

Midmonth BookNotes

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Ring in the New Year with a Bumper Crop of Great Books!

Cozy Corner

Alexander, Ellie. [Bake, Borrow, and Steal](#)
(St. Martin's \$8.99).

Pastry chef and amateur sleuth Juliet "Jules" Capshaw and her team have been tasked with creating chocolate showpieces and an Elizabethan feast for the gala opening of a museum exhibit featuring a lost Shakespeare manuscript, but before the manuscript can be unveiled it goes missing and the security guard assigned to protect it is murdered.

Black, Juneau. [Shady Hollow](#)
(Vintage \$16).

A newcomer to Shady Hollow, reporter Vera Vixen is fast on the case when a local resident – a curmudgeonly toad named Otto Sumpf - is murdered. But when her investigation exposes more than one mystery, revealing that more lives are in danger—including hers—Vera must race against time to bring a killer to justice. Beatrix Potter meets Agatha Christie in the new Shady Hollow series by Black (a pseudonym for Jocelyn Cole and Sharon Nagel), which is set in a small village where woodland creatures live in harmony (other than the occasional murder, of course).

Chien, Vivien. [Hot and Sour Suspects](#)
(St. Martin's \$8.99).

When a speed-dating contest at Ho-Lee Noodle House results in the murder of a participant, Lana Lee, piecing together the events of that night, delves into the past of this man who has too many scorned lovers and mistreated colleagues to count.

Collette, Abby. [A Killer Sundae](#)
(Berkley \$16).

Chagrin Falls, Ohio, is gorgeous in the spring, and Bronwyn Crewse, owner of Crewse Creamery, knows just how to welcome the rising temperature. At the annual Memorial Day Weekend Blossom Time Festival, residents will get a chance to ride hot-air balloons and carnival attractions, crown a new Blossom Time Queen, and eat delicious frozen treats sold at Win's freshly purchased ice cream truck. But Win gets into more than a sprinkle of trouble when a festival-goer is poisoned, and Win is implicated.

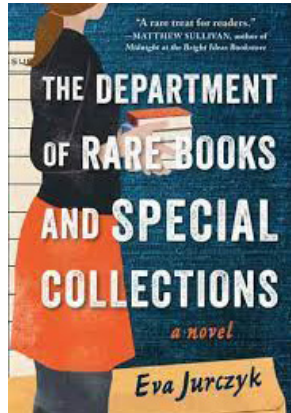
Flower, Amanda. [Crimes and Covers](#)
(Crooked Lane \$26.99).

When her wedding reception is interrupted by the sight of a dead body in the Niagara River, Charming

Books owner Violet Waverly recognizes the woman as a recent customer with a valuable book in her possession, and she sets out to solve the case.

Jurczyk, Eva. [The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections](#) (Sourcebooks \$16.99).

Liesl Weiss thought that assuming the job of director of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections after her boss Christopher Wolfe is hospitalized in a coma would have its share of challenges, but she never thought that dealing with missing literary masterpieces would be at the top of the list. However, almost immediately after Liesl returns from sabbatical to take charge at the library, she discovers the library's newest acquisition – the rare Plantin Polyglot Bible – has vanished. It soon turns out that this is not the first manuscript to go missing. Jurczyk brilliantly conjures up the both fascinating and frustrating world of rare books and special libraries with a magician's skill in this charmingly entertaining debut that at its core is not just about missing books but also about the people who curate and care for them and the secrets they keep. Adding to the reader's enjoyment is Jurczyk's deliciously dry sense of humor and the clever way in which she can turn a phrase ("the refreshments were in miniature: the anxieties were oversized"). Reminiscent of Amanda Cross's marvelous old Kate Fansler academic mysteries or the traditional puzzlers of Charles A. Goodrum, whose *Dewey Decimated* is one of the best library-set mysteries ever, *The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections* is a rare treat indeed.



Maxwell, Alyssa. [A Deadly Endowment](#) (Kensington \$26).

To bring in some much needed funds, Lady Phoebe Renshaw, despite the objections of some of her family, opens up Foxwood Hall to guided public tours. The first tour group consists of members of the Historical Society, a magazine writer, and a flock of students. But when one of the members of the tour is found dead in the library, Phoebe and her lady's maid Eva Huntford begin their hunt for the killer.

Prose, Nita. [The Maid](#) (Ballantine \$27).

When she discovers the dead body of the infamous and wealthy Charles Black in his suite, hotel maid Molly Gray finds her orderly life upended as she becomes the prime suspect in the case and is caught in a web of deception that she has no idea how to unravel. Written by a longtime editor in the publishing industry, this superb debut offers cozy fans hours of enjoyment with its uniquely endearing protagonist and intriguing setting. Adding to the book's charm is Molly's loving relationship with her late, beloved Gran, whose wise words still provide invaluable guidance to Molly as she tries to navigate a world that can be cold and confusing to someone who doesn't always fit neatly in. Fans of Nancy Atherton's Aunt Dimity series will not want to miss this marvelous mystery.

