

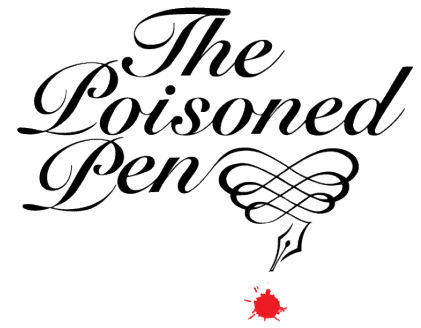
Midmonth BookNotes

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Summertime and the Reading Is Easy

Cozy Corner

Carlisle, Kate. [Little Black Book](#)

(Berkley \$27)

When her friend, Claire, shows up on their doorstep, in disguise and fearing for life, book-restoration expert Brooklyn and her husband must revisit an event in Claire's past, linked to a rare edition of *Rebecca*, before it destroys all of their futures.

Gerber, Daryl Wood. [A Glimmer of a Clue](#)

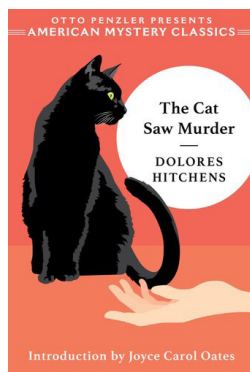
(Kensington \$15.95)

Courtney Kelly, the owner of Open Your Imagination a whimsical fairy-gardening tea shop in Carmel, California, once again finds herself playing amateur sleuth when an unpleasant local art critic is found stabbed to death and Courtney's best friend's mom is found holding the murder weapon. "Lively characters and plenty of action keep the pages turning" in this sequel to Gerber's [A Sprinkling of Murder](#) (Kensington \$15.95).

Hitchens, Dolores. [The Cat Saw Murder](#)

(WW Norton \$15.95)

When Rachel Murdock and her sister Jennifer receive a call for help from their favorite niece, Lilly, they quickly hop a train from Los Angeles to Breakers Beach to see her — but not before collecting their prized cat Samantha in a picnic basket and bringing her along for the ride. Samantha, it turns



out, is an heiress, the inheritor of a fortune left by a wealthy relative, and so the attempt at the cat's life, made right after they arrive, comes as a shock. The cat survives, but unfortunately, Lilly, murdered soon thereafter, is not so lucky. Now it's up to Rachel and her furry friend Samantha to uncover the killer.

Kelly, Diane. [The Moonshine Shack Murder](#)

(Berkley \$7.99)

The Hayes family has made moonshine in Chattanooga since the days of Prohibition, and Hattie is happy to continue the tradition, serving up fun, fruity flavors in mason jars for locals and tourists alike. All signs indicate her new 'shine shop will be a smashing success. What's more, mounted police officer Marlon Landers has taken a shine to Hattie. For the first time ever, the stars seemed to have aligned in both her work and romantic life. But when a body ends up on her store's doorstep alongside a broken jar of her Firefly Moonshine, it just might be lights out for her fledgling business. First in a new country cozy series by Kelly.

Loudon, Margaret. [A Fatal Footnote](#)

(Berkley \$7.99)

When the Duke's former girlfriend is found murdered at his wedding reception, American Gothic novelist Penelope Parish discovers that some happily-ever-afters aren't meant to be as she and her newfound family at the Open Book bookshop set out to catch a killer. "Delightfully unpredictable characters, a charming sleuth, and a touch of romance enhance this sophomore entry" (*Kirkus*).

McKenna, Clara. [Murder at Keyhaven Castle](#)
(Kensington \$26)

Before they can walk down the aisle, strong-willed American ex-pat Stella Kendrick and her betrothed, Viscount “Lyndy” Lyndhurst must first solve two very different crimes and identify a killer hiding among the elite wedding guests in the latest addition to McKenna’s Edwardian-set series.

Classic Tales Retold

Robert, Katee. [Neon Gods](#)
(Sourcebooks \$14.99)

To escape her controlling mother, an arranged marriage and the ultra-modern city of Olympus, Persephone Dimitrou makes a devil’s bargain with a man who she once believed was a myth. That same man, however, soon awakens Persephone’s heart and body to a world she never knew existed. If you think summers in the Valley of the Sun are hot, Robert’s inventive retelling of a classic Greek myth is the romance equivalent of triple digit temperatures. Or, as *PW* summed it up “Robert brings every element of a must-read dark romance to the table: high stakes, taut pacing, enticing characters, and sizzling chemistry. This red-hot romance is a winner.”

Starler, Brina. [Anne of Manhattan](#)
(William Morrow \$15.99)

Leaving Avonlea, Long Island, to attend grad school in Manhattan, Anne is shocked when her long-time archrival, Gilbert, who is just as dreamy as ever, returns from California to not only attend the same school as Anne but also enrolls in the same degree program as well.

“Adaptations of beloved children’s books are difficult to pull off, but Starler’s debut—a romantic, modern-day riff on *Anne of Green Gables*—brings impressive heart and sensuality to a classic.” (*PW*)

Vo, Nghi. [The Chosen and the Beautiful](#)
(Tom Doherty \$26.99)

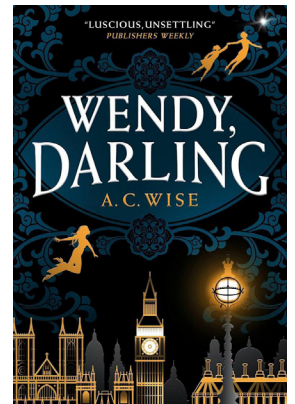
Jordan Baker grows up in the most rarefied circles of 1920s American society—she has money, education, a killer golf handicap, and invitations to some of the most exclusive parties of the Jazz Age. She’s also queer, Asian, adopted, and treated as an exotic

attraction by her peers, while the most important doors remain closed to her. But the world is full of wonders: infernal pacts and dazzling illusions, lost ghosts and elemental mysteries. In all paper is fire, and Jordan can burn the cut paper heart out of a man. She just has to learn how. *PW* called Vo’s full-length literary debut a “fantastical reimagining of the world of *The Great Gatsby*. The plot unravels tantalizingly slowly, and Vo’s immersive prose never ceases to captivate.” *Kirkus* echoed praise of this remarkable novel saying “Astonishingly crafted, with luscious prose and appeal for fans of both the original and those who always felt *The Great Gatsby* missed the mark.”

