

Midmonth BookNotes

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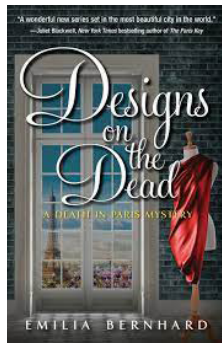


Fall into a Good Book

Cozy Corner

Bernhard, Emila. [Designs on the Dead](#)
(Crooked Lane \$26.99).

American ex-pats turned private detectives Rachel Levis and Magda Stevens latest case involves the suspicious demise of a renowned fashion designer, who is found dead of an overdose in Paris' upscale 3rd arrondissement while attending his birthday party. *Kirkus* called this entertaining addition to Bernhard's *tres charmant* series "lively and well plotted, with enchanting glimpses of life in Paris from an American's-eye view."



Delany, Vicki. [Deadly Summer Nights](#)
(Berkley \$7.99)

In the summer of 1953 at Haggerman's Catskills Resort, daring young widow Elizabeth must solve the mystery surrounding the death of a reclusive guest, whose body is found on the lake on the grounds of the resort, if she wants to keep the business from going under. *LJ* summed up their review of this new series launch with "This charming cozy mixes murder with a peek behind the storied face of Catskills resort culture," and *Kirkus* concluded their starred review with "pitch-perfect period descriptions, a likeable heroine, and a surprising conclusion will leave readers yearning for the sequel."

Eaton, J.C. [Railroaded 4 Murder](#)
(Kensington \$8.99).

With her wedding fast approaching, Sophie "Phee" Kimball must solve one more murder before she says "I do" when she, her mother and their beloved Chiweenie,

while at a model train exhibit, discover the body of Sun City West's railroad club president Wilbur Maines with an incriminating tap shoe near his lifeless corpse. The police suspect Wilbur's wife Roxanne, who dances with the Rhythm Tappers, of finally doing something about her cheating husband, but Phee and her mom Harriet are convinced they are on the wrong track. Before the poor woman is railroaded into spending the rest of her life behind bars, Phee, Harriet, and their fellow book club members will need to do some fancy footwork to find the real culprit.

Granger, Mimi. [Death of a Red-Hot Rancher](#)
(Berkley \$7.99).

When her aunt Charmaine is implicated in the murder of a swoon-worthy bison rancher Brody Pierce, romance bookshop owner Lizzie Hale must work her way through a lengthy list of lovers/suspects to solve this crime of passion. *Kirkus* called this debut "a cozy combination of mystery and romance featuring an expert on romance novels who needs some practical lessons in love."

Ireland, Liz. [Mrs. Claus and the Halloween Homicide](#)
(Kensington \$15.95).

As Christmastown prepares to celebrate Halloween for the first time, April Claus, Santa's new wife, must quickly solve the murder of an outspoken elf by the "Pumpkin Slayer" before even more mayhem and scary happenings ensue. Ireland follows up *Mrs. Claus an the Santaland Slayings* with another quirky cozy that will have "fans of offbeat, humorous cozies clamoring for more." (*PW*).

Johnson, Maureen. [Your Guide to Not Getting Murdered in a Quaint English Village](#) (Ten Speed \$16.99).

In the England of murder mysteries and TV detectives, no destination is deadlier than a quaint country village,

and you never know you're in a murder village until it's too late. No attraction or local character is safe--whether in the pub for a pint, or on the manicured grounds of the local estate for a shooting party, bodies can turn up anywhere! Danger lurks around every cobblestone corner. If you are foolish enough to make the trip, at least be prepared. Brought to life with dozens of Gorey-esque illustrations by Jay Cooper and peppered with allusions to classic crime series and unmistakably British murder lore, *Your Guide to Not Getting Murdered in a Quaint English Village* gives you the tools you need to avoid the same fate, should you find yourself in a suspiciously cozy English village (or simply dream of going). Johnson is also the author of the *NYT* bestselling *Truly Devious* YA series.

Levine, Laura. [Murder Gets a Makeover](#)
(Kensington \$26).

Free-lance writer Jaine Austen finally gives into her BFF's relentless badgering about her "lack of personal style" and agrees to be celebrity stylist Bebe Braddock's latest makeover project. But just moments after meeting Bebe, Jaine isn't certain a free wardrobe is worth dealing with an uber-stylist who is also an uber-bully. Things definitely take a turn for the worse for Jaine when Bebe is found strangled with a wire coat hanger (ironic considering Bebe's view of wire coat hangers lined up exactly with that of Joan Crawford) and Jaine's fingerprints are all over the murder weapon. Now Jaine must find a way to clear her own name before the color of the next outfit she wears is prison orange.

Meier, Leslie; Lee Hollis; and Barbara Ross. [Halloween Party Murder](#)
(Kensington \$26).

Halloween holiday traditions in Maine include murder in this trio of all treats and no tricks novellas. In Meier's "Halloween Party Murder," Tinker's Cove journalist Lucy Stone investigates a death by overdose at a Halloween charity party. In Hollis' "Death of a Halloween Party Monster," food columnist Hayley Powell's holiday costume bash may become known for all the wrong reasons unless Hayley can discover who killed Boris Candy. Julia Snowden investigates the death of a chaperone at her niece's Halloween slumber party in Ross' "Scared Off."

