

# Midmonth BookNotes

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## Fall into a Good Book

**Cabot, Meg.** [No Judgments](#)  
(Harper \$15.99).

Relocating to Little Bridge Island in the Florida Keys after a devastating breakup, Sabrina “Bree” Beckham is settling into her new life as a waitress and cat owner, when she is faced with the prospect of her first hurricane in Florida. Certain that the forecasts about the intensity of the storm are exaggerated, Bree hunkers down to ride out the storm with her boss’s nephew Drew Hartwell. While Bree may have missed the mark as to the damage the hurricane inflicts, she and Drew find a new purpose rescuing the pets Bree’s neighbors were forced to leave behind.

**Center, Katherine.** [Things You Save in a Fire](#)  
(St Martins \$26.99).

When her ailing mother, who abandoned Cassie Hanwell when she was sixteen, asks Cassie to move to Boston to be near her ten years later, Cassie, of course, has mixed feelings. Eventually, Cassie gives into her mother’s request to reconnect, and she returns home and her new job as the only female firefighter at an old-school firehouse. Now facing tons of discrimination as well as the fact that due to budget cuts, she must now battle Owen “The Rookie” Callaghan for a spot on the crew, Cassie begins to wonder if it is all worth it. If you like women’s fiction packed with plenty of emotional *sturm* and *drang*, this might



be exactly up your alley. *Kirkus* gave it a coveted star saying it is a “witty exploration of love and forgiveness that is at once insightful, entertaining, and thoroughly addictive.”

**Clayton, Meg Waite.** [The Last Train to London](#)  
(HarperCollins \$27.99)

In 1936 Vienna, playwriting Jewish teenager Stephan Neuman’s best friend and constant companion is Žofie-Helene, a Christian girl whose mother edits a progressive, anti-Nazi newspaper. Everything changes horribly with the Anschluss, and as Hitler takes control of Austria, anyone hoping to escape the Nazis find the borders are being closed to fleeing refugees. Fortunately for Stephan and Zofie-Helene Truus Wijismuller a member of the Dutch resistance, has made it her life’s mission to smuggle as many Jewish children as she possibly can out of Germany and the countries controlled by the Nazis. *New York Times* best-selling Clayton based her latest gut-wrenching historical on the *Kindertansports* – the real-life transportation of thousands of children out of Nazi-occupied Europe and Truus Wijismuller, known as Tante Truss, the brave woman who helped approximately 10,000 of these children escape to safety. If you loved *All the Light We Cannot See*, *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*, or *The Nightingale*, you this will be equally riveting.

**Cullen, Lynn.** [Sisters of Summit Avenue](#)  
(Gallery \$27).

Raising four daughters and running her family’s Depression-era Indiana farm for eight years after her

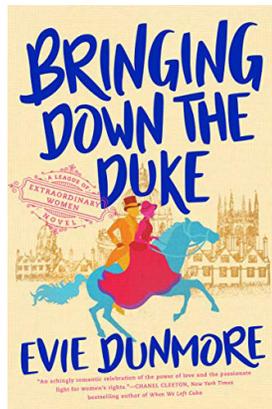
husband John is infected by a devastating sleeping sickness, Ruth reconnects with her estranged, childless, much more successful sister June, who not only married a doctor but who has a career working as one of the women hired by General Mills to “play” Betty Crocker. However, any hope of a permanent reconciliation between the two sisters is threatened by the fact that June is desperately in love with Ruth’s husband.

**DeLuca, Jen.** [Well Met](#)  
(Penguin \$15)

While in the small town of Willow Creek, Maryland to help her sister, Emily Parker is roped into volunteering for the local Renaissance Faire by playing a tavern wench. If the costume and the hours (weekends, of course) are not exactly stellar, on the upside, this does allow Emily time to forge a relationship with her teenaged niece Caitlin as well as flirt with festival organizer the irritating yet irresistible Simon Graham, whose festival alter ego – a pirate with sex-appeal to spare – definitely shivers Emily’s romantic timbers.

**Dunmore, Evie.** [Bringing Down the Duke](#)  
(Penguin \$15).

In order to earn her scholarship to Oxford, Annabelle Archer, the brilliant but destitute daughter of a country vicar, must agree to support the rising women’s suffrage movement by recruiting men of influence to champion the cause. Annabelle targets the cold and calculating Duke of Montgomery, Sebastian Devereux, as her first recruit, but their unexpected romance not only threatens to upend the Annabelle’s and Sebastian’s lives but the whole British



social order to boot. This terrific debut has garnered the coveted starred awards from all four major review sources – *Booklist*, *Kirkus*, *LJ*, and *Publishers Weekly*, as well as recently being named a Top Ten Debut romance by *Booklist*. Fans of Lauren Willig’s Pink Carnation series or Beatriz Williams (especially her marvelous books as Juliana Gray) historical novels can’t afford to miss this superb new book!