Wise, A.C. [Wendy, Darling](#)
(Titan \$15.95)

For those that lived there, Neverland was a children’s paradise. No rules, no adults, only endless adventure and enchanted forests - all led by the charismatic boy who would never grow old.

But Wendy Darling grew up. She left Neverland and became a woman, a mother, a patient, and a survivor. Because Neverland isn’t as perfect as she remembers. There’s darkness at the heart of the island, and now Peter Pan has returned to claim a new Wendy for his lost boys. A lushly written feminist take on a beloved childhood classic.



Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Romance and More

Adams, Lyssa Kay. [Isn't It Bromantic](#)
(Berkley \$16)

As the daughter of a Russian journalist who mysteriously disappeared after speaking out against government corruption, Elena Konnikova escaped danger the only way she knew how. She agreed to marry her childhood friend, Vladimir, and move to the United States, where he is a professional hockey player in Nashville. Vlad, aka The Russian, thought he could be content with his marriage of convenience. But after four years, it’s become too difficult to continue in a

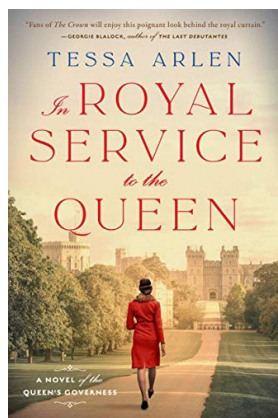
one-sided relationship. He joined the Bromance Book Club to learn how to make his wife love him, but all he's learned is that he deserves more. He's ready to create his own sweeping romance--both on and off the page.

Afia, Nekesa. [Dead Nakisa Girls](#)
(Berkley \$16)

Following a harrowing kidnapping ordeal when she was in her teens, Louise Lloyd is doing everything she can to maintain a normal life. She's succeeding, too. She spends her days working at Maggie's Café and her nights at the Zodiac, Manhattan's hottest speakeasy. However, when a girl turns up dead in front of the café, Louise is forced to confront something she's been trying to ignore--several local black girls have been murdered over the past few weeks. After an altercation with a local police officer gets her arrested, Louise is given an ultimatum: She can either help solve the case or let a judge make an example of her. With no choice but to take the case, Louise soon finds that she will have to tackle her own fears and the prejudices of New York City society if she wants to catch a killer and save her own life in the process.

Arlen, Tessa. [In Royal Service to the Queen](#)
(Berkley \$17)

Marion Crawford can remember each of the wonderful sixteen years when she was governess to the little Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. In Marion's mind, she will always be their Crawfie. But things become increasingly complicated as the young royals navigate adulthood. It is May 1945 and Princess Elizabeth--the heiress presumptive to the British throne--has fallen in love, and the only member of her family who is happy for her is Marion, who wholeheartedly supports Elizabeth in her determination to marry Philip. Marion too has fallen in love--and has convinced her fiancée, George, that they must wait for Elizabeth and Philip to receive the King's blessing before she can leave the service of the Crown. Over the next two years Crawfie is caught between loyalty to Princess Elizabeth; running the risk of alienating her



royal employer, Queen Elizabeth; and losing the man she loves. But as Crawfie prevails to marry George and stands with him in Westminster Abbey on Elizabeth and Philip's wedding day, she is unaware that her troubled relationship with Queen Elizabeth is far from over. And just around the corner is a betrayal that will sever her bond with the royal family forever.

Aubray, Camille. [The Godmothers](#)
(William Morrow \$27.99)

Meet the Godmothers: Filomena is a clever and resourceful war refugee with a childhood secret, who comes to America to wed Mario, the family's favored son. Amie, a beautiful and dreamy French girl from upstate New York, escapes an abusive husband after falling in love with Johnny, the oldest of the brothers. Lucy, a tough-as-nails Irish nurse, ran away from a strict girls' home and marries Frankie, the sensuous middle son. And the glamorous Petrina, the family's only daughter, graduates with honors from Barnard College despite a past trauma that nearly caused a family scandal. All four women become godmothers to one another's children, finding hope and shelter in this prosperous family and their sumptuous Greenwich Village home. But the women's secret pasts lead to unforeseen consequences and betrayals that threaten to unravel all their carefully laid plans. And when their husbands are forced to leave them during the second World War, the Godmothers must unexpectedly contend with notorious gangsters like Frank Costello and Lucky Luciano who run the streets of New York City. *PW* called the latest from Aubray "an addictive and tense multigenerational feminist romp through WWII-era New York City" that "credibly flips the script on male-dominated Mafia stories."

Balogh, Mary. [Someone to Cherish](#)
(Berkley \$7.99)

Recently widowed, lonely Lydia Tavernor dreams of taking a lover and, one night, finds herself alone with the reclusive Harry Wescott to which she poses a question that leads them down a path neither could have ever imagined. The latest impeccably written entry in Balogh's Wescott series is another winner, and fans of *Bridgerton* who have yet to discover the elegant charm and dry wit of Balogh's Regency-set historicals are in for a treat. Or as *PW* said in their review "The seamless plotting and enticing characters make this a romance to be savored."

Bly, Mary. [Lizzie & Dante](#)

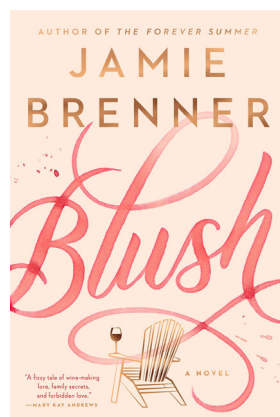
(Dial \$27)

While vacationing on Elba, Shakespearian scholar Lizzie Delford, who received a devastating medical diagnosis, meets a sardonic chef named Dante, his battered dog Lily, and his 12-year-old daughter Etta, who is desperate for a mother. Now, Lizzie wonders if it is right to fall in love when time is short. Bly writes terrific historical romances under her literary alter-ego Eloisa James, and her first heartbreaking yet hopeful contemporary novel is a knockout. Here is *PW*'s take (of which I completely agree). "Bly renders her characters in pliant and incisive prose; the sex scenes are sexy and the portrait of a woman embarking on the romance of her life while running on borrowed time feels authentic and poignantly drawn, and never mawkish. The nascent relationship between Lizzie and Etta, meanwhile, is especially moving. Bly handles a delicate subject with aplomb."