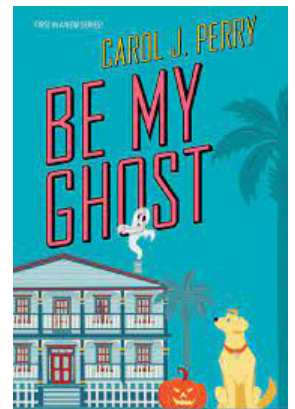
Pennery, Elizabeth. [Chapter and Curse](#)
(St. Martin's \$8.99).

Librarian Molly Kimball and her mother, Nina, need a change. So, when a letter arrives from Nina's Aunt Violet in Cambridge, England requesting their help running the family bookshop, Thomas Marlowe Manuscripts and Foli- os, they jump at the chance. Hoping to bring much-needed revenue to the bookstore, Molly invites Aunt Violet's

college classmate and famed poet Persephone Brightwell to hold a poetry reading in the shop. But the event ends in disaster when a guest is found dead—with Molly's great-aunt's knitting needle used as the murder weapon. While trying to clear Violet and keep the struggling shop afloat, Molly sifts through secrets past and present, untangling a web of blackmail, deceit, and murder.

Perry, Carol J. [Be My Ghost](#)
(Kensington \$15.95).

Maureen Doherty's career as a sportswear buyer for a Boston department store hits a snag when the store declares bankruptcy just before Halloween. Financial salvation comes for Maureen when she unexpectedly inherits an inn in Haven, Florida. Packing up her bags — and her golden retriever Finn — Maureen heads to the small town on the Gulf of Mexico intending to make a fresh start only to find her new business venture in trouble when she discovers a dead body on the property. Fortunately — or unfortunately depending on your views regarding the supernatural — some of the inn's old tenants are now ghosts, who are more than happy to help Maureen solve the crime. Writing with a generous dash of the whimsical humor found in *Topper* and an equal measure of the sweet charm found in Carolyn Hart's Bailey Ruth Raeburn books, Perry has fashioned the perfect comic cozy. Whether you are a friend of Casper or a spook spoofer, you really can't afford to miss this terrifically entertaining launch to a fun new series.



Fiction, Historical Novels, Mysteries, Romance and More

Aguirre, Ann. [Witch Please](#)
(Sourcebooks \$15.99).

A fully modern witch who keeps her heart protected, Danica Waterhouse meets her match in baker Titus Winnaker, who's been cursed to be alone. The question now for Danica is if she can find love with an old-fashioned mundane who refuses to settle for anything less than forever. "Aguirre tugs on the heartstrings, tackling familial pressure, the struggle to overcome heartbreak, and the strength it takes to choose the uncertainty of love over the stability of loneliness. Readers will be enchanted." (PW)

Allen, Jayne. [Black Girls Must Die Exhausted](#) (HarperCollins \$16.99).

Tabitha Walker is a black woman with a plan to have it all. With a coveted position as a local news reporter, a “paper-perfect” boyfriend, and even a standing Saturday morning appointment with a reliable hairstylist, everything seems to be falling into place. Then Tabby receives an unexpected diagnosis that brings her picture-perfect life crashing down, jeopardizing the key-stone she took for granted: having children. With the help of her best friends, the irreverent and headstrong Laila and Alexis, the mom jeans-wearing former “Sexy Lexi,” and the generational wisdom of her grandmother and the nonagenarian firebrand Ms. Gretchen, Tabby explores the reaches of modern medicine and tests the limits of her relationships, hoping to salvage the future of which she always dreamed.



Cabot, Meg. [No Words](#) (HarperCollins \$15.99).

Arriving on Little Bridge Island for a speaking engagement, best-selling children’s author Jo Wright comes face-to-face with her nemesis, writer Will Price, who, much to her surprise, wants to make amends and prove to her that he is a changed man.

Camden, Elizabeth. [Carved in Stone](#) (Bethany House \$15.99).

When lawyer Patrick O’Neill agrees to resurrect an old mystery and challenge the Blackstones’ legacy of greed and corruption, he doesn’t expect to be derailed by the kindhearted family heiress, Gwen Kellerman. Gwen is tasked by her family with getting Patrick to drop the case, but when the mystery takes a shocking twist, Patrick may be turn out to be the only true ally Gwen has.

Chin, Jennie. [The Inn on Sweetbriar Lane](#) (Forever \$8.99).

June Wu is in over her head. Her family’s inn desperately needs guests, her mother’s medical debts are piling up, and the surly, if sexy, stranger next door, ex-soldier Clay Hawthorne, is driving away the customers she has left! When Clay asks for June’s help, though, she can’t say no. After all, his new bar could be just what Blue Cedar Falls’ upcoming Pumpkin Festival needs to bring in more tourists. But with the fierce attraction between them,

will working together be playing with fire? A sweet and charming debut that is tailor-made for fans of Debbie Macomber or Robyn Carr.

Cochrun, Alison. [The Charm Offensive](#) (Atria \$17).

Dev Deshpande, a successful producer on the long-running reality dating show *Ever After*, truly believes in romantic happily-ever-afters. However, the show’s current “Prince Charming” – geeky germaphobe tech mogul Charlie Winshaw – does not. The only reason Charlie agreed to be on the reality show is because his PR rep hopes it will help restore Charlie’s professional reputation after he had an emotional breakdown at work that went viral. Now it is up to Dev to help convince Charlie to get with the program and pick his true love. The only problem is that it seems Charlie may have better chemistry with Dev than any of his female co-stars. This delightfully dry and witty rom-com debut has been gaining a lot of love from readers and critics including *Kirkus* who said “Cochrun has a lot of fun with the behind-the-scenes glimpses of “*Ever After*,” but it’s *The Charm Offensive*’s tenderness and deep, believable emotion that will linger in readers’ hearts.”