**Fox, Hester.** [The Widow of Pale Harbor](#)  
(Graydon House \$16.99)

After his wife’s death, Gabriel Stone moves to Maine, taking a position as a minister in the remote village of Pale Harbor. But not all is as it seems in the sleepy town. Strange, unsettling things have been happening, and the townspeople claim that only one person can be responsible: Sophronia Carver, a reclusive widow who lives with a spinster maid in the eerie Castle Carver. Sophronia must be a witch, and she almost certainly killed her husband. As the incidents escalate, one thing becomes clear: they are the work of a twisted person inspired by the wildly popular stories of Mr. Edgar Allan Poe. And Gabriel must find answers, or Pale Harbor will suffer a fate worthy of Poe’s darkest tales. Fans of gothic romances much in the style of those deliciously shivery historical romances written by Barbara Michaels will rejoice at finding this new author who seems to have the same gift for mixing mystery, romance, and spooky suspense.

**Grant, Sofia.** [Lies in White Dresses](#)  
(Harper \$15.99).

Francie Meeker and Vi Carothers never expected to be on the train to Reno, those “lies in white dresses” shattered, their marriages over. On board the train they meet June Samples, who is fleeing an abusive husband with her daughter, and best friends take the vulnerable young mother under their wing. The three decide to wait out the required six weeks together at the Holiday Ranch Hotel, and then they can toss their wedding bands into the Truckee River and start new lives as divorcees. But as they settle in at the ranch, one shocking moment will change their lives forever. As it brings their deceptions and fears into focus, it will also demand a reckoning with the past, and the choices that a person in love can be driven to make. This is the third engaging historical women’s fiction novel from Grant, the pseudonym for Sophie Littlefield, who explores the phenomenon of American women in the 1940s and 1950s, who sought a divorce by “taking the Reno cure.” Film fans may also recognize this from the classic movie *The Women*, in which the heroine and her gal pals head west to Nevada for divorces.

**Gappah, Petina.** [Out of Darkness, Shining Light](#) (Scribner \$27)

*This is how we carried out of Africa the poor broken body of Bwana Daudi, the Doctor, David Livingstone, so that he could be borne across the sea and buried in his own land.*” So, begins Petina Gappah’s powerful novel of exploration and adventure in nineteenth-century Africa—the captivating story of the loyal men and women who carried explorer and missionary Dr. Livingstone’s body, his papers and maps, fifteen hundred miles across the continent of Africa, so his remains could be returned home to England and his work preserved there. Narrated by Halima, the doctor’s sharp-tongued cook, and Jacob Wainwright, a rigidly pious freed slave, Zimbabwean author Gappah, whose previous works include the Guardian First Book-winning *An Elegy for Easterly* and the McKitterick Prize-winning, Bailey’s long-listed *The Book of Memory*, latest intensely moving novel encompasses all of the hypocrisy of slavery and colonization—the hypocrisy at the core of the human heart—while celebrating resilience, loyalty, and love.

**Hannah, Kristin.** [The Great Alone](#) (\$17.99).

When her volatile, former POW father impulsively moves the family to mid-1970s Alaska to live off the land, young Leni and her mother are forced to confront the dangers of their lack of preparedness in the wake of a dangerous winter season.

**Johnson, Sara E.** [Molten Mud Murder](#) (Sourcebooks/Poisoned Pen Press \$15.99)

American Alexa Glock had been hoping to find a way to extend her stay in New Zealand after her teaching gig at Auckland University ended. So, when a body is discovered in geothermal mud pots at the Waiariki Thermal Land of Enchantment National Park, Alex offers her skills in forensic odontology to the Rotorua Police Department. Since the extreme heat of the mud pots has melted away many other ways of identifying the body, the victim’s teeth may hold the key to telling the police who died; that is, if Alexa can just convince Detective Bruce Horne to give her a chance. Readers with an interest in the forensic side of criminal investigation will enjoy all of the details – including a clinically described autopsy- Johnson skillfully weaves into her marvelously entertaining

debut, which also offers a wonderful window into the natural beauty of New Zealand and the fascinating culture of the Maori.

**Kelly, Julia.** [The Light over London](#) (Gallery \$16.99)

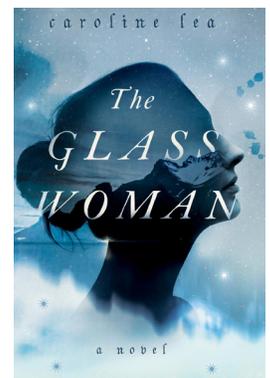
Unable to confront the challenges in her own life, Cara Hargraves immerses herself in work for her antiques-dealer boss, and when she finds a tin of letters and photographs from World War II, she traces them back to British “Gunner Girl” Louise Keene and her complicated relationship with a man named Paul. Reminiscent of Martha Hall Kelly’s *Lilac Girls* and Kristin Hannah’s *The Nightingale*, this sweeping, entrancing story is a must-read for fans of remarkable women rising to challenges they could never have predicted.