Brenner, Jamie. [Blush](#)

(G.P. Putnam's \$26)

For decades, the lush vineyards and majestic manor house of the Hollander Estates winery made it the North Fork of Long Island's premier destination for lavish parties and romantic day trips. Now the Hollander family fortunes have suffered, and as matriarch Vivian Hollander prepares for the arrival of her daughter Leah and granddaughter Sadie for their annual summer reunion, she fears it might be their last at the family's winery. So, when college senior Sadie discovers evidence that Vivian once ran a book club at the winery dedicated to the scandalous novels of the 1980s, she thinks resurrecting the "trashy" book club just might be the distraction all three Hollander women need. Brenner's latest captivating novel successfully works on many levels. Need a fun beach read? *Blush* is just the ticket. Looking for an insightful critique of the glitz and glam books of the 1980s and early 1990s? Brenner offers up her own entertaining analysis of the novels of Judith Krantz, Jackie Collins, the rest of that big shoulder-padded writing crowd. Even more importantly, in doing so, Brenner highlights just how



fiercely feminist many of those books labeled by critics as "sex and shopping" novels truly were, and what we can learn from them today.

Colgan, Jenny. [Sunrise by the Sea](#)

(William Morrow \$16.99)

Moving to a Cornish seaside village, hoping for peace and solitude, lonely registrar Marisa Rosso, feeling like life is passing her by, unexpectedly finds her joy again with the help of her noisy neighbor, the community spirit and a campaign to save the local bakery.

Dean, Amy Mason. [Lady Sunshine](#)

(Graydon House \$16.99)

Inheriting The Sandcastle — a sprawling North California coastal estate that was once a gathering place for musicians, artists and free spirits — from her great aunt, Jackie Pierce finds a way to bring it to life again while trying to solve a 20-year-old mystery that reveals dark secrets.

Feehan, Christine. [Murder at Sunrise Lake](#)

(Berkley \$28)

The owner of Sunrise Lake resort high in the Sierra Nevada mountains, Stella Harrison, daughter of a serial killer, must face her traumatic past, with the help of a mysterious man, when her premonitions reveal that a killer is out there." Feehan ramps up the tension early and keeps it climbing until the very end, masterfully throwing out red herrings that will keep readers guessing. The riveting plot strikes a fine balance between romance and danger. Add in irresistible characters, and readers won't be able to turn the pages fast enough." (*PW*)

Galchen, Rivka. [Everyone Knows Your Mother Is a Witch](#) (Farrar Straus Giroux \$27)

An illiterate widow in 1618 Germany is accused of being a witch by a nasty neighbor and turns to her scientist son for help in this fictionalized story of Katharina Kepler, who was accused of this crime at the same time her son was struggling to get his astronomical theories written and accepted. A compelling story of how a community becomes implicated in collective aggression and hysterical fear.

Gunning, Sally Cabot. [Painting the Light](#)
(William Morrow \$27.99)

Five years ago, Ida Russell had confidently walked the halls of Boston's renowned Museum School, enrolling in art courses that were once deemed "un-thinkable" for women to take, and showing a budding talent for watercolors. But now Ida Russell is Ida Pease, resident of a seaside farm on Vineyard Haven, and wife to Ezra, a once-charming man who has become an inattentive and altogether unreliable husband. Ezra runs a salvage company in town with his business partner, Mose Barstow, but he much prefers their nightly card games at the local pub, leaving the majority of work on the farm to Ida and their part-time farmhand Lem. But when tragedy strikes, and Ezra and Mose are believed to have drowned while traveling to Boston, Ida must sift through the remnants of her husband's life and separate truth from lies and what matters from what doesn't.

Harris, Robert. [A Study in Crimson](#)
(Pegasus \$25.95)

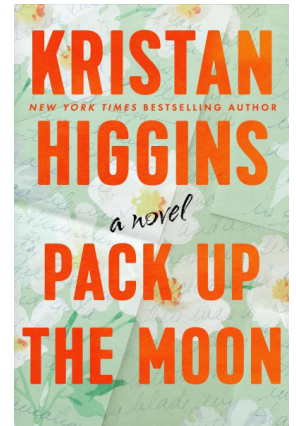
In 1942 London, Sherlock Holmes and his faithful friend Watson track down a serial killer, Crimson Jack, who is murdering women on the exact dates of the infamous Jack the Ripper killings of 1888. Harris, who has written fictional adventures of Arthur Conan Doyle during his early teens, was inspired by the Sherlock Holmes films made in the 1940s (starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce) when it came time to create his own version of the iconic sleuth.

Heywood, Claire. [Daughters of Sparta](#)
(Dutton \$17)

As princess of Sparta, Helen and Klytemnestra have known nothing but luxury and plenty. With their high birth and unrivaled beauty, they are the envy of every woman in Greece. But such privilege comes with a high cost. While still only girls, the sisters are separated and married to foreign kings of their father's choosing – the powerful Agamemnon and his brother Menelaos. But when the weight of their husband's neglect, cruelty, and ambition become too heavy to bear, Helen and Klytemnestra must push against the constraints of society and carve new lives for themselves. A debut novel by an author with degrees in Classical Civilization and Ancient Visual and Material Culture.

Higgins, Kristan. [Pack Up the Moon](#)
(Berkley \$27)

Do you really want to read a book that will make you cry? The answer is yes, if that book is Kristan Higgins latest superbly poignant, achingly real novel *Pack Up the Moon*. The book centers on Joshua Park, a medical device engineer, whose wife Lauren has just passed away from IPF (Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis). Lauren has left twelve letters for her husband with her best friend Sarah to be delivered, one a month, the year after her death. In each letter, Lauren will ask Joshua to do one thing that may help him deal with his grief over her death. The plot alternates between flashbacks that illuminate the love between Joshua and Lauren that was the foundation of their marriage to scenes set in the present day as Joshua tackles the varying tasks given by Lauren for him to do. Love, loss, family, friends, all are important ingredients deftly integrated into the plot of *Pack Up the Moon*, and while there are definite moments in the book that will have you reaching for a box of Kleenex, there are also some truly funny scenes that help to underscore for readers how life truly is made of laughter and tears, heartbreak and hope.



