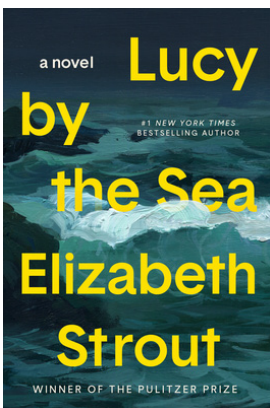
In 2006, my review was too short, though the impact of the book was deep: "If we are lucky, a novel will resonate with our minds and, possibly, even with our souls — and, if we are really lucky, with the entirety of the human condition. This is such a book, a fiercely character-driven novel with the contrasting settings of New York, Northern California, Maine, and New Mexico, and with quite a few kitchens and even more meals prepared throughout. Julia Glass has created characters you will have no choice but to fall in love with as they gracefully intertwine with tension, strength, and fallibility." In 2022 I would add that there is no other novel that conveys the moments after the Twin Towers fell that immerses you in what New Yorkers felt on 9/11. Julia describes the act of terrorism that shook the nation through the eyes of the unforgettable Saga; all these years later, I still wonder what she is up to and how her life has been over the last 18 years. —Calvin Crosby, Anchor, \$16.95



**ANNE**

***Lucy by the Sea*, Elizabeth Strout**

Pandemic literature will be with us for a long time and for me, a well-thought-out novel is my preferred way of processing the last two and half years. Elizabeth Strout's beloved characters live in the present and Lucy and William (Oh!) are no exception. As the virus barrels into New York City, William understands what's at stake and convinces Lucy to go to Maine with him and "wait it out." What neither of them know (and none of us



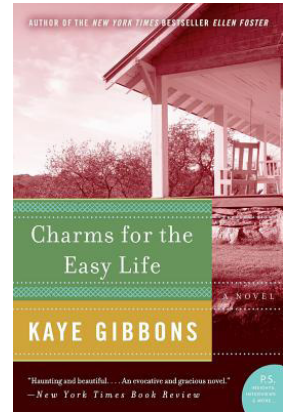
certainly did) was that it was going to be two years of not knowing. Together and separately (they are divorced after all) the couple worry about their children, their friends, their exes, their vacant homes...at one point Lucy thinks, "We are all in lockdown, all the time. We just don't know it, that's all. But we do the best we can. Most of us are just trying to get through." And isn't that true for all of us?

—Anne Holman, Random House, \$28

***Charms for the Easy Life*, Kaye Gibbons**

What could be more romantic than a young man, about to leave for war, offering his girlfriend a cigar box filled with his most prized possessions and saying simply, "I didn't know what to give you so I'm giving you everything"?

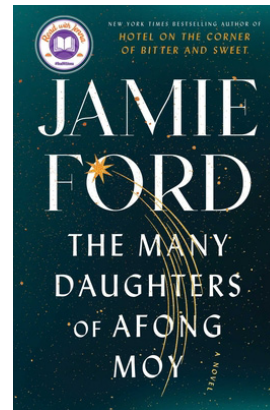
—Anne Holman, Harper Perennial, \$14.99



**ANNIE**

***The Many Daughters of Afong Moy*, Jamie Ford**

People suffer from inherited trauma. That is the premise of this generational story of the descendants of Afong Moy, the first Chinese woman to come to America. In 1834, that tiny woman with bound feet and no English-speaking skills was exploited for her rarity and beauty. Made to appear in public as an oddity, poems were written about her, racehorses were named



for her, and she even met the President of the United States. But it is the trauma she suffered that echoes through her daughters and their daughters who inhabit this tale. If epigenesis is real, as Ford believes, then it can also be treated. Many generations later, Dorothy suffers from debilitating depression and finds herself in a nightmare from which she cannot awake. Believing the past has truly come to haunt her, she seeks radical help in past regression therapy, and we meet her ancestors who all seem tied to Afong's trauma and possibly the same lost love. At once poetic, heartbreaking, evocative, and ultimately redeeming, this story will stay with you for a very long time.

—Anne Stewart Mark, Simon and Schuster, \$28

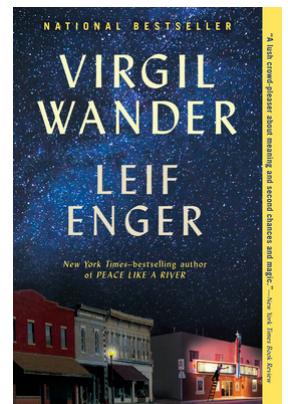
***Virgil Wander*, Leif Enger**

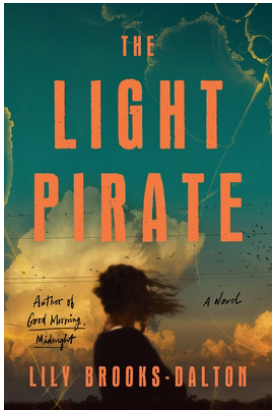
This is a novel that has something for everyone: kite-flying, classic films shown in old movie houses, big fish adventures, midwestern humor, and above all, terrific storytelling. —Anne Stewart Mark, Grove Press, \$17

**VAL**

***The Light Pirate*, Lily Brooks-Dalton**

Choosing to live in the West means a lot of things but these days it mostly means waiting and hoping for rain—trying to avoid the inevitable disaster of not having enough water in the place we call home. Choosing to live in Florida, on the other hand, means





facing a whole different set of natural disasters. Wanda, the main character of *The Light Pirate*, was named after the disastrous hurricane that slammed against the small town of Rudder, Florida on the day she was born. Told in four parts—Power, Water, Light and Time—beautifully and hauntingly mixing magical realism and science, *The Light Pirate* tells the story of Wanda's lifetime from childhood to adulthood in the quickly dying Florida town she calls home. Choosing again and again to stay and adapt to a place ultimately abandoned by civilization, she is initially

delighted and intrigued by the world she arrives in where weather patterns are intensifying, temperatures are soaring and sea levels are rising. Families are evacuating or staying; and torrential storms and flooding provide work and purpose for her lineman father, who restores not only the town's power but its glimpse of the future it would rather not greet. Too soon, Wanda's curiosity and wonder at the beauty and rhythms of the natural world turn into an aching loneliness for what it has taken from her and will never return: family, community, shared knowledge, physical safety, procreation. Her strength and resiliency carved from a brutalized landscape are all that remain—leaving us dreading the possibility of the world she calls into being. Living in the West, I seldom think about what it's like having too much rain. Entering a world where it seldom stops was sometimes thrilling, sometimes not, but always immersive in a way that stays with you. If you or someone you know enjoyed reading *Where the Crawdads Sing* or *Station Eleven* because of their unforgettable female lead characters, natural world backdrop, and cautionary tale of love and survival - you'll want to read *The Light Pirate*!