**Layne, Lauren.** [Love on Lexington Avenue](#) (Gallery \$16)

There are no good men left in New York City. At least that’s Claire Hayes’s conviction after finding out her late husband was not the man she thought he was. Determined to rid her home of anything that reminds her of her cheating husband, Claire sets out to redesign her boring, beige Upper East Side brownstone and make it something all her own. But what starts out as a simple renovation becomes a lot more complicated when she meets her bad-tempered contractor Scott Turner. If you like your rom-coms served up with plenty of HGTV background details and DIY tidbits, this charmer is for you.

**Lea, Caroline.** [Glass Woman](#) (Harper \$27.99).

A young woman follows her new husband to his remote home on the Icelandic coast in the 1680s, where she becomes immersed in the dark secrets surround the death of his first wife. Sound familiar? Yes, this is a clever take on Daphne Du Maurier’s classic *Rebecca* by way of Emily Brontë’s *Jane Eyre* with all the lovely prose and leisurely pacing both those authors brought to their novels. If you’re in the reading mood for something dark and



dreamy, Lea's remarkable novel, which is shortlisted for the Historical Writers Association Debut Crown Award, may be just the ticket.

**Levine, Laura.** [Death of a Gigolo](#)  
(Kensington \$26)

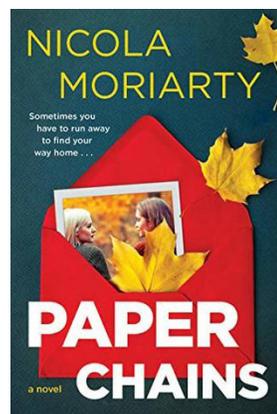
When heiress Daisy Kincaid's much-younger fiancé—a notorious lothario—is murdered right after their engagement is announced, writer Jaine Austen, who has been hired by Daisy to help her write a romance novel, must page through the long list of suspects to close the book on a killer. Levine, who once upon a time wrote scripts for *The Bob Newhart Show* and *Laverne & Shirley* among other sitcoms, could write copy for cereal boxes, and I would buy them. I just love her zany sense of wit.

**Mcfarlane, Mhairi.** [Don't You Forget About Me](#)  
(Harper \$15.99).

If there's anything worse than being fired from the lousiest restaurant in town, it's coming home early to find your boyfriend in bed with someone else. Reeling from the humiliation of a double dumping in one day, Georgina takes the next job that comes her way—bartender in a newly opened pub. There's only one problem: it's run by the guy she fell in love with years ago. And—make that two problems—he doesn't remember her. *At all.* But she has fabulous friends and her signature hot pink fur coat... what more could a girl really need?

**Moriarty, Nicola.** [Paper Chains](#)  
(Harper \$15.99).

Hannah has been running—literally and figuratively—from her life back in Australia. Whenever she's not working, she's pounding London's streets, putting the past behind her. Then she meets a fellow Australian named India, and Hannah's entranced. For India is confident, exotic, and charming—qualities that Hannah feels she's desperately lacking. India has a secret, too – one beyond any remedy. For it's a secret that is currently sealed in a love letter and is making its journey across Europe in the most unconvention-



al way—through the hands of strangers as they pass on the street. Before the letter with India's deepest, darkest secret reaches its destination, can the women find the connection that will take each of them exactly where they need to go.

**Nixon, Rosie.** [The Stylist Takes Manhattan](#)  
(Harper \$15.99).

London stylist Amber Green has landed a dream job designing windows for Selfridge's and her dream man in sweetly sexy boyfriend, Rob. In short, Amber loves her life and wouldn't change a thing. But when Rob is hired to produce a reality series about the iconic Angel Wear lingerie fashion show, he breaks the news that he's moving to New York...and invites Amber along on the adventure. Ensnared in a Williamsburg sardine tin and in touch with a hotshot agent who advises she boost her social media presence, Amber hits Instagram hard, posting unintentional gossip fuel that culminates in pics of a mysterious new acquaintance who turns out to be a scandal unto himself. Mix *The Devil Wears Prada* with *The Shopaholic* series by Sophie Kinsella and you will have an idea of the flavor of this entertaining series.