Hume, Virginia. [Haven Point](#)
(St. Martin's \$27.99)

Maren Larsen is a blonde beauty from a small Minnesota farming town, determined to do her part to help the war effort in 1944—and to see the world beyond her family's cornfields. As a cadet nurse at Walter Reed Medical Center, she's swept off her feet by Dr. Oliver Demarest, a handsome Boston Brahmin whose family spends summers in an insular community on the rocky coast of Maine. As the nation grapples with the ongoing conflict in Vietnam, Oliver and Maren are grappling with their fiercely independent seventeen-year-old daughter, Annie, who has fallen for a young man they don't approve of. Before the summer is over a terrible tragedy will strike the Demarests—and in the aftermath, Annie vows never to return to Haven Point. Annie's daughter, Skye, has arrived in Maine in 2008 to help scatter her mother's

ashes. Maren knows that her granddaughter inherited Annie's view of Haven Point: despite the wild beauty and quaint customs, the regattas and clam-bakes and sing-alongs, she finds the place—and the people—snobbish and petty. But Maren also knows that Annie never told Skye the whole truth about what happened during that fateful summer.

Joshi, Alka. [The Secret Keeper of Jaipur](#)
(MIRA \$27.99)

Back in the Pink City where he was once a wily street urchin, Malik, assigned to help Samir Singh's feckless son Ravi build the new public cinema, finds his livelihood, reputation and the people he loves most threatened after Ravi implicates him in a ruthless scandal in this sequel to Joshi's *The Henna Artist*.

Layne, Lauren. [To Sir, With Love](#)
(Gallery \$16)

Taking over her late father's Midtown Manhattan champagne shop, Gracie Cooper, going up against an arrogant businessman who wants to buy her out, seeks solace and advice from someone she's never met — the faceless "Sir," with whom she connected on a blind dating app. In her latest frothy and fun rom com, Layne "crafts a gleefully shameless homage to *Little Shop Around the Corner* and *You've Got Mail* that sparkles like champagne fizz." (PW)

Lea, Caroline. [The Metal Heart](#)
(Harper \$16.99)

During World War II, on a remote Scottish Coast, Dorothy, while caring for sick and wounded Italian soldiers, is drawn to Cesare, a young man broken by the horrors of battle, until the tensions between the islanders and outsiders deepen, testing their loyalty and desire.

Lippman, Laura. [Dream Girl](#)
(William Morrow \$28.99)

Injured in a freak fall, novelist Gerry Andersen is confined to a hospital bed in his glamorous high-rise apartment, dependent on two women he barely knows: his incurious young assistant, and a dull, slow-witted night nurse. Then late one night, the phone rings. The caller claims to be the "real" Aubrey, the alluring title character from his most successful novel, *Dream Girl*. But there is no real

Aubrey. She's a figment born of a writer's imagination, despite what many believe or claim to know. Could the cryptic caller be one of his three ex-wives playing a vindictive trick after all these years? Or is she Margot, an ex-girlfriend who keeps trying to insinuate her way back into Gerry's life? And why does no one believe that the call even happened? Lippman "nods at Stephen King and Alfred Hitchcock in this hair-raising tale, but makes it wholly hers and completely riveting." (LJ)

Lucas, Fiona. [The Last Goodbye](#)
(William Morrow \$16.99)

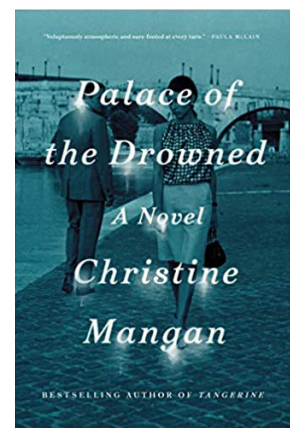
Calling her late husband's phone number just to hear his old voicemail greeting, Anna is shocked when someone answers and so begins a relationship with the man who inherited his cell phone number who shows her how to smile, laugh and hope until a secret is revealed.

Mangan, Christine. [Palace of the Drowned](#)
(Flatiron, \$27.99)

Years have passed since the initial success of Frankie Croy's debut novel and she has spent her career trying to live up to the expectations. Now, after a particularly scathing review of her most recent work, alongside a very public breakdown, Frankie needs to recharge and get re-inspired. So, she accepts the generous offer of the use of a friend's vacant family palazzo in Venice. Then Gilly appears. A precocious young admirer eager to make friends, Gilly seems determined to insinuate herself into Frankie's solitary life. But there's something about the young woman that gives Frankie pause.

How much of what Gilly tells her is the truth? As a series of lies and revelations emerge, the lives of these two women will be tragically altered as the catastrophic 1966 flooding of Venice ravages the city. Mangan gained immediate and immense literary luster with her debut novel *Tangerine*.

Now she is back with another mesmerizing novel of psychological suspense that plays to all her strengths. Mangan's seductive prose effortlessly conjures up the faded glamour of Venice in the 1960s, and the book's



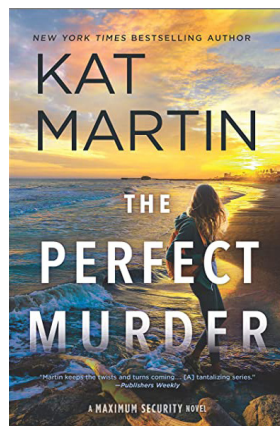
plot is rife with subtle menace and whispery chills worthy of Patricia Highsmith and Daphne Du Maurier at their best. In a year – 2021 – that has already seen two other novels – *The Plot* and *Who Is Maud Dixon* – successfully flirt with Tom Ripley inspired storylines, it would be easy to dismiss Mangan’s sophomore effort, but readers will do so at the risk of missing a superbly satisfying book.