—Val Kittel, Grand Central Publishing, \$28

**Mink River**, Brian Doyle

A writing style that echoes that of ancient storytellers: lyrical, operatic, mythical, mercurial; a story that weaves the spiritual and natural worlds into the human world; a debut novel by a beloved writer, gone now, and sadly lost to the sea that 'sings in a lost blue language.' —Val Kittel, Oregon State University Press, \$18.95



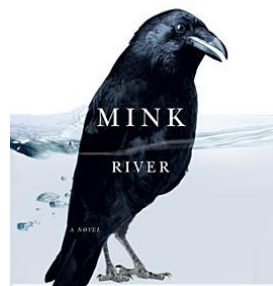
**ALEXIS**

*Leech*, Hiron Ennes

*Leech* is a story told from the perspective of a parasite as it investigates the death of one of its many human hosts. What it finds in an isolated, snowy chateau threatens its control over human bodies. I wish I could erase my memory of reading *Leech* so I can experience it for the first time again. A few times throughout the book, I gasped and put the book down so

"Doyle is the tradition of Northwest literature, with magical, distinctive, beautiful... I am pulled along really, my heart ached, I held my breath."  
—MICHAELA RIDING, author of *The House of Names* and *The Jumpoff Coast*

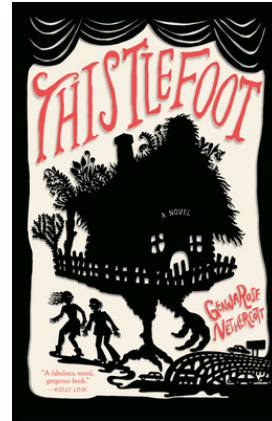
BRIAN DOYLE



I could stare at a wall in disbelief. Ennes skillfully spoke on themes of bodily autonomy and generational trauma. *Leech* is a horrifying and unique must-read that has my heart... and my brain. —Alexis Powell, Tordotcom, \$27.99

**The Only Good Indians**, Stephen Graham Jones

*The Only Good Indians* had me looking over my shoulder paranoid that there's a monster stalking somewhere in the shadows. It's brilliantly terrifying. —Alexis Powell, Saga Press, \$16.99



**MICHAELA**

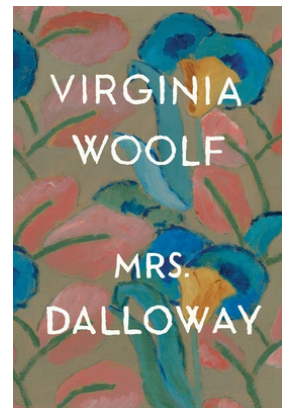
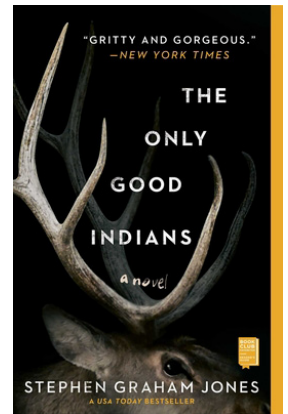
*Thistlefoot*, GennaRose Nethercott

Who isn't fascinated by the enigmatic Baba Yaga: cannibal witch or misunderstood woman? And what of her hut with the chicken legs: unnatural or simply home? From the traditional folktale out of Kyiv, to the modern-day United States criss-crossed with highways, this retelling travels light, but plants seeds that root deep into you,

the way all good tumbleweeds and stories do. Siblings Issac and Bellatine Yaga, descendants of the famed witch, have just reunited to receive their inheritance across generations and oceans—the hut itself, called Thistlefoot. But Thistlefoot comes with a personality and a history, including a shadowy stalker bent on its destruction. To survive, the Yagas are forced to work together to claim their inheritance and own their part in it, reckoning with the epigenetic memories that have left lasting marks on who they are. Even if you were not steeped in this folktale as a child, this novel is a gift. Perfect company for fans of *Circe* and *Once Upon a River*. —Michaela Riding, Anchor, \$28

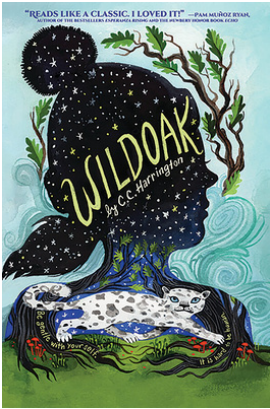
**Mrs. Dalloway**, Virginia Woolf

Ever since the pandemic began, I have been repeating this one snippet from *Mrs. Dalloway* like a mantra: "...pausing for a moment at the window of a glove shop where, before the War, you could buy almost perfect gloves," and wondering what would alter in our society, which previously essential item would go the way of perfect gloves. So I reread the novel over the phone with my best friend, and what a reread! In my opinion, Woolf's humor (how we cackled!) is one of her most underappreciated qualities. Humor requires empathy, and her empathy is unparalleled as she so thoroughly navigates the minds of her characters, all reeling intimately as the world around them changes irrevocably. —Michaela Riding, Mariner, \$15.99





## New Reads & Rereads



**BECKY**

*Wildoak*, C.C. Harrington

Maggie, who stutters and struggles to succeed at three different schools, is sent to live with her loving grandfather, the local doctor in Cornwall, England. The only time Maggie doesn't stutter is when she talks to animals. Rumpus, a snow leopard kit, was dumped in Wildoak, a threatened forest in Cornwall. When the two meet, special things happen, but not everyone is happy with a wild cat on the loose. I couldn't put down this environmental,

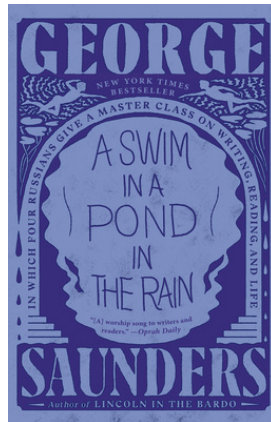
magical animal story with a uniquely sensitive protagonist.