Reilly, Linda. [Up To No Gouda](#) (Sourcebooks \$8.99).

When the town bully goes after her Grilled Cheese Eatery, threatening to close her down after buying the building, and then winds up dead behind her dumpster, Carly Hale, to save her business, must prove her innocence before having a meltdown. Gooey grilled cheese sandwiches and a good mystery, who could ask for anything more?

Wingate, Marty. [The Librarian Always Rings Twice](#) (Berkley \$27).

The curator of Lady Georgiana Fowling's collection of Golden Age of Mystery writers' first editions, Hayley Burke must protect her late benefactor's legacy when a strange man arrives, claiming to be her long-lost grandson. But John Aubrey's appearance soon leads to murder and scandal, leaving Hayley no choice but to draw upon her extensive knowledge of classic mysteries to find the killer. *Kirkus* called this "fast-paced and quirky fare for literary sleuths and those who love them."

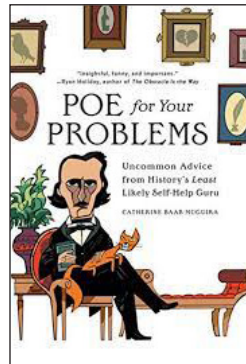
New Year, New You

The start of a new year inspires many of us to come up with resolutions to improve our lives. Whether it is to eat healthy, finally get to some of those fixer-upper projects around the house, or spend more quality time with ourselves (or those canine companions

in our lives), the books below offer a wide choice of different options when it comes to making 2022 your best year ever.

Baab-Muguira, Catherine. [Poe for Your Problems](#) (Running Press \$18).

Of all the writers anywhere, Poe might be the *least* likely person you'd ever turn to for advice. His life was a complete dumpster fire: he married his cousin; got fired from one job after another; constantly feuded with friends and rivals; *and* he was always broke. But that's also precisely the point. Though Poe failed again and again, he also persevered. Drawing deeply on his works and life, Catherine Baab-Muguira takes the familiar image of Poe in a new and surprising direction in this darkly inspiring self-help book that shows you how to use all the terrible situations, tough breaks, bad luck, and even your darkest emotions in novel and creative ways to make a name for yourself and carve out your own unique, notorious place in the world



Brown, Leanne. [Good Enough](#) (Workman \$19.95).

Brown, author of the bestselling *Good & Cheap*, acknowledges that feeding yourself is hard, and that it is almost impossible to find the energy to work for yourself when you don't think you are worth it. With these everyday recipes, she provides a reminder that it's OK to lose perfectionism and find pleasure in "good enough" cooking. "Readers who see a strong emotional component in their cooking and eating habits will find much to savor in this multifaceted approach to emotional healing." (PW)

Foster, Sutton. [Hooked](#) (Grand Central \$28).

Sutton Foster knows a thing or two about dealing with life's ups and downs. Now the award-winning Broadway and television actress discusses how cross-stitching, crocheting, painting and other craft projects kept her sane while dealing with an agoraphobic mother, a painful public divorce, and struggles with fertility.

Hunt, Heather and Josh Blaney. [Life's a Puppy Party](#) (S & S \$19.99).

Make the most of every day with your dog using this fun collection of healthy recipes, easy DIYs, and Pinterest-worthy party plans that you and your pup can enjoy together"

Kurtz, Adam J. [You Are Here For Now](#) (Perigee \$16).

From the generous and slightly jaded mind of artist Adam J. Kurtz, these pages explore mental health, identity, handling setbacks, and finding humor in the unknown—and will be a touchstone for seekers, graduates, creatives, and anyone who's trying to figure out what's next (and maybe even feel a little hopeful about it).

Paul, Pamela. [100 Things We've Lost to the Internet](#) (Crown \$27).

In one hundred glimpses of that pre-Internet world, Pamela Paul, editor of *The New York Times Book Review*, presents a captivating record, enlivened with illustrations, of the world before cyberspace—from voicemails to blind dates to punctuation to civility. There are the small losses: postcards, the blessings of an adolescence largely spared of documentation, the Rolodex, and the genuine surprises at high school reunions. But there are larger repercussions, too: weaker memories, the inability to entertain oneself, and the utter demolition of privacy.

Price, Catherine. [The Power of Fun](#) (Dial \$27).

After discovering how much free time she had after giving her cell phone a time out, Price searched for ways to now fill those moments. What she discovered is that there are two kinds of fun: "Fake Fun" and "True Fun." While Fake Fun can consist of spending way too much time on social media or binge-watching endless shows on TV, True Fun is a "confluence of playfulness, connection, and flow" that leaves you nourished and refreshed. Price chronicles her own adventures in fun including learning to row at age 40 and taking a chance on improv comedy, demonstrating to readers that whether it is a "microdose" of fun - like smiling at a stranger - or a "booster shot" of fun- like a vacation- adopting more of these fun elements into your routine can add up to a happier life.

Roth, Jasmine. [House Story](#)
(Ten Speed \$35).