Daria, Alexis. [A Lot Like Adios](#) (HarperCollins \$15.99).

To escape his parent’s demanding expectations, Gabriel Aguilar left the Bronx right out of high school for sunny L.A., where thirteen years later, he now is the owner of the city’s hottest celebrity fitness locale: Agility Gym. However, when an investor pushes Gabe to open another location in NYC, Gabe finds himself heading back home. Once there, Gabe is reunited with his old childhood crush Michelle Amato, who has been brought on board to help with the rebranding campaign for the gym. Can the two old “friends” resolve their past mistakes, or is it only a matter of time before Gabe says *adios* to Michelle again. Here is how *Kirkus* summed up Daria’s latest “Not only is it a satisfying and steamy romance, but the novel also explores how family and friends can be an essential part of a happy, fulfilling life. A sexy, satisfying romance about people who finally grow into being right for each other.”

Deveraux, Jude and Tara Sheets. [An Impossible Promise](#) (MIRA \$16.99)

Liam O’Connor unknowingly changed the course of destiny when he fell in love with Cora McLeod over a century ago. Their passion was intense, brief and tragic. And the angels have been trying to restore the balance of fate ever since. Now police officers in Providence Falls, North Carolina, Liam and Cora are partners on a murder investigation. The intensity of the case has drawn them closer together; exactly what Liam is supposed to avoid. Liam knows this

is the last chance to save his soul. But does he love Cora enough to let her go? Romance icon Deveraux and Sheets also co-authored [Chance of a Lifetime](#) (MIRA \$9.99).

Dunmore, Evie. [Portrait of a Scotsman](#)
(Berkley \$16)

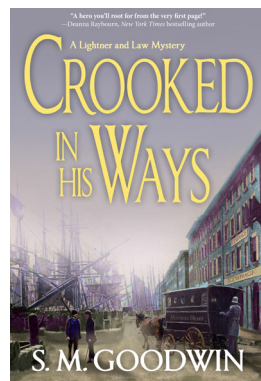
London banking heiress Hattie Greenfield wanted just three things in life: 1. Acclaim as an artist 2. A noble cause 3. Marriage to a young lord who puts the gentle in gentleman. Why then does this Oxford scholar find herself at the altar with the darkly attractive financier Lucian Blackstone, whose murky past and ruthless business practices strike fear in the hearts of Britain's peerage? Trust Hattie to take an invigorating little adventure too far. Now she's stuck with a churlish Scot who just might be the end of her ambitions in life or the key to a whole new future Hattie never imagined. *Kirkus* called the third installment in Dunmore's "League of Extraordinary Women" series "a winning, lush romance with a social conscience."

Escanson, Maria Amparo. [L.A. Weather](#)
(Flatiron \$27.99)

With quick-wit and humor, novelist and screenwriter Maria Amparo Escandón follows the Los Angeles-based Alvarado family as they wrestle with impending evacuations, secrets, deception, and betrayal, and their toughest decision yet: whether to stick together as a family or burn it all down.

Goodwin, S. M. [Crooked in His Ways](#)
(Crooked Lane \$27.99).

NYC police detective inspectors Jasper Lightner and Hieronymus Law investigate when the body of a wealthy financier shows up in a shipping crate in New Orleans a year after he went missing in 1856. After introducing readers to Lightner and Law in her stunning historical mystery debut [Absence of Mercy](#), Goodwin returns with another stellar crime puzzler that makes the most of its vividly evoked pre-Civil War New York City setting with plenty of well-integrated period details and a beguiling cast of characters. Fans of Rosemary Simpson's and Anne Perry's historical mysteries who have yet to discover Goodwin are in for a real treat.



Hazelwood, Ali. [The Love Hypothesis](#)
(Berkley \$16)

To convince her best friend that she is really on her way to her own happily ever after, third-year Ph.D. candidate Olive Smith, who really doesn't believe in long-lasting romance, forms a fake relationship with Stanford's reigning lab tyrant: irascible professor Adam Carlsen. However, Olive quickly finds her experiment in love yielding some unexpected results when she realizes she might actually be falling for Adam.

Henry, Christina. [Horseman](#)
(Berkley \$17)

Twenty years after the events in "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," two boys playing in the woods discover the headless body of a child and begin to question everything the adults had told them about the Headless Horseman.

Hogan, Ruth. [The Moon, the Stars, and Madam Burova](#)
(William Morrow \$16.99)

After inheriting her mother's fortune-telling business as a young woman, Imelda Burova has spent her life on the Brighton pier practicing her trade. She and her trusty pack of Tarot cards have seen the lovers and the liars, the angels and the devils, the dreamers and the fools. Now, after a lifetime of keeping other people's secrets, Madam Burova is ready to have a little piece of life for herself. But she still has one last thing to do: to fulfill a promise made in the 1970s, when she and her girlfriends were carefree, with their whole lives still before them.

Holden, Wendy. [The Duchess](#)
(Berkley \$17).

