An Embarrassment of Riches

It's true we are hosting a pride of great authors in the coming months from Michael Ondaatje to Temple Grandin, Jennifer Egan to Craig Childs (see calendar below). To say we're over the moon about it would be an understatement—as we told you in the Spring Inkslinger. But we're equally proud of the local authors who regularly come to read to us from their latest books, engage with our customers old and young, and generally nurture the tradition of literature here. They are, in aggregate, the very heart of our literary community in Utah. This month we have, to name a few, memoirists/essayists Ann Cannon, Jeff Metcalf, and Michael Graham and kids' authors from Jennifer Adams to Jessica Day George to Sara B. Larson. So, mark your calendars for visits with wonderful authors whether known nationally or locally famous! We hope their books (signed first editions!) fill the fast-approaching hot days of summer with the best kind of sunshine—the joy and fascination of being lost in a good book.

Also, please don't forget the wonderful books from our recent Inkslinger published just last month, first among them Richard Powers’ magnificent The Overstory—along with wonderful summer reads by everyone from Luis Alberto Urrea and Julian Barnes to Meg Wolitzer and Aminatta Forna. Not to mention what you're about to see below, frankly, the best crop of books for summer reading in memory. Finally, please join us for our wonderful four-day summer sale and celebration June 14 through 17; that's Father's Day weekend!

TKE Summer Events

Tuesday, May 15, 7 p.m. Local favorite Jessica Day George returns with her new chapter book, The Rose Legacy. (see p. 21)

Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m. Craig Childs returns to Utah with Atlas of a Lost World: Travels in Ice Age America. (see p. 8)

Wednesday, May 23, 7 p.m. Local favorite and funny guy Jeff Metcalf shares his new collection of essays, Back Cast: Fly-fishing and Other Such Matters. (see p. 8)

Saturday, May 26, 7 p.m. Literary favorite Michael Ondaatje will read from and discuss his new novel, Warlight. (see p. 4)

Tuesday, May 29, 7 p.m. Middle grade author Sara B. Larson will debut her new novel, Bright Burns the Night, at the Karen Gail Miller Conference Center, 9750 S 300 W, Sandy.

Wednesday, May 30, 7 p.m. Professor Temple Grandin will join us at the downtown library to share her new book, Calling All Minds. This is a family friendly event! (see p. 20)

Thursday, May 31, 7 p.m. Bookseller and author Ann E. Cannon will debut her latest collection, I’ll Tell You What, in celebration of friends, family, and most especially, her father, LaVell Edwards. (see p. 12)

Monday, June 4, 7 p.m. Pulitzer Prize winner Jennifer Egan will join us for the paperback release of Manhattan Beach. (see p. 4)

Thursday, June 28, 7 p.m. Local author Michael N. Graham will discuss his memoir, Boss Nova Odyssey. (see p. 9)

Saturday, July 14, 11 a.m. It's a board book finale with Jennifer Adams and BabyLit Peter Pan: An Adventure Primer.

Don’t Miss Our Summer Sale: Thursday, June 14th to Sunday, June 17th!
More Summer Events for Adults

Wednesday, May 16, 7 p.m. It’s a science fiction night with Brian McClellan and Tyler Whitesides discussing their books *Wrath of Empire* and *The Thousand Deaths of Ardor Benn.*

Saturday, May 19, 4 p.m. Teri Harman and others will be with us to discuss summer romance reads.

Saturday, May 19, 7 p.m. John Branch will read from and discuss *The Last Cowboys: A Pioneer Family in the New West.*

Thursday, May 24, 7 p.m. Join James Pogue to discuss *Chosen Country: A Rebellion in the West* about Ammon Bundy and his militia.

Tuesday, May 29, 7 p.m. Local author and professor George Handley will read from and sign his new novel, *American Fork.*

Tuesday, June 12, 7 p.m. Recent Salt Laker James McLaughlin will debut his stunning new novel, *Bearskin.*

Thursday, June 14 – Sunday, June 17 Our semi-annual hardcover sale will be in full swing.

Tuesday, June 19, 7 p.m. Former Salt Laker and U of U alum David McGlynn will share his memoir on being a dad with *One Day You’ll Thank Me: Lessons from an Unexpected Fatherhood.*

Thursday, June 21, 7 p.m. Longtime favorite Sandra Dallas returns with her new novel, *The Patchwork Bride.*

Friday, June 22, 7 p.m. Military historian Gregory Crouch will discuss and sign *The Bonanza King: John MacKay and the Battle Over the Greatest Riches in the American West.*

Tuesday, June 26, 7 p.m. Jim DeFelice will read from and sign *West Like Lightning: The Brief, Legendary Ride of the Pony Express.*

Wednesday, August 8, 7 p.m. D. A. Bartley will read from and sign her mystery, *Blessed Be the Wicked.*

Thursday, August 16, 7 p.m. Authors from the Utah Romance Writers Association will read from and sign their books.

More Summer Events for Children

Wednesday, May 16, 7 p.m. Join us at the Provo Library when Jo Schaffer debuts *Stanley & Hazel.*

Friday, May 25, 7 p.m. Devri Walls will read from and sign *Venators: Magic Unleashed.*

Tuesday, June 5, 7 p.m. Jess Smart Smiley will share *Let’s Make Comics!* at the Provo Library.

Tuesday, June 5, 7 p.m. Preston Norton will read from and sign his teen novel, *Neanderthal Opens the Door to the Universe.*

Friday, June 8, 7 p.m. Learn to cartoon with Jess Smart Smiley and *Let’s Make Comics!*

Saturday, June 9, 12 p.m. Join us on the patio for our annual Brainquest Summer Party.

Saturday, June 9, 2 p.m. Musician Samuel Miller will share his debut teen novel, *A Lite Too Bright.*

Tuesday, June 12, 7 p.m. Fan favorites Sabaa Tahir and Renee Ahdieh will share their new YA novels at the downtown Public Library.

Friday, June 15, 11 a.m. Leah Gilbert joins us for storytime with *A Couch for Llama.*

Saturday, June 16, 2 p.m. Author StacyPlays will read from and sign *Wild Rescuers: Guardians of the Taiga.*

Saturday, June 23, 11 a.m. Join us for a special storytime with N.P. Searle and *Tephi’s Sacred Journey.*

Friday, July 6, 2 p.m. The Scholastic Summer Road Trip returns to our parking lot!

Tuesday, July 31, ALL DAY Celebrate Harry Potter’s birthday with fun and magic and more!

Thursday, August 9, 7 p.m. YA novelist Mary Pearson will discuss and sign her new novel, *Dance of Thieves.*

Saturday, August 18, 2 p.m. Cindy Baldwin will read from and sign her middle grade novel *Where the Watermelons Grow.*
The King’s English Summer Reading Program

J. Kim, Harvard University researcher, said in a 2004 paper, “children who read four or more books over the summer fare better on reading comprehension tests in the fall than their peers who read one or no books over the summer.” Not a surprise! At TKE we also believe that including reading in your summer activities should be fun! And we have just the program to do that. TKE Summer Reading Book Groups will meet on Wednesday evenings, June 13, 20, 27, and July 11 and 18. Cost is $60 per child. Fees are non-refundable. We will also be offering a weekly writing group that will meet on the same night.

We are fortunate to welcome back the same qualified, and oh-so-talented group of certified teachers. Each reading list is a carefully chosen balance of genres and subjects. Sign-ups for the program will start on May 1. Students must be registered for the grade they will be entering in the fall. Book purchases are not necessary although these titles are discounted 10% for participants.

Pre-K/K – 6 p.m.
Allyson Bowthorpe

• Hello Hello, Brendan Wenzel
• This is the Nest That Robin Built, Denise Fleming
• Marlo and the Dinosaurs, Christopher Browne
• New Shoes, Chris Raschka
• How Big Is an Elephant?, Rossana Bossu

Grades 1-2 – 6 p.m.
Brynn Grover

• Idea Jar, Adam Lehrhaupt and Deb Pilutti
• Rescue and Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship, Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes
• Look, Fiona Woodcock
• The Loch Ness Monster Spotters, Tony De Saulles
• Earth! My First 4.5 Billion Years!, Stacy McAnulty

Grades 3-4 – 7 p.m.
Nathan Spofford

• Grand Canyon, Jason Chin
• The Word Collector, Peter H. Reynolds
• In the Past, David Elliot
• Alexander Hamilton: The Outsider, Jean Fritz
• Bob, Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead

Grades 5-6 – 7 p.m.
Sarah Button

• The Dreadful Tale of Prosper Redding, Alexandra Bracken
• The Button War, Avi
• The Prince and the Dressmaker, Jen Wang
• The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl, Stacy McAnulty
• Playing Atari With Saddam Hussein, Jennifer Roy and Ali Fadhil

Young Adult – 7 p.m.
Marianne Jenkins

• Ghost Boys, Jewel Parker Rhodes
• Scythe, Neal Shusterman
• The Traitor’s Game, Jennifer A. Nielsen
• Vincent and Theo: The Van Gogh Brothers, Deborah Heiligman
• The Adventures of John Blake: Mystery of the Ghost Ship, Phillip Pullman

Writing Group Grades 5-6 – 8 p.m. Nathan Spofford

• Writing Magic, Gail Carson Levine

*NOTE: Please read the first section before the first class!

