

Midmonth BookNotes

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Spring into Good Reading

Cozy Corner

Bateman, Daisy. [A Dismal Harvest](#)

(Seventh Street Books \$17.95)

Witty and down-to-earth Claudia Simcoe is sure that the gourmet harvest dinner being held at her artisan marketplace will wipe away any memories of the unpleasantness last summer. Not to mention give her a chance to figure out the bewildering relationship budding with her craft-beer-brewing neighbor, Nathan. But rather than dealing with carefully curated food and cautious flirting, Claudia finds herself thrown into the center of a murder investigation when a secret compartment in her market is tied to the death of a local lawyer.

Black, Juneau. [Cold Clay](#)

(Knopf \$16)

It's autumn in Shady Hollow, and residents are looking forward to harvest feasts. But then a rabbit discovers a grisly crop: the bones of a moose. Soon, the owner of Joe's Mug is dragged out of the coffeeshop and questioned by the police about the night his wife walked out of his life—and Shady Hollow—forever. It seems like an open-and-shut case, but dogged reporter Vera Vixen doesn't believe gentle Joe is a killer. She'll do anything to prove his innocence ... even if it means digging into secrets her neighbors would rather leave

buried. Black introduced her whimsical cozy series starring Vera Vixen with [Shady Hollow](#) (Knopf \$16).

Delany, Vicki. [Deadly Director's Cut](#)

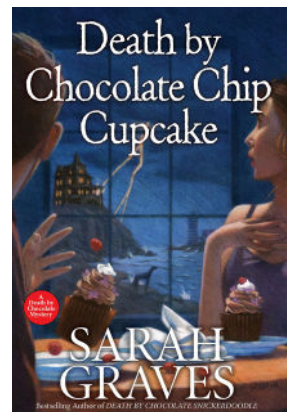
(Berkley \$8.99)

Catskills resort manager Elizabeth Grady investigates after a famously antagonistic director chooses her hotel as a shooting location and winds up poisoned at dinner. With this follow up to [Deadly Summer Nights](#) (Berkley, \$7.99) Delany's "deft touch with characterization, plenty of suspects, and a nostalgic look at the Catskills in the 1950s add up to a fun read." (*Kirkus*)

Graves, Sarah. [Death by Chocolate Chip Cupcake](#)

(Kensington \$26)

Jacobia "Jake" Tiptree and Ellie White, owners of the Chocolate Moose Bakery, are hired to cater a glamorous retired film star's housewarming party in what is rumored to be Eastport Maine's most haunted house. But when the two witness one of the guests being shoved off a nearby cliff, Jake and Ellie find themselves, once again, involved in another murder investigation.



London, Margaret. [Peril on the Page](#)
(Berkley \$8.99)

Penelope Parish, The Open Book's writer-in-residence, is ready to close the book on her amateur sleuthing-from now on and will be sticking to villains of the fictional variety while she puts the final touches on her new novel. But when an author is murdered inside the bookshop, all of Upper Chumley-on-Stoke goes on high alert. Now it's up to Pen and the quirky citizens of Chumley to stop a killer and protect the charming British town she's begun to call home.

Meier, Leslie. [Easter Bonnet Murder](#)
(Kensington \$26)

Lucy Stone can't fathom how Agnes Neal could go missing from assisted living over a silly Easter bonnet contest, or why few seem concerned as signs point to foul play. A retired journalist with an independent mind, Agnes had an eye for details and little interest in conforming to catty cliques or rules set by her caretakers—traits that threatened some and angered others. When the police investigation stalls, Lucy must hop to it and discover what happened to Agnes—before her own story becomes another springtime tragedy left unsolved.

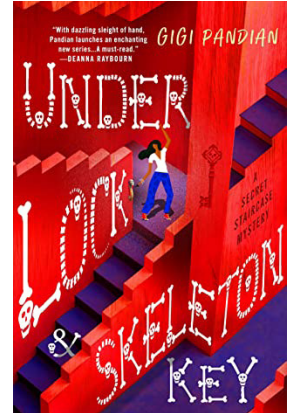
Moss, Korina. [Cheddar Off Dead](#)
(St. Martin's \$8.99)

Cheesemonger Willa Bauer is proving sweet dreams are made of cheese. She opened her very own French-inspired cheese shop, Curds & Whey, in the heart of the Sonoma Valley. The small town of Yarrow Glen is Willa's career fresh start, and she is determined to make it a success—starting with a visit from the local food critic. What Willa doesn't know is that this critic never gives a good review. Willa doesn't think the night can go any worse...until she finds the critic's dead body, stabbed with one of her shop's cheese knives. A tasty and tempting debut.