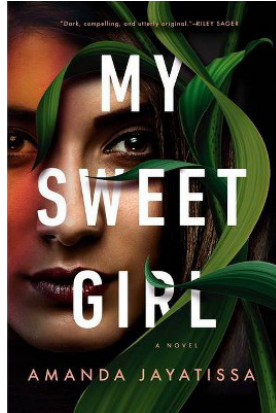
Becoming the lover of David, Prince of Wales, in 1928, a lively American woman (guess who?) is plunged into a world of unimaginable luxury and privilege until David becomes King and she becomes the face of the most dramatic and extraordinary royal scandal of the 20th century. Fun to read in between binge-watching *The Crown*.

Itami, Emily. [Fault Lines](#)
(Custom House \$27.99).

Bored, frustrated Japanese housewife Mizuki begins living two lives when she meets successful restaurateur Kiyoshi and rediscovers the freedom and the electric pulse of her beloved Tokyo. But now Mizuki has to make a choice between her husband and children and a man, who gives her a whole new view on life. This debut is getting lots of push from the publisher as evident by the 100,000 copy first printing.

Jayatissa, Amanda. [My Sweet Girl](#)
(Berkley \$26).

Ever since she was adopted from a Sri Lankan orphanage and brought to America, Paloma has had the best of everything—schools, money, and parents so perfect that she fears she'll never live up to them. Now thirty years old and recently cut off from her parents' funds, Paloma decides to sublet the second bedroom of her overpriced San Francisco apartment to Arun, who recently moved from India. Paloma has to admit it feels good helping someone find their way in America—that is until Arun discovers Paloma's darkest secret, one that could jeopardize her own fragile place in this country. Jayatissa's addictively readable entry into the unreliable narrator brand of psychological suspense delivers the same kind of thrills as Paula Hawkins' *The Girl on the Train* and Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* with the added bonus of some fascinating bits of Sri Lankan folklore regarding a vengeful ghost woven into the plot.



London, Julia. [It Started with a Dog](#)
(Berkley \$16).

The key to Harper Thompson securing a huge promotion at work is ensuring that the launch of hip new coffee-house Deja Brew goes exactly according to plan. If Jonah Rogers wants to keep his family's old school coffee shop, Lucky Star, from going out of business, he will have to find a way to eliminate the competition across the street in the form of Deja Brew. Things really heat up between the two when a local rescue shelter plans a fundraiser where businesses foster dogs and customers donate cash to vote for their favorite pup. Now with Harper and Jonah both putting up their own canine candidates in the fundraiser, who is going to emerge top dog? London puts her own clever riff on *You've Got Mail* in her latest charming contemporary romance.

Louis, Lia. [Eight Perfect Hours](#)
(Atria \$17)

Two strangers who meet when their cars are both stuck in a blizzard spend a delightful eight hours together weathering the storm before parting ways believing they will never see each other again, but fate has other plans.

Mandelo, Lee. [Summer Sons](#)
(Tom Doherty \$26.99).

Andrew and Eddie did everything together, best friends bonded more deeply than brothers, until Eddie left Andrew behind to start his graduate program at Vanderbilt. Six months later, only days before Andrew was to join him in Nashville, Eddie dies of an apparent suicide. He leaves Andrew a horrible inheritance: a roommate he doesn't know, friends he never asked for, and a gruesome phantom that hungers for him. As Andrew searches for the truth of Eddie's death, he uncovers the lies and secrets left behind by the person he trusted most, discovering a family history soaked in blood and death. *PW* called this gothic debut "like Tennessee molasses – dense, dark, slow-moving, and with a distinct Southern flavor."

Morelli, Laura. [The Stolen Lady](#)
(William Morrow \$16.99).

Separated by 500 years, two women—Anne Guichard, who at the dawn of WWII must keep treasures safe from the Nazis; and house servant, Bellina Sardi, who is tasked with keeping an impossible secret—each hide Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa with unintended consequences. "Morelli makes both story lines richly drawn, revealing the remarkable fortitude of two women who saved a masterpiece, each during a moment of upheaval. This will pull in readers from the very first page." (*PW*)

Moriarty, Liane. [Apples Never Fall](#)
(Henry Holt \$28.99).

A family of tennis stars debate whether or not to report their mother as missing because it would implicate their father in the new novel by the *New York Times* best-selling author of *Big Little Lies*. Here is how *Kirkus* aptly summed things up "Moriarty's main focus, which she approaches from countless familiar and unexpected angles, is the mystery of family and what it means to be a parent, child, or sibling in the Delaney family; or in any family, for that matter. Funny, sad, astute, occasionally creepy, and slyly irresistible."

Nealon, Louise. [Snowflake](#)
(Harper \$26.99)

Earning a place at Trinity College Dublin, Debbie, who was raised on a rural dairy farm, finds herself pulling away from the comfort of home until a tragic accident upends her close-knit family's equilibrium and her next steps may no longer be hers to choose. This debut is getting a lot of critical praise including *Bookpage* which said "Let's cut to the chase: Louise Nealon's *Snowflake* is one of the most heartwarming, honest and brilliant coming-of-age novels you will read this year."

Reading it is to lose yourself in reveries about the imperfections of life, the people we love and care for, self-doubt and the pursuit of joy.”

Patel, Sajni. [First Love, Take Two](#)
(Forever \$15.99)

On the verge of realizing her dream of being a doctor, Preeti Patel should be ecstatic. But between the stress of her residency, trying to find a job, and managing her traditional, no-boundaries family, Preeti’s anxiety is through the roof. Relationships and love aren’t even an option. Fortunately, Preeti’s finally found a new place to stay . . . only to discover that her new roommate is her ex: Daniel Thompson.