The star of HGTV's *Hidden Potential* and *Help! I Wrecked My House* explains the entire home renovation process and offers simple advice, tips, tricks and step-by-step instructions to take guesswork and stress out of any home improvement project

Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Romance, and More

Abrams, Stacey. [Never Tell](#)
(St. Martins \$16.99).

Suspecting that a serial killer is roaming the streets of New Orleans, criminal psychologist Dr. Erin Abbott teams up with an investigative journalist to find the truth, but when their relationship takes a romantic turn, Erin must protect a terrible secret. Before she began writing legal thrillers and fighting for our right to vote, Stacey Abrams wrote five novels of romantic suspense as Selena Montgomery. Now her current publisher has repackaged them and is bringing them back into print beginning with *Never Tell*.

Ashley, Kristen. [The Girl in the Mist](#)
(Lightning Source \$23.99).

To escape a deranged fan, who has been kidnapping women that look like her, actress and author Delphine Larue relocates to a secure lake house in Misted Pines. But Delphine quickly discovers that the sleepy little town is about to experience its own wave of fear when a little girl goes missing, and the only one who seems capable of bringing the criminal to justice is Delphine's new neighbor: the enigmatic and sexy Cade Bohannon. The first in a new series by an author with a strong literary voice and a flair for mixing sexy romance and suspenseful thrills.



Bass, Elizabeth. [A Letter to Three Witches](#)
(Kensington \$15.95).

Forbidden to perform magic after their grandfather's spell causes a catastrophe (better known in the Unit-

ed States of America as the Dust Bowl), Gwen Engel must act fast when her cousin Trudy accidentally enchants some cupcakes, wreaking havoc on unsuspecting customers in her upstate New York bakery. At the same time, Gwen's distant cousin Tannith – the troublemaker of the “cousin coven” – leaves a letter addressed to Gwen, Trudy, and their other cousin Milo announcing that she has put a spell on one of their significant others, whom Tannith will be taking with her to New York City. Classic film fans will immediately recognize Bass's source of inspiration for this charmingly comic, paranormal flavored rom-com.

Blackburn, Lizzie Damilola. [Yikna, Where Is Your Husband?](#) (Penguin \$26).

A 30-something, Oxford-educated, British Nigerian woman with a high-paying job and good friends, Yinka Oladeji, whose aunties frequently pray for her delivery from singledom, must find a date for her cousin's wedding with the help of a spreadsheet and her best friend. *PW* loved Blackburn's “comical debut” saying it “delivers loads of entertainment and a dollop of enlightenment,” while *Kirkus* summed up their review with “a sassy, spirited story.”

Blumberg, Chandra. [Digging Up Love](#)
(Montlake \$12.95).

Alisha Blake works her magic in the kitchen, creating delectable desserts for her grandfather's restaurant in rural Illinois...Then a dinosaur bone turns up in her grandparents' backyard. When paleontologist Quentin Harris arrives to see the discovery for himself, he's hoping that the fossil will distract him from a recent painful breakup. Instead, he finds Alisha...The big-city academic and the hometown baker seem destined for a happily ever after.

Brazier, Eliza Jane. [Good Rich People](#)
(Berkley \$27).

Lyla Herschel and her husband Graham, a wealthy couple who invite successful entrepreneurs to live in their guesthouse and then conspire to ruin their life for sport, meet their match when Demi Golding, a woman who took over another person's identity, moves in. “Brazier plays delicious homage to Richard Connell's *The Most Dangerous Game* and Nathaniel West's *The Day of the Locust* as the action builds to a climatic, out-of-control 30th birthday party that involves guest in a battle of “simunition” (Real guns

but fake ammunition.) Along the way, two women – one trapped in a dead-end marriage the other in an audacious attempt to improve her social status – bond. Readers with a taste for the idiosyncratic and the macabre will find much to relish.” (PW)

Brooks, Karen. [The Good Wife of Bath](#) (William Morrow \$16.99).

In 1364 England, one of literature’s most unforgettable characters—Chaucer’s Wife of Bath—tells her story in her own words as she rises through society from a cast-off farm girl to a woman of fortune fighting to control her own life.

Cantor, Jillian. [Beautiful Little Fools](#) (Harper \$26.99).

First published in 1925, F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby* has been called the “great American novel.” In *Beautiful Little Fools*, Jillian Cantor offers her own fascinating take on this iconic book using the viewpoints of three different women: Daisy Buchanan, Jordan Baker, and Catherine McCoy.

All three ladies are potential suspects in the murder of millionaire Jay Gatsby, who was found shot to death in the swimming pool of his estate in West Egg, N.Y. Detective Frank Charles’ only clue is a diamond hairpin left at the scene of the crime, but to which woman did it belong? Cantor’s flair for nuanced characterization

shines in this compelling historical novel as she deftly illuminates the lives and loves of this trio of women and how each of their paths intersected with that of the enigmatic Gatsby. From the book’s impeccably realized historical setting to the elegant ease of Cantor’s writing, everything about this dazzlingly original take on a classic is spot-on.