**Palmer, Liza.** [The Nobodies](#)  
(Flatiron \$26.99)

If there's one thing Joan Dixon knows about herself, it's that she is a damn good journalist. But when she is laid off from yet another soon-to-be-shuttered newspaper, and even the soulless, listicle-writing online jobs have dried up, she is left with few options. Reinventing herself, Joan goes to work as a junior copywriter at Bloom, a Los Angeles startup where her bosses are all a decade younger and snacks and cans of fizzy water flow freely. For once, Joan has a steady paycheck and a stable job. She befriends a group of misfit coworkers and even begins a real relationship, after years of false starts. But once a journalist, always a journalist, and as Joan starts to poke beneath Bloom's bright surface, she realizes that she may have accidentally stumbled onto the scoop of her lifetime. Is it worth risking everything for the sake of the story? Set against the backdrop of the new gig economy, Palmer once again strikes the perfect balance between humor and heartfelt emotion.

**Pembroke, Ivy.** [A Dog Called Jack](#)  
(Kensington \$15.95).

All day, he trots happily between the terraced houses, receiving treats and toys, offering a tail wag or lick in return. For Sam, a widower recently returned to London, Jack is Christmas Street's unofficial welcoming committee. For Sam's young son, Teddy, the small, scruffy mutt is much more than that—he's a confidante and Teddy's much-needed and so far, only friend. But other neighbors also rely on Jack for company, including Bill, the street's oldest, grumpiest resident. Bill remembers when everyone knew and looked out for each other. Now, people live side by side for years, scarcely interacting. Jack—with some help from Sam and Teddy—is starting to change all that.

**Prescott, Lara.** [The Secrets We Kept](#)  
(Knopf \$26.95)

At the height of the Cold War, two secretaries are pulled out of the typing pool at the CIA and given the assignment of a lifetime. Their mission: to smuggle *Doctor Zhivago* out of the USSR, where no one dare publish it, and help Pasternak's magnum opus make its way into print around the world. Glamorous and sophisticated Sally Forrester is a seasoned spy who has honed her gift for deceit all over the world—using her magnetism and charm to pry secrets out of powerful men. Irina is a complete novice, and under Sally's tutelage quickly learns how to blend in, make drops, and invisibly ferry classified documents. *The Secrets We Kept* combines a legendary literary love story—the decades-long affair between Pasternak and his mistress and muse, Olga Ivinskaya, who was sent to the Gulag and inspired *Zhivago's* heroine, Lara—with a narrative about two women empowered to lead lives of extraordinary intrigue and risk. It almost seems like fate that Lara Prescott would write this stunning novel given that her own first name was inspired by her mother's love for both the book and the movie *Dr. Zhivago*.

Prescott's debut got its start as her thesis when she was working on her MFA at the Michener Center for Writers at the University of Austin reported sold at auction for 2 million dollars and was just picked by Reese Witherspoon to be her September book club choice. PW's starred review of this stunning debut concluded with "shines as a spy story, publication

thriller, and historical romance with a twist."

**Quinn, Kate.** [Ribbons of Scarlet](#)  
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

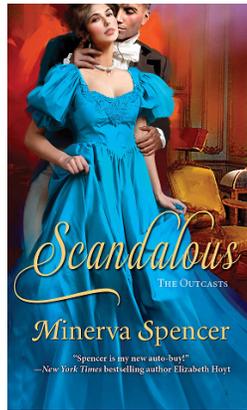
In late eighteenth-century France, women do not have a place in politics. But as the tide of revolution rises, women from gilded salons to the streets of Paris decide otherwise—upending a world order that has long oppressed them. Blue-blooded Sophie de Grouchy believes in democracy, education, and equal rights for women, and marries the only man in Paris who agrees. Emboldened to fight the injustices of King Louis XVI, Sophie aims to prove that an educated populace can govern itself—but one of her students, fruit-seller Louise Audu, is hungrier for bread and vengeance than learning. When the Bastille falls and Louise leads a women's march to Versailles, the monarchy is forced to bend, but not without a fight. The king's pious sister Princess Elisabeth takes a stand to defend her brother, spirit her family to safety, and restore the old order, even at the risk of her head. But when fanatics use the newspapers to twist the revolution's ideals into a new tyranny, even the women who toppled the monarchy are threatened by the guillotine. Putting her faith in the pen, brilliant political wife Manon Roland tries to write a way out of France's blood-soaked Reign of Terror while pike-bearing Pauline Leon and steely Charlotte Corday embrace violence as the only way to save the nation. With justice corrupted by revenge, all the women must make impossible choices to survive—unless unlikely heroine and courtesan's daughter Emilie de Sainte-Amaranthe can sway the man who controls France's fate: the fearsome Robespierre.

**Scott, Susan Holloway.** [The Secret Wife of Aaron Burr](#)  
(Kensington \$16.95).

Sold into slavery as a child in India, Mary Emmons was brought to an America torn by war. Toughened by the experiences of her young life, Mary is intelligent, resourceful, and strong. She quickly gains the trust of her new mistress, Theodosia Prevost, and becomes indispensable in a complicated household filled with intrigue—especially when the now-widowed Theodosia marries Colonel Aaron Burr. As Theodosia sickens with the fatal disease that will finally kill her, Mary and Burr are drawn together into a private world of power and passion, and a secret, tangled union that would have shocked the nation.