Penrose, Andrea. [Murder at the Royal Botanic Gardens](#)
(Kensington \$26).

While preparing for their upcoming nuptials, Lady Charlotte Sloane and the Earl of Wrexford are once again drawn into a murder investigation when an American botanist, who was scheduled to lecture at a symposium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, is found dead.

Russell, Craig. [Hyde](#)
(Doubleday \$27).

The chief detective of Edinburgh in Victorian Scotland is shocked and appalled when he finds himself at the scene of a grisly murder, with no idea how he got there in this gothic reimaging of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

Sampson, Freya. [The Last Chance Library](#)
(Berkley \$16).

When the government threatens to shut down the village library where she works, June Jones is faced with a personal dilemma. Will June join a dedicated band of library users in fighting to keep the Chalcot Library open? Or will June do what she has always done in life: stand on the sidelines and hope for the best? Sampson’s heartfelt and heartwarming debut is both an inspiring love letter to the power of books and libraries in our lives as well as a thoughtful and sweet story of self-discovery and empowerment. Written with a deliciously dry sense of wit and charm to spare, this is feel-good fiction of the highest caliber.



Skilton, Tish. [Hollywood Ending](#)
(Kensington \$15.95).

Nina Shams and Sebastian Worthington, superfans who bonded over their favorite television show *Castles of Rust and Bone* until both the show and their friendship was abruptly canceled, drift apart but meet five years later on the set of the show’s reboot in Hollywood.

Smith, Sarah. [On Location](#)
(Berkley \$16).

When she gets the green light to produce a series about Utah’s national parks, Alia Dunn is thrilled until she meets her newest crew member, Drew Irons, the man who ghosted her, and as tensions rise between them, so does an undeniable attraction.

Spencer, Minerva. [Infamous](#)
(Kensington \$15.95).

Once the reigning beauty of the *ton*, Celia Trent used her position to socially ruin anyone who dared to oppose her including geeky Richard Redvers. A decade later, the widowed Celia has fallen on hard times and now works as a companion to cantankerous Lady Yancy. Things really get dicey for Celia, however, when Lady Yancy is invited to a house party and wedding being hosted by the Redvers clan. Of course, since it is his sister’s wedding, Richard will definitely be there, and while Celia may have hit rock bottom in life, Richard is now a wealthy and successful scientist. Will this gathering be a societal comeuppance for Celia, or will it provide her with the chance to right an old wrong and perhaps forge a new future with Richard?

Thornton, Stephanie Marie. [A Most Clever Girl](#)
(Berkley \$17).

Reeling from the death of her mother and President Kennedy’s assassination, Catherine Gray shows up on Elizabeth Bentley’s doorstep demanding answers to the shocking mystery just uncovered about her family. What she doesn’t expect is for Bentley to ensnare her in her own story of becoming a controversial World War II spy and Cold War informer. Based on the real-life experiences of Cold War double agent Elizabeth Bentley.

Vale, Lillie. [The Shaadi Set-Up](#)
(Putnam \$16).

When Milan Rao, the man who broke her heart, walks back into her life, needing her business expertise to flip a hard-to-sell house, Rita Chitniss begins to wonder if her mother is right—that second chances in life – and in love – are possible.

Wilson, Teri. [A Spot of Trouble](#)
(Sourcebooks \$14.99).

Violet March and Sam Nash are as different as night and day and have been enemies ever since Violet accused Sam of dognapping her beloved Dalmatian. Sam knows that would never happen—his well-trained fire safety demonstration dog never steps out of line, whereas Violet’s problematic pooch has never met a command she didn’t ignore completely, much like her bubbly owner. So, when Sprinkles and Cinder accidentally switch places during the annual police vs. fire department softball tournament, Violet is thrilled by her dog’s sudden perfect behavior, while stubborn-yet-charming Sam is horrified to find that his dog no longer listens. But when they eventually realize and switch the dogs back, Sam and Violet are shocked to find that not everything is as simple as it seems. And a little puppy love might be just the thing they’ve been missing.

Short Story Collections

Adler, Dahlia. [His Hideous Heart](#)
(Flatiron \$18.99).

Edgar Allan Poe may be a hundred and fifty years beyond this world, but the themes of his beloved works have much in common with modern young adult fiction. Whether the stories are familiar to readers or discovered for the first time, readers will revel in both Edgar Allan Poe’s classic tales, and in the 13 unique and unforgettable ways that they’ve been brought to life by YA authors including Tessa Gratton, Stephanie Kuehn, and Hillary Monahan.

Datlow, Ellen ed. [When Things Get Dark](#)
(Titan \$24.95).

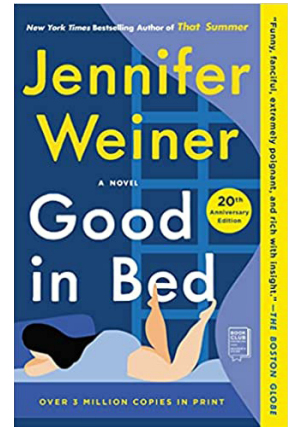
Featuring contributions from some of today’s best horror writers—including Paul Tremblay, Elizabeth Hand and Joyce Carol Oates—this collection of new and exclusive short stories is inspired by and pay tribute to the genius of Shirley Jackson, author of such novels as *The Haunting of Hill House* and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* not to mention the scariest short story in American literature “The Lottery.”