Marsh, Violet. [The Aviatrix](#)
(Montlake \$12.95)

The golden age of flight has just begun in 1923, and pilot Mattie McAdams refuses to cede the skies to cocky flyboys. She longs to perform daring stunts in her family’s flying circus, but the men in her life stand in her way; including the show’s star performer, Leo Ward. In the Great War, Leo Ward watched his best friend and Mattie’s twin brother, Alfred, perish in the skies over German territory. Since then, he’s vowed to protect the McAdams family, taking on the most perilous stunts himself. But the skies are too big for any one man. Mattie joins a female-dominated flying circus, kicking off a tantalizing aerial dance as the two pilots make efforts to one-up each other in the skies across America. As planes and passions soar, can Mattie and Leo look beyond their egos to see the great heights they might reach together

Martin, Kat. [The Perfect Murder](#)
(HQN \$26.99)

The eldest of the three wealthy Garrett brothers, Reese Garrett is in the middle of a major purchase for his multimillion-dollar oil and gas company, Garrett Resources. The Poseidon offshore drilling platform venture will greatly enhance the company’s value. But when Reese is on a trip out to see the rig, his helicopter crashes, leaving him hospitalized and two men dead. It’s discovered the chopper was sabotaged, and Reese is determined to find out who’s behind the crash; and whether he was the intended target. Then, when his lover, Kenzie, is accused of her ex-husband’s murder - a man with a vested interest in the Poseidon deal -



clues start pointing to a connection that puts Reese, Kenzie and her young son in the sights of a killer.

McQuiston, Casey. [One Last Stop](#)
(St. Martin’s \$16.99)

Cynical August Landry starts to believe in the impossible when meets Jane Su on the subway, a mysterious punk rocker she forms a crush on, who is literally displaced in time from the 1970s and is trying to find her way back. Here is *PW* “McQuiston’s joyful sophomore romp mixes all the elements that made *Red, White & Royal Blue* so outstanding—quirky characters, coming-of-age confusion, laugh-out-loud narration, and hilarious pop-cultural references (“Bella Swan, eat your horny little Mormon heart out”)—into something totally its own.”

Morrissey, Bridget. [Love Scenes](#)
(Berkley \$16)

After reluctantly taking on producer duties for a World War II dramatic film, in which her mother, stepfather, and sister are all involved, television actress Sloane Ford draws the line at coaching the film’s male star Joseph Donovan, who once made Sloan’s own acting career hellish when he co-starred with her on a film several years ago. However, the movie’s female lead is fired, Sloane finds herself stepping into the role and re-discovering another side of Joseph.

Neilan, Paul. [The Hollywood Spiral](#)
(Grand Central \$28)

Hired to find an escort who possesses a program/entity that can bend reality to the whims of its user, hard-drinking PI Harrigan must face off against crime gangs, mercenaries and The First Church Multiverse as a rapidly approaching comet threatens to destroy them all. *PW* called this a “clever, near-future hard-boiled detective tale” and “Neilan makes this dystopian and unsettling world feel frighteningly real. Fans of Jonathan Lethem’s *Gun, with Occasional Music* will be enthralled.”

Noblin, Annie England. [Maps for the Getaway](#)
(William Morrow \$16.99)

When Cici, Genie, Kate, and Laurie posed for a photo at their high school graduation, they vowed they’d be friends forever, but teenage promises are so easily broken, and now, thirty years later, they’re practically

strangers. Cici is stuck in a rut, married to a cheating husband.

Genie is caring for her ailing father but never getting any thanks. Kate knows people who look perfect on Instagram are not. And Laurie, the most successful of them all, is now tragically gone. Now to celebrate Laurie's life, three former friends in a 1962 red Lincoln Continental convertible take the road trip of their lives: encountering male strippers, a boy band that has seen better days, crazy motel rooms, adopting a so-ugly-it's-cute stray dog; and discovering that it's never too late to live the wild life. Because, sometimes, to find yourself you have to get away.

Novak, Brenda. [When I Found You](#)
(MIRA \$9.99)

After everything she worked for is destroyed, pediatrician Natasha Gray is determined to build a new life. Divorced, bankrupt and suddenly a single mom, she's ready to start over in Silver Springs: on her own. She certainly doesn't need help from Mack Amos, the man who's already broken her heart twice. But her heart is not the only reason Natasha wants to keep Mack at bay. More time in her life means getting closer to her son, which could lead to a revelation neither of them is ready to face.

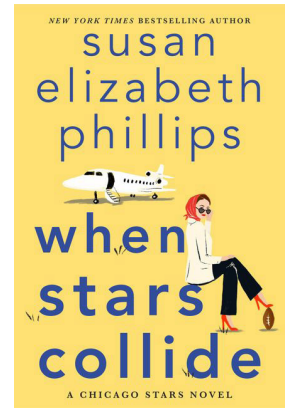
O'Leary, Beth. [The Road Trip](#)
(Berkley \$17)

Forced to take a road trip together to their friend's wedding in Scotland, former lovers Dylan Abbott and Addie Gilbert are forced to confront the choices they made that tore them apart – and ask themselves whether that final decision was the right one after all. "O'Leary expertly balances humor and heart while introducing a zany cast of 20-somethings. Though some readers may balk at the grammar ("Sorry," me and Rodney say simultaneously"), the breezy, conversational tone fits the novel's mood. Readers won't want this crazy road trip to end." (PW)

Phillips, Susan Elizabeth. [When Stars Collide](#)
(William Morrow \$28.99)

Opera diva Olivia Shore is definitely not looking forward to spending weeks stuck traveling with Chicago Stars quarterback Thaddeus Walker Bowman Owens. But Olivia signed a contract with a luxury watch company to act as brand ambassador for their new

glitzy female timepiece while Thad performs a similar duty for the company's latest luxury male watch. This means Olivia is going to have to figure out a way to live with Thad even if it kills one of them in the process. However, in between all the soul-searching, trash talking, backstage drama, and romantic passes – some completed and some that are not – that are part and parcel of the tour, the duo also face threatening letters, haunting photographs, and a series of dangerous encounters that complicate their lives in more ways than one. The latest in award-winning Phillip's Chicago Stars books – each of which stands by itself – delivers all of the captivating characters, witty banter, and simmering sexual chemistry her fans expect as well as a nifty, twisty little mystery.



Purcell, Laura. [The Shape of Darkness](#)
(Penguin \$17)

As the age of the photograph dawns in Victorian Bath, silhouette artist Agnes is struggling to keep her business afloat. Still recovering from a serious illness herself, making enough money to support her elderly mother and her orphaned nephew Cedric has never been easy, but then one of her clients is murdered shortly after sitting for Agnes, and then another, and another... Why is the killer seemingly targeting her business? Desperately seeking an answer, Agnes approaches Pearl, a child spirit medium lodging in Bath with her older half-sister and her ailing father, hoping that if Pearl can make contact with those who died, they might reveal who killed them. But Agnes and Pearl quickly discover that instead they may have opened the door to something that they can never put back. With her latest chilling novel, British author Purcell cements her reputation as "Queen of the Gothic."