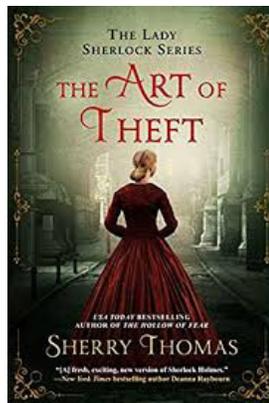
**Spencer, Minerva.** [Scandalous](#)  
(Kensington \$7.99). Signed October 12.

Captain Martin Bouchard has never met a woman quite like Sarah Fisher. Armed with pistols she stole from his cabin, Sarah, the orphaned daughter of missionary parents, insists that Martin free all of the slaves he has rescued from the Dutch ship *The Bluebird*. Unbeknownst to Sarah, Martin, who has his own very personal history with slavery, has every intention of doing that, but that doesn't mean he can't convince Sarah she must offer him up something in exchange. Set on the high seas as well as Africa and England and jam-packed with plenty of adventure, danger, and sizzling sensuality, the latest in Spencer's Regency-set Outcasts series is a complete triumph. *Kirkus* was just one of the three major review sources giving this a star calling it "sexy, witty, and fiercely entertaining."



**Thomas, Sherry.** [The Art of Theft](#)  
(\$16). Signed October 12.

Posing as Sherlock Holmes, consulting detective, Charlotte Holmes's latest case takes her to France, where she, with some "assistance" from her friends and family, must help the Maharani of Ajmer, an old friend of Mrs. Watson's, by infiltrating a high society Yuletide ball and retrieve some very blackmailable secrets hidden in a valuable Van Dyck painting. Beginning with *A Study in Scarlet Women*, Thomas successfully flipped the gender switch on the classic Sherlock Holmes books with her Lady Sherlock series, and *The Art of the Theft*, the fourth superbly written installment in that series, is another brilliant literary merger of clever deduction and dry wit. We also have a very limited number of Thomas's new YA historical [The Magnolia Sword](#) (Lee and Low \$19.95) available. Thomas was tapped to write this stunning novel set in China circa 484 A.D. and was inspired by wuxia martial-arts dramas as well as the centuries-old ballad of Mulan, a young woman, who disguises herself as a man to take her



father's place in the Chinese army, as a tie-in the upcoming live-action Disney version of the company's animated film of the same title.

**Weaver, Ashley.** [A Dangerous Engagement](#)  
(St. Martins \$27.99)

As they travel by ship to New York for her childhood friend Tabitha's wedding, Amory Ames gazes out at the city's iconic skyline, excited by the prospect of being a bridesmaid. Her husband Milo, however, is convinced their trip will be deadly dull, since Prohibition is in full swing. But when a member of the wedding party is found murdered on the front steps of the bride's home, the happy plans take a darker twist. The first in this engaging historical series was nominated for an Edgar award, and the fun continues with a pair of married sleuths who rival that of the in Dashiell Hammett's Nick and Nora Charles in *The Thin Man* for their ability to trade quips, drink cocktails and out sleuth the police.

**Williams, Beatriz/Lauren Willig/Karen White.**  
[The Glass Ocean](#) (\$15.99).

From the *New York Times* bestselling authors of *The Forgotten Room* comes a captivating historical mystery, infused with romance, that links the lives of three women across a century--two deep in the past, one in the present--to the doomed passenger liner, RMS Lusitania.

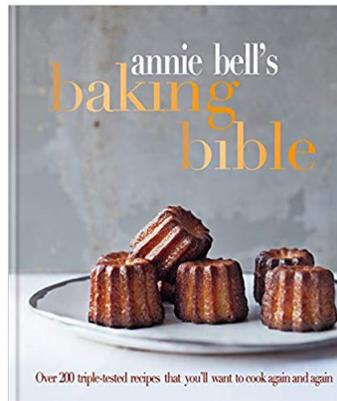
## Nonfiction

**Amir, Alexander.** [Proof: How the World Became Geometrical](#) (FSG \$27.99)

In *Proof!*, the award-winning historian Amir Alexander argues that Euclidean geometry has been uniquely responsible for how our societies are structured. Tracing a path from the Renaissance to the present, Amir lays out how geometry came to stand for a fixed and unchallengeable universal order, and therefore why kings, empire-builders, and even republican revolutionaries would rush to cast their rule as the apex of the geometrical universe. For who could doubt the right of a ruler or the legitimacy of a government that drew its power from the immutable principles of Euclidean geometry?