Pandian, Gigi. [Under Lock & Skeleton Key](#)
(St. Martin's \$26.99)

After a disastrous accident derails Tempest Raj's magic career, and her life, she heads back to her childhood home in California to comfort herself with her grandfather's Indian home-cooked meals. Though she resists, every day brings her closer to the inevitable: working for her father's company. Secret Staircase Construction, which specializes in transforming clients' homes with sliding bookcases,

intricate locks, backyard treehouses, and hidden reading nooks. When Tempest visits her dad's latest renovation project, her former stage double is discovered dead inside a wall that's supposedly been sealed for more than a century. Fearing she was the intended victim, it's up to Tempest to solve this seemingly impossible crime. Award-winning Pandian launches her new A Secret Staircase series on a high note with a wonderfully quirky cast of characters, and ingeniously clever plot, and some lovely shout-outs to classic mystery authors and their books.



St. Anthony, Joyce. [Front Page Murder](#)
(Crooked Lane \$26.99)

While trying to run her father's newspaper while he is off working in the Pacific as a war correspondent, new editor-in-chief Irene Ingram investigates the death of one of her crime reporters, who was chasing down a story about a Jewish shop owner in their small Pennsylvania town of Progress, who received a threatening anti-Semitic message from a stranger. In this fun new series debut set in 1942, "St. Anthony splendidly evokes the era through such details as the town's victory garden and Woolworth's lunch counter as she highlights the impact of the war on traditional women's roles. Fans of Jacqueline Winspear will want to see more of the talented and intelligent Irene." (PW) I would add that anyone who also loved Carolyn Hart's WWII-set *A Letter from Home*, will not want to miss this equally engaging cozy.

Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Romance and More

Alpsten, Ellen. [The Tsarina's Daughter](#)
(St. Martin's \$30.99)

After receiving a Delphic prophecy, Tsarevna Elizabeth fears for her freedom and her life, and only her true love can help her as she calls upon all of her courage and cunning to prove herself worthy to sit on the throne of Peter the Great. "Alpsten impresses with the second volume of her trilogy (following *Tsarina*), focusing on Elizabeth Petrovna Romanova,

daughter of Tsar Peter the Great and Catherine I, who ruled Russia from 1741 until her death in 1762.” (PW)

Ashcroft, Jenny. [Under the Golden Sun](#)
(St. Martin’s \$27.99)

After replying to a job advertisement requesting someone who can escort an orphaned young child to Australia, Rose Hamilton shepherds Walter Lucknow from England to Australia, where he has inherited a cattle station. But the relatives currently in charge of the station until Walter gains his majority, seem less than welcoming, leaving Rose with a difficult decision to make: should she go back home to England or stay and see that young charge remains safe? “Ashcroft enlivens the plot with an expertly crafted set of characters. For fans of WWII-era historicals, this will hit the spot.” (PW)

Bailey, Tessa. [Hook, Line, and Sinker](#)
(HarperCollins \$15.99)

King crab fisherman Fox Thornton has a reputation as a sexy, carefree flirt. Everyone knows he’s a guaranteed good time-in bed and out-and that’s exactly how he prefers it. Until he meets Hannah Bellinger. Hannah’s in town for work, crashing in Fox’s spare bedroom. She knows he’s a notorious ladies’ man, but they’re definitely just friends. In fact, she’s nursing a hopeless crush on a colleague and Fox is just the person to help with her lackluster love life. Armed with a few tips from Westport’s resident Casanova, Hannah sets out to catch her coworker’s eye... yet the more time she spends with Fox, the more she wants him instead.

Barr, Lisa. [Woman on Fire](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

Tasked with locating a painting called *Women on Fire* stolen by the Nazis more than 75 years earlier, rising young journalist Jules Roth teams up with the artist’s grandson to find it before a cunning gallerist, who usually gets everything she wants, gets her hands on the painting.

Cockram, Jane. [The Way from Here](#)
(HarperCollins \$27.99)

Growing up, the Anderson sisters could not have been more different. Susie, the wild one, had an adventurous life while Camilla--Mills--followed a safer path. When Susie suddenly dies, Mills falls apart. Until she receives a bundle of mysterious letters from

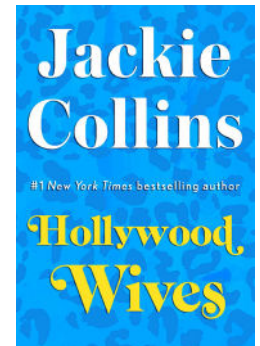
her estranged sister. Each letter instructs Mills to visit a place special to Susie, both to spread her ashes but also to uncover some truths Susie has long kept hidden from her family.

Colgan, Jenny. [Welcome to the School by the Sea](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

At Downey House, a charming English boarding school on the sea, new teacher Maggie is determined to make her mark, but Maggie’s new job soon jeopardizes her relationship with her safe, dependable boyfriend, even as she is trying to find a workable solution for the problem of new student Simone trying to fit in and fellow student Fliss trying to get out of the school.