The aftermath of war shed a livid glow across the world long after the last bombs were dropped in 1945. In London the lives of two children, Nathaniel and Rachel, were caught in that eerie glow when their mother disappeared, leaving them in the care of “The Moth,” a stranger they’d met once. Still attending school in the day, the pair entered a strange new world in the evenings, their home a sort of night circus with The Moth its impresario, his sidekick “The Darter” ever-present, and a menagerie of mismatched urban dwellers from beekeepers to opera stars, dog smugglers to ethnographers to spies. From the laundry room in the bowels of the Hotel Criterion in Piccadilly Circus to the vacant London houses Nathaniel invaded with his first love Agnes to night journeys with Rachel and The Darter in mussel boats on the Thames, life became a moonlit kaleidoscope of lurid and larger-than-life people and experiences. Their naiveté in the often magical and as often nightmarish parent-free world they were learning to inhabit is the stuff of this brilliant novel—along with the aftermath of their abandonment as they come of age and enter adulthood. As breathlessly told as *The English Patient*, and as profound, as poignant as *The Cat’s Table*, and as haunting, *Warlight* surpasses both in the light it sheds on our aloneness, on our unadmitted needfulness, on the ways war can warp our lives, and on what we try so hard to bury in the darkness of unacknowledged memory. Brilliant doesn’t begin to describe it. – Betsy Burton, Knopf, $26.95

**Editor’s note: Michael Ondaatje will visit TKE Saturday, May 26, 7 p.m.**

**Manhattan Beach**, Jennifer Egan

Always the master of the unexpected, Egan, in her latest novel, dishes up not the surprising characters and unpredictable turns of *A Visit from the Goon Squad* but instead a straightforward historical narrative involving a girl coming of age during the years leading up to WWII. Anna, whose father disappeared when she was still a teen, grows up supposing that the disappearance had something to do with her brain-damaged sister with whom he never really seemed to connect, and also with Dexter, a shadowy figure reminiscent of gangsters in the literature of the time whom she remembers visiting with her father as an 11-year-old. A strong woman ahead of her time, Anna comes into her own in the Brooklyn shipyards during the war when diving had become an essential wartime skill at which she was determined to excel. The complications of plot arise from her father’s connection to Dexter as well as her own later on, her sister’s disability and the impact it has on all the characters, her single-minded determination to be the best at what she did, diving, not to mention the impact of the sea which is an essential part of all their lives. This is a big, beautiful book written with an ear to the movement of the tides, the times, and the lives of women—in and out of their times. – Betsy Burton, Scribner, $17

**Editor’s note: Jennifer Egan will visit TKE on Monday, June 4, 7 p.m. to celebrate the paperback publication of Manhattan Beach.**

**Circe**, Madeline Miller

Circe, daughter of Helios, always a strange child fascinated with sorcery and the world of mortals, is banished by Zeus to a deserted island to live alone surrounded by wild beasts, where she devotes her energies to honing her magical prowess. This is a timeless story of gods and mortals as well as a deeply relevant exploration of a woman trying to find her place in a male-dominated world, a beautifully executed, page-turning epic featuring some of the best-known figures in Greek mythology: Minos and his Minotaur, Daedalus and his ill-fated son Icarus, and, naturally, the famous Odysseus. Their characterizations seem perfectly fitting and, in conjunction with Miller’s lyrical prose, make this an absolutely intoxicating adventure, a worthy follow-up to her first novel, *Song of Achilles*. – Rachel Haisley, Little Brown, $27

**There, There**, Tommy Orange

In the pages of novels, the reels of movies, American Indians are commonly seen against the backdrop of the wilderness or of small-town rural settings, whether on or off reservations; it’s about time for a reality check, and Orange gives us one in burning technicolor. Hilarity, tragedy, wit, irony, beauty, pain, violence, humor: the stew of life that is lived by urban Indians on the streets of our cities and the classrooms of our schools. Orange strings characters together with exuberant virtuosity, shining light on their affections, their addictions, their loyalties—even if misplaced—their sorrows, their sacred rites, their rage, their hopes—too often ill-fated—as they slowly gather for the Portland Pow Wow around which, one way and another, those hopes cluster. We fret and stew with them, fantasize with them, shrink with fear for them until we think our hearts will break as this extraordinary new talent takes us into their heads and their hearts, giving voice to their inner worlds, vivid substance to the urban world that is their home, too often a place not of community but of alienation. Sometimes voices make us listen, help us see past our own need to ignore, deny. This one certainly does, and it’s past time it happened. – Betsy Burton, Knopf, $25.95

**The Mars Room**, Rachel Kushner

Romy Hall is at the beginning of serving two consecutive life sentences; she doesn’t really have any plans for her life, nor does she have any regrets. Her mother is on the outside, looking after Romy’s young son, while Romy sits in prison, merely surviving in this industrialized world of posturing, pageantry and violence. *The Mars Room*, the most recent installment in an incredible body of work, follows the lives of a handful of vibrant, vivid characters in
prison—reminiscent of Piper Kerman’s *Orange is the New Black*, but with a grittier cast of characters and much stronger writing. Kushner is a master of her craft: her characters are luminous and unforgettable, but also deeply flawed and utterly human. — Rachel Haisley, Scribner, $27

**Motherhood**, Sheila Heti

A writer is giving birth—to a novel, not a child—in this whimsical, innovative and profound meditation on what it means for a woman to be (or choose not to be) a mother. Which is, in some respects, a meditation on what it means to be a woman today, when norms are changing and self-determination is becoming possible in new ways. Is the consideration of childlessness freeing? Yes. Is there a cost? Yes. What exactly does being free mean? Questions Heti asks herself and then answers in a simple (and often very funny) cascade, as ever larger questions loom. Questions every woman, whether a writer or not, asks herself or spends time denying throughout her life. All of which the reader must consider in this wholly original novel of ideas that is as much a philosophical exploration as it is fiction, yet is an utterly involving love story even while it shapeshifts into a consideration of motherhood and of selldom… Original? Wholly. Thought-provoking? Soul-searchingly so. Illuminating? Sometimes heartbreakingly so. Worth Reading? I’m giving a copy to every woman I know. — Betsy Burton, Henry Holt, $26

**The Optimistic Decade**, Heather Abel

Who among us doesn’t look back on our teenage years with some measure of regret and thrill at the same time? The things we got away with (or didn’t) and the idea that we even lived through it. This coming-of-age story of Caleb first, and then Rebecca and David, is even more poignant set against the backdrop of the Rocky Mountains and their majestic (seeing and unseeing) eyes. The Optimistic Decade is the saga of a man headed west toward the unknown—Bellman, a widower whose imagination has been captured by reports of newly discovered bones, the remains of creatures so large they make the buffalo seem small by comparison. They are the stuff of mystery, of myth, of his fame and fortune-to-be, or so he hopes. As he sets out on horseback, knowing he’ll be gone at least a year, he leaves behind his daughter, a child of ten. Like any mythic tale, there is adventure, wonder, hardship and danger on the road, betrayal back home as the reader toggles breathlessly between father and daughter, wondering, hoping, fearing… The stuff of legend artfully mixed with the substance of love and of family makes this a novel to read, to savor, to remember. — Betsy Burton, Scribner, $22

**My Ex-Life**, Stephen McCauley

Two adults in midlife, both recently abandoned by partners, along with one teenage girl—the child they might have had had they remained married all those years ago—are the perfect cast for this light and insightful comedy. Julie, perpetually disorganized, in part from smoking too much dope, is trying to parent her moody daughter while running an Airbnb in a perhaps futile attempt to hang on to her ramshackle house in a divorce settlement. Meanwhile, across the continent in San Francisco, David, whose partner has recently left him, has, unbeknownst to Julie, been contacted by her daughter who’s asking for help with her college applications. Since that’s his profession, and he was very fond of Julie, he decides to make a “short” visit. So begins a sometimes sweet, occasionally harrowing, more often laugh-out-loud funny tale of teenagers in trouble and muddled adults learning secrets long past their sell-by date in a novel that ranges from droll to howlingly funny and is chockfull of rich social commentary, sparkling dialogue and, best of all, a compelling story, making this the good read of the summer. — Betsy Burton, Flatiron Books, $25.99

**Love and Ruin**, Paula McLain

Throughout the tale of Martha Gellhorn’s involvement with Hemingway, the reader knows she will eventually not be able to withstand the abuse of the hard-drinking, fierce-loving, ego-driven Ernest. But the way she stands nose to nose and toe to toe with him in writing, in traveling and most of all in terms of her independence in the man’s field of journalism in wartime make her the ideal heroine for our days of the #MeToo movement. Marty, as she is known, falls hard for Hemingway when she first meets him while traveling to Florida...
with her mother and brother after the death of her father—even though Ernest is all the things she knows she should stay away from. Both end up in Spain reporting on Franco’s despoiling of a people and culture, and it’s in the descriptions of the war-torn villages and countries that McLain’s writing shines. The life they make together in Cuba should be idyllic—and is while Hemingway writes, For Whom the Bell Tolls—but things quickly sour as his celebrity mounts. In the end Marty must remove herself to remain in the relationship as his mood begins to darken, and it is those removals to China and to the D-day landing (the only female reporter on that fateful day) that ultimately make her and destroy them as a couple.
– Anne Stewart Mark, Ballantine, $28

Sal, Mick Kitson
Thirteen-year-old Salmarina Brown (called Sal) and her younger sister run away from their abusive home to live in the Scottish wilderness. Sal is an absolutely enthralling narrator, blending guilelessness and wisdom in a voice that is uniquely hers but also evokes other strong, capable, deeply damaged heroines such as American War’s Sarat Chestnut and My Absolute Darling’s Turtle Alveston. Sal is a bit of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time and a bit of The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet, but it remains a wholly original work in its own right. This debut novel is an all-consuming story featuring unforgettable characters.
– Rachel Haisley, Canongate Books, $22

Come West and See: Stories, Maxim Loskutoff
These interconnected short stories explore relationships between people and the world around them, their impulses, institutions, and identities. Loskutoff’s debut collection is utterly strange and yet deeply familiar, full of unforgettable characters set against vivid backdrops. These stories are a perfect fit for fans of transgressive fiction like Chuck Palahniuk’s and Brett Easton Ellis’s. Loskutoff’s prose evokes his mentor David Foster Wallace, yet carries a power that is utterly original.
– Rachel Haisley, Norton, $25.95

Alternative Remedies for Loss, Joanna Cantor
Twenty-two-year old Olivia would be slowly figuring out how to be an adult like a typical college student, but her mother just died, so she is getting a crash-course in adulthood and grieving and none of the options her family deems acceptable look appealing. Instead she goes the alternative remedy route: quit college, proposition creepy old men, fly to India, buy drugs, try yoga. That’ll do for a start in this debut novel from Joanna Cantor.
– Michaela Riding, Bloomsbury, $26