**Bell, Annie.** [Annie Bell's Baking Bible](#)  
(Kyle \$29.99)

In this beautifully illustrated book, Annie Bell explains the techniques that produce perfect results every time, whether baking sponge cakes, cookies, brownies, muffins or meringues. She creates sweet treats for all occasions, from birthdays to Christmas, sharing her fail-safe recipes that will ensure your cakes never again fail to rise. And with recipes for everything from really great chocolate brownies, to a delicious carrot cake and tangy lemon and polenta cake, all packed into one practical volume, this is an indispensable guide to becoming a brilliant baker.



**David, Saul.** [The Force](#)  
(Hachette \$35)

In December of 1943, as Nazi forces sprawled around the world and the future of civilization hung in the balance, a group of highly trained U.S. and Canadian soldiers from humble backgrounds was asked to do the impossible: capture a crucial Nazi stronghold perched atop stunningly steep cliffs. The men were a rough-and-ready group, assembled from towns nestled in North America's most unforgiving terrain, where many of them had struggled through the Great Depression relying on canny survival skills and the fearlessness of youth. Knitting first-hand accounts seamlessly into the narrative—drawing on interviews with surviving members and their families; the memoirs, letters, and diaries of Forcemens; and declassified documents in the American, Canadian, British, and German archives -- *The Force* tells a story that is as deeply personal as it is inspiring.

**De Courcy, Anne.** [The Husband Hunters](#)  
(St. Martin's \$17.99)

Towards the end of the nineteenth century and for the first few years of the twentieth, a strange invasion took place in Britain. The citadel of power, privilege and breeding in which the titled, land-owning governing class had barricaded itself for so long

was breached. The incomers were a group of young women who, fifty years earlier, would have been looked on as the alien denizens of another world - the New World, to be precise. From 1874 - the year that Jennie Jerome, the first known 'Dollar Princess', married Randolph Churchill - to 1905, dozens of young American heiresses married into the British peerage, bringing with them all the fabulous wealth, glamour and sophistication of the Gilded Age. Anne de Courcy sets the stories of these young women and their families in the context of their times. Based on extensive first-hand research, drawing on diaries, memoirs and letters, this richly entertaining group biography reveals what they thought of their new lives in England - and what England thought of them.

**Holt, Nathalia.** [The Queens of Animation](#)  
(Little Brown \$29)

From *Snow White* to *Moana*, from *Pinocchio* to *Frozen*, the animated films of Walt Disney Studios have moved and entertained millions. But few fans know that behind these groundbreaking features was an incredibly influential group of women who fought for respect in an often-ruthless male-dominated industry and who have slipped under the radar for decades. In *The Queens of Animation*, Holt tells their dramatic stories for the first time, showing how these women infiltrated the boys' club of Disney's story and animation departments and used early technologies to create the rich artwork and unforgettable narratives that have become part of the American canon. As the influence of Walt Disney Studios grew---and while battling sexism, domestic abuse, and workplace intimidation---these women also fought to transform the way female characters are depicted to young audiences. Lots of critical acclaim for what is becoming one of the hottest nonfiction titles of the Fall season.

**Kroger, Lisa and Melanie R. Anderson.** [Monster She Wrote](#) (Quirk \$19.99)

*Frankenstein* was just the beginning: horror stories and other weird fiction wouldn't exist without the women who created it. From Gothic ghost stories to psychological horror to science fiction, women have been primary architects of speculative literature of all sorts. And their own life stories are as intriguing as their fiction. From Mary Shelley, who created *Frankenstein* while on holiday in Switzerland with her

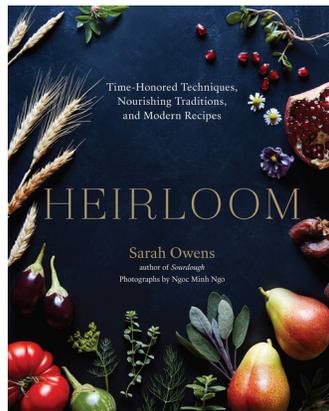
husband, to Margaret “Mad Madge” Cavendish, who wrote a science-fiction epic (and like to wear topless gowns to the theater) to Shirley Jackson, whose chilling novel *The Haunting of Hill House* has been reinvented as a Netflix series, this addictively readable guide will keep you entertained for hours as well as adding dozens of names to your must-read list.

**Lewis, C.S.** [The Reading Life](#)  
(HarperCollins \$19.99)

More than fifty years after his death, revered intellectual, critically acclaimed author, and insightful teacher C. S. Lewis continues to speak to readers, thanks not only to his intellectual insights on Christianity but also his wondrous creative works and deep reflections on the literature that influenced his life. Cultivated from his many essays, articles, and letters, as well as his classic works, *The Reading Life* includes Lewis’ reflections on science fiction, why children’s literature is for readers of all ages, and why we should read two old books for every new one

**Owens, Sarah.** [Heirloom](#)  
(Shambhala \$35)

Sarah Owens is a horticulturalist, baker and a cook with an insatiable curiosity for global food traditions. Her reverence for plants fuels her passion for bringing out their best flavors in the kitchen. In *Heirloom* she presents 120 recipes for ingredient-focused cooking and bread baking that emphasizes sourcing quality ingredients and relies on traditional techniques that extend the use of in-season produce and fresh food.