Collins, Jackie. [Hollywood Wives](#)
(Pocket \$9.99)

They lunch at LA’s hottest restaurants and feast on hotter gossip. They cruise Rodeo Drive in their Mercedes and Rolls, turning shopping at Giorgio and Gucci into an art form. They pursue the body beautiful at the Workout and Body Asylum. Dressed by St. Laurent and Galanos, they dine on the rise and fall of one another’s fortunes. They’re sensuous and jaded, corrupt and beautiful. They’re Hollywood wives, and they hold the keys to the kingdom. Back in print, this iconic glitz and glam book by Collins was her first to hit it big on the best-seller lists (I remember at the time the reserve list at the library where I worked was insanely long). I think PW’s review of it at the time brilliantly sums up this ultimate, beach book. “In the star-studded publishing cosmos of gossipy fiction, Collins orbits securely between the likes of Dominick Dunne and Danielle Steel. With fashions provided by Rodeo Drive and catering by Mister Chow’s, this is Collins at her ultra-celeb, super-accessorized, bestselling best.”



Deeds, Marion. [Comeuppance Served Cold](#)
(Tom Doherty \$16.99)

In a magical version of 1929 Seattle, a notorious thief attempts a delicate and dangerous job while a widowed speakeasy owner seeks revenge for her murdered husband and tries to keep her shape-shifter brother safe. PW called this a “captivating noir fantasy.”

Dollar, Trish. [The Suite Spot](#)

(St. Martin's \$16.99)

Moving across the country to Kelleys Island on Lake Erie for a manager position at a brewery, single mother Rachel Beck instead finds a handsome, moody man named Mason, who offers her the chance to help build a hotel – and rebuild her own life – from the ground up

Eddings, Mazey. [A Brush with Love](#)

(St. Martin's \$16.99)

While anxiously awaiting placement into a top oral surgery residency program, Harper doesn't have time to be any more than "just friends" with an adorable dental student, whose interest in her threatens to unravel her carefully ordered life.

Elliot, Amanda. [Sadie on a Plate](#)

(Berkley \$16)

Landing a coveted spot on her favorite TV show, chef Sadie Brooke Rosen, a rising star in the trendy Seattle restaurant scene, arrives in NYC and has a spontaneous one-night fling, or she thought was a one-night thing, with fellow contestant Luke Weston. However, when Sadie arrives on set, she gets the surprise of her life when she discovers Luke is not a contestant but the show's new judge.

Fu, Melissa. [Peach Blossom Spring](#)

(Little, Brown \$28)

Settling in America years after his turbulent childhood in China, Renshu, now Henry Dao, refuses to talk to his daughter about their family's heritage in an attempt to keep her safe in their new homeland. But Henry soon discovers that those who do not know their history can be doomed to repeat it. Fu thoughtfully "plumbs the immigrant experience, illuminating a key slice of Chinese history from Japan's invasion to Mao's rise." (*Kirkus*)



Garrett, Kellye. [Like a Sister](#)

(Little, Brown \$28)

When the death of her half-sister Desiree, a disgraced reality TV star, is ruled an overdose, Lena Scott knows that can't be the case and becomes determined to

find justice for Desiree, even if means unraveling her family's darkest secrets—or ending up dead herself.

"The writing is sharp, the commentary wry, and Lena is irresistible: "I'd never wanted to see a cop more in my twenty-eight years of being Black." Come for the not-so-bad whodunit, stay for the whip-smart, heart-hurt, very entertaining heroine." (*Kirkus*)

Gorcheva-Newberry, Krstina. [The Orchard](#)

(Random House \$28)

Loosely based on Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*, this novel follows four teenagers who grow inseparable as the Soviet Empire collapses, resulting in a tragedy still felt years later by Anna, who returns to Russia from America to finally face her past.

Harvey, Kristy Woodson. [The Wedding Veil](#)

(Gallery \$27)

This sweeping new novel by Harvey follows four extraordinary women across two generations, bound by a beautiful wedding veil and a connection to the Vanderbilt legacy that changes their lives—and history as they know it.

Heron, Farah. [Kamila Knows Best](#)

(Grand Central \$15.99)

Kamila Hussain is so busy managing her friends' love lives, she's hardly given any thought to her *own*. Fortunately, Kamila has Rohan Nasser. A longtime friend of the family, he's hugely successful, with the deliciously lean, firm body of a rock climber. Only lately, Kamila's "harmless flirting" with Rohan is making her insides do a little bhangra dance. But between planning the local shelter's puppy prom, throwing a huge work event, and proving to everyone that she's got it all figured out, Kamila isn't letting herself get distracted—until her secret nemesis returns to town with an eye for Rohan. Heron's clever take on *Emma* is fun for both Austenites and anyone who loved *Clueless*.