Lost Empress, Sergio De La Pava
Experimental? You bet. The Tristram Shandy of our time. Just as wacky, too. Compelling? Despite interrupting yourself with serial guffaws, you’re pulled willy-nilly through the twists and turns of plot by hilarious dialogue and the lethal satirizing of football and the judicial system among many other things. As to characters, there’s Nina, the large and lively billionaire’s daughter, who packs heat in the form of an acid tongue and a barbed wit; the lamb-among-lions pastor at Riker’s, one of life’s innocents; Riker’s most infamous inmate Nuno, whose anger is only surpassed by his creativity and his criminal ambition, to name but a few. Plot? Well, here’s the thing. The plot involves Nina, who made the Dallas Cowboys what they collectively are, but who was bequeathed a team from Paterson, New Jersey, while her brother inherited the Cowboys. Now there’s a wrong to right, right? A book I thoroughly enjoyed even though I HATE FOOTBALL!
– Betsy Burton, Pantheon, $28.95 Editor’s note: might make a great Father’s Day present but only if Dad doesn’t mind a large dose of profanity!
FORTHCOMING IN JUNE

The Verdun Affair, Nick Dybek
As puzzling and ambiguous as the fugue state that is at the heart of this book; as erratic and compelling as the passion that catches and releases the narrator, Tom, and Sarah, the woman he loves, the passion that catches and releases her from the man who might or might not be the husband she’s searching for; as profoundly shocking as was the practice of psychiatry in the years following WWI, this is a tale that follows the narrator in and out of the war itself, in and out of its aftermath in the ’20s in both France and Italy, in and out of 1950s California where Tom winds up writing for film. Mystifying, mesmerizing, sometimes deceiving, this tale of war’s history, of friendship and love, of lies and their consequences is as elusive and haunting as the memory of a dream. – Betsy Burton, Scribner, $27 Editor’s note: available June 12

The Great Believers, Rebecca Makkai
When Nico dies, the lives of his younger sister Fiona and his friend Yale are upended. For both of them it is a turning point in their experience of the AIDS epidemic sweeping through 1985 Chicago. Fiona increasingly becomes the caretaker for her dying friends, and Yale worries that he himself may be infected, just as his career is at its most exciting. While pulling together an art exhibit from a donor’s collection of personal stories and art from 1920s Paris, Yale cannot help but find similarities between the Lost Generation and his own dying community. Thirty years later Fiona is still dealing with the trauma of that intimate war, tracking down her estranged daughter whom she had raised in a haze of depression. This heartbreaking novel takes you into the trenches, but always keeps an eye to the optimism of those who knew the worst was possible and still kept fighting on for life and love. – Michaela Riding, Viking, $27 Editor’s note: available June 19

The Melody, Jim Crace
A widower mourning the death of his wife is disturbed by noises in his courtyard; when he goes out to check, something feral yet human attacks him, a boy he thinks, although he isn’t certain. And so the peaceful and dignified old age of Alfred Busi, famed crooner of ballads, is disrupted, his serene seaside house no longer a haven, the townspeople who once formed his admiring audience wondering about him, spreading amorphous rumors about the strange creature he encountered. As Busi questions his own life, past and present, the townspeople, obviously on the precipice of change, likewise question existence as they’ve known it. An otherworldly fable terrifying, in part because of what is out there in the dark, unknown and unpredictable, this is also a piercingly intelligent novel, a frank look at aging and at the web of community that spells home for most of us—for good and for ill. – Betsy Burton, Nan Talese, $26.95 Editor’s note: available June 19

The Dependents, Katharine Dion
When his wife dies, Gene, forced by his daughter’s anger and the inescapable reality of his own grief, begins to reexamine the history of not only his marriage, which he has long taken for granted, but also the seemingly idyllic friendship with another couple that had always been an important part of that marriage. Now, as he simultaneously looks back through the veil of grief and attempts to understand his daughter’s emotions, the angle of his perception begins to shift and incidents from the past take on new shapes—or perhaps shapes he had previously refused to recognize. Suffused with graceful prose and keen insight, The Dependents is a superb debut. – Betsy Burton, Little Brown, $26 Editor’s note: available June 19

FORTHCOMING IN JULY

Clock Dance, Anne Tyler
Willa Drake is that certain woman who watches her life unfold in front her, seemingly unable to effect change. She’s the kind of character Anne Tyler does best; we love Willa, even as we yell at her to choose a different path, stand up for herself, get off the plane! She’s of my mother’s generation; be kind, be quiet, and so aptly drawn by Tyler it feels like I’m sitting in my old living room again watching my mom watch my dad read the newspaper. – Anne Holman, Knopf, $26.95 Editor’s note: available July 10

The Summer Wives, Beatriz Williams
Miranda Schuyler, who arrives on Winthrop island in the summer of 1951 with her mother after losing both father and husband to the war, is thrust into the high society of ‘The Families,’ those who summer on the island, along with the mostly Portuguese folk who man the lobster boats, run the general store, and live on the island year-round. Everyone seems to know their places, but as human nature will have it, love and passion don’t always keep to class. In 1969, Miranda returns to the island as a renowned film star and Shakespearean actress to find out what happened to the young man who stole her heart all those years ago in a sultry, intriguing story of forbidden love. – Anne Stewart Mark, William Morrow, $26.99 Editor’s note: available July 18
**NONFICTION**

*Atlas of a Lost World: Travels in Ice Age America*, Craig Childs

Fierce and fearless environmentalist, Childs leaves the Southwest of some of his best-known works (*Finders Keepers, Soul of Nowhere*) and investigates the ancient land bridge between Asia and North America, reporting some startling findings. Yes, some of the First People did cross the land bridge thousands of years ago but that wasn’t the only way they came over. One of the things we love about Childs is that he totally immerses himself in whatever topic he writes about whether it’s the stealing of ancient artifacts or figuring out how to walk across the desert in search of water without getting scorched. In this new travelogue, Childs begins at the beginning—over 25,000 years ago—and traces our ancestors journey to the present day. Prepare to be wowed! – Anne Holman, Pantheon, $28.95

*Editor’s note: Childs will join us on Thursday, May 17th, at 7 p.m.*

*The World-Ending Fire: The Essential Wendell Berry*, Wendell Berry

This collection of Wendell Berry’s essays from 1968-2011, selected by Paul Kingsnorth, is a timely book, a necessary reminder of the importance of disconnecting from a world of unbridled greed and consumerism. It does not propose that we all sell out, move to a rural area and farm, but it does propose that we examine our lives and prioritize that which is important and necessary from that which is not. Yes, we have seen some of these essays before, but if the reader reads only "Native Hill," the book is well worth the price. – Jan Sloan, Counterpoint, $26

*Tip of the Iceberg*, Mark Adams

From the best-selling author of *Turn Right at Machu Picchu* comes a definitive account following the explorations of John Muir, Edward H. Harriman, Edward Curtis and others in 1899 into the Alaska Territory. Adams retraces their expedition in a 3,000 mile journey beginning with Ketchikan in the Alexander Archipelago, continuing through Glacier Bay and Juneau, up into the Wrangell Mountains to Anchorage and Fairbanks, out to the Alaska Peninsula, on to the Aleutian Islands, up to Nome, and lastly, to Shishmaref, one of the towns voting to relocate because they will soon be consumed by the ever-encroaching sea. Glaciers, bears, native peoples, the economy, natural disasters, global warming and history. It’s all there, wonderfully proportioned. I loved this book and highly recommend it to any reader who enjoys a well-written travelogue, those curious about our 49th state, and those who plan to visit. – Sue Fleming, Dutton, $28

*Back Cast: Fly-Fishing and Other Such Matters*, Jeff Metcalf

He’s back and better than ever. In this collection of 32 essays, Jeff Metcalf muses on fly-fishing and life in the context of his reality; that is, facing down prostate cancer. The first essay, Bone Deep, sets the tone. Metcalf, mistakenly thinking he’s joined a retreat to guide men with cancer in the art of fly-fishing, discovers he’s filled out the wrong form, and he is to be “one of the men with cancer.” It’s a beautiful and revelatory piece of writing. And then we’re off to the rivers; the thing about Metcalf is when he’s not fishing, he’s thinking about fishing, and it just makes you want to grab some waders and get out there with him—to hang out with him and laugh and love life for an hour or two. Also, best essay title ever? Dick Cheney, Dick. Don’t miss this collection! – Anne Holman, University of Utah Press, $19.95

*What Are We Doing Here? Essays*, Marilyynne Robinson

This brilliant book of essays by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author Marilyynne Robinson challenges the reader to consider those great thinkers who went before us, including de Tocqueville, Emerson, and Cromwell, among others. The essays included in the book are gathered from articles as well as various talks which Robinson gave at colleges across the country. Included is the prestigious Ingersoll Lecture on Human Immortality at the Harvard Divinity School. She covers not only the current political climate and political consciousness but also the way that beauty informs and controls our daily life, including the mysteries of faith, and a call to a more disciplined approach to the current intellectual climate in the often-divisive communities of our country. An important book, especially now! – Jan Sloan, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, $27

*The Perfectionists*, Simon Winchester

Winchester, acclaimed author of *The Professor and the Madman*, has focused on the development of technology from the Industrial to the Digital Ages, exploring the single component crucial to advancement—precision. As a youngster he was fascinated with the work of his father, a precision engineer who regarded as worthy and significant this business of turning shapeless slugs of hard metal into objects of beauty and utility. Such components can be found in any machine we encounter today, and in weaponry as well. As Winchester introduces the reader to the many marvels of precision produced over the centuries and the scientists who invented them, he explores fundamental questions concerning how the precise and the natural can coexist in society. – Sue Fleming, Harper, $29.99
Young Washington: How Wilderness and War Forged America’s Founding Father, Peter Stark

A great look at George Washington in his very early years as a soldier, suitor, and novice gentleman of Virginia. Stark traces Washington’s family from struggling English farmers to immigrants to the British American Colonies to landed Virginia pseudo-gentry. Washington and his family are just on the outside of the Virginia tidewater gentry, and the only way young Washington can see to climb the social ladder is through a military career. He is very ambitious and in his early 20s is given the command of a British colonial militia force to reconnoiter the intentions of the French in the Ohio Valley—then a wilderness of immense riches in furs and land. So young Washington embarks on the mission with one eye toward military glory and the other eye on land he can acquire for himself to build future wealth. What he winds up doing is starting one of the first world wars—the Seven Years War also known as the French and Indian War. Young Washington, in the middle of the conflict in which many of the other British officers around him are killed, is unscathed but deeply schooled in geo-politics and military leadership that will serve him and the united colonies well in the near future. – Patrick Fleming, Harper Collins, $35

The Flying Tigers, Sam Kleiner

A rag-tag group of young Americans volunteered to fight the Japanese for China in the late 1930s. Led by charismatic Claire Chennault, these pilots flew dangerous missions over China, Burma, Thailand, and Vietnam in their B-40 airplanes. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, their exploits kept a rattled America from despair. Kleiner tells the dramatic story of the covert operations flown by these heroic young Americans and reveals the people behind the legend of the Flying Tigers. – Barbara Hoagland, Viking, $28 Editor’s note: not just a great read but a great Father’s Day gift!