Chamberlain, Diane. [The Last House on the Street](#) (St. Martins \$27.99).

Recently widowed, architect Kayla Carter moves into her new home in Round Hill where she is faced with threatening notes and a neighbor who is harboring long-buried secrets about the dark history of the land on which her house was built. “Chamberlain delivers

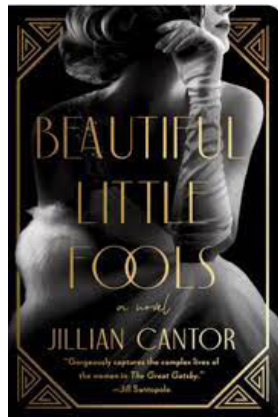
the goods with this affecting and spellbinding account of a community’s buried secrets.” (PW)

Chan, Jessamine and Catherine Ho. [The School for Good Mothers](#) (Simon and Schuster \$27).

After one moment of poor judgment involving her daughter Harriet, Frida Liu falls victim to a host of government officials who will determine if she is a candidate for a Big Brother-like institution that measures the success or failure of a mother’s devotion. This dystopian debut, written by a former reviews editor at *Publishers Weekly* with an MFA from Columbia, is getting a big push not to mention racking up an impressive number of glowing reviews including one from *Kirkus*, which ended with “If this doesn’t become a miniseries, nothing will. An enthralling dystopian drama that makes complex points about parenting with depth and feeling,” and *PW* itself which said “Chan’s imaginative flourishes render the mothers’ vulnerability to social pressures and governmental whims nightmarish and palpable. It’s a powerful story, made more so by its empathetic and complicated heroine.” While *The New York Times Review of Books* summed up their account with “Jessamine Chan’s infuriatingly timely debut novel takes this widely accepted armchair quarterbacking of motherhood and ratchets it up to the level of a surveillance state — one that may read more like a preview than a dystopia, depending on your faith in the future of *Roe v. Wade*...chilling...clever.”

Collins, Anna E. [Love at First Spite](#) (Graydon House \$15.99).

They say living well is the best revenge. But sometimes, spreading the misery seems a whole lot more satisfying. That’s interior designer Dani Porter’s justification for buying the vacant lot next to her ex-fiancé’s house...the house they were supposed to live in together, before he cheated on her with their Realtor. Dani plans to build a vacation rental that will a) mess with his view and his peace of mind and b) prove that Dani is not someone to be stepped on. Welcome to project Spite House. That plan quickly becomes complicated when Dani is forced to team up with Wyatt Montego, the handsome, haughty architect at her firm, and the only person available to draw up blueprints. Wyatt is terse and stern, the kind of man who eats his sandwich with a knife and fork. But as they spend time together on- and off-site, Dani glimpses something deeper beneath that hard veneer, something surpris-



ing, vulnerable, and real. And the closer she gets to her goal, the more she wonders if winning revenge could mean losing something infinitely sweeter

Dave, Laura. [The Divorce Party](#) (Penguin \$17).

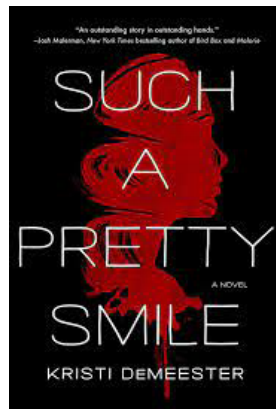
Set in Hamptons high society, *The Divorce Party* features two women—one newly engaged and one at the end of her marriage—trying to answer the same question: when should you fight to save a relationship, and when should you let go? An insightful and funny multi-generational story, this deeply moving novel is sure to touch anyone whose heart has weathered an unexpected storm.

De Cadenet, Gia. [Getting His Game Back](#) (Dell \$17).

Feeling like his old self after a rough patch of depression and therapy, barbershop owner Khalil Sarda meets customer Vanessa Noble who thought she was too busy building a multimillion-dollar tech company to be distracted by a relationship.

DeMeester, Kristi. [Such a Pretty Smile](#) (St. Martins \$27.99).

There's something out there that's killing. Known only as The Cur, he leaves no traces, save for the torn bodies of girls, on the verge of becoming women, who are known as trouble-makers; those who refuse to conform, to know their place. Girls who don't know when to shut up. Now Lila Sawyer and her mother Caroline, both of whom are hiding secrets from their past, find they must confront and destroy the source of this malignant evil before it can do any more harm.



Donnelly, Lara Elena. [Base Notes](#) (Thomas and Mercer \$15.95).

In New York City everybody needs a side hustle, and perfumer Vic Fowler has developed a delicate art that has proved to be very lucrative: creating bespoke scents that evoke immersive memories – memories that for Vic's clients are worth killing for. When one of Vic's clients with deep pockets offers him the opportunity to grow his business, the money is too good

to turn down. Manipulating fellow struggling artists into acting as accomplices is easy, but as relationships become more complicated, Vic's carefully plotted scheme starts to unravel. Each chapter in this inventive suspense novel opens with perfume notes that hint at what is to come.