Hill, Edwin. [The Secrets We Share](#)

(Kensington \$26)

Two very different sisters, Glenn and Natalie, haunted by the murder of their father 20 years earlier, find the past rushing back when Glenn, a rising star in the baking world, begins receiving ominous messages that could be linked to the events of that night long ago. "Hill keeps the clock ticking and the twists coming right up to the shocking conclusion. Suburban thriller fans will be well satisfied." (*PW*)

Holton, India. [The League of Gentlewomen Witches](#)
(Berkley \$16)

The future leader of the League of Gentlewoman witches, Miss Charlotte Pettifer must team up with rogue pirate Alex O’Riley, who is definitely no Mr. Darcy, to stop the long-lost amulet of Black Beryl from falling into the wrong hands—while at the same time desperately trying to keep her heart under lock and key. “The whimsical worldbuilding forms a perfect backdrop to the angsty couple, and Holton’s winking narration, which puts her in cahoots with the reader, makes her exaggerated characters work. Overflowing with heart, humor, and hyperbole, this clever romance enchants.” (PW)

Hooper, Elise. [Angels of the Pacific](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

Tess Abbott, an American Army nurse, has fled the hardships of the Great Depression at home for the glamour and adventure of Manila, one of the most desirable postings in the world. But everything changes when the Japanese Army invades, and Tess is captured as a prisoner of war pushing her to team up with a Filipina university student and resistance member to fight back and save lives. A thrilling historical novel of hope and courage inspired by the extraordinary true stories of World War II’s American Army nurses famously known as the Angels of Bataan.

Hubscher, Libby. [If You Ask Me](#)
(Penguin \$16)

Discovering her husband has been cheating on her, North Carolina advice columnist Violet Covington, who pens *Dear Sweetie*, not only vents her frustrations about her wayward spouse in print, but she winds up going viral for burning his belongings in a late-night bonfire that attracts the attention of a smoking-hot firefighter named Dez.

Jio, Sarah. [With Love, From London](#)
(Random \$17)

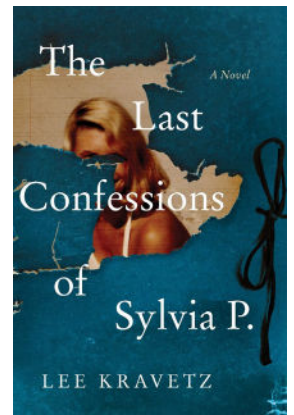
After unexpectedly inheriting a flat and a bookshop in London from her mother Eloise, who abandoned her and her father years ago, Valentina Baker slowly begins to piece together her mother’s life via a scavenger hunt left behind for her while at the same time trying to keep the Book Garden from closing its doors forever. Jio’s latest is a lovely and heartfelt paean to maternal bonds and the power of books in our lives.

Kate, Laruen. [By Any Other Name](#)
(Penguin \$16)

With a successful career as a romance editor, and an engagement to a man who checks off all ninety-nine boxes on her carefully curated list, Lanie’s more than good. She’s killing it. Then she’s given the opportunity of a lifetime: to work with world-renowned author and her biggest inspiration in love and life—the Noa Callaway. All Lanie has to do is cure Noa’s writer’s block and she’ll get the promotion she’s always dreamed of. Simple, right? But there’s a reason no one has ever seen or spoken to the mysterious Noa Callaway. And that reason will rock Lanie’s world. It will call into question everything she thought she knew.

Kravetz, Lee. [The Last Confessions of Sylvia P.](#)
(HarperCollins \$25.99)

Bridging fact and fiction to imagine the life of a revered writer, this literary novel follows a seasoned curator for a small auction house who makes an astonishing find—the original manuscript of Sylvia Plath’s novel *The Bell Jar*—and discovers that she is connected to Plath’s legacy in an unexpected way. “An elegantly written novel for lovers of poetry and literary history.” (Kirkus)

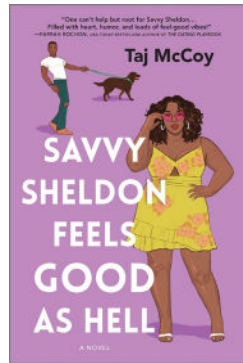


May, Francesca. [Wild and Wicked Things](#)
(Orbit \$28)

On Crow Island, people whispered, real magic lurked just below the surface, but Annie Mason never expected her enigmatic new neighbor to be a witch. When she witnesses a confrontation between her best friend Bea and the infamous Emmeline Delacroix at one of Emmeline’s extravagantly illicit parties, she is drawn into a glittering, haunted world. A world where magic can buy what money cannot; a world where the consequence of a forbidden blood bargain might be death “May’s debut fantasy novel, a tale of secrets, lies, and mistakenly raising the dead, will keep readers guessing and turning pages to the very end. Highly recommended for lovers of dark, witchy fantasy, especially those seeking read-alikes of Alix Harrow’s *The Once and Future Witches* or Katherine Howe’s *The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane*. (LJ)

McCoy, Taj. [Savvy Sheldon Feels Good As Hell](#)
(MIRA \$15.99)

While renovating her house and her life, Savvy Sheldon finds things going not as planned and soon realizes that she should have started her renovation the other way around, beginning with how she sees and loves herself before she can love someone else. *Kirkus* called this a “feel-good debut,” and I couldn’t agree more. Not only does Savvy learn (as so many of us have during these tumultuous last few years) the importance of self-care; she is backed up a wonderful support system composed of her ride-or-die friends and her loving family. Throw in some mouthwatering descriptions of the dishes Savvy whips up in her kitchen for her new love interest, and you have a truly fun and empowering book.