**Paul, Pamela.** [How to Raise a Reader](#)  
(Workman \$19.95)

*New York Times Book Review* editors and critics Russo and Paul show parents how to raise children who are readers. Arranged by different age levels, their guide provides advice for working with children from infancy to adolescence, including what parents need to know about each age, with annotated lists of books and tips on what to look for and what to

avoid, along with additional lists of books by theme and reading level.

**Ronald, Susan.** [Conde Nast](#)  
(St. Martin’s \$32.50)

Nast moved to New York City at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century with just the shirt on his back and the will to succeed. Within two decades, Nast was the highest paid executive in America and his magazine empire included *Vanity Fair* and *Vogue*. Nast launched the careers of such luminaries as Dorothy Parker, Noel Coward, and Clare Boothe Luce as well as being credited with creating “café society” and becoming a permanent fixture in the upper echelons of the worlds of fashion and literature on both sides of the Atlantic. Written with the full cooperation of his family and staff at Conde Nast Publications, this is the first biography of this fascinating figure in more than thirty years.

## Return to Downton Abbey

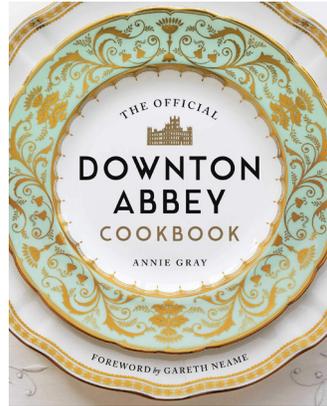
Advance ticket sales for the movie, which debuted in the U.S. on September 20th, have already exceeded that of any other cinematic drama this year. Now you can recapture the magic of the movie and the television series with these titles.

**Downton Abbey and Julian Fellowes.** [The Official Downton Abbey Cocktail Book](#) (Weldon Owen \$25)

Cocktails were introduced in the drawing rooms of Downton Abbey in the 1920s, when US prohibition inspired the resurgence and popularity of American-style bars and bartenders in Britain. This well-curated selection of recipes is organized by the rooms in the Abbey in which the drinks were served and spans everyday sips to party drinks plus hangover helpers and more. In addition to classic concoctions like a Mint Julep, Prince of Wales Punch, and Ginger Beer, this collection features character-specific variations such as Downton Heir, Turkish Attaché, The Valet, and The Chauffeur. The recipes reflect drinks concocted and served upstairs and down, as well as libations from village fairs, cocktail parties, and restaurant menus typical of the time. Features 40+ color photographs, including drink images photographed on the set of *Downton Abbey*.

**Gray, Annie and Gareth Neame.** [The Official Downton Abbey Cookbook](#) (Weldon Owen \$35)

With a foreword by Gareth Neame, executive producer and co-creator of *Downton Abbey*, and featuring over 100 stunning color photographs, *The Downton Abbey Cookbook* includes more than 100 recipes chosen by food historian Annie Gray which she either adapted from original recipes of the period, replicated as seen or alluded to on the television show, or deemed typical of the time period. Also included is a special section on hosting *Downton*-themed dinner parties and stills from across the TV series as well as the latest film.



Notes on the etiquette and customs of the times, quotes from the characters, and descriptions of the scenes in which the foods appear provide vivid context for the dishes. The recipes are grouped by occasion, which include breakfast; luncheons and suppers; afternoon tea and garden parties; picnics, shoots and race meets; festivities; upstairs dinner; downstairs dinner; downstairs supper and tea; and the still room.

**Marriott, Emma and Julian Fellowes.** [Downton Abbey: The Official Film Companion](#) (St. Martin's \$29.99)

*Downton Abbey: The Official Film Companion* is a stunning memento, bringing the world and the characters of our favorite fictional country house to life. Featuring spectacular photographs from the production, interviews with the cast and crew, and a look into the historical and geographical backdrop of the film, this official guide to the *Downton Abbey* film is made to be treasured and loved by fans across the globe.

## Teen Fiction and Children's Books

**Albert, Melissa.** [The Night Country](#) (Flatiron \$18.99)

Albert, whose debut novel *The Hazel Wood* was a *New York Times* bestseller, returns with a sequel in which Alice Prosperpine and Ellery Finch discover that their adventures in the Hazel Wood were just the beginning. With Finch's help, Alice escaped the Hinterland and her reclusive grandmother's dark legacy. Now she and the rest of the dregs of that fairy tale world have washed up in New York City, where Alice is desperately trying to make a new and unmagical life for herself. But something is stalking the Hinterland's survivors, and Alice suspects their deaths may have a darker purpose. Meanwhile, in the winking world of the Hinterland, Finch seeks his own adventure and – if he can just find it – a way back home.