Eaton, Ellie. [The Divines](#) (William Morrow \$27.99).

Piecing together memories from her teen years at an elite English boarding school, Josephine gradually exposes a violent secret explaining why the once-prestigious institution abruptly closed in disgrace. Think of this as another entry in the trending academic-set suspense novels in the manner of Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*.

Giovinazzo, Diana. [Antoinette's Sister](#) (Grand Central \$28).

Engaged to King Ferdinand IV of Naples after his intended contracts smallpox and dies, Charlotte, the sister of Marie Antoinette, tries to navigate her new country, home and court in the time of political uprisings and royal executions. "Giovinazzo vividly depicts a formidable monarch from a turbulent era of European history. This sprawling tale of power, intrigue, and ambition is a winner." (PW)

Gonzalez, Vochiti. [Olga Dies Dreaming](#) (Flatiron \$27.99).

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, Olga Acevedo, the tony wedding planner for Manhattan's power brokers, must confront the effects of long-held family secrets when she falls in love with Matteo, while other family members must weather their own storms. *Kirkus* called this "Atmospheric, intelligent, and well informed: an impressive debut." While *The New York Times Review of Books* said "Liberation is at the heart of *Olga Dies Dreaming*. The story's driving tension derives from questions of how to break free: from a mother's manipulations, from shame, from pride indistinguishable from fear, from the traumatic burden of abandonment, from colonial oppression, from corrosive greed."

Greenburg, Alison Rose. [Bad Luck Bridesmaid](#) (St. Martins \$16.99).

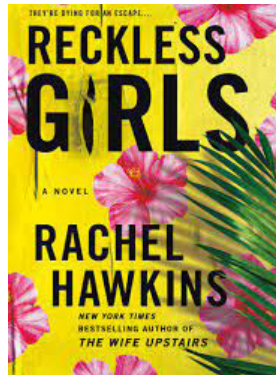
Determined to turn her luck around, Zoey Marks, a cursed bridesmaid, agrees again to stand up for her

best friend, Hannah, who is marrying a man she just met at a castle in Ireland. *PW* summed up with “This multilayered, skillfully plotted novel won’t be for all romance fans, but it’s still a celebration of love in all its forms,” while *Kirkus* ended their starred review with “an unconventional love story for independent women.”

Hawkins, Rachel. [Reckless Girls](#)

(St. Martins \$27.99).

When they arrive at Meroe Island, a remote island paradise in the South Pacific that has a mysterious past of shipwrecks, cannibalism and murder, six people find their dream vacation turning into a nightmare when history starts repeating itself. *Kirkus* concluded their starred review of Hawkins’s latest with “Evocative prose and a palpably foreboding atmosphere complement Lux’s present-tense narration, which Hawkins studs with flashbacks exposing the secrets, lies, and betrayals that brought each character to this point. Danger and interpersonal drama abound, with a slew of outrageous twists adding to the fun.” *PW* summed up their equally glowing review with “A diabolically plotted nail-biter.” Honestly, the publisher had me at the get-go when they called this a “South Seas gothic.”



Kelk, Lindsey. [On a Night Like This](#)

(HarperCollins \$15.99).

The PA to an internationally famous singer, Fran Cooper has to gatecrash the Crystal Ball, a glittering event on a beautiful Italian island, where she meets handsome American Evan Carden on this magical night who changes her life forever. “Kelk serves up humor, heart, and a satisfying happily-ever-after, with a bonus peek into the lifestyles of the rich and famous” in this twist on Cinderella.

Kelly, Anita. [Love & Other Disasters](#)

(Forever \$15.99).

While competing on a popular cooking show, Dahlia Woodson stirs up trouble when she gets involved with a nonbinary contestant, and as their relationship heats up both in and out of the kitchen, she wonders

if they have the right ingredients for a happily ever after. In this superbly written debut, Kelly writes with grace, empathy, and wit about the challenges of being true to oneself in a world where many people are not willing to accept someone, who doesn’t fit neatly into their preconceived notions of gender.

Layne, Lauren. [Made in Manhattan](#)

(Gallery \$16.99).

Tasked with teaching a denim-loving Cain Stone, who is on track to inherit his family’s company, how to fit in with New York City’s black-tie elite, Manhattan socialite Violet Townsend learns that blindly following society’s rules doesn’t lead to happiness—and that sometimes the best things in life come from the most unexpected places. Layne switches up the genders in *My Fair Lady* in her latest sparkling romantic comedy.

Maher, Kerri. [The Paris Bookseller](#)

(Berkley \$26).

Opening her Shakespeare and Company bookstore on a quiet street in 1919 Paris, American Sylvia Beach finds her business becoming a second home for some of the most important writers of the Lost Generation until the Depression causes her to question her promise to honor the life-changing impact of books

Matthews, Mimi. [The Siren of Sussex](#)

(Berkley \$16).