How to Change Your Mind, Michael Pollan

Michael Pollan’s newest work ventures into the deeply interesting if slightly taboo world of hallucinogens and psychedelics. How to Change Your Mind is a charming narrative adventure into the intersection of humans and the natural world, discussing not only mind-altering psychedelics but also our perceptions about consciousness, humanity, and emotion. Pollan’s gift as a narrator (he sounds like an old friend sitting across the kitchen table) makes reading his latest work not only fascinating but pure pleasure. – Rachel Haisley, Penguin Press, $28

Tesla: Inventor of the Modern, Richard Munson

The Tesla name is now firmly attached to a car, but Nikola Tesla literally changed our world. He was eccentric and brilliant, and both characteristics show up throughout his life, the brilliance beneficial, his eccentricity fascinating! Munson, who has impeccable environmentalist credentials himself, shares both in this complete view of an unheralded “genius,” a biography terrific for anyone, of any age. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Norton, $26.95

West Like Lightning: The Brief, Legendary Ride of the Pony Express, Jim DeFelice

A single-topic book on the Pony Express which is actually a micro-history of the United States in the second half of the 19th century. The backdrop is the 1860 U.S. Presidential election which Lincoln has won, leaving the southern states on the brink of seceding, in a country in which current events are shared (with excruciating slowness) across a now (with California as a state) almost continental United States. A group of entrepreneurs decides there has to be a better, faster and cheaper way to share the news and comes up with the idea of a horse rider-based mail courier service from Missouri to Sacramento, California. They advertise for riders and get a collection of young men and station managers who will leave their mark on history. One such mark is that this is the beginning of huge capital corporations such as Wells Fargo and American Express who will survive into present-day America. Great research: lists of riders and managers and locations of the stations with routes the brave riders took. As an added bonus, Utah figures prominently in the story. – Patrick Fleming, Morrow, $27.99

Boss Nova Odyssey, Michael N. Graham

An overarching tale of the rise and fall of East, a restaurant in São Paolo, Brazil, and of the man who founded it, Michael Graham, this is also the tale of Graham’s many other endeavors ranging from high-powered international marketing to the founding of an earlier restaurant, this one in Snowbird, Utah (remember The Forklift?), from internationally-known corporate ad man to nationally-known political advisor to one of our country’s great governors—Scott Matheson. Graham is charmingly self-deprecating—for good reason since he’s a perennial optimist, never considering failure to be a possibility (much like most independent bookstore owners) and consequently failing more than once to do his homework before leaping off into space in pursuit of his next dream. The stuff of good comedy. And Boss Nova is funny
indeed—as well as fascinating in its frank description of all the things that can go wrong—and sometimes right—in politics, in business, in the food industry, in advertising, and in love. Even better, Salt Lake, now Graham’s home, is backdrop for some of his greatest scenes. Another find for Father’s Day—although moms will love it too!

– Betsy Burton, CreateSpace, $11.99

**The Wind in My Hair: My Fight for Freedom in Modern Iran**, Masih Alinejad
Readers cannot get this book in Iran, which is not a surprise. Growing up in Iran is extremely difficult for smart women. Alinejad, raised in a poor traditional Muslim home, was fortunate in that her parents did not try to beat that smartness out of her. Her experiences growing up, trying to get an education, spending time in prison, working as a journalist all laid a foundation for her flight from Iran and her ongoing fight for change. Alinejad’s is a passionate, articulate voice for every individual’s freedom to choose the life she wants to live.

– Margaret Brennan Neville, Hachette, $28

**Imperial Twilight**, Stephen R. Platt
China in the 18th century sold goods such as tea and silks to western nations which provided the Emperor with wealth beyond measure. At the same time, access to the country from foreigners was strictly forbidden. These foreign powers, mainly Great Britain and America, spent decades trying to break through these restrictions in order to improve their direct trade balance. Their primary trade product was opium, grown in British controlled India and smuggled into a thriving market in China. Platt has crafted a carefully researched history of the opium trade and the ultimate war that shook the Chinese kingdom and portended a future that would end in the China we know today.

– Barbara Hoagland, Knopf, $35

**Figures in a Landscape: People & Places**, Paul Theroux
This is Theroux’s third volume of essays covering the period 2001-2016 and is part travelogue, part profile of disparate personalities. The reader is drawn in immediately, no matter the subject, as Theroux takes us from Ecuador to Zimbabwe and Hawaii, among other destinations, and gives us a glimpse into the lives of people from Elizabeth Taylor to Oliver Sacks to a dominatrix named Nurse Wolf, treating us to something far different from the normal tell-all. This is true entertainment.

– Jan Sloan, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $28

**Tyrant**, Stephen Greenblatt
During the reign of Elizabeth I it was not wise to be a critic of the crown or of any number of important personages. The masses were polarized according to religion and social class, and speaking your mind could result in the loss of your head. Thus, Shakespeare of necessity used his skill with words to address political issues of the day from what Greenblatt calls “an oblique angle.” In **Tyrant**, Greenblatt uses that same technique to address modern political dilemmas: through discussions of Richard III, Lear, Macbeth, and other potentially tyrannical characters he informs the reader of dangers inherent in current world leaders. The book, at once literary criticism and an insightful portrayal of the personalities in a tumultuous political world, both teaches and warns. It is as relevant today as the plays of Shakespeare were for his audience.

– Wendy Foster Leigh, Norton, $21.95

**The Phantom Atlas**, Edward Brooke-Hitching
The subtitle of this colorful coffee table book says it all: *The Greatest Myths, Lies and Blunders on Maps*. Looking for El Dorado? So were lots of other people. But not the Flat Earth Society; they were staying away from the edges. And how about the Patagonian Giants? According to Captain John “Foul Weather Jack” Byron even the women were 7 1/2 feet tall! Filled with delightful colored maps and illustrations, this is a great book just to enjoy and to see how far we’ve come in our knowledge of the ends of the earth!

– Anne Holman, Chronicle, $29.95

**The Last Cowboys: A Pioneer Family in the New West**, John Branch
Written by the Pulitzer Prize-winning Branch, this book focuses on the Wright family and its struggle to survive successfully on the land in southern Utah that has been in the family for over 150 years. He brings insight and understanding about a lifestyle with which most of us have little if any understanding. An eye-opening read about both ranching and rodeoing in a time when urban and rural seem more and more divided.

– Jan Sloan, Norton, $26.95
**NONFICTION**

**FORTHCOMING IN JUNE**

*The Electric Woman*, Tessa Fontaine
We all cope with life in our own ways. In the wake of her mother’s strokes and subsequent illness, Fontaine took up with a traveling sideshow, charming snakes and eating fire. As she learned repeatedly with each new death-defying act she took on, “the trick is there is no trick.” Only a book written about an imminent death could be so alive.
– Michaela Riding, Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, $27

*God, War, and Providence: The Epic Struggle of Roger Williams and the Narragansett Indians against the Puritans of New England*, James A. Warren
Warren, a scholar and historian, takes us into the early days of the Puritan settlements in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Boston and their struggle to subjugate the land and its native people. Their demand for land and control of the fur trade led to inevitable conflict; the takeaway is that the Puritans weren’t so pure. They were driven by basic greed and a Euro-centric belief in their superiority over the Native Americans. Even though the Narragansett Indians (a very rich and successful people) had saved the fledgling Plymouth Colony in the 1620s, within two generations the Puritans had decimated them through disease, trickery and warfare. First in a sad history of European interaction with Native American people.
– Patrick Fleming, Scribner, $30

*Tinderbox: The Untold Story of the Up Stairs Lounge Fire and the Rise of Gay Liberation*, Robert W. Fieseler
Fieseler’s first book, detailing the events surrounding the Up Stairs Lounge Fire that occurred in New Orleans in 1973, is an utterly fascinating, unforgettable journey. Well-paced and narrated, this impeccably researched work brings a forgotten moment in history to light. A cautionary note: this book contains fairly graphic descriptions of the fire and the injuries it caused—definitely not for the faint of heart. However, it is well worth reading, especially if one is interested in civil rights history.
– Rachel Haisley, Liverlight, $26.95

*The Secret Life of Cows*, Rosamund Young
Young has lived and farmed on Kite’s Nest Farm in England for decades, raising cattle, sheep, and hens as holistically as possible. The animals each have distinct personalities and preferences, living intricate lives grazing, forming friendships, playing, and rearing their young. A delightful summer read, this charming collection of animal anecdotes and philosophical musings brims with compassion and humor and is perfect for any animal lover or anyone curious to learn more about the virtues and attributes of organic farming.
– Rachel Haisley, Penguin, $23

*Those Wild Wyndhams: Three Sisters at the Heart of Power*, Claudia Renton
Mary, Madeline, and Pamela Wyndham, immortalized in a painting by John Singer Sargent, belonged to one of Britain’s oldest and richest families. Beautiful and exceptionally intelligent, the sisters (whom the Prince of Wales called “the three graces”) were also notable cultural and political players during the late Victorian and Edwardian eras. Mary, for example, who was the most interesting of the sisters, was the long-time confidante and eventual mistress of Prime Minister Arthur Balfour. Renton does a stellar job of weaving their personal stories against the backdrop of an insular, opulent world that was forever changed by the First World War. Fans of series such as *Downton Abbey, The Crown,* and *Victoria,* as well as the spate of biographies about the Mitford family, will find much to enjoy in this well-researched book.
– Ann Cannon, Knopf, $27.95