—Becky Hall, Scholastic Press, \$17.99 (Ages 8-12)

*A Swim in a Pond in the Rain, in which Four Russians Give a Master Class on Writing, Reading and Life*, George Saunders

Using seven Russian short stories as his textbook, Saunders teaches readers and writers just like he does his students at Syracuse University. In each story, page by page, he asks the reader questions which lead to deep insight into their great writing. A must-read for all writers!

—Becky Hall, Random House, \$18.99



**PAULA**

*Alias Emma*, Ava Glass

London is protected by the 'ring of steel', an extensive security network of CCTV cameras monitored day and night. What if a foreign power hacked the system? Agent Emma Makepeace is pulled off her boredom-inducing surveillance op and tasked with bringing in a Russian defector's son. It sounds easy: quick trip across London, drop off at the safe house, home in time for News at Ten. When it all goes wrong, the hunters clearly didn't bank on

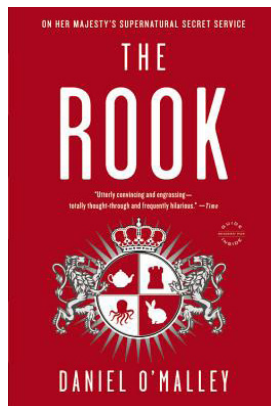
Agent Makepeace—who is hiding secrets of her own.

—Paula Longhurst, Bantam, \$27

*The Rook*, Daniel O'Malley

You wake up dazed and confused, surrounded by corpses and in your pocket is a note that says, "the body you're wearing used to be mine." O'Malley has created the lovechild of Torchwood, Dr. Who and Monty Python. What's not to love?!

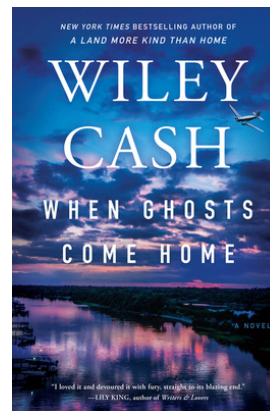
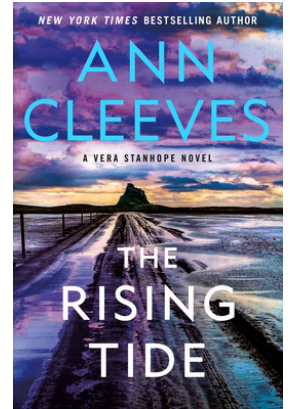
—Paula Longhurst, Back Bay Books, \$16.99



**WENDY**

*The Rising Tide*, Ann Cleeves

Followers of Vera Stanhope, whether on the page or tv screen, will not be disappointed by *The Rising Tide*. Vera is a human portrayal of the Northumbrian landscape. She is hard, skeptical of softness, but rich with an inner humanity. This newest installation is set on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, reached via a causeway only accessible at low tide. A group of friends have been meeting there at the Pilgrims' Cottage for 50 years both as a reunion and in memory of a friend killed by the rising tide 45 years before. When one of the group is found hanging in his room, the memory of that earlier death is resurrected. The past is never far away for the members as Vera and her staff become increasingly involved in their lives and secrets. Vera's staff has become more and more important in the recent Cleeves novels. She is both a strict boss and a mother hen. For those of you who have not read a Cleeves novel, choose from Vera or Shetland or Matthew Venn and become part of the landscape and strong, complicated characters. —Wendy Foster Leigh, Minotaur Books, \$27.99



*When Ghosts Come Home*, Wiley Cash

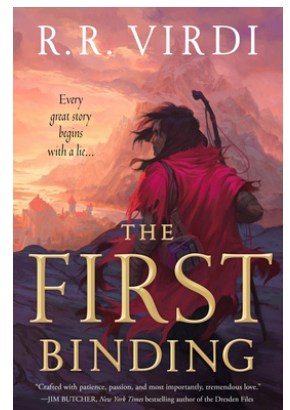
What a page turner! Cash writes three relationship novels in one book—the dynamics of family, race, and evil are explored by this powerful writer. Winston Barnes is the current sheriff of a small town on the coast of North Carolina. When an airplane crash-lands on their airstrip and a body is found on the runway, the sheriff's life is thrown into turmoil. His wife has cancer, his daughter's marriage is fragile, and his job as sheriff is in danger from an opposing candidate

who is a violent racist. The book brings tears one moment and fear the next. Without revealing the ending, I appeal to Cash to make the book a series. Don't leave your readers in suspense. —Wendy Foster Leigh, William Morrow, \$17.99

**MARK**

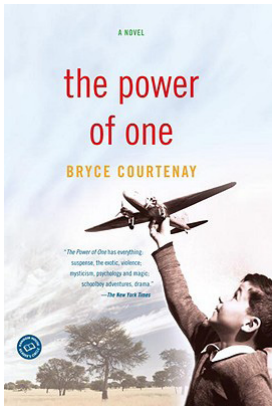
*The First Binding*, R.R. Viridi

*The First Binding* is the first novel in an exciting new series by Nebula-nominated author R.R. Viridi. Ari, "The Storyteller", is on a quest with a theatrical flair where he is learning to master the Bindings: skills that allow him to unlock and use the magic of the world. At the end of day, he is preparing to hunt down and face those who killed his family before they hunt him down in turn. This is a high epic fantasy for those who love immersive and richly built worlds. Appealing to fans of *The Name of the Wind*, it reminds us that stories contain a special magic of their own. —Mark Paoletti, Tor, \$29.99