Fashion and horseback riding are Evelyn Maltravers two passions in life. Dressed in a stylish riding ensemble, Evelyn plans on demonstrating her riding prowess along London’s Rotten Row thus attracting the attention of society and hopefully in the process securing a suitable marriage proposal for herself. All Evelyn needs is the right riding habit, and Evelyn believes half-Indian tailor Ahmad Malik can create exactly the type of outfit she needs. Matthews deftly draws upon her extensive knowledge of the Victorian era (she has written nonfiction books on both Victorian fashion and the role of pets in the 18th and 19th century) in creating the vividly evoked setting for her latest impeccably written historical romance.



May, Nikki. [Wahala](#)
(HarperCollins \$27.99).

When charismatic Isobel explodes into their close-knit group, at first seemingly bringing out the best in each woman, Boo, Simi and Ronke, three Anglo-Nigerian best friends, find their close friendship starting to crack as this lethally glamorous woman wreaks havoc on their lives. Not since Carrie, Miranda, Charlotte, and Samantha dished the dirt in *Sex in the City* has there been such an unforgettable posse of gals than those of May's incisive and exhilarating debut.

Newman, Jay. [Undermoney](#)
(Scribner \$28.99).

When a U.S. airdrop of billions of dollars disappears in the desert sands of Syria, only a small group of military operatives knows its ultimate destination or why it has been stolen. Their goal is no less than the restoration of America's geopolitical dominance on the global stage. Essential to this scheme are Greta Webb, a sophisticated CIA operative who is an expert on dark money, not to mention lethally skilled in hand-to-hand combat, and Elias Vicker, the damaged, dangerous soul who runs the world's largest hedge fund. Newman draws upon four decades' worth of experience in international finance for his debut thriller.

Robert, Katee. [Electric Idol](#)
(Sourcebooks \$14.99).

When her family executed a coup that dethroned Zeus himself, Psyche knew she was in trouble, but she wasn't prepared for Aphrodite to demand her literal heart as payment. Or for Aphrodite's gorgeous son to be the one determined to strike the blow. Robert puts her own contemporary twist on Greek mythology with another "steamy, fast-paced story that will have new and old readers alike turning the pages as quickly as possible." (*PW*)

Robinson, Shauna. [Must Love Books](#)
(Sourcebooks \$16.99).

When Nora Hughes landed an editorial assistant position at Parsons Press, it was her first step towards The Dream Job. But after five years of lunch orders, finicky authors, and per my last emails, Nora has come to one grand conclusion: Dream Jobs do not exist. With her life spiraling and the Parsons staff

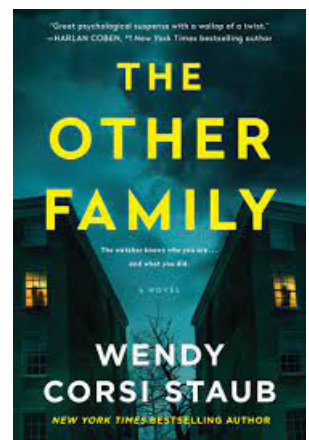
sinking, Nora gets hit with even worse news. Parsons is cutting her already unlivable salary. Unable to afford her rent and without even the novels she once loved as a comfort, Nora decides to moonlight for a rival publisher to make ends meet...and maybe poach some Parsons' authors along the way. But when Andrew Santos, a bestselling Parsons author no one can afford to lose is thrown into the mix, Nora has to decide where her loyalties lie. Her new Dream Job, ever-optimistic Andrew, or...herself and her future.

Solomon, Rachel Lynn. [Weather Girl](#)
(Berkley \$16).

In the aftermath of a disastrous holiday party, TV meteorologist Ari Abrams and sports reporter Russell Barringer team up to solve their bosses' relationship issues, but their well-meaning meddling backfires when real chemistry builds between them. *Kirkus* gave Solomon's latest the star treatment saying "The forecast predicts a 100% chance of heartfelt rom-com charm;" while *PW* concluded their starred review with "Solomon writes real characters with real problems without ever sacrificing fun."

Staub, Wendy Corsi. [The Other Family](#)
(William Morrow \$16.99).

As California transplants making a fresh start in Brooklyn, Nora Howell and her family expected to live in a shoebox, but the brownstone has a huge kitchen, lots of light, and a backyard. The catch: its previous residents were victims of a grisly triple homicide that remain unsolved. Soon, peculiar things begin happening. The family's pug is nosing around like a bloodhound. Nora unearths a long-hidden rusty box in the flowerbed. Oldest daughter Stacey, obsessed with the family murdered in their house, pokes into the bloody past and becomes convinced that a stranger is watching the house. She's right. But one of the Howells will recognize his face. Because one of them has a secret that will blindside the others with a truth that lies shockingly close to home—and to this one's terrifying history.



Sullivan, Sophie. [How to Love Your Neighbor](#) (St. Martins \$16.99).