Ray, Eleanor. [The Missing Treasures of Amy Ashton](#)
(Gallery \$28)

A collector of objects, Amy Ashton, who now believes it is easier to love things than people, finds her solitary existence interrupted when a new family moves

in next door with two young boys—one of whom has a collection of his own. While Amy worries about just how much a disruption her new neighbors and their two rambunctious boys will be to her orderly life, they actually provide a way for Amy to resolve the mystery of the disappearance of her boyfriend Tim and her best friend Chantal, both of whom vanished from Amy's life eleven years ago.

Ricciardi, David. [Shadow Target](#)
(Berkley \$27)

Being a CIA field agent is a dangerous job at the best of times, but lately the death rate has soared. Agents are dying under mysterious circumstances. Jake Keller is the latest almost victim. When his small plane crashes in the Alps, Jake is the only survivor. Soon, a rescue helicopter arrives, but the men inside are not there to save anyone. They are there to complete the murderous job they started. Jake is determined to find the killers, but they are just as determined to get their hands on him. *Kirkus* said "Ricciardi's hero is a killer thriller fans will root for."

Sager, Riley. [Survive the Night](#)
(Dutton \$28)

After her best friend Maddy is the third victim of a serial killer targeting college students, Charlie Jordan, who blames herself for letting Maddy walk back to their dorm one night, decides to leave college and return home to Ohio. Accepting a ride back home from Josh Baxter, a janitor at the college, however, could prove to be a very deadly mistake for Charlie.

When it comes to mining classic horror tropes for nail-biting suspense novels, Sager is in a class by himself.

Starford, Rebecca. [An Unlikely Spy](#)
(Ecco \$27.99)

Recruited into an elite MI5 counterintelligence unit in 1939, Evelyn Varley poses as a Nazi sympathizer in order to infiltrate the Lion Society: a homegrown British group of Nazi sympathizers seeking an alliance with Germany. However, when Evelyn discovers one of her old school friend's lover may be part of the group, she is forced to make some difficult choices. Here is how *PW* summed up this compelling debut "The author does an excellent job of recreating London before, during, and after the war, and in Evelyn

has created a complex heroine whose sense of duty gets her in way over her head. With suspense worthy of Hitchcock and a moral reckoning straight out of Le Carré or Graham Greene, this is a winner."

Steadman, Catherine. [The Disappearing Act](#)
(Ballantine \$28)

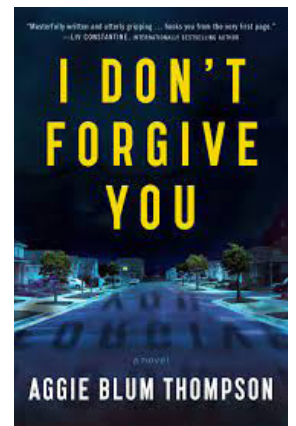
A British actress new to Hollywood, Mia Eliot is forced to play the role of a lifetime when Emily Bryant, a girl she only met once in a waiting room, disappears and an imposter shows up in her place, forcing Mia to question her sanity as the truth goes beyond anything she could have ever imagined.

Stetz-Waters, Karelia. [Satisfaction Guaranteed](#)
(Forever \$15.99)

When she inherits a sex toy store in Portland from her aunt, along with the store's gorgeous co-owner named Selena, Cade Elgin, a buttoned-up professional, must mix business with battery-operated pleasure if she wants both the shop and her relationship with Serena to work.

Thompson, Aggie Blum. [I Don't Forgive You](#)
(Forge \$15.99)

An accomplished photographer and the devoted mom of an adorable little boy, Allie Ross has just moved to an upscale DC suburb, the kind of place where parenting feels like a competitive sport. Allie's desperate to make a good first impression. Then she's framed for murder. It all starts at a neighborhood party when a local dad corners Allie and calls her by an old, forgotten nickname from her dark past. The next day, he is found dead. Soon, the police are knocking at her door, grilling her about a supposed Tinder relationship with the man, and pulling up texts between them. She learns quickly that she's been hacked and someone is impersonating her online. Her reputation—socially and professionally—is at stake; even her husband starts to doubt her. As the killer closes in, Allie must reach back into a past she vowed to forget in order to learn the shocking truth of who is destroying her life.

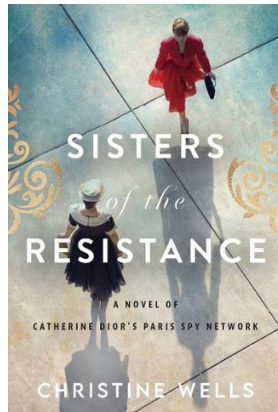


Waldon, Lacie. [The Layover](#)
(Putnam \$16)

Stranded in a luxury resort in paradise with her nemesis, former pilot Jack Stone, flight attendant Ava Greene begins to second-guess everything she thought she knew about him and everything she thought she wanted from her life. *PW* summed up this debut with “the couples sparkling chemistry and flirtatious fighting make this sing. Readers craving an armchair getaway need look no further.”

Wells, Christine. [Sisters of the Resistance](#)
(William Morrow \$16.99)

Twenty-five-year-old Gabby Foucher loathes the Nazis, though as the concierge of 10 rue Royale, she does her best to avoid conflict; unlike her bolder sister Yvette, who finds trouble at every turn. Then they are both recruited into the Resistance by Catherine Dior and swept into a treacherous world of spies, fugitives, and intrigue. While Gabby risks everything for the man she is hiding from the Nazis, Yvette must decide whether to trust an enigmatic diplomat who seems to have guessed her secret. Two years after World War II ends, Yvette returns from New York to reunite with Gabby and begin life anew as a mannequin for Dior, who is revolutionizing fashion with the New Look. But first she must discover the truth behind Catherine’s terrible fate, while Gabby finds that there are many kinds of courage, and that love is always worth fighting for.