## New Reads & Rereads



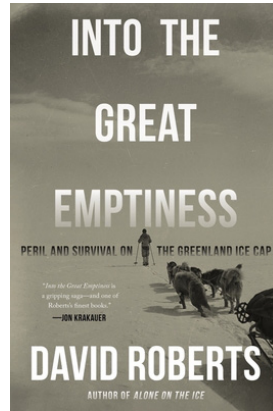
**The Power of One**, Bryce Courtenay

*The Power of One* is the most inspirational novel I have ever read. Its message of struggle and loss, hope and triumph, is as relevant today as when it was written.

—Mark Paoletti, Ballantine, \$17

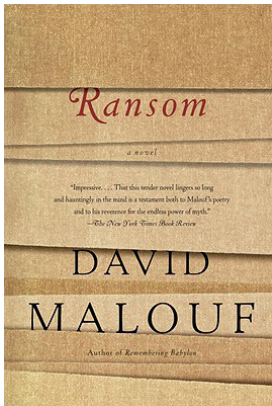
**JAN**

**Into the Great Emptiness: Peril and Survival on the Greenland**



**Ice Cap**, David Roberts

This posthumously published book is one of David Roberts' best works. Mr. Roberts, who was a veteran mountain climber and adventure writer, takes on this little-known story of one of the first explorations of the nearly inaccessible east coast of Greenland by an unknown, untried twenty-three-year-old George Watkins (Gino). The writing pulls the reader in from the very beginning and will not let one go until the very end. A riveting tale told by the "dean of adventure writing". —Jan Sloan Tempest, Norton, \$30



**Ransom**, David Malouf

In this moving novel of suffering, sorrow and redemption, Mr. Malouf tells the story of two grieving men at war: Achilles and Priam. The power of raw grief is unforgettable as is the wisdom of forgiveness. "The sea has many voices. The voice this man is listening for is the voice of his mother." —Jan Sloan Tempest, Vintage, \$15.95

**MACKENZIE**

**Carrie Soto is Back**, Taylor

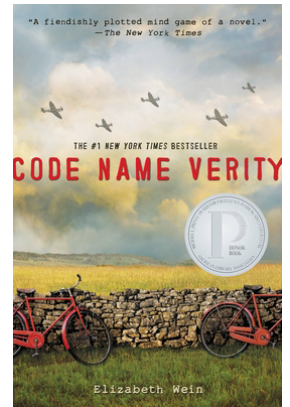


Jenkins Reid

Good news—Carrie Soto is back. Better news—Taylor Jenkins Reid is back with another fierce leading lady ready to prove anyone who ever doubted her wrong. Carrie Soto, once the best tennis player in the world, is coming out of retirement to defend her title against a new upstart. But at age 37, Carrie isn't the player she once was—and the media isn't as willing to let her get away with her cutthroat ambition. For sports and non-sports fans alike, this book is an emotional gut punch about never settling for less than you know you deserve, and the way society villainizes female ambition. Another winner from fan favorite TJR! —Mackenzie Van Engelenhoven, Ballantine, \$28

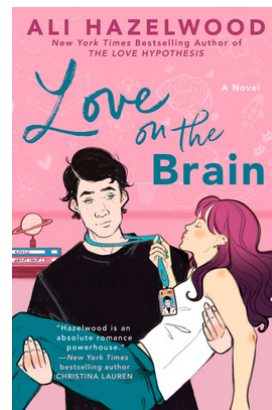
**Code Name Verity**, Elizabeth Wein

A spy and a pilot are shot down over Nazi occupied France. The spy is captured. The pilot disappears. What follows is a confession written down for the spy's brutal captors—and slowly turns into the story of her and the pilot, her best friend Maddie, and how the horrific war brought her the most important person in her life. Have I read this book over twenty times? Yes. Has it made me cry every time? Yes. Have I cried in the bookstore while talking to customers about this book? Yes. Did I name my dog after one of the characters? Yes. —Mackenzie Van Engelenhoven, Little, Brown, \$10.99 (Ages 14 and up)



**SARAH**

**Love on the Brain**, Ali Hazelwood

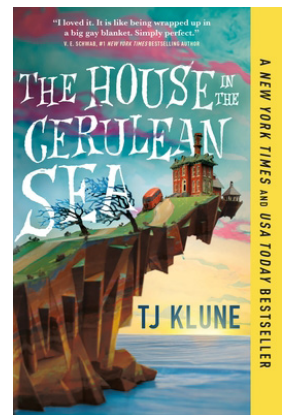


Ali Hazelwood has done another outstanding job with *Love on the Brain*, a funny, smart rom com that I couldn't put down. Bee Konigswasser has gotten her dream job at NASA—being the co-lead on a neuroengineering project—but finds out she'll be working with her grad school nemesis, Levi Ward. Given their history, she is not surprised when emails go missing and there are delays with equipment and setting up her lab. But perhaps there

is a darker reason for all the mishaps and it's not really Levi after all? Ultimately, can Bee risk love after the losses in her past? Hazelwood takes the "enemies to lovers" trope to new heights with her witty dialogue, a great supporting cast, STEMInist ideals, not to mention swoon-worthy chemistry between Bee and Levi. I loved it. —Sarah Ray, Berkley, \$17

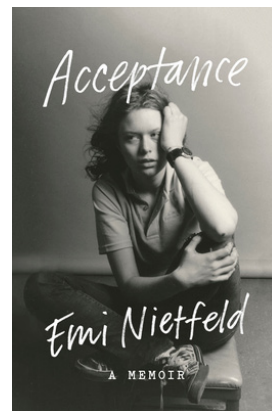
**The House in the Cerulean Sea**, TJ Klune