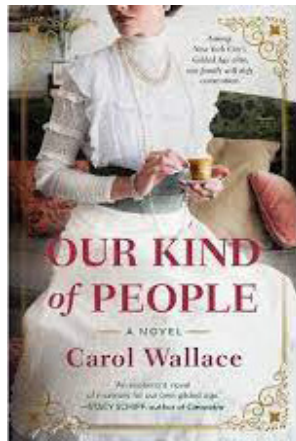
Struggling interior design student Grace Travis welcomes the opportunity to live in and fix up an adorable little beach house left to her by her grandparents. But Grace soon bumps heads with Noah Jansen, the real estate developer next door who has set his sights on the adjacent property as the first step in his plan to break away from his father's financial control.

Tan, Sue Lynn. [Daughter of the Moon Goddess](#) (HarperCollins \$27.99).

A captivating debut fantasy inspired by the legend of the Chinese moon goddess, Chang'e, in which a young woman's quest to free her mother pits her against the most powerful immortal in the realm and sets her on a dangerous path—where choices come with deadly consequences, and she risks losing more than her heart.

Wallace, Carol. [Our Kind of People](#) (Putnam \$17).

Helen Wilcox has one desire: to successfully launch her daughters into society. While from the upper crust herself, Helen's unconventional--if happy--marriage has made the girls' social position precarious. Then her husband gambles the family fortunes on an elevated railroad that he claims will transform the face of the city and the way the people of New York live, but will it ruin the Wilcoxes first? As daughters Jemima and Alice navigate the rise and fall of their family--each is forced to re-examine who she is, and even who she is meant to love. Wallace is the author of *To Marry an English Lord* (one of the literary inspirations for *Downton Abbey*), and her latest historical novel "does full justice to the era's conventions, and her characters' attempts to navigate social and technological change are recognizably and deliciously modern." (*PW*)



Wibberley, Emily and Austin Siegemund-Broka. [The Roughest Draft](#)(Berkley \$16).

Forced to reunite as they face crossroads in their personal and professional lives, best-selling authors Katrina Freeling and Nathan Van Huysen must work through the reasons they've hated each other for the past three years while writing a romantic novel that pushes them closer together in the Florida heat.

Teen Fiction

Barker, Kathryn. [Waking Romeo](#) (Flatiron \$18.99).

In 2083, eighteen-year-old Jules Capulet is still reeling from the end of her romance with Romeo--which left him in a coma and her a social outcast--when Heathcliff Ellis arrives from another time, on a mission to revive Romeo and possibly rewrite the future in this spectacularly genre-bending retelling of Romeo & Juliet that asks big questions about true love, fate, and time travel.

Blake, Kendare. [In Every Generation](#) (Disney-Hyperion \$18.99).

Frankie Rosenberg wasn't yet alive when her mom, Willow, her aunt Buffy, and the original Scooby Gang destroyed the Hellmouth and saved the world from the First Evil. These days, life in New Sunnydale is blissfully quiet. Frankie is just trying to survive her sophomore year at the rebuilt high school and use her budding magical powers to make the world a better place.

But that world is suddenly plunged into danger when the slayer community is the target of a deadly attack, leaving the future of the line uncertain. Now despite the many challenges standing in her way, Frankie must assemble her own bumbling Scooby Gang, get dressed up in Buffy's (vintage '90s) clothes, and become a new slayer for a new generation—before whatever came for the rest of the slayers comes for her next.

Cohen, Jennieke. [My Fine Fellow](#) (HarperCollins \$17.99).

It's 1830s England, and Culinaricians—doyens who consult with society's elite to create gorgeous food and confections—are the crème de la crème of high

society. Helena Higgins, top of her class at the Royal Academy, has a sharp demeanor and an even sharper palate—and knows stardom awaits her if she can produce greatness in her final year. Penelope Pickering is going to prove the value of non-European cuisine to all of England. Elijah Little has nothing to his name but a truly excellent instinct for flavors. When Penelope and Helena meet Elijah, a golden opportunity arises: to pull off a project never seen before, and turn Elijah from a street vendor to a gentleman chef. But Elijah's transformation will have a greater impact on this trio than they originally realize.

Hur, June. [The Red Palace](#)
(Feiwel & Friends \$18.99).

Hyeon, a palace nurse, and Eojin, a royal investigator, team up to look into a pattern of grisly murders when the Crown Prince becomes the prime suspect in this romantic YA historical mystery, which is set in 1758 in the Korean kingdom of Joseon and is loosely based on the life of Crown Prince Jangheon.

Vedder, Leslie. [The Bone Spindle](#)
(Razorbill \$18.99).

When she pricks her finger on a bone spindle, treasure hunter Filore Nenroa is stuck with the spirit of Briar Rose, a prince under a sleeping curse, and must team up with a tough-as-dirt girl huntswoman Shane to free the prince—and herself. The publisher is marketing this gender-flipped, fairytale inspired novel as *Sleeping Beauty* meets *Indiana Jones*.

Williams, Kathryn. [The Storyteller](#)
(HarperCollins \$17.99).

After discovering a hidden trove of her late great-great-aunt Anna's diaries written in Russian, Jess Morgan convinces Russian college major Evan to help translate them. What they discover is a family link to the long-lost princess Anastasia, who escaped Russia in 1918. But as Jess digs deeper into Anna's past, she discovers there is an even bigger truth to be revealed that has to do with her own life and her plans for the future.