McMillan, Rachel. [The Mozart Code](#)
(Thomas Nelson \$16.99)

Infiltrating the world of relics to uncover viral information that could change the course of the mounting Cold War, Lady Sophia Huntington Villiers is tasked with finding Mozart’s death mask, but Sophia soon wonders if there is more than the composer’s legacy at stake as she hunts for the truth about the Mozart Code. “McMillan’s vivid descriptions of a postwar Vienna add allure to the simmering, romantic mystery. Readers will be riveted from the very first page.” (*PW*)

Mueller, Sara A. [The Bone Orchard](#)
(Tom Doherty \$26.99)

In this intriguingly different debut, the last in a line of conquered necromantic workers, now confined within the yard of the regrown bone trees at Orchard House, Charm, a witch, prisoner, survivor and the Emperor’s mistress, is the only person who can keep an empire together as she fights for her freedom.

Myers, Adele. [The Tobacco Wives](#)
(HarperCollins \$27.99)

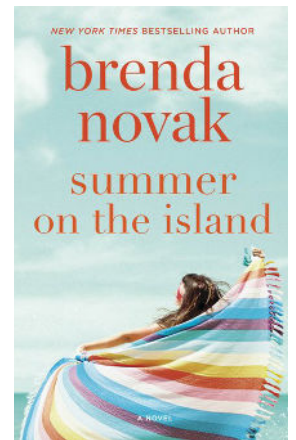
In 1946 North Carolina, seamstress Maddie Sykes, a dressmaker for Bright Leaf’s most influential women—the wives of powerful tobacco executives—uncovers dangerous truths about this lucrative industry. But will anyone listen to Maddie in a place where everyone depends on Big Tobacco’s financial largesse

to survive? “Myers makes a sparkling debut with a coming-of-age tale about the limited opportunities available to the women of a tobacco town.

The ending comes a bit too abruptly, but the fabulous fashion descriptions and Maddie’s unwavering determination more than make up for it. Historical fiction fans will be pleased.” (*PW*)

Novak, Brenda. [Summer on the Island](#)
(MIRA \$28.99)

After the death of her US senator father, Marlow Madsen travels to the small island off the coast of Florida where she spent summers growing up to help her mother settle the family estate. For Marlow, the trip is a chance to reconnect after too long apart. It’s also the perfect escape to help her feel grounded again—one she’s happy to share with friends Aida and Claire,. But the three women soon discover that their summer together is going be more than just one of sun, sand, and secrets. It is going to provide each of them with the opportunity to chart a new course in life. “Novak doesn’t shy away from the messiness of her characters’ emotions, making for a powerful story of forgiveness, acceptance, and redemption.



The realistically flawed characters, believable drama, and scenic setting make this unputdownable.” (*PW*)

Painter, Lynn. [Mr. Wrong Number](#)
(Penguin \$16)

When he discovers that Olivia, his best friend’s sister, is the mysterious woman he’s been sort of sexting for weeks, Colin Beck must decide whether to turn the heat up or ghost her before things get messy. Painter’s publisher is billing this hilarious and steamy rom-com as *New Girl* meets *Trainwreck*.

Probst, Jennifer. [The Secret Love Letters of Olivia Moretti](#)
(Berkley \$16)

Priscilla, Devon, and Bailey haven’t been close in years, but when the sisters are forced to come together to settle their mother’s estate, they discover a secret. In an old trunk, they happen upon ownership papers for a house on the Amalfi Coast, along with a

love letter to their mother from an anonymous man, promising to meet her in Italy during the summer of her sixty-fifth birthday. Now they're questioning everything they knew about her history. In order to get answers about the woman they thought they knew, they'll have to go back to where it all started. The sisters embark on a trip to the stunning cliffside village of Positano, Italy, to track down the mysterious ex-lover, and figure out who their mother really was.