In *The House in the Cerulean Sea*, TJ Klune has written a heartwarming, laugh-out-loud story of how to find yourself, love, and family in the most unexpected of places and how accepting differences is always better than fear and hate. —Sarah Ray, Tor, \$18.99



**KIM**

**Acceptance**, Emi Nietfeld



I am a sucker for a good 'rise above your childhood circumstances' story and Emi Nietfeld's *Acceptance* did not disappoint. This is a fascinating as well as captivating memoir about a young girl's determination to seek the most prestigious college acceptance letter in spite of, or rather, because of, her harrowing family life and circum-



## New Reads & Rereads

stances. Using her disadvantaged life to her advantage, Emi believes all of her problems and troubled past will right itself once she is Harvard bound. But will people love and accept her now that she has achieved the most coveted college accolades? I loved the illuminating realizations Emi discovers along the way as she navigates her life on the crew team, her first internship, and a high-tech job. A thought provoking and sometimes disturbing account of one girl's unconventional triumph in the game called Life. —Kim Hacking, Penguin, \$27



***This Is How It Always Is*, Laurie Frankel**

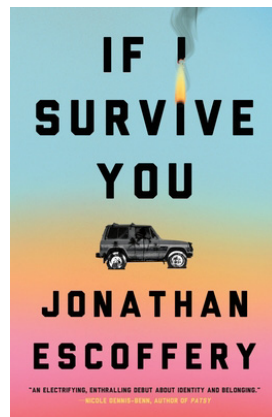
This magical book tells the not-so-fairytale life of Penn, a budding writer, and Rosie, an ER physician, who together are raising five boys. At least, they thought they had five boys, until the youngest child felt more comfortable as Poppy, a girl, at the age of five. Laurie Frankel writes the most incredible story about love and belonging, finding the middle way, and learning how to dispel fear. I believe every human being should read this tender book, as we all could benefit from

its lessons in heart opening acceptance of all God's creations. —Kim Hacking, Flatiron, \$16.99

**BRIAN**

***If I Survive You*, Jonathan Escoffery**

Full of heart and grit, this bold collection of interconnected stories follows a Jamaican family sold on the American Dream. *If I Survive You* follows a series of vibrant characters including Trelawny, who takes on various odd (and often hilarious) jobs to claw his way out of homelessness, his brother Delano, who is determined to get his kids back, and their cousin Cukie, who is trying to find his elusive father. Each story builds and overlaps over one another, creating a compelling portrait of an immigrant family trying to survive in America. *If I Survive You* is a debut full of heartbreak, hope, and determination. —Brian Pham, Macmillan, \$27



***The Anthropocene Reviewed*, John Green**

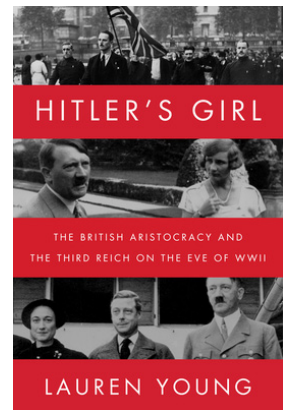
*The Anthropocene Reviewed* is a reminder of how small we all are, a testament to the human capacity for wonder, and a love letter to being alive. —Brian Pham, Dutton, \$28

**BARBARA**

***Hitler's Girl: The British Aristocracy and the Third Reich on the Eve of WWII*, Lauren Young**

Young's detailed examination of how Britain came close to joining the axis of

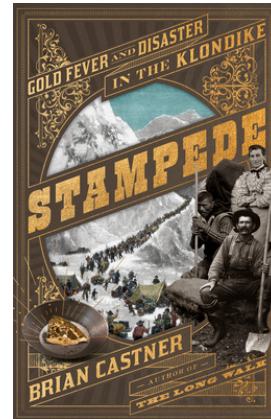
ganda. An examination of newly declassified documents reveals a shocking story of the upper classes' determination to undermine democratic traditions. Young also delves into the similarities between pre-World War II Britain and the west's flirting with authoritarianism in 2022. The threats that pre-World War II Great Britain faced are eerily similar to threats faced today and Young cogently contrasts and examines the similarities. —Barbara Hoagland, Harper, \$29.99



**Stampede:**

***Gold Fever and Disaster in the Klondike*, Brian Castner**

The end of the nineteenth century found the United States suffering from dire economic times, the worst in its short history. So, when news broke of a gold strike in Alaska's Klondike, a stampede was on. The history of this massive surge of humanity is one of epic proportions, mostly one of epic tragedy. Getting to the strike areas involved traversing mountain ranges that quickly took the lives of



man and beast, neither of which were equipped to face nature at its harshest. The shanty towns that grew up were rife with violence and lawlessness. Castner's story of this surge is brought to life through the lenses of the unique individuals who participated in the gold rush. This story of the Klondike Gold Rush is breathtaking. —Barbara Hoagland, Doubleday, 28.95

**MARGARET**

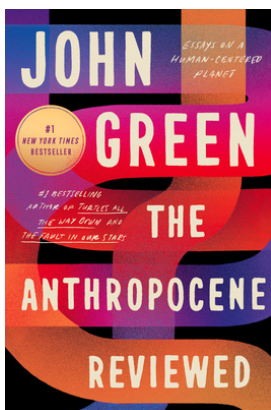
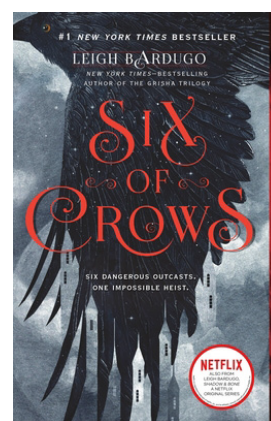
***The Patron Thief of Bread*, Lindsay Eager**

Loved this novel! Perfect for fans of books like *The Beatrice Prophecy*, full of courage and wonder. —Margaret Brennan Neville, Candlewick, \$19.99 (Ages 9 and up)