Happy Book Anniversary

Weiner, Jennifer. [Good in Bed](#)
(Washington Square \$17).

For twenty-eight years, things have been tripping along nicely for Cannie Shapiro. Sure, her mother has come charging out of the closet, and her father has long since

dropped out of her world. But she loves her friends, her rat terrier, and her job as pop culture reporter for *The Philadelphia Examiner*. She’s finally even made a tenuous peace with her plus-size body. But when she opens up a national women’s magazine and sees the words “Loving a Larger Woman” above her ex-boyfriend’s byline, Cannie is plunged into misery and the most amazing year of her life. From Philadelphia to Hollywood and back home again, she charts a new course for herself: mourning her losses, facing her past, and figuring out who she is and who she can become. Twenty years after it was first published, Weiner’s debut novel still rocks. Now available in a spiffy new 20th anniversary edition.



Childrens’ Books and Teen Fiction

Applegate, Katherine. [Willodeen](#)
(Feiwel & Friends \$16.99).

When the annual migration of hummingbears, a source of local pride and income, dwindles and no one knows why, Willodeen, armed with a magical birthday gift, speaks up for the animals she loves and vows to uncover this mystery. “Employing flawlessly simple, candid prose that belies deeper messages, Newbery Medalist Applegate again considers the complex relationship between humans and the natural world.” (*PW*)

Barnes, Jennifer Lynn. [The Hawthorne Legacy](#)
(Little Brown \$17.99).

Trying to learn why Tobias Hawthorne left his entire fortune to her instead of his family, heiress Avery Grambs soon discovers that someone will stop at nothing to see her out of the picture—permanently. The sequel to Barnes NYT best-selling [The Inheritance Games](#).

Clipstone, Lyndall. [Lakesedge](#)
(Henry Holt \$18.99).

When Violeta Graceling and her younger brother Arien arrive at the haunted Lakesedge estate, they expect to find a monster. Leta knows the terrifying rumors about Rowan Sylvanan, who drowned his entire family when he was a boy. But neither the estate nor the monster are what they seem. As Leta falls for Rowan, she discovers he is bound to the Lord Under, the sinister death god lurking in the black waters of the lake. A creature to whom Leta is inexplicably drawn... Now, to save Rowan—and herself—Leta must

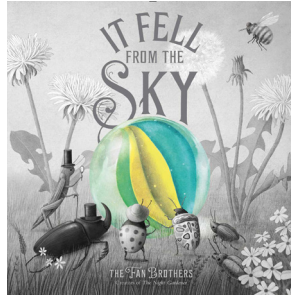
confront the darkness in her past, including unraveling the mystery of her connection to the Lord Under.

Demetrios, Heather. [Code Name: Badass](#)
(Atheneum \$19.99).

To say Virginia “Dindy” Hall was ambitious would be an understatement. She was that girl at your high school who makes everyone else look like a slacker, no matter how hard they’re working. But how many of them can say they’ve been on Nazi Germany’s Most Wanted list? At a time when most women were expected to become wives and mothers, Virginia craved adventure. And with the world gearing up for a second World War, this fearless woman knew that she had to find a way to get involved.

Fan, Terry and Eric. [It Fell from the Sky](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$17.99).

Charging a small fee to see a wondrous object that fell from the sky, Spider wonders what to do when everyone stops showing up, in this whimsical picture book about community, art and the importance of giving back. *Kirkus* calls the latest luminous picture book from the Fan brothers “well-night wondrous.”



Fox, Mem. [Cat Dog](#)
(Beach Lane Books \$17.99).

When they find a mouse in their house, cat and dog try to stop the intruder until their plan goes hilariously awry, in this fast-paced, call-and-response-style adventure.

Garber, Stephanie. [Once Upon a Broken Heart](#)
(Flatiron \$19.99).

Desperate to stop the love of her life from marrying another, Evangeline Fox strikes a deal with the wicked Prince of Hearts—a bargain that will either end in the greatest happily ever after or the most exquisite tragedy for Evangeline.

Hapka, Catherine. [The Little Things in Life](#)
(Disney \$22.99).

Nearly a century ago, A.A. Milne created the Hundred-Acre Wood and the cast of curious creatures who delight us to this day with their humorous quirks, endearing friendships, and contemplative wisdom. Now come along with Pooh as he takes readers on a journey that celebrates the joy that *The Little Things in Life* can bring.

Herrman, Heather M. [The Corpse Queen](#)
(Putnam \$18.99).

Orphaned seventeen-year-old Molly Green is eager to start a new life in her aunt’s lucrative business selling corpses to medical students, but she quickly finds herself becoming entangled in a murderer’s plans. “If Poe’s daughter told a story, this might be it.” (*Kirkus*)

Kanter, Marisa. [As If on Cue](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$19.99).

It seems that aspiring playwright Natalie and musician Reid have been rivals all their young lives, but when they are forced to compete for scarce school budget dollars, they embark on an all-out prank war which backfires; now they are forced to cooperate, pool their talents and ambitions to produce a school musical—and not only is cooperation an unfamiliar role, but they are suddenly starting to have feelings for each other.

Padraig, Kenny. [The Monsters of Rookhaven](#)
(Henry Holt \$16.99).