**Chbosky, Stephen.** [The Perks of Being a Wallflower 20th Anniversary Ed.](#) (Gallery \$24)

Ever since its debut 20 years ago, Chbosky's novel has been a sensation, selling millions of copies, spending over one year at the #1 slot on the *New York Times* bestseller list, and serving as the source for a critically acclaimed movie starring Logan Lerman and Emma Watson. Now the publisher has issued a special anniversary edition of this story about what it's like to travel that strange course through the uncharted territory of high school. The world of first dates, family dramas, and new friends. Of sex, drugs, and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Of those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.

**Craig, Erin A.** [The House of Salt and Sorrows](#) (Random \$18.99)

When her beautiful sisters are cursed to dance at glittering balls night after night before they start dying in tragic accidents, Annaleigh questions her involvement with a mysterious stranger and wonders if she will be next. Craig based her "lyrical, moody" debut on the classic Brothers Grimm fairytale "The Twelve Dancing Princesses" but in the words of the *Wall Street Journal* "reimagined as a gothic maritime romance." The same review goes on to say "It's a fairy tale, a young-adult romance, and a whodunit too.

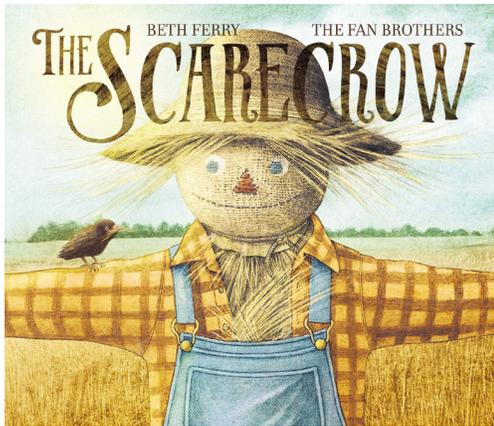
Erin Craig works them all together with the modern storyteller's complex craft." You had me as a reader with "gothic maritime."

**Faring, Sara.** [The Tenth Girl](#)  
(Imprint \$18.99)

Dismissing rumors that Vaccaro School, the Patagonia school where she has taken recent employment is haunted, Mavi a young teacher unexpectedly agrees to help a spirit find redemption, before a dark secret threatens both of their existences. Gothic seems to be making a big comeback as this hauntingly original, leisurely paced YA novel aptly demonstrates.

**Ferry, Beth.** [The Scarecrow](#)  
(HarperCollins \$18.99)

After a lonely scarecrow saves a small, scared crow that falls from midair, the pair forge an unlikely friendship that is tested by the changing of the seasons. With its empowering message and lovely illustrations, this is the perfect picture book to share with young readers this fall.



**Giesbrecht, Jennifer.** [The Monster of Elendhaven](#)  
(Tom Doherty \$16.99)

A thing with no name—after washing up on the docks, empty, alone and unable to die—teams up with a frail young man who can twist minds with magic, and together they launch a dark and cruel plan that consummates their horrible passion for each other. This debut is the kind of book you will either love or hate as this snippet from *LJ's* review indicates "Elendhaven is as fully formed as Mervyn Peake's "Gormenghast" series with truly repellent characters who don't possess a shred of moral fiber. Yet the right readers will still love them, as newcomer Giesbrecht is a fantasy writer to watch with a sure command of her world."

**Sarcone-Roach, Julia.** [There Are No Bears in this Bakery](#) (Random \$17.99)

The award-winning author of *The Bear Ate Your Sandwich* finds a hard-boiled gumshoe cat named Muffin, investigating a suspicious noise at the Little Bear Bakery, where a cub with a growling tummy has consumed all the yummy doughnuts. This stellar picture book is imbued with a wonderfully dry sense of humor and offers up a clever, sly spin on the quintessential hard-boiled private eye book. (And don't miss the back jacket's humorous library of further "Muffin adventures.")

**Weymouth, Laura E.** [A Treason of Thorns](#)  
(HarperCollins \$17.99)

When seventeen-year-old Violet Sterling returns to Burleigh House after years in exile, she finds that Burleigh's magic, which along with four other sentient Great Houses is responsible for the well-being of England, is out of control and ravaging the countryside. Now Violet's only hope to avoid having Burleigh destroyed by the King is if she can find the deed to the house and sever its connection from the monarchy. A beguiling mix of historical fiction and fantasy that had *PW* saying "With lush prose and an eye for atmospheric detail, Weymouth (*The Light Between Worlds*) adeptly spins a tale in which the heroine is torn between passion and purpose, destruction and duty. The love triangle may involve a sentient place of power, but Weymouth imbues the story with enough emotion that the plot's final outcome never feels set in stone."