***Six of Crows* and the sequel *Crooked Kingdom*, Leigh Bardugo**

This novel grabs readers from the first page; it is an adventure, a fantasy, and even a bit of romance. The only criticism I have is that it had to end. —Margaret Brennan Neville, Henry Holt, \$19.99 (Ages 12 and up)

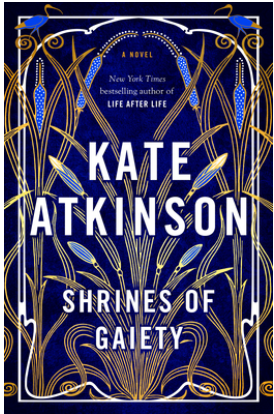


fascist countries is strikingly relevant to current events. Authoritarianism in England paired with extensive sympathy for Nazism within the upper class of Brits made for fertile ground for Hitler's propa-



## More New Releases

### FICTION



#### *Shrines of Gaiety*, Kate Atkinson

“How easy it is to be killed on the streets of London. By accident or design.” Kate Atkinson is up to her old tricks: disappearing girls and dead bodies; crooked cops and spies everywhere—all set in 1926 London amidst a delicious, hedonistic new nightlife. This rough-and-tumble novel draws its inspiration from London’s true-life flamboyant, tough-as-nails queen of the Soho night club scene, Kate Meyrick. Here, Meyrick’s fictional stand-in is named Ma Croker (Nellie/Mrs. Croker

to her employees). Ma’s jewel of her 5 clubs, The Amethyst, “deflated with the dawn. It needed night to come alive.” In this Atkinson novel, many forces—from without and within—conspire to topple or usurp Ma Croker’s empire: honest, sympathetic Inspector Frobisher and double-dealing Inspector Maddox; Oates the laughing cop and Ma’s son Ramsay who is addicted to drugs and gambling. As well, there’s Mr. Azzopardi scheming to recover the contents of a “rather rusty metal box” not to mention the bodies of young girls which keep turning up in the Thames or the costumed bodies of men dropped on the steps of the Bow Street police station. *Shrines of Gaiety* bursts with a large cast of complex, memorable characters in an intricate, ingenious plot, set in a glittering dazzle atop a dark underbelly with watchers everywhere. You’ll not put it down! —Carol Kranes, Doubleday, \$29

#### *Elizabeth Finch*, Julian Barnes

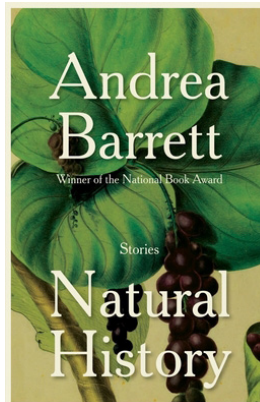
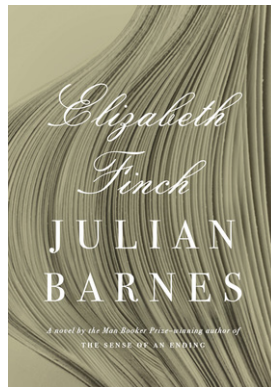
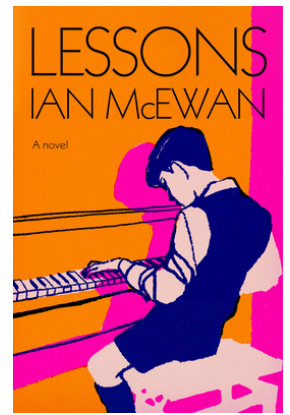
This slim volume by master storyteller Julian Barnes is a quiet tale of Neil, the narrator of the story, and Professor Elizabeth Finch who is offering a class on Culture and Civilization—not for undergraduates, but adult students, most over thirty. As the class progresses, Neil begins to fall in love, at least intellectually, with Elizabeth. She is a rigorous thinker who guides her students through the philosophies of the past and to explore those key events in order to make sense of their lives today. As the class progresses, Neil begins to meet Elizabeth for lunch once a month which furthers his involvement of the mind. When Elizabeth misses a couple of lunches, Neil learns of her cancer and eventual death, and much to his surprise, finds that she has left all of her papers to him. Following the notes that she left behind, Neil becomes obsessed with Julian the Apostate and the book then follows a swerve into nonfiction. An unorthodox novel that follows what Mr. Barnes is so good at, a look at the many unorthodox ways that love can manifest between two people. This is a work that will stay with the reader long after the last page has been read. —Jan Sloan Tempest, Knopf, \$26

#### *Lessons*, Ian McEwan

As a vulnerable young boy in a boarding school, Roland Baines encounters a sort of female Humbert Humbert who teaches him piano—among other things. The way she molds him, musically, sexu-

ally, and in every other way, impacts not just his life in school but also the path he takes thereafter. Which is not to say that Roland is hopelessly harmed; rather he is flawed in ways he might not otherwise have been, thrown in directions he might not otherwise have taken. Which makes the tale of his life consumingly interesting—especially since his next encounter with someone as obsessed with sex as he has become is also obsessed with creating. With writing. When she abandons him and their infant son, we realize we are in this for the long haul—that this is

the tale not of a relationship, or of an emotional problem, but of one man’s life. And we follow eagerly along as Roland parents the boy; attempts (and often fails) at relationships, at careers in music, poetry, tennis, journalism; travels to Germany and beyond; reads copiously and debates vociferously about everything from politics to science, art to history to climate change, all the while believing himself to be living an ‘unchosen’ life. As a jaded and Covid-beset bookseller prone to skipping long passages, I read *Lessons* word for word, page by fascinating page, enveloped by the narrative, enthralled by the history, enraptured by the almost constant and sometimes jarring moments of illumination. Brilliant and immersive, *Lessons* must surely be the capstone of McEwan’s unparalleled career (his novels have been shortlisted for—and won—the Booker, the Whitbread, the National Book Critics Circle awards among others), although it’s hardly fair to say that this is his crowning achievement since who knows what this sublimely wise and humane literary maestro will do next? —Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$30