Riley, Vanessa. [A Duke, the Spy, and Artist and a Lie](#) (Kensington \$15.95)

For adventurous Jamaican heiress Cecilia Thomas, marrying charming military lieutenant Lord Gantry to save him from danger—and herself from mercenary suitors—was a painful mistake. Instead of a passionate life together, she's stranded at his chilly Mayfair mansion with his unaccepting family. Worse, she finds he is actually a spy dedicated to duty over wedlock—and secrets over trust. So when she hears her sister has been driven to her death, Cecilia is determined to expose the powerful man responsible. Assisted by The Widow's Grace, she flees to Covent Garden with a new identity. But can she elude her formidable husband—even as the desire between them continues to flare even hotter?

Segura, Alex. [Secret Identity](#) (Flatiron \$27.99)

In 1975, when the comic book industry is struggling, Carmen Valdes, an assistant at Triumph Comics, finds things taking a strange turn when she helps colleague create a new female character—the first female superhero—a project that leads to murder and plunges her into a dangerous world of secrets and resentments. "Segura's book works on so many levels, it's almost hard to keep track—as a love letter to comic books, it's as powerful as anything since Michael Chabon's *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay* (2000). And as a thriller, it's smart, perfectly paced, and wonderfully atmospheric—Segura captures the intense, grimy milieu of 1970s New York with aplomb. You don't have to be a comics fan to love this novel; it's a masterful book filled with real heart and soul. A triumph." (*Kirkus*)

Serle, Rebecca. [One Italian Summer](#) (Atria \$27)

Still reeling from her mother's death, Carol embarks on their mother-daughter trip to Positano, Italy, alone, where she encounters her mother in the flesh

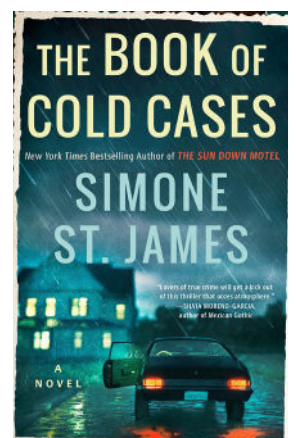
only at 30 years old. Now Carol must reconcile her memories of the mother who knew everything with this young woman who does not yet have a clue. "An unconventional love story that embraces people's flaws and selfishness as part of what makes them human." (*Kirkus*)

Sharma, Nisha. [Dating Dr. Dil](#) (HarperCollins \$15.99)

Kareena Mann dreams of having a perfect love story like her parents did. That's why on the morning of her thirtieth birthday, she's decided to suit up and enter the dating arena. When her widowed father announces he's retiring and selling their home after her sister's engagement party, Kareena makes a deal with him. If she can find her soulmate by the date of the party, he'll gift her the house, and she'll be able to keep her mother's legacy alive. Dr. Prem Verma doesn't have time for romance, which is why it's no surprise when his first meeting with Kareena goes awry. Their second encounter is worse when their on-air debate about love goes viral. Now Prem's largest community center donor is backing out because Prem's reputation as a heart-health expert is at risk. To get back in his donor's good graces, he needs to fix his image fast, and dating Kareena is his only option. A fun reimagination of the *Taming of the Shrew*.

St. James, Simone. [The Book of Cold Cases](#) (Berkley \$27)

Forty years ago in the small town of Claire Lake, Oregon, two men, seemingly randomly, were brutally murdered. Evidence was later found in what became dubbed "the Lady Killer Murders" that pointed to rich, eccentric twenty-three-year-old resident Beth Greer as the cold-blooded killer, but she was acquitted and then went into a state of reclusiveness, living alone in her family's mansion. Forty years later, Shea Collins, who works as a medical receptionist by day but whose passion in life is her true crime website—the Book of Cold Cases—unexpectedly encounters Beth in her employer's office, and on a whim asks Beth if she can interview her. Much to her surprise, Beth agrees to meet with Shea. But is Shea



about to uncover the truth about what happened decades ago, or has she made a date with a murderer? No one does spooky suspense better than St. James, and her latest deft blend of intriguing mystery, supernatural-tinged horror, and a dash of romance is guaranteed to have you reading way past your regular bedtime. Just remember to keep a light or two turned on after you go to sleep!

Strawser, Jessica. [The Next Thing You Know](#)
(St. Martin's \$27.99)

Taking a younger man's case, which is unique and tragic, Nova Husson, an end-of-life doula, is determined to show singer-songwriter Mayson Shaylor that there is life, even as death approaches, while dealing with her own inner turmoil. The author's publisher is billing this as *A Star is Born* meets *Me Before You*. So, stock up on Kleenex before you start reading this!

Swanson, Peter. [Nine Lives](#)
(HarperCollins \$27.99)

When nine people, including FBI agent Jessica Winslow, receive a cryptic list with their names on it, they dismiss it as a joke, until bad things start happening, prompting Jessica to find the link that binds them all together to expose a murderous madman. Swanson is playing with his version of one of Agatha Christie's famous mysteries. It just may not be the one you initially think it is.