Williams, Beatriz. [Our Woman in Moscow](#)
(William Morrow \$27.99)

To save her sister, who, along with her American diplomat husband and children, is trapped behind the Iron Curtain, Ruth Macallister embarks on a dangerous mission, and as the sisters race toward safety, a dogged Soviet agent forces them to make a heartbreaking choice. Inspired by the true story of the Cambridge Five, a group of spies who passed information to the Soviet Union during and after World War II, Williams strikes literary gold with “a suspense-

ful espionage plot that makes every word and note count. Fans of Kate Quinn and Pam Jenoff will be looking for this one.” (*LJ*)

Williams, Preslaysa. [A Lowcountry Bride](#)
(Avon \$15.99)

Maya Jackson must put her dream of becoming head designer for New York City’s premier bridal gown brand on hold when her father fractures his hip. Returning home to Charleston, Maya picks up a temporary job working for military veteran and widowed father Derek Sullivan, who is desperately trying to save his late mother’s bridal gown boutique Always a Bride from bankruptcy. While both Maya and Derek cannot deny the attraction they have for each other, both believe any kind of a long-term relationship is doomed given that Maya plans on returning to NYC. However, destiny has its own plans and these two lonely people discover that coming home to love is sometimes the best gift life can give us.

Winfrey, Kerry. [Very Sincerely Yours](#)
(Berkley \$16)

Writing letters back and forth without ever meeting, vintage toy shop owner Theodora Phillips and Everett St. James, the host of a local children’s show, suddenly find their worlds colliding and must let go of their fears in order to figure out what they truly want.

Wright, Jaime Jo. [On the Cliffs of Foxglove Manor](#)
(Bethany House \$15.99)

In 1885 while searching Foxglove Manor for the gold her father hid there after the Civil War, Adria Fontaine encounters an eccentric old woman, who has filled the estate overlooking Lake Superior with dangerous secrets that may wind up costing Adria her life. A century later, nursing aide Kailey Gibson returns to Foxglove Manor only to find the seniors under her care have chilling stories about the past history of the place they desperately want to share with her. Separated by time, both Adria and Kailey find themselves locked in a battle to banish the past’s demons, including the ones that haunt them.

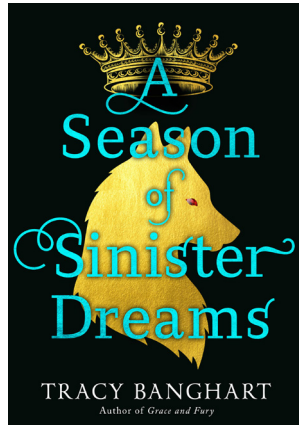
Teen

Aike-Iyimide, Faridah. [Ace of Spades](#)
(Feiwel & Friends \$18.99)

Devon Richards and Chiamaka Adebayo, two students at Niveus Private Academy, are selected to be part of the elite school's senior class prefects and struggle against an anonymous bully, who reveals all their secrets. This debut YA contemporary thriller has been called *Gossip Girl* meets *Get Out*.

Banghart, Tracy. [A Season of Sinister Dreams](#)
(Little Brown \$18.99)

Annalise may be cousin to the prince, but her past isn't what she claims, and she possesses a magic so powerful it takes all her strength to control it. Evra is a country girl, and has watched as each friend and family member came into their own magic, while hers remains dormant. But everything changes after Annalise loses control of herself and Evra begins experiencing the debilitating visions of a once-in-a-generation clairvoyant meant to serve the crown.



Hand, Cynthia. [My Contrary Mary](#)
(HarperTeen \$18.99)

Welcome to Renaissance France, a place of poison and plots, of beauties and beasts, of mice and . . . queens? Mary is the queen of Scotland and the jewel of the French court. Except when she's a mouse. Yes, reader, Mary is an *Eðian* (shapeshifter) in a kingdom where Verities rule. It's a secret that could cost her a head; or a tail. Luckily, Mary has a confidant in her betrothed, Francis. But things at the gilded court take a treacherous turn after the king meets a suspicious end. Thrust onto the throne, Mary and Francis face a viper's nest of conspiracies, traps, and treason. And if Mary's secret is revealed, heads are bound to roll.

Moke, Jenny Elder. [Curse of the Specter Queen](#)
(Hyperion \$17.99)

The arrival of a mysterious package containing a diary that ruthless men will stop at nothing to get their

hands on sends Samantha Knox on a high-stakes adventure to Dublin, Ireland, where she must now stop an ancient order charged with carrying out a deadly mission. Indiana Jones gets a makeover with this fun, female-driven mystery adventure tale, set in the 1920s and full of ciphers, ancient relics, and nonstop adventure.

Ralph, Vincent. [14 Ways to Die](#)
(Sourcebooks \$10.99)

Ten years ago, Jess lost her mother to the Magpie Man, an infamous serial killer, who is still at large. Now Jess plans on using her new social media platform as the star of a YouTube reality series to catch the Magpie Man. That is, as long as he doesn't catch her first.

Reynolds, Hannah. [The Summer of Lost Letters](#)
(Razorbill \$18.99)

The discovery of a packet of old letters sends seventeen-year-old Abby Schoenberg to Nantucket to unravel a family mystery about her grandmother's past, but things get complicated when Abby meets the cute grandson of a prominent local family who wants to stop her from investigating.

Nonfiction

Borchert, Scott. [Republic of Detours](#)
(Farrar Straus Giroux \$30)

The plan was as idealistic as it was audacious—and utterly unprecedented. Take thousands of hard-up writers and put them to work charting a country on the brink of social and economic collapse, with the aim of producing a series of guidebooks to the then forty-eight states—along with hundreds of other publications dedicated to cities, regions, and towns—while also gathering reams of folklore, narratives of formerly enslaved people, and even recipes, all of varying quality, each revealing distinct sensibilities. All this was the singular purview of the Federal Writers' Project, a division of the Works Progress Administration founded in 1935 to employ jobless writers, from once-bestselling novelists and acclaimed poets to the more dubiously qualified. *Republic of Detours* tells the story of this raucous and remarkable undertaking whose participants included Nelson

Algren, Zora Neale Hurston, Richard Wright, and John Cheever just to mention a few.

Burrough, Bryan et. al. [Forget the Alamo](#)
(Penguin \$32)

Three Texas writers – Bryan Burrough, Chris Tomlinson, and Jason Stanford - tell the real story of the Alamo, rejecting the myths that have endured about the battle and how they have celebrated whiteness over the contributions of Tejanos against the backdrop of Texas's struggle for independence.