#### *Natural History*, Andrea Barrett

These six stories, exquisitely written, spool out the lives of strong women keenly curious about the scientific, natural world yet just as deeply committed to family and friends. Barrett’s scientists, teachers, and innovators have populated her work since her arresting National Book Award-winning collection *Ship Fever* 25 years ago. At the center of these newest stories is Henrietta Atkins (b. 1852) who studied and taught natural history in the small Adirondack town of

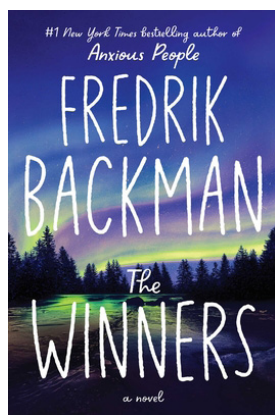
Crooked Lake. In the opening story, Henrietta is “thanked” in her friend’s book, *Wonders of the Shore*, as “my dear friend and stalwart companion.” In another story 10-year-old Henrietta works for the Deverell family and catalogues letters received from their Civil War soldier-sons Izzy and Vic. In the third story the reader is treated to lessons on the study of “caterpillars, chrysalides, cocoons, and eggs.” In the final capstone story, Henrietta’s relative, Rose Marburg (b. 1955), begins to write about this admirable woman. The stories are complexly rich with secrets and histories and evoke the ways women’s lives and expectations—in families, in work, in love—have shifted across a century and more. One of the best story collections I’ve read, by an elegant, sensual storyteller. —Carol Kranes, W.W. Norton, \$29



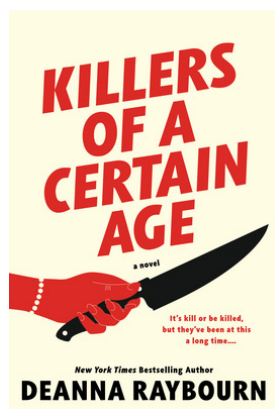
## FICTION

### *The Winners*, Fredrik Backman

This, the third installment in Backman's Beartown trilogy, introduces a wave of hostility and violence between Beartown and Hed after a local businessman works to combine hockey teams from both small villages into one. Fierce loyalties to town, family and team erupt in ways unexpected. All is wrapped up minus several key members of the community who succumb to one disturbed youth. Backman's homage to parent and child influences are always at the heart of his stories. —Sue Fleming, Atria, \$28.99



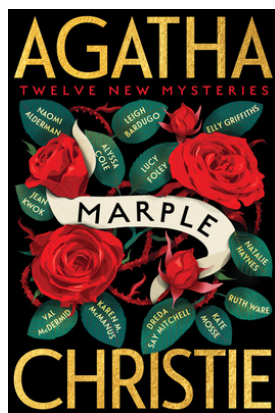
## MYSTERY



### *Killers of A Certain Age*, Deanna Raybourn

I just finished this and absolutely loved it! It's RED meets Golden Girls (and if they don't get Helen Mirren to play Billie Webster in the movie I'll eat my hat!) —Paula Longhurst, Berkley, \$27

### *Marple: Twelve New Mysteries*, Naomi Alderman, Leigh Bardugo,



Alyssa Cole, Lucy Foley, Elly Griffiths, Natalie Haynes, Jean Kwok, Val McDermid, Karen M. McManus, Dreda Say Mitchell, Kate Mosse, Ruth Ware

Marple, the book, is a collection of Jane Marple incarnations written by 12 modern, award-winning mystery writers. Jane Marple is the archetype of the amateur, female, elderly detective. She lives in the minds and psyche of every modern mystery writer. Each of the 12 authors brings her personality and style to Miss Marple in spite of attempting to channel Agatha Christie's world. The book is a perfect escape from the serious and/or dark mysteries which may be on your shelf. None of the faux Janes reaches perfection; however, each story is intriguing as each author adds personal interpretations and quirks to Christie's creation. —Wendy Foster Leigh, William Morrow, \$28.99

### *The Enigma of Room 622*, Joel Dicker

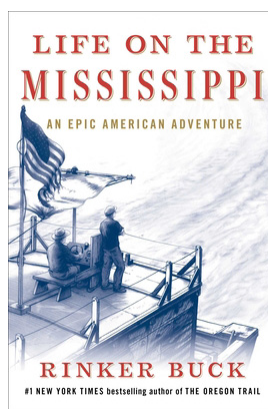
Clue after clue and episode after episode seem clear and complete; however, never trust the narrative or the characters. Room 622 in the Hotel de Verbier in the Swiss Alps just doesn't exist, so a writer and an enthusiastic hotel guest set out to solve the mystery of the missing room



## MYSTERY

and its secrets. Years before, a corpse had been discovered in that room, but the story has been hidden in the folklore of the hotel and the minds of the guests and employees of that time. The stories all lead to Macaire Ebezner and a large, private bank in Switzerland. The internal machinations of the rich and powerful of Switzerland unfold during this thick novel which becomes "curiouser and curiouser" as it unfolds. See it to the end and enjoy the surprises. —Wendy Foster Leigh, HarperVia, \$29.99

## HISTORY



### *Life on the Mississippi: An Epic American Adventure*, Rinker Buck

With a name like Rinker Buck, you hope for adventure, and this newest book does not disappoint. Buck is something of an everyman who has a penchant for American history and devises travels to explore the accuracy of that history. In his wildly popular book *The Oregon Trail*, he took us on a modern-day voyage retracing the route of the Oregon Trail of the 1850s, met unforgettable characters along the way, and dug deep into his own psyche as

he confronted the difference between our written history and the real history he uncovered. In his newest book, he delves into another era of American history: the opening of the vast North American Midwest and South by flatboats on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, directly leading to their development and settling. He starts by building an Ohio River flatboat, outfitting it, getting a crew, and putting into the Monongahela River upriver from Pittsburgh with the intent to make it to New Orleans—all the while being told he and his crew will die in the dangerous rivers. What an adventure! This is a book worth reading for understanding 1830s American growth, how we treated Native American people during the settling of these lands, and how the Southern cotton and sugar cane economy moved inland, brutally relocating millions of African American enslaved people from the Atlantic Piedmont to the Mississippi Valley. Pick this book up and make it one of your summer reads – you won't be disappointed. —Patrick Fleming, Simon and Schuster, \$32.50