Walsh, Rosie. [The Love of My Life](#)
(Penguin \$28)

When Emma suffers a serious illness, her husband Leo, an obituary writer, unravels her dark past, and she must somehow prove to him that she really is the woman he married, but first, she must tell him about the other love of her life. "A propulsive thriller with heart that will keep readers guessing." (*Kirkus*)

Ward, Annie. [The Lying Club](#)
(Park Row \$16.99)

Their fates bound by an elite private school's handsome, charming assistant athletic director, three very different women, after the unimaginable happens, find jealousy between mothers and daughters, rival lovers and the haves and have-nots tearing apart their lives and their affluent town.

Ward, Catriona. [Sundial](#)
(Tom Doherty \$26.99)

When a frightening accident in her home reveals a disturbing discovery in her oldest daughter's bedroom, Rob is forced to make one last trip out to Sundial, her parent's property in the wild Mojave Desert where dark secrets are buried. "With this masterful horror novel, Ward (*The Last House on Needless Street*) weaves a seething, hallucinatory tale of family, death, and hereditary trauma that will keep readers guessing all the way to the devastating conclusion." (*PW*)

White, Karen. [The Shop on Royal Street](#)
(Penguin \$27)

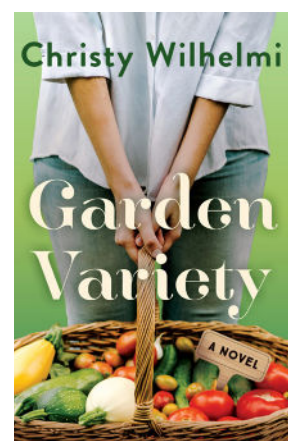
Plagued by ghosts while fixing up her new house in New Orleans, Nola Trenholm turns to an old friend, who can communicate with ghosts, and soon discovers he is connected to the unsolved murder of a woman, who once lived in the old Creole cottage. A new spin-off of White's *New York Times* best-selling Tradd Street books.

Wilde, Lori. [The Lighthouse on Moonglow Bay](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

Harper and Flannery might be sisters but they weren't exactly best friends. For years, Flannery had held down the home front in Moonglow Cove, taking care of their sick mother and raising a daughter, while Harper sent nothing but checks. And after their mother's funeral the two sisters had an argument that left them not speaking for six years—why, Harper didn't even know she has a niece! But life has a way of changing when you least expect it when a grandmother they never knew leaves them a lighthouse!

Wilhelmi, Christy. [Garden Variety](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

Each time Lizzie steps through the gates of the Vista Mar Community Gardens, she knows she's left the chaos of the outside world behind. Here, the rows are even, tools are properly stored, and each season brings new life. But even the shiniest apple can hide a worm, and behind the leafy green façade there is hidden heartbreak, tomato



hornworms, and inter-garden political powerplays. And to make things worse—a long forgotten loophole enacted by a nasty neighbor brings the outside world crashing in. The members are feuding, Lizzie's budding romance is wilting on the vine, and the very existence of Vista Mar is threatened. Can Lizzie and her fellow gardeners fight to save their urban oasis while they struggle to stay grounded in this chaotic city?

Williams, Sheila. [Things Past Telling](#)
(HarperCollins \$25.99)

Recalling the last 100-plus years of her triumphant and tumultuous life, Maryam Prescilla Grace – a.k.a. Momma Grace - shares how her midwifery skills allowed her to sometimes transcend the racial and class barriers of her enslavement and how in the process, she never lost her sense of self.

Teen Fiction

Chee, Traci. [A Thousand Steps into Night](#)
(HMH \$18.99)

When Otori Miuko is cursed and begins to transform into a demon with a deadly touch, she embarks on a quest to reverse the curse only to find she must now decide if saving her soul is worth returning to her ordinary existence. *PW* called National Book Award finalist Chee's latest, which is inspired by Japanese mythology, a "lavish, swiftly paced quest narrative."



de la Cruz, Melissa. [Cinder & Glass](#)
(Penguin \$18.99)

In 1682 France, Cendrillion, to escape her wicked stepmother, must compete with the other women at court for the Prince's favor, forcing her to decide if she can bear losing the boy she loves in order to leave a life she hates. *Kirkus* called this "an intriguing historical twist on a beloved fairy tale."

Ehrlich, Brenna. [Killing Time](#)
(Inkyard Press \$18.99)

When her favorite teacher is murdered, true-crime obsessed teenager Natalie Temple launches her own

investigation with the help of a new boy in town, but the two new partners soon discovers some secrets were never meant to be told.

England, Remi K. [The One True Me and You](#)
(St. Martin's \$18.99)

Fanfic author Kay and beauty pageant contestant Teagan learn what it means to be--and to stand up for--yourself when they find love at a small fandom convention.