Fox, Margalit. [The Confidence Men](#)
(Random House \$28)

Imprisoned in a remote Turkish prison camp during World War I, having survived a two-month forced march and a terrifying shootout in the desert, two British officers, Harry Jones and Cedric Hill, join forces to bamboozle their iron-fisted captors. To stave off despair and boredom, Jones takes a handmade Ouija board and fakes elaborate séances for his fellow prisoners. Word gets around camp, and one day, a Turkish officer approaches Jones with a query: Could Jones contact the spirit world to find a vast treasure rumored to be buried nearby? Jones, a trained lawyer, and Hill, a brilliant magician, use the Ouija board--and their keen understanding of the psychology of deception--to build a trap for the Turkish officers that will ultimately lead them to freedom.

Hastings, Max. [Operation Pedestal](#)
(Harper \$35)

In this action-packed story of courage, fortitude, loss and triumph, Hastings recreates one of the most thrilling events of World War II. The more than 300,000 inhabitants of Malta not only had to endure an Axis bombing campaign, the Germans and Italians blockaded the island so that no food or fuel could reach the island. The British Royal Navy sent Force F; a fleet of ships commanded by Neville Syfret to protect the merchant vessels trying to get supplies through to the citizens of Malta. The story of how that "conglomeration of the willing and unwilling, the brave and the not so brave, the proficient and the fumlbers" is recounted in grand detail by Hastings. Here is how the *WSJ* summed up the book in their review "Like Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, *Operation Pedestal* is the story of desperate warriors shepherding a frail cargo through all the fire and steel their enemy can hurl. Mr. Hast-

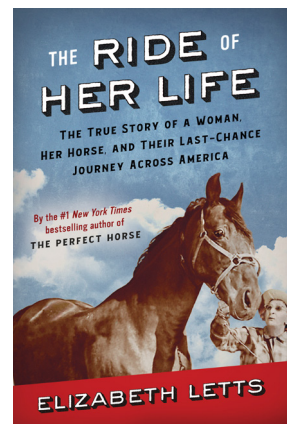
ings paints a portrait of naval combat with an artist's brush guided by more than half a century of combat reportage. Compassionate towards men who braved bombs, torpedoes, fire, and a cruel sea, he showcases the Royal Navy- along with the merchant vessels it guarded – at its finest hour."

Herman, Arthur. [The Viking Heart](#)
(HMH \$30)

In this compelling historical narrative with cutting-edge archeological and DNA research, *New York Times* bestselling historian and Pulitzer Prize finalist Herman chronicles how the Vikings and their descendants have shaped the history of the world, including that of America.

Letts, Elizabeth. [The Ride of Her Life](#)
(Ballantine \$28)

In 1954, Annie Wilkins, a sixty-three-year-old farmer from Maine, embarked on an impossible journey. She had no relatives left, she'd lost her family farm to back taxes, and her doctor had just given her two years to live--but only if she "lived restfully." However, Annie wanted to see the Pacific Ocean just once before she died. She bought a cast-off brown gelding named Tarzan, donned men's dungarees, loaded up her horse, and headed out from Maine in mid-November, hoping to beat the snow. She had no map, no GPS, no phone. But she had her ex-racehorse, her faithful mutt, and her own unfailing belief that Americans would treat a stranger with kindness. This is the fascinating tale of her two year adventure spent traveling more than 4,000 miles, through America's big cities and small towns, meeting ordinary people and celebrities--from Andrew Wyeth (who sketched Tarzan) to Art Linkletter and Groucho Marx.



Lobrano, Alexander. [My Place at the Table](#)
(HMH \$27)

Until Alec Lobrano landed a job in the glamorous Paris office of *Women's Wear Daily*, his main experience of French cuisine was the occasional supermarket éclair. Lobrano recounts his adventures in Paris

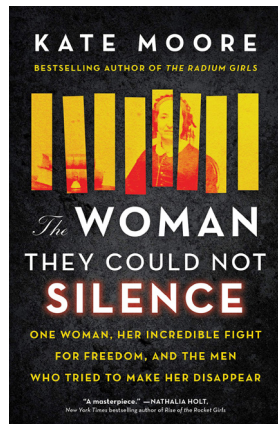
learning about the culinary world and recounting his interactions with everyone from Paul Bocuse and Julia Child to Ruth Reichl as he hones his own literary voice and becomes restaurant critic at one of the largest newspapers in France.

McHugh, Jess. [Americanon](#)
(Dutton 28)

What does it take to be a good American? And who gets to decide? Journalist Jess McHugh examines thirteen seemingly innocuous reference books, guidebooks, and self-help books that have become blueprints for core American values in search of the answers to these questions. From *How to Win Friends and Influence People* to *Betty Crocker's Picture Cook Book* to Emily Post's *Etiquette*, McHugh recounts the origins of these books and how they both reflected and shaped American society as well as our national identity.

Moore, Kate. [The Woman They Could Not Silence](#)
(Sourcebooks \$27.99)

In 1860, wife and mother Elizabeth Packard, is committed to an insane asylum by her traitorous husband, for the crime of speaking her mind. However after becoming incarcerated at the Illinois State Hospital, Elizabeth becomes a champion for the many rational women on her ward, discovering that the merit of losing everything is that you then have nothing to lose. From the author of the *New York Times* best-selling *Radium Girls*.



Price, David A. [Geniuses at War](#)
(Knopf \$28)

From the author of *The Pixar Touch* and *Love and Hate in Jamestown* comes the dramatic, untold story of the brilliant team who built the world's first digital electronic computer at Bletchley Park, during a critical time in World War II.

Sedgwick, John. [From the River to the Sea](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$30)

In this fascinating history of the greatest railroad war of all time, General William J. Palmer and William Barstow Strong, the ruthless railroad businessmen behind the Santa Fe and Rio Grande railways, battle to lay claim to the most profitable territory and silver mines in the West when the men's competing railway lines cross in Colorado.

Standiford, Les. [Battle for the Big Top](#)
(Public Affairs \$28)

In *Battle for the Big Top*, *New York Times*' bestselling author Les Standiford brings to life a remarkable era when three circus kings - James Bailey, P.T. Barnum, and John Ringling - all vied for control of the vastly profitable and influential American Circus. Ultimately, the rivalry of these three men resulted in the creation of an institution that would surpass all intentions and, for 147 years, hold a nation spellbound.