### *Need To Know: World War II and the Rise of American Intelligence*, Nicholas Reynolds

"Gentlemen do not read each other's mail" —the words of U.S. Secretary of State Henry Stimson in 1930 when he was informed of the American Black Chamber, an outgrowth of America's very limited and feeble attempt at foreign intelligence gathering after World War I. He closed it down. Ten years hence it became obvious that gentlemen and the not-so-gentlemanly did indeed need to read each other's mail and America was ill-equipped to do so. Fortunately, a small group of Army and Navy intelligence people did not follow the Secretary's admonishment. This riveting tale of the almost start from



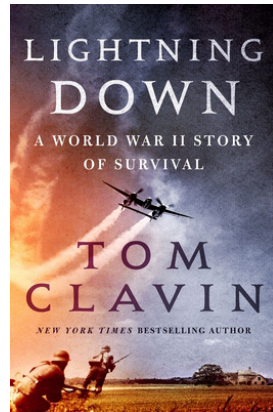


## HISTORY

scratch establishment of an American agency that eventually became the CIA is must-read. With guidance from the British, the U.S. began to understand how to gather, analyze and, most importantly, put to good use the information it discovered. As with most governmental agencies the story is riddled with infighting between the Army, Navy and several other ad-hoc offices that eventually merged to become the Office of Strategic Services under General “Wild Bill” Donovan. The OSS, in cooperation with the regular armed services, collected, analyzed, and distributed political, economic, and military intelligence as well as running its own special covert operations. It amassed an impressive record and by the end of the war was lauded by all military commanders. So naturally the government disbanded it in October of 1945, only to reinvent the wheel in 1947 when rebuilding as the CIA. —John Mark, Harpercollins, \$29.99

### *Lightning Down*, Tom Clavin

The extraordinary tale of Lt. Joe Moser’s struggle to survive in Nazi concentration and POW camps after being shot down over Europe, and how, after many months of hardship in captivity, Hermann Goering himself intervened to save him and his comrades. —John Mark, St. Martin’s Press, \$29.99



## EDGY

### *Three Kisses, One Midnight*, Roshani Chokshi, Evelyn Skye & Sandhya Menon

What a sweet, romantic, magical read! Because who doesn’t want to attend a magical Halloween ball in a magical town with a magical love potion—and of course, it’s pumpkin spice flavored. Three best friends each find love on Halloween in their magical small town in this set of interconnected stories, making up a sweet autumnal rom com—which is a thing I didn’t know I needed! —Mackenzie Van Engelenhoven, Wednesday Books, \$18.99 (Ages 14 and up)



### *Foul Lady Fortune*, Chloe Gong



Set in a magical alternate-history Shanghai, a magical assassin must infiltrate high society to solve a series of murders relating to Imperial Japan’s invasion of China, all while posing as the wife of an infuriating fellow agent and playboy, who she is definitely not falling for. It’s a Chinese period drama meets a Marvel movie, by the author of the wildly popular *These Violent Delights*. It’s great to see non-western settings in YA, particularly YA historical fiction, especially one infused

with so much fun and magic and intrigue! —Mackenzie Van Engelenhoven, Margaret K. McElderry Books, \$21.99 (Ages 14 and up)

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Carol Kranes	Mackenzie Van Engelen-
Wendy Foster Leigh	hoven

## Events and Author Signings

Eager to attend events and author signings?

Here is how to stay up-to-date:

- On our website calendar:  
[www.kingsenglish.com/event](http://www.kingsenglish.com/event)
- Sign up for our email newsletter at the top of our website or come into the store and we can sign you up there!
- Follow us on Instagram (@kingsenglishbookshop) and Facebook (The King’s English Bookshop)



# Introducing Queenie Reads Book Club

Hey hi hello!

You may know me - I'm Mackenzi, and I was a longtime bookseller at The King's English (TKE). And if you don't know me, you probably know my big St. Bernard Queenie who could often be found napping in the kid's room. Usually under the air conditioning.

Q and I moved to Los Angeles, and I'm already feeling the withdrawals of not being able to force books on the fine customers of TKE. Lucky for you, I've found a way to do it from a distance!

Introducing....

Queenie Reads, a subscription box that provides you with one new book, hand-picked by me, Mackenzi, every month!

Questions? Let's go through it!

## **How does it work?**

You pay for a six month or one year subscription, forget about it, and then are surprised and delighted each month when a new book appears on your doorstep, hand-picked by me, along with a little note about why I love this book and why I think you will also love it. A few times throughout the year, we may also include little gifts. Who knows!?

## **What sorts of books will you pick?**

I read a little bit of everything, and my picks will be as varied as my taste. My book pick one month might be young adult, then nonfiction the next. You might get a hard-core high fantasy followed by a picture book. YOU NEVER KNOW! I do tend to prefer female-driven stories, queer stories, funny stories, historical connections, and books that are just generally a little odd.

## **How much does it cost?**

Queenie Reads for six months is \$225 and includes shipping and handling. For a whole year of this fun, it's \$425.

## **Do I have to live in Salt Lake?**

Nope! You can live anywhere the post office delivers.



## **What if I already own the book?**

The books I select will be brand new, so the chances are you won't have it yet. But if you have great taste and somehow have already bought the book I chose, just let us know, and we can work something out.

## **Anything else?**

Probably! This is a work in progress, so if it hits, we might have discussions about the book on social media or give you a chance to add on personalized recommendations or get exclusive swag from TKE and/or me.

Interested? Here's a QR code for you to sign up!