Huerta, Lizz. [The Lost Dreamer](#)
(Farrar Straus and Giroux \$18.99)

In an ancient Mesoamerican world, Indir, a Dreamer able to see beyond reality, must carefully guard her secrets from the new king, who plans to see the Dreamers destroyed, while Saya, a seer, risks everything to find the truth about her gifts.

Khorram, Adib. [Kiss & Tell](#)
(Dial \$18.99)

On boy band Kiss & Tell's first major tour, lead singer Hunter Drake grapples with a painful breakup with his first boyfriend, his first rebound, and the stress of what it means to be queer in the public eye.

Lin, Judy I. [A Magic Steeped in Poison](#)
(Feiwei & Friends \$18.99)

To save her sister's life, Ning, a young tea-maker, enters a competition to win a favor from the princess, but soon finds herself the one in danger when she is faced with backstabbing competitors, bloody court politics and a mysterious boy with a shocking secret.

Olson, Jessica S. [A Forgery of Roses](#)
(Inkyard Press \$19.99)

Myra is a portrait artist whose paintings alter people's bodies. Guarding that secret is the only way to keep her younger sister safe now that their parents are gone. But one frigid night, the governor's wife discovers the truth and threatens to expose Myra if she does not complete a special portrait that would resurrect the governor's dead son. Once she arrives at the legendary stone mansion, however, it becomes clear the boy's death was no accident. A killer stalks these halls—one disturbingly obsessed with portrait magic. Desperate to get out of the manor as quickly as possible, Myra turns to the governor's older son for help completing the painting before the secret she spent her life concealing makes her the killer's next victim.

Peterson, J.C. [Being Mary Bennet](#)
(HarperCollins \$17.99)

For Marnie Barnes, realizing she's a Mary Bennet is devastating. But she's determined to reinvent herself, so she enlists the help of her bubbly roommate and opens up to the world.

And between new friends, a very cute boy, and a rescue pup named Sir Pat, Marnie finds herself on a path to becoming a new person entirely. But she's no Lizzy, or even Mary—instead, she's someone even better: just plain Marnie.

Saft, Allison. [A Far Wilder Magic](#)
(St. Martin's \$18.99)

Sharpshooter Margaret Welty and alchemical apprentice Weston Winters form an unlikely team competing for glory in a magical fox hunt during which Margaret hopes to lure her mother home while Wes needs the prize money from the competition to support both his family and his political aspirations.

Children's Books

Denise, Christopher. [Knight Owl](#)
(Little, Brown \$17.99)

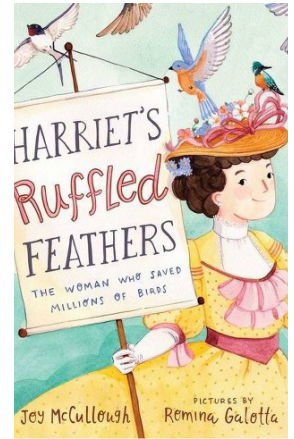
Since the day he hatched, Owl dreamed of becoming a real knight. He may not be the biggest or the strongest, but his sharp nocturnal instincts can help protect the castle, especially since many knights have recently gone missing. While holding guard during Knight Night Watch, Owl is faced with the ultimate trial—a frightening intruder. It's a daunting duel by any measure. But what Owl lacks in size, he makes up for in good ideas. *Kirkus* called this delightful picture book "A charming blend of whimsy and medieval heroism highlighting the triumph of brains over brawn."

Maguire, Gregory. [Cress Watercress](#)
(Candlewick \$19.99)

Moving with her family to a basement unit of a run-down apartment oak when Papa doesn't come home one night, Cress wonders if a dead tree full of annoying neighbors, and no Papa, will ever be a place to call home. The author of the best-selling *Wicked* now delivers a whimsical and wonderful new children's novel that "channels multiple children's literary golden ages, with allusions to Beatrix Potter and Kenneth Grahame alongside nonsense notes of Norton Juster and Russell Hoban." (*PW*)

McCullough, Joy. [Harriet's Ruffled Feathers](#)
(Atheneum \$17.99)

Harriet Lawrence Hemenway loved hats. She loved them with ribbons and flowers, embroidery and pearls. And feathers! What was better than a hat with grand, glorious feathers? But then Harriet discovered that millions of birds died so that she and her friends could soar at the height of style. A passion for fashion was one thing, but this was feather-brained! So Harriet led the charge to take feathers out of fashion, getting laws passed that made it illegal to buy or sell wild bird feathers. In 1896, she and her fellow bird protectors founded the Massachusetts Audubon Society, which grew into a national organization that still protects birds today!



Food

Allen, Darina. [Forgotten Skills of Cooking](#)
(Octopus Books \$49.99)

In this much-needed book, Darina Allen, who runs the world-renowned cookery school at Ballymaloe in Ireland, instructs readers with the cooking skills that might have missed a generation or two in their families. Chapters include 'Dairy', 'Hens and Eggs', 'Bread' and