*Abu Ghraib and to such personalities as Ben Bradlee, A.M. Rosenthal, David Remnick, and Henry Kissinger. This is essential reading on the power of the printed word at a time when good journalism is under fire as never before.
– Sue Fleming, Knopf, $27.95

*Reportor*, Seymour M. Hersh
Hersh, best-selling author and eminent investigative reporter, offers a revealing memoir of a decades-long career in which he broke some of the most impactful stories of the last half century from Washington, Vietnam, and the Middle East. Interestingly, it was his need to put a memoir of Dick Cheney on hold that finally pushed him to write the why of his reporting and not just the what. Insightful, fascinating, and bound to be blood-boiling, he takes us back to My Lai and Abu Ghraib and to such personalities as Ben Bradlee, A.M. Rosenthal, David Remnick, and Henry Kissinger. This is essential reading on the power of the printed word at a time when good journalism is under fire as never before.
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– Rachel Haisley, Penguin, $23

*Modernists & Mavericks*, Martin Gayford
Beginning with WWII and its painters, Gayford writes of the bizarre world of London and its bohemian painters before and after that pivotal time. Audiences are acquainted with the major names such as Bacon, Freud, and Hockney; however, this book fills in the blank...
spaces of names and faces of British painters whose works hang in major galleries around the world. R.B. Kitaj named the group the School of London in homage to the New York School or the Paris School, but the painters do not fall into one style or theme. The London School ranges from Francis Bacon to Pop Art and the innovative works of the 1970s. For anyone interested in art history, this book is an introduction to contemporary British art in a time of conflict and experimentation. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Thames & Hudson, $39.95 Editor’s note: available June 12

The Debatable Land: The Lost World Between Scotland and England, Graham Robb

In 2010 Robb and his wife left Oxford for an isolated life on the border between England and Scotland. The result of the move is this book which is a mixture of personal exploits and a history of the peoples of the land from pre-history through Celts to Romans to Vikings into medieval times and on into modern history. He writes of the past, the present, and the future of Scottish/English relationships. The maps of the region show various borders, and those lines are still debatable. The tribes on the land fought before the Roman invasion in 43 AD, and after it as well, raiding the farms and settlements indiscriminately according to their own set of rules. This land is soaked in blood. Robb explores the myths and stories of the border and demonstrates their importance today in the battle for power. He injects stories of the characters he meets on the bus into Carlisle, of the tradesmen he meets in the towns, and of the laborers who work on the land into this scholarly narrative, complete with maps and footnotes. However this is also a story of the struggles for survival in a rugged land. If I may interject a personal note…my ancestors from Bewcastle and Cumbria were part of those border raiders known as the Reivers, and I am not sure how nice they were, but they must have been survivors in that cold and windy land. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Norton, $27.95 Editor’s note: available June 12

My Twenty-Five Years in Provence, Peter Mayle

In this last volume of stories by Mayle, his and his wife’s love affair with Provence is lovingly and beautifully told. From the first stirrings of the desire to leave England and move to southern France, we follow Mayle and his wife Jennie through the process of packing up and setting down roots in a completely new area with little else than their two dogs at a time when, as he puts it, they were at a more mature point in their lives. The story is told with both humor and love and is a thoughtful exploration of lives well-lived, made all the more poignant by the death of Mr. Mayle this past January. It is a celebration of the history and beauty of this area. – Jan Sloan, Knopf, $25 Editor’s note: available June 26

FORTHCOMING IN JULY

Indianapolis, Lynn Vincent and Sarah Vladic

Shortly after delivering the first atomic bomb components to Tinian Island, the U.S.S. Indianapolis set off alone for Leyte in the Philippines. Two days later a Japanese submarine torpedoed her. Of the 1195 men aboard, 300 went down with the ship and 900 were cast into the water. Inconceivably, the Navy did not realize the ship was missing until four days after the sinking. Only 316 men survived. Indianapolis tells the story of the U.S. Navy’s greatest disaster at sea and poignantly brings out the heroism of those who survived and their determination to set the record straight as to who was responsible. Meticulously researched and well-written, this is a must-read for anyone interested in naval history. – Jack Mark, Simon & Schuster, $28 Editor’s note: available July 10

TKE Ink Launches!

You heard it here first, folks! We’ve launched a publishing company, TKE Ink, and who better to begin with than the inimitable Ann Edwards Cannon? We’d be thrilled to have you join us on Thursday, May 31, at 7 p.m. to hear Cannon read from and discuss her collection of columns from The Salt Lake Tribune entitled, I’ll Tell You What. This is grounds for celebration on two counts: a wonderful new book and an exciting new endeavor. So come on May 31, 7 p.m., enjoy Ann’s ever-present humor, imbibe a bit of bubbly with us (in Ann’s case that would be Dr. Pepper) and share in the festivities! Here’s the review:

I’ll Tell You What..., Ann Edwards Cannon

If you’re from Utah, you’ve undoubtedly heard of Lavell Edwads, beloved coach of the BYU football team for many years. What you probably don’t know was that he would often start a conversation with, “I’ll Tell You What...” Luckily for us, we have his daughter, Ann, in the flesh—she’s been (among other things) a part-time bookseller at TKE for many years. And now, we are so pleased to tell you that Ann has collected some of her favorite Salt Lake Tribune columns in this funny and tender tribute to her family and most especially, to her dad. You’ll laugh, you’ll cry, you’ll be glad you bought this book! -Anne Holman, TKE Ink, $15.95

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Blood Standard, Laird Barron
A Maorian mobster banished from Alaska who winds up in upstate New York, Isiah is a man with not just an odd background but a peculiar sense of morality as well. Not in the least bit squeamish when assigned to assassinate someone, he draws the line at exterminating a herd of walruses—the reason he's been exiled. When a teenage girl is kidnapped, his sensibilities are equally offended, and, when offended, Isiah is formidable. He's also quick-witted, fast-talking and funny, a sort of Sam Spade, at least in his own mind, who may just offer the best new possibility for the budding crime series of the decade. Loved every page. – Betsy Burton, Putnam, $26

Mr. Flood’s Last Resort, Jess Kidd
Mr. Flood is an ancient hoarder and a 'stubborn fecker' according to his latest caregiver, Maud. Maud’s an Irish lass with ‘eyes that have seen suffering’ according to Flood, and he should know. When the house begins offering up secrets to her, Maud, her landlady Renata, and Renata’s long-suffering sister Lillian embark on an adventure full of strange disappearances, greedy heirs and at the center of it all Cathal Flood, who may or may not have done away with his wife.
– Paula Longhurst, Atria, $26

The Perfect Mother, Aimee Molloy
This is a thrill-ride of a mystery. Winnie is the shyest member of the May Moth-ers group, a loosely connected gathering of first-time moms who meet up once or twice a week in a Brooklyn park to share their babies and their birth stories. It’s a warm July 4th evening and most of the babies are about seven weeks old when the group convinces Winnie to get a babysitter and come out for drinks with them. What could be the harm in that? Everything actually. Told in alternating voices of the young mothers, this is a cat-and-mouse tale of a missing child and many, many secrets. – Anne Holman, Harper, $27.99

 Greeks Bearing Gifts, Philip Kerr
It’s 1957, Adenauer is Chancellor, Germany is in the beginning stages of post-WWII recovery. Ex-Berlin Police Detective Bernie Gunther (aka Christoff Ganz), who’s been washing bodies in a Munich morgue hoping to avoid recognition, is suddenly promoted to insurance investigator due to a fortuitous encounter and consequently finds himself in Greece. The claimant he is sent to interview is promptly murdered, and Gunther must yet again deal with Nazis and his own dark history as he pursues a killer wanted by the Greek Police for war crimes. Always a good detective, an honest man, a survivor, Gunther was also, however unwillingly, a part of the Nazi regime. He's spent years in denial, escaping into different identities, fleeing to different countries, but now is forced to grapple with his own past. Kerr died not too long after finishing this novel, and it's an eerily apt finale to his extraordinary creation—the unforget-tale antihero Bernie Gunther, “The good cop in the belly of the Nazi beast,” as Jane Kramer put it in The New Yorker. Kerr will be sorely missed. – Betsy Burton, Putnam, $27

The Death of Mrs. Westaway, Ruth Ware
Life hasn’t been kind to Hal Westaway; her mother died when Hal turned 18, she now runs a tarot card reading booth down on Brighton Pier and is in debt up to her eyeballs. When a letter arrives from a Cornish solicitor naming Hal as a beneficiary in a substantial bequest, she realizes very quickly that the letter was sent to the wrong person. But she’s des- perate enough to employ her cold reading skills in an attempt to claim the money. She may soon regret that decision, for old Mrs. Westaway lived in a house full of secrets, some of them shameful and some of them deadly. – Paula Longhurst, Scout, $26.99

Star of the North, D.B. John
The Spy: Dr. Jenna Williams, a woman on a mission. Her twin sister vanished while studying in South Korea, and Jenna is convinced she’s still alive across the border. The Diplomat: North Korean Colonel Chang, on his first overseas trip to negotiate more aid from the Americans. As his star rises, his bloodline may cause his downfall. The Businesswoman: Mrs. Moon, old but shrewd founder of a busi-ness at the local market. Her seed money comes from South Korean contraband, and she's skating on very thin ice indeed. Three very different people whose stories intersect in unexpected ways across the DMZ in North Korea. – Paula Longhurst, Crown, $27

FORTHCOMING IN JUNE

Bearskin, James McLaughlin
“The Sinaloa cartel thanks you…” Rick Morton isn’t who he appears to be. Charged with protecting a wildlife pre-serve deep in the remote Virginia forest, he can stay hidden. He’s just beginning to relax when he’s led to a bear carcass and so begins a crusade against the poachers—a crusade that may prove his
undoing. His do-it-yourself witsec program is no match for the cartel he's bloodied the nose of, and an aggrieved FBI agent is pointing the cartel right at him. – Paula Longhurst, Harper, $26.99 Editor's note: McLaughlin will debut Bearskin at TKE on June 12, 7 p.m.