Zepka, Brian. [The Temperature of Me and You](#)
(Disney-Hyperion \$17.99).

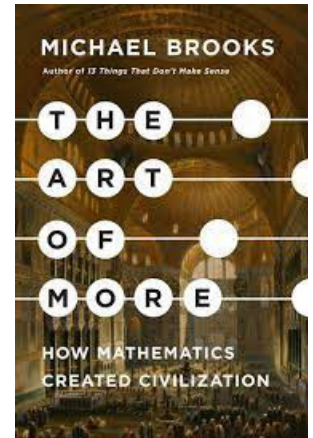
Sixteen-year-old Dylan Highmark that it was going to be boring working shifts at the Dairy Queen until he meets super-hot Jordan. After getting to know

Jordan, Dylan quickly discovers that the attraction between them defies the laws of physics, and that love may be the only thing that can keep them together.

Nonfiction

Brooks, Michael. [The Art of More](#)
(Pantheon \$28).

Counting is not innate to our nature, and without education humans can rarely count past three—beyond that, it's just “more.” But once harnessed by our ancestors, the power of numbers allowed humanity to flourish in ways that continue to lead to discoveries and enrich our lives today. Brooks delivers an illuminating, millennia-spanning history of the impact mathematics has had on the world, and the fascinating people who have mastered its inherent power, from Babylonian tax officials to the Apollo astronauts to the eccentric professor who invented the infrastructure of the online world.



Bushman, David with Mark T. Givens. [Murder at Teal's Pond](#) (Thomas & Mercer \$15.95).

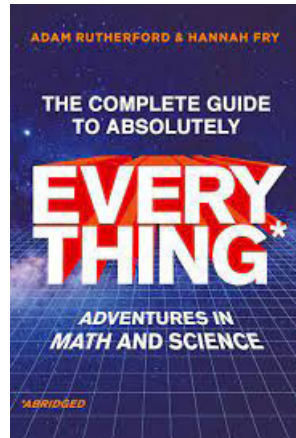
In 1908, Hazel Drew was found floating in a pond in Sand Lake, New York, beaten to death. The unsolved murder inspired rumors, speculation, ghost stories, and, almost a century later, the phenomenon of *Twin Peaks*. Who killed Hazel Drew? Like Laura Palmer, she was a paradox of personalities—a young, beautiful puzzle with secrets. Perhaps the even trickier question is, who *was* Hazel Drew? In this enthralling true crime account, the authors attempt to reinvestigate the crime and reconstruct Hazel's life in order to find the answer to who killed her.

Hughes, Evan. [The Hard Sell](#)
(Doubleday \$28.95).

National Magazine Award finalist Hughes draws upon unprecedented access to John Kapoor, founder of Insys Therapeutics, to tell the tale of this entrepreneurial upstart who made millions selling painkillers until whistleblowers put him at the center of a landmark criminal trial.

Rutherford, Adam and Hannah Fry. [The Complete Guide to Absolutely Everything*](#) (WW Norton \$24).

Geneticist Rutherford and mathematician Fry guide readers through time and space, through our bodies and brains, showing how emotions shape our view of reality, how our minds tell us lies, and why mankind begins poking at the fabric of the universe. Topics explored include where did time come from? Do we have free will? Does my dog love me? Hilarious sidebars present memorable scientific oddities: for example, hypnotized snails and human-sized ants.



Shapiro, Susan. [The Book Bible](#) (Skyhorse \$14.99).

Hundreds of thousands of books come out every year worldwide. So why not yours? In *The Book Bible*, *New York Times* bestseller and Manhattan writing professor Shapiro reveals the best and fastest ways to break into a mainstream publishing house. Unlike most writing manuals that stick to only one genre, Shapiro maps out the rules of all the sought-after, sellable categories: novels, memoirs, biography, how-to, essay collections, anthologies, humor, mystery, crime, poetry, picture books, young adult and middle grade, fiction and nonfiction. After selling books in sixteen different categories, Shapiro uses her own experiences to explain the differences in making each kind of book, as well as ways to find the right genre for every project and how to craft a winning proposal or great cover letter to get a top agent and book editor to say yes.

Shields, Charles J. [Lorraine Hansberry](#) (Henry Holt \$29.99).

Written when she was just twenty-eight, Lorraine Hansberry's landmark *A Raisin in the Sun* is listed by the National Theatre as one of the hundred most significant works of the twentieth century. Hansberry was the first Black woman to have a play performed on Broadway, and the first Black and youngest American playwright to win a New York Critics' Circle Award,

Charles J. Shields's authoritative biography of one of the twentieth century's most admired playwrights examines the parts of Lorraine Hansberry's life that have escaped public knowledge: the influence of her upper-class background, her fight for peace and nuclear disarmament, the reason why she embraced Communism during the Cold War, and her dependence on her white husband—her best friend, critic, and promoter.