When two orphans break through the magic shield that is keeping an extraordinary family of monsters safe from those who would do them harm, they are all put in grave danger. “Full of gruesome charm and heart-wrenching pathos, this story offers a satisfying gothic fantasy at once chilling and affecting.” (*PW*)

Raughley, Sarah. [The Bones of Ruin](#)
(Margaret K. McElderry \$19.99).

With no memories of her past, Iris, an African tightrope walker who cannot die, must participate in the Tournament of Freaks, a competition comprised of vicious fighters with fantastical abilities, in order to discover the truth about who she really is.

Sangster, Caitlin. [She Who Rides the Storm](#)
(Margaret K. McElderry \$19.99).

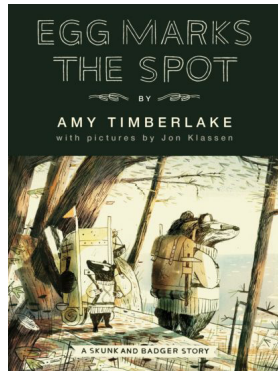
Going up against the Warlord, four teens who are bent on stealing a cursed sword must enter the tomb of an ancient shapeshifter king where they soon discover that some treasures should never see the light of day.

Shields, Breeana. [The Splendor](#)
(Page Street \$17.99).

Deciding to visit the Splendor hotel, which gives its guests the fantasy fulfillment of their dreams, after her sister returns home changed, Juliette meets an illusionist who is ill-equipped to grant her wish because he is the cause of her heartache.

Timberlake, Amy. [Egg Marks the Spot](#)
(Algonquin \$18.95).

While on a rock-finding mission to solve both their problems, roommates Skunk and Badger head to their favorite campsite on Endless Lake where they find both danger and new friends. “Even as its often fantastical premise careens over the edge (and thrillingly so), the series’ titular duo keep it grounded thanks to Timberlake’s clear admiration for these characters and their quirks. Klassen’s artwork, meanwhile, continues to awe with its wistfulness. As wonderful as *Important Rock Work*.” (Kirkus)



Nonfiction

Argetsinger, Amy. [There She Was](#)
(Atria \$28)

The sash. The tears. The glittering crown. And of course, that soaring song. For all of its pomp and kitsch, the Miss America pageant is indelibly written into the American story of the past century. From its giddy origins as a summer’s-end tourist draw in Prohibition-era Atlantic City, it blossomed into a televised extravaganza that drew tens of millions of viewers in its heyday and was once considered the highest honor that a young woman could achieve. For two years, *Washington Post* reporter and editor Amy Argetsinger visited pageants and interviewed former winners and contestants to unveil the hidden world of this iconic institution. *There She Was* spotlights how the pageant survived decades of social and cultural change, collided with a women’s liberation movement that sought to abolish it, and redefined itself alongside evolving ideas about feminism.

Brands, H.W. [Our First Civil War](#)
(Doubleday \$32.50)

New York Times bestselling historian H. W. Brands offers a fresh and riveting narrative of the American Revolution that shows it to be more than a fight against the British, but also a violent battle among neighbors forced to choose sides, Loyalist and Patriot”

Oller, John. [Rogues’ Gallery](#)
(Dutton \$32)

Filled with unforgettable characters, this colorful and captivating history covers crime and punishment on the

streets of Old New York, from the beginnings of big-city police work to the rise of the Mafia, shows how both policing and crime evolved by largely focusing on legendary detective Thomas F. Byrnes who helped create many now wide-spread police procedures. “True crime fans will relish what is likely to be the definitive account of this seminal period for lawbreakers and law enforcers alike.” (PW)

Posnanski, Joe. [The Baseball 100](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$40)

An award-winning sportswriter presents this ultimate baseball resource that tells the story of the game through the extraordinary lives of its 100 greatest players by retracing their origins, illuminating their characters and placing their accomplishments in the context of baseball’s past and present.

Ricca, Brad. [True Raiders](#)
(St. Martin’s \$29.99)

Told for the first time, this legendary story, which was the inspiration for the film *Raiders of the Lost Ark* follows British rogue nobleman Monty Parker, who, after being dared to do so by Ava Astor, the so-called “most beautiful woman in the world,” headed a secret 1909 expedition to find the fabled Ark of the Covenant. The publisher calls this true-life adventure tale *The Lost City of Z* meets *The Da Vinci Code*.

Scala Radio and Simon Mayo. [Scala: A Soundtrack for Life](#)
(Kyle Books \$24.99)

From the world’s most romantic music and the greatest Christmas choral music, to more ordinary but no less important situations such as music to listen to when taking a shower, *A Soundtrack for Life* is for anyone who has ever wanted to discover more about classical music but doesn’t know where to begin. Organized by Occasion and Themes, such as upbeat, contemplative or perfect for a celebration, along with key facts and fascinating details about each piece, the book also includes music from film, TV, and musicals.

Tinniswood, Adrian. [Noble Ambitions](#)
(Basic \$32)

As the sun set slowly on the British Empire, its mansions fell and rose. Ancient families were reduced to demolishing the parts of their stately homes they could no longer afford, dukes and duchesses desperately clung to their ancestral seats, and a new class of homeowners bought their way into country life. A delicious romp, *Noble Ambitions* pulls us into these crumbling halls of power, leading us through the juiciest bits of postwar aristocratic history, from Mick Jagger dancing at deb balls to the scandals of

Princess Margaret. Capturing the spirit of the age, historian Adrian Tinniswood proves that the country house is not only an iconic symbol, but a lens through which to understand the shifting fortunes of the British elite in an era of monumental social change.