**London Rules, Mick Herron**

The outcasts in Slough House are sucked into MI5 problems when one among them recognizes the pattern behind a series of seemingly unconnected recent events, a mass shooting in an English village, a bungled train bombing, and the slaughter of some penguins in an aquarium among them. When one of their own (the most odious) is nearly killed and they try to protect an MP who’s in danger, things quickly go from bad to worse—as is usual for the denizens of England’s most underappreciated (sometimes for good reason) house of spies. Herron’s wry sensibility and dead eye for the greed, ambition, and self-importance that rule Britannia are on full display in his sixth of the Slough House series. Read it and weep—while you’re laughing yourself silly. – Betsy Burton, Soho, $26.95 Editor's note: available June 5

**The Word is Murder, Anthony Horowitz**

Daniel Hawthorne is a disgraced detective who ‘consults’ with the Metropolitan Police in helping to solve their more unusual cases. He thinks writer Anthony Horowitz should write a book about him and split the profits 50/50. Horowitz isn’t too fond of Hawthorne and almost rejects his proposal out of hand, but the case Hawthorne is investigating is intriguing. A well-to-do woman visits a funeral home to plan her service, and six hours later she’s murdered. Her famous son, actor Damian Cowper, is coming home for the funeral, and there are suspects galore for Hawthorne to question using his northern ‘charm school’ technique. Will Hawthorne solve the case before someone, possibly Horowitz, attempts to shove him down a flight of stairs? – Paula Longhurst, Harper, $27.99 Editor’s note: available June 5

**The Dante Chamber, Matthew Pearl**

Five years on from the events of *The Dante Club*, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes travels from Boston to England when he receives an intriguing telegram from the poet Robert Browning. Once again, Holmes finds himself once again knee deep in Dante. A series of bizarre murders that have rocked London mimic scenes in ‘Purgatorio’ and Christina Rossetti worries that her missing brother Gabriel could be the next victim. She and the band of unlikely literary sleuths are being followed by Scotland Yard because they don’t think Gabriel is a victim at all... – Paula Longhurst, Penguin, $28 Editor’s note: available June 5

**Jar of Hearts, Jennifer Hillier**

Calvin James was the best and worst thing to happen to 16-year-old Georgina Shaw. As they face each other across a courtroom fourteen years later, Geo testifies against the man now known as the Sweetbay Strangler. Her plea deal means five years in prison as an accessory to her best friend’s murder. Five years later as Geo returns to Sweetbay, so it seems does Calvin James. Geo’s former childhood friend Kaiser, now a cop, struggles to catch James a second time and stop him from wiping out his past. Geo could help Kaiser, but prison has changed her, teaching her how to stay alive. She keeps a gun under her pillow, and she won’t hesitate to use it. – Paula Longhurst, Minotaur, $25.99 Editor’s note: available June 12

**The Color of Bee Larkham’s Murder, Sarah J. Harris**

Color is the way 13-year-old Jasper sees the world: he doesn’t recognize faces but sees voices in sometimes vivid color. It’s a condition called synesthesia and, although it alters the way Jasper sees the world and sometimes creates chaos in his mind, the different perspective it gives him can be informative. Especially when it comes to murder. The victim is a woman who lives next door. Is the killer the boy from school who loved her? Someone else? Jasper himself? Comparisons to *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* are apt in this vivid and harrowing tale that is a mystery and a coming-of age novel that ravelles together scenes from Jasper’s past, from the present, and in the end from the victim’s past as well. – Betsy Burton, Touchstone, $26 Editor’s note: available June 12

**The Possible World, Liese O’Halloran Schwarz**

This book opens with a young boy, Ben, being the only witness to a horrific murder. He is traumatized and mute when taken to the ER at the local hospital. From here the story unfolds through the eyes of the ER doctor on duty, Lucy, Ben and an elderly woman, Clare, who lives in a nursing home across town. Each of these flawed, broken individuals brings their individual efforts to confront their broken lives and the strength of the fate that brings them together. Schwarz expertly weaves these disparate stories together into a novel of love and healing. The reader does not want the story to end. – Jan Sloan, Simon & Schuster, $27 Editor’s note: available June 26
**Mystery/Thriller**

*Murder on the Left Bank*, Cara Black

In Black’s 18th mystery a lawyer hires Aimee Leduc to find a notebook detailing the activities of “The Hand,” a syndicate which had been involved in the death of her father. Black takes the reader into the world of Khmer Rouge refugees and the secret and historical enclave of La Manufacture des Gobelins’s textile, also including, as always, details of hidden nooks and crannies of Paris along with a little French history. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Soho Press, $27.95

**Speculative Fiction**

*The Poppy War*, R.F. Kuang

What a wild, thrilling adventure! This marvel of world-building and magical realism features the flawed, ambivalent protagonist Rin, a peasant orphan, who has, by her own grit and gumption, secured herself a place in her nation’s most prestigious military academy, just as political tensions threaten to bubble over into war. Kuang’s debut novel, deeply influenced by Chinese history and culture, creates a fantasy world that evokes the heart-stopping action and delicate detail of Naomi Novik and Patrick Rothfuss. In short, this is one of the top fantasy novels I’ve read in years. I can’t wait for the sequel! – Rachel Haisley, Voyager, $26.99

**Paperback Originals**

*Yosemite Fall*, Scott Graham

Archaeologist Chuck Bender and his young family are in Yosemite National Park to investigate a centuries old crime, two gold miners allegedly murdered by Indians during a prospecting trip, in which the accounts of the incident don’t tally up. Hoping to mix business with pleasure, Chuck plans to meet up with some of his old climbing buddies. But the reunion starts on a sour note when one friend is hurt, another dies in suspicious circumstances, and the rangers—well one ranger in particular—are determined to implicate Chuck. This isn't Chuck’s only problem; his daughter Carmelita has entered the wall climbing contest and has the skills to match opponents much older than herself—which could put her in danger. Another engaging national park mystery. – Paula Longhurst, Torrey House, $15.95

*Who is Vera Kelly?*, Rosalie Knecht

Neither cozy nor cutesy on the one hand, bloodthirsty on the other, this is a literary thriller that is also a coming-of-age story that is an intriguing analysis of South America’s place in the Cold War at its height in 1962. A book that in the end owes more to Le Carré than Ian Fleming, at first it’s a jaunt of a tale featuring a heroine, Vera Kelly, who, trying to sort out her own sexuality and her place in the world, makes an easy recruit for the CIA. With a minimum of training she finds herself in Buenos Aires cozying up to students she’s been assigned to infiltrate and, thanks to her limited experience in radio, wiretapping a congressman. Unprepared for betrayal, not to mention coups, she finds herself alone, in danger, with only herself to depend upon—a good recipe for growing up fast and a good lesson in the ways the world actually turns. – Betsy Burton, Tin House, $15.95

*Forthcoming in June*

*A People’s History of the Vampire Uprising*, Raymond A. Villareal

When something the CDC cannot explain sweeps through the nation turning a portion of the population into blood sucking vampires, America is in for a bit of a shock. Told through several different perspectives, this book chronicles the historical event that changed a country, and then the whole world! Yet, these changed people, or “Gloamings,” may become more sought after and influential than many would have first believed. Through wit, satire, and intrigue, you follow an alternate history of the world that is delightfully absurds, but also a little too believable. – Claire Margetts, Mulholland Books, $27

*Spinning Silver*, Naomi Novik

Novik (*Uprooted*) turns the Rumpelstiltskin fairy tale upside down and inside out. It is a cold world, getting darker every year. When Miryem figures out that she has the money-lending skills her father does not, things improve for her and her family. Turning silver to gold garners her unwanted attention from the source of the cold that is killing her world. The threads of Miryem’s story are burnished with strength, courage and love. Even better, she is accompanied by a cadre of smart women! Clever, creative, and satisfying—a lot of fun to read! – Margaret Brennan Neville, Del Rey, $28
**I Am a Warrior Goddess**, Jennifer Adams, illustrated by Carme Lemniscates

Local author and King’s English bookseller extraordinaire Jennifer Adams encourages young readers to make the world a better place by fiercely training body, mind and soul to perform acts of kindness. This lovely book has already found a wide, enthusiastic readership. Well done, Jen! – Sounds True, $17.95

**Editor’s note: Also new this summer, Babylit Peter Pan: An Adventure Primer**

**I Got It!**, David Wiesner

Three-time Caldecott Medalist Wiesner scores another home run (yes! pun intended!) with his new, mostly wordless picture book about the lengths one boy with a mitt will go to catch a fly ball. **I Got It!** is as magical as a summer evening at a ballpark. – Clarion, $17.99

**Islandborn**, Junot Diaz, illustrated by Leo Espinosa

Lola goes to a school where all the students originally came from someplace else. When her teacher assigns students to write about their first homes, everyone is eager to get started—except for Lola, who has no memory of the island where she was born. Thanks to stories shared by her family, however, Lola comes to realize her grandmother is right: “Just because you don’t remember a place doesn’t mean it’s not in you.” Local illustrator Leo Espinosa perfectly captures the feel of Diaz’s heartfelt story. – Dial, $17.99

**Hooked**, Tommy Greenwald, illustrated by David McPhail

Joe loves to fish. Joe’s dad thinks fishing is b-o-o-o-r-i-n-g! Still, Joe manages to convince his dad to take him ice fishing. Father and son spend the day talking and drinking hot chocolate until Joe hooks “the big one.” Moral of the story? Turns out there’s more than one way to get hooked. McPhail’s soft-colored palette perfectly enhances this gentle story. – Roaring Brook Press, $16.99

**A Busy Creature’s Day Eating**, Mo Willems

Apples! Berries! Cereal! Busy Creature eats his way through the alphabet and (everything else) . . . ALMOST! But by the time he hits the letter “o,” this little monster and his stomach are in serious trouble. As always, Willems manages to entertain both children and their adults. – Hyperion, $17.99

**New Shoes**, Chris Raschka

Bold and bright, **New Shoes** celebrates the process of finding just the right pair of—well—new shoes! Told from a lively toddler’s lively point of view, Raschka’s newest title is very easy to like. – Harper, $17.99
**Dude**, Aaron Reynolds, illustrated by Dan Santat
My three year-old grandson can read this book to me. Why? Because he’s a genius? Well, sure. Why not? But also there’s only one word throughout this story, i.e. “dude.” When two animals go surfing, they freely toss around the word, which can mean anything from “Hey! This is awesome!” to “Oh no! There’s a shark!” Turns out “dude” is super versatile that way. Santat’s lively illustrations contribute to the story’s high humor. – Roaring Brook Press, $17.99

**Marlo and the Dinosaurs**, Christopher Browne
So let’s say you’re a dog. And let’s say you’re a dog who wakes up from an afternoon nap. And let’s also say you’re a dog who wakes up from an afternoon nap and notices that there’s something strange about the light. Why? Because suddenly and also somehow you’re a dog who’s living during the dinosaur days. Browne’s second book about his real dog, Marlo, is all kinds of fun. – Harper, $17.99

**Grumpy Monkey**, Suzanne Lang, illustrated by Max Lang
“One wonderful day, Jim Panzee woke to discover that nothing was right. The sun was too bright, the sky was too blue, and the bananas were too sweet.” And things only get worse from there. Why? Because all of Jim Panzee’s friends tell him HE SHOULD BE HAPPY! Only he isn’t. Can’t a monkey just be grumpy sometimes? A charming take on bad moods and how to manage them. – Random House, $17.99

**We Don’t Eat Our Classmates**, Ryan T. Higgins
Higgins, the author and illustrator of the fabulous **Mother Bruce** books, crushes it with this new story about a little T. Rex who keeps accidentally eating her classmates. The good thing about classmates? They taste yummy. The bad thing about classmates? They don’t want to be your friend if you keep on eating them. How Penelope learns this important life lesson is only one of **We Don’t Eat Our Classmates** many charms. –Disney, $17.99

The emotional wallop this book packs is amplified by its backstory: authors Kensky and Downes were both injured in the spring of 2013 while running the Boston Marathon. Enter Rescue, a service dog named in memory of a fallen Massachusetts firefighter. The couple’s relationship with Rescue is the basis for this story about a girl and the dog that helps her adapt to her new reality. Inspiring! – Candlewick, $16.99
Llama Llama Loves to Read, Anna Dewdney and Reed Duncan, illustrated by J.T. Morrow

Although Anna Dewdney passed away in 2016, her beloved creation Llama Llama lives on. In this book, Llama Llama learns to read and to love it! This celebration of letters, words, and sentences will appeal to the emerging reader in your life. – Viking, $17.99

A Couch for Llama, Leah Gilbert

Apparently llamas are the new sloths, i.e. the quirky and cute animal du jour. But I’m not complaining, because who can’t love a llama that makes friends with a couch? This book is—you guessed it—both quirky AND cute. Recommended! – Sterling, $16.95

Don’t Blink, Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by David Roberts

The late Rosenthal’s trademark wit and good humor are on display in this posthumous story about a little owl that absolutely Does. Not. Want. To. Go. To. Sleep. So what do you do with an owl like that? (Hint: Take a cue from the title and tell him not to blink.) – Random, $17.99

Earth! My First 4.5 Billion Years, Stacy McAnulty, illustrated by David Litchfield

“I have seven siblings in my solar system. I’m closest to Venus and Mars. Some used to say I have eight siblings, but Pluto is more like the family pet.” Planet Earth’s history comes to life in this picture book narrated by none other than Planet Earth itself. Inventive and informative, Earth! is a tasty treat. – Henry Holt, $17.99

Ocean Meets Sky, Terry Fan and Eric Fan

Night Gardener was a huge hit, and readers of all ages have been waiting too long for the Fan brothers’ next book. Fortunately, the wait has been worth it with this story about Finn, who’s going to where “the ocean meets the sky,” a magical place his grandfather spoke of before dying. Finn’s search for meaning, for comfort, and for memories is beautifully rendered in this book destined for the “classics” shelf, every page a marvelous, bewitching exploration. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Simon & Schuster, $17.99

Look, Fiona Woodcock

Balloon. Woof. Hooray. This fabulous new book takes a bold visual look at all the ways you can say the double “oo” sound. Woodcock’s whimsical style will delight readers of any age. – Greenwillow, $17.99

Editor’s note: available July 10
Harriet Gets Carried Away, Jessie Sima
Harriet, who loves costumes, dresses up as a penguin for her costume birthday party. But when she goes to the deli with her two dads for birthday groceries, she takes a detour through the freezer where she’s greeted by a flock of penguins who carry her away. Literally! Can Harriet make it back from parts unknown in time for her party? Sima’s droll illustrations are sweetly charming and the treatment of her non-traditional family as unremarkable is perfectly done.
– Simon & Schuster, $17.99

A Most Unusual Day, Sydra Mallery, illustrated by E.B. Goodale
Caroline is usually organized and helpful and graceful and calm—but not today. Why? Because she can’t stop thinking about her parents who are returning home from far away with a brand new baby sister. And as everybody knows, a new baby makes “everything, every usual thing, unusually new and perfectly right.” – Harper, $17.99

Albert’s Tree, Jenni Desmond
As soon as Albert the Bear wakes up from his long winter’s nap, he climbs into his favorite tree, which is not “too hard, or too soft, or too slippery, or too prickly.” BUT WAIT! His favorite tree

Whale in a Fishbowl, Troy Howell and Richard Jones
Wednesday the Whale has lived her entire life in the middle of a fishbowl in the middle of a city. But a yearning resides deep inside her for something wide and long, deep and blue. Will Wednesday ever find the thing she’s looking for? This is one of those titles that may appeal more to adults than children, but still. It’s a gorgeous picture book. – Schwartz & Wade, $17.99

Backyard Fairies, Phoebe Wahl
Do your children have vivid imaginations? Do they collect stones, flowers, feathers? Do they believe in fairies? Do you? (We do!) Full of lush illustrations of the magic that exists just out of sight whenever you wander outdoors, this book is perfect those of all ages who love to believe.
– Michaela Riding, Knopf, $17.99
Chapter Books for Children  by Margaret Brennan Neville

NONFICTION

**Calling All Minds, Temple Grandin**

Grandin knows that everyone deserves a chance to be the best they can be, and she uses her own experiences growing up at home and at school as both a springboard and a challenge to “make things.” Opportunities to discover, to get to know the world by putting things together, taking them apart and then doing it all over again are the fundamental foundations for scientific exploration. Grandin lays out examples of inventions, their inventors, their impact on the world, and even better gives readers the “recipes” to replicate some of them. This book, like its author, is interesting, compelling and authentic. Kids and grownups alike will enjoy the reading and also the “doing.”

– Penguin, $18.99 (8 and up)

**Library on Wheels: Mary Lemist Titcomb and America's First Bookmobile, Sharlee Glenn**

This might be a book for all of us who remember the bookmobile. Something to look forward to every week. And the books came to you! Local author Glenn taps into that sentiment with her new biography of Titcomb, whose ground-breaking idea of taking the books to readers gave countless kids wonderful opportunities they wouldn’t otherwise have had! It all began with a Book Wagon in 1905 in Massachusetts. Over a 100 years later bookmobiles of all shapes and sizes still make libraries accessible to countless readers all over the country. “If you can’t bring the people to the books, bring the books to the people.” – Abrams, $18.99 (all ages)

**Dinosaurium, curated by Chris Wormell and Lily Murray**

Dinos occupy a huge part of our landscape and our imaginations. This third installment in the *Welcome to the Museum* series is as eye-catching and interesting as the previous titles, laying out the eras, the family trees, and other relevant info. Dinosaur fans will be satisfied and intrigued. I particularly love the oversized pages with their distinct art. The museum will always be open once you own this book. – Big Picture Press, $35 (Dino fans of any age)

**Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor: the Woman Who Loved Reptiles, Patricia Valdez, illustrated by Felicita Sala**

Have you ever heard of Joan Procter? Well, neither had I. But after reading this new picture book about the woman who became the first female curator of the London Zoo Reptile House, I’m impressed by her desire to share her deep knowledge of herpetology with students of all ages. Publisher Knopf, by the way, is knocking it out of the park these days when it comes to quality picture book biographies. – Ann Cannon, Knopf, $17.99 (6 and up)

**Ghost Boys, Jewell Parker Rhodes**

First chapter: “I am dead.” Jerome, a young African American boy, describes the moment when he is shot, when the bullets take him down. But his mother’s pain is greater. Jerome finds himself wandering his world as a ghost in the company of the “ghost boys,” including Emmett Till. This novel is unnerving and familiar; trying to show the burden of all those unnecessary deaths and at the same time reminding us that we all want friends, want to celebrate our families, want to work at life, to be able to live together. Rhodes (*Towers Falling*) is really challenging readers with this novel—which is harrowing, but a gem that deserves to be read and discussed by all age groups. – Little Brown Books for Young Readers, $16.99 (10 and up)

**Voices from the Second World War: Stories of War as Told to Children of Today, Candlewick**

Seventy years ago WWII impacted the entire world. This collection began with a children’s newspaper in London, *First News*, and their collaboration with *Silver Line Helpline: A Confidential Helpline for Senior Citizens in the U.K.* Now children are collecting stories of soldiers, resistance fighters, survivors, citizens, politicians, firefighters, anyone who had a first-hand experience with the war. Memories are being shared and even more importantly preserved in short 2-4 page length narratives, accompanied by photos. Readers will recognize some of the individual recollections of WWII experiences while others will fill in gaps in historical knowledge. But it’s the intimate quality of the personal moments during such a troubling time in our history that make this a truly noteworthy collection.