Food for Thought

America's Test Kitchen. [One-Hour Comfort](#) (America's Test Kitchen \$29.99).

Comfort provides readers with delicious dishes ranging from Columbian Arroz con Titote to Shrimp and Grits to Malted Milk Pancakes with Nutella Maple Syrup. No matter what you're in the mood for, you can count on finding meals that satisfy any sweet tooth or carb cravings alike. Plus learn how to create these crowd-pleasing recipes in no time with a variety of time-saving hacks.

[Betty Crocker Best 100](#) (HMH \$25).

Betty Crocker is 100! To celebrate a century of helping American home cooks get food on the table, Betty Crocker is sharing 100 of her best recipes that have fed and nourished every generation since 1921. Each recipe in this heirloom book is a cherished, classic favorite that's easy to make and difficult to fail, and includes a note from Betty for a closer look at the American icon. With a full range of recipes, from breads and hearty casseroles to decadent cakes and sweets, Betty's Best 100 is sure to be as treasured in your kitchen as Betty Crocker is.



Good Housekeeping. [The Best-Ever Cookie Book](#) (Hearst Home \$30).

The Good Housekeeping Test Kitchen editors provide their most delicious cookie recipes from Drop Cookies to Bars, Blondies and Brownies with a special chapter on holiday treats like Chinese Almond Cookies, Hamantaschen, Nan-e-Basenji and Coffin Sandwich Cookies.

Kalins. Dorothy. [The Kitchen Whisperers](#) (William Morrow \$26.99).

The cooking lessons that stick with us are rarely the ones we read in books or learn through blog posts or YouTube videos (depending on your generation); they're the ones we pick up as we spend time with good cooks in the kitchen. Dorothy Kalins, founding editor of *Savuer* magazine, calls the people who pass on their cooking wisdom her

Kitchen Whisperers. Consciously or not, they help make us the cooks we are and help show the way to the kind of cooks we have the potential to become. In this food memoir, Kalins shares the "kitchen whisperers" in her own life beginning with her mom and mother-in-law as well as such notable cooks as Marcella Hazan and David Tanis. "While each memory is a pleasure to savor, what resonates most is the how these stories will inspire readers to take stock and appreciate their own whisperers. Food lovers will want to devour this one slowly." (PW)

Lopez, Michelle. [Weeknight Baking](#) (Simon & Schuster \$35)

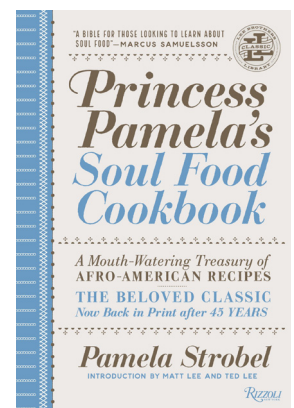
In *Weeknight Baking*, Lopez shares recipes for drool-worthy confections, along with charming stories and time-saving tips and tricks. From everyday favorites like 'Almost No Mess Shortbread' and 'Better-Than-Supernatural Fudge Brownies' to showstoppers like 'a Modern Red Velvet Cake' and 'Peanut Butter Pretzel Pie' (it's vegan!), she reveals the secrets to baking on a schedule.

[Martha Stewart's Fruit Desserts](#) (Ten Speed \$28.99)

Celebrating the fresh, vibrant flavors of fruit at its peak, this collection of 100+ recipes for crumbles, crisps, pies and more shows home cooks how to make both classic and modern treats.

Strobel. Pamela. [Princess Pamela's Soul Food Cookbook](#) (Rizzoli \$30)

Princess Pamela ruled a small realm, but her powers ranged far and wide. Her speakeasy-style restaurant in Manhattan was for three decades a hip salon, with regulars from Andy Warhol to Diana Ross. Her iconic Southern dishes influenced chefs nationwide, and her cookbook became a bible for a generation who yearned for the home cooking left behind in the Great Migration. One of the earliest books to coin soul food, this touchstone of African-American cuisine fell out of print more than forty years ago. Now it's back in a new edition with a range of tempting recipes for everything from Pork Spoon Bread to Peanut Butter Biscuits.



Tizzard, Christine. [Cook More, Waste Less](#) (Random House \$24.95)

Zero Waste Kitchen offers accessible solutions to a problem every home cook faces: waste. From grocery

shopping tips to pantry storage ideas, this book is packed with strategies to get the most out of your food, whether it's fresh or frozen, ingredients a little past their prime, or leftovers. Written by food industry professional Christine Tizzard, who offers over 100 adaptable recipes to enjoy, with plenty of flexibility for substitutions. Turn leftover broccoli and Swiss chard stems into a delicious au gratin. Use up your parmesan rinds in a soothing broth. Make a mouthwatering pot roast and turn the leftovers into a savory pie or beefy black lentil stew. Leftover rice? Rice pudding. Fruit going soft? Anything can be a marmalade. There are even ideas for face scrubs and dog treats.

Wong, Cecily and Dylan Thuras. [Gastro Obscura](#)
(Workman \$42.50)

Wonder is around every corner, and on every plate in this reference work that *PW* calls a cross between *Larousse Gastronomique* and *Ripley's Believe It or Not!*. The curious minds behind *Atlas Obscura* now turn to the hidden curiosities of food, which becomes a gateway to fascinating stories about human history, science, art, and tradition. Like the first book, this is organized by country, lavishly illustrated, and full of surprises.