– Candlewick, $24.99 (10 and up)

**MIDDLE READERS**

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This might be a book for all of us who remember the bookmobile. Something to look forward to every week. And the books came to you! Local author Glenn taps into that sentiment with her new biography of Titcomb, whose ground-breaking idea of taking the books to readers gave countless kids wonderful opportunities they wouldn’t otherwise have had! It all began with a Book Wagon in 1905 in Massachusetts. Over a 100 years later bookmobiles of all shapes and sizes still make libraries accessible to countless readers all over the country. “If you can’t bring the people to the books, bring the books to the people.” – Abrams, $18.99 (all ages)

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**The Button War: A Tale of the Great War**, Avi

Twelve-year-old Patryk has experienced little of the world beyond his small Polish village where he and his friends pass the time with childish mischief, challenging each other to ever-escalating dares that become more and more dangerous as the Great War inches closer. Avi’s most recent novel of war, trust, and betrayal is as intricately woven and as breathtaking as any of his previous works. – Rachel Haisley, Candlewick, $16.99 (10 and up)

**Bob**, Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead

When Livy and her mom finally go back to Australia for a visit, Livy just knows that she has forgotten something. She has! Bob, a small green creature in a chicken suit that only she can see, is living in the closet at her grandma’s house. The only thing Bob can remember is Livy and her promise to him five years ago. Livy will need gumption, courage, persistence, and, most importantly, friendship to keep her word. Mass and Stead, both masters of the middle reader, have given readers a gift! This book is a charmer! – Feiwel and Friends, 16.99 (8 and up)

**A Pup Called Trouble**, Bobbi Pyron

Pyron (A Dog’s Way Home) demonstrates again her talent for giving our four-legged friends a voice. Trouble (his name says it all!), a coyote pup, follows his nose and ends up in Central Park with his new “pack,” a cadre of unlikely friends. They know that they must help him back to the wild or the consequences will be severe. Animal lovers will be thrilled with this portrayal of our furry and feathered neighbors. – Katherine Tegen Books, $16.99 (8 and up)

**The Rose Legacy**, Jessica Day George

Local author George knows her readers! *The Rose Legacy* has everything girls love in a fantasy—a plucky and beautiful orphan, a crazy friend, royalty, spies, and, best of all, horses. She adds in a very special gift, a mystery or two, and a smidge of romance as main character Anthea bounces from family to family, finally finding a place she might be able to call home. But she will have to decide if it is worth defending. Another spot-on book from George! – Bloomsbury, $16.99 (8 and up)

**Miscalculations of Lightning Girl**, Stacy McAnulty

Lightning strikes can kill. When Lucy Callahan is struck at age four, she lives but her brain has been changed. Her unusual behavior, her amazing off-the-chart genius math skills, all set her on a different path. Reluctantly Lucy has to go to middle school, knowing it will be hard. She’s good at math but not so good with her peers. Although unique because lightning changed her brain, ultimately, she’s a kid who wants friends. Like the rest of us! Funny and smart, this is another great addition to the realistic fiction section! – Random House, $16.99 (9 and up)

**Playing Atari with Saddam Hussein**, Jennifer Roy

Roy (Yellow Star) shares the story of a young man whose family served in and survived Operation Desert Storm during Saddam Hussein’s regime. Ali and his family live in Basra, and when Hussein decides to invade Kuwait, Ali’s father is forced to serve. As the days go by, Ali and his family’s well-being deteriorates quickly. Using her great story-telling skills, Roy treats Ali’s plight with a great deal of respect and compassion. – HMH Books for Young Readers, $16.99 (10 and up)

**The Lifters**, Dave Eggers

Granite (Gran) and his family have to move; times are tough and Carousel offers a cheaper and hopefully easier life. But things are harder than anyone expected since no one is buying Merry Go Rounds anymore, and there is no work for Gran’s dad. The town is falling apart in odd ways; people are acting strangely… something is going on. Gran is slow to make friends, and when he notices Catalina, the only kid who has said hello, slipping away one day, he decides to follow her. A pull on a silver handle reveals an underground that is eating away at the town in this very creative adventure about stepping up to save a town, to be a friend, to help your family. – Scholastic, $17.99 (9 and up)

**Just Like Jackie**, Lindsey Stoddard

Robinson LOVES baseball and her grandpa. He has been her whole family all her life. They do everything together from working on cars to harvesting maple syrup. But now her grandpa is losing his memory, and she knows that if something happens to him, she will be all alone. Then, when she strikes out at Alex at school and ends up in a guidance pro-
gram, Robbie discovers that she might just have more family than she realizes. This is a tender exploration of family and just an all-around nice book. – Harper, $16.99 (9 and up)

Rosetown, Cynthia Rylant
A novel with a bookstore named Wings and a Chair Used Books has to be good! Flora’s mom works three days a week at the store, and it has become 9-year-old Flora’s favorite place, mostly because it stays the same. Flora’s mom and dad are estranged, and Flora’s dog has died. It seems like everyone’s life is easier, better, nicer than hers. Flora must learn to deal with change, and, as she does, Rylant skillfully reminds readers of all ages that family and friendship are the most important things of all – Simon & Schuster, $16.99 (8 and up)

Out of the Wild Night: A Ghost Story, Blue Balliett
The ghosts have been released in Nantucket, an island off the coast of Massachusetts. The spirits have been residing in the old homes, and when developers start to tear down the old and put up new homes in their place, the ghosts are MAD. It also turns out that kids can communicate with the ghosts when adults have no idea of their existence. This story is fun with only a slight bit of a chill to it. – Becky Hall, Scholastic, $17.99 (8-12)

Endling: The Last, Katherine Applegate
A lyrical cautionary tale about extinction, Endling is the story of Byx, the last remaining Dairne who has witnessed the murder of his whole family. In his search for more Dairnes, Byx discovers that family does not have to be only blood relatives. – Becky Hall, Harper Collins, $17.99 (8-12)

Wonderland, Barbara O’Connor
Dog lovers, line up for another great book from O’Connor. When Mavis declares that she is Rose Tully’s new best friend, Rose is excited and a little bit afraid. She’s never had a best friend, but neither has Mavis. Rose thinks while she is afraid of everything, Mavis isn’t afraid of anything at all. Could this be the best friendship ever for scheming how to match sad dog-less Mr. Duffy with a runaway greyhound? – Becky Hall, Farrar Straus Giroux, $16.99 (8-12)

The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street, Karina Yan Glaser
It is five days before Christmas in New York City. The five Vanderbeeker kids should be celebrating the season, but they are not. They pack up everything they own from their brownstone because their grumpy old landlord has given them until New Year’s to move. They set out to prove to “The Beiderman” that they should stay. Readers will fall in love with this spunky, creative, biracial family who won’t give up. – Becky Hall, HMH Books for Young Readers, $16.99 (7-10)

The Traitor’s Game, Jennifer Nielsen
Nielsen breaks into the young adult genre with her new novel which has something for everyone who likes fantasy and adventure. Kestra is returning to her father and his evil immortal overlord when she is kidnapped and forced to go on a quest. Simon, one of the kidnappers, ends up being her keeper. Kestra and Simon have a history that comes roaring back to life. Told in alternating chapters full of adventure, intrigue, and a touch of romance. – Scholastic, $17.99 (12 and up) Editor’s note: signed copies available.

The Hazel Wood, Melissa Albert
The Hazel Wood is a bridge between worlds fraught with extremes. When Alice’s mom is kidnapped, all the baggage, all the bad luck that they’ve carried around from her grandmother’s book of stories to her grandmother’s life, gushes to the surface, breaking the dam and carrying them away. A blend of human and fairy, shiny and dark, pleasure and danger, this is a great read that adult fans of Night Film would like as well! – Flatiron, $18.99 (12 and up)

Neverworld Wake, Marisha Pessl
Beatrice Hartley and her friends attended Darrow-Harker School; they were the cool kids, the mostly rich kids, until Bea’s boyfriend Jim killed himself. Then the group fractured, and Bea hasn’t seen them in over a year. Their reunion is a mess of awkward silences and lame jokes, the group narrowly survives a car accident, and as the evening careens to a close there’s a knock at the door. A stranger has
arrived; he explains that the teens are snagged on a shard in time and only the hardest of decisions can set them free. Equal parts mystery and Groundhog Day. – Paula Longhurst, Delacorte, $18.99 (15 and up)

**Notes from My Captivity**, Kathy Parks

Adrienne's ambitions put her in a very difficult situation when she is captured and held by a family that is hiding in the wilds of Siberia. Dark, weird, and funny, this novel really gives readers something to think about. – Harper, $17.99 (15 and up)

**I Have Lost My Way**, Gayle Forman

Three people accidentally fall in together in New York City, and their day-long journey is an exploration of a spectrum of issues. Freya has lost her voice, Nathan is, sort of, on his way to meet his dad, and Harun wants his old boyfriend back. Mental health, family issues, being gay, coming of age, suicide are all things that come up in the course of their day together. Forman's characters and their stories are believable and sympathetic. – Penguin $18.99 (14 and up)  
*Editor's note: signed copies available.*

**Children of Blood and Bone**, Tomi Adeyemi

Magic has been driven away and has disappeared. If the authorities think you have magic, the repercussions are brutal! Zélie remembers how different, how much better, her world was with magic in it, so when she has an opportunity to strike out at the king and his family, she takes it. Along with her brother and a wayward princess, she starts off on a quest to save their world. Set in a magical version of Africa, Adeyemi brings all sorts of cultural references and flavors to her entertaining book that are not commonly found in mainstream fantasy. Fun read! – Henry Holt, $18.99 (14 and up)

**Truly Devious**, Maureen Johnson

Long-time favorite YA writer Johnson (*Thirteen Little Blue Envelopes, Name of the Star*) exceeds all our expectations in her new mystery. Stevie was so surprised and ecstatic to get into the ultra-famous Ellingham Academy. Her rabid interest in forensic science will flourish at a school that is not only known for its quirky high-end academics but also for the unsolved disappearance/murder of the founder's wife and daughter. Stevie can't shake the feeling that something curious is going on in a suspenseful novel that could be shelved in the kids' or adult sections. Couldn't put it down! – Harper, $17.99 (14 and up)

**The Invasion**, Peadar O'Guilin

Who can forget the weird, scary, dark fairies in *The Call*, O'Guilin first book? Teenagers do not live in Ireland, the Sidh have claimed them as retribution against humans. Nessa and Anto actually survived their "Call," and they think that they live happily ever after. Ha. Of course that is not going to happen. The Grey World is getting closer, and the fairies are crueler than ever. This is creepy at its best, one of those rare sequels that is as good as the first book. – Scholastic, $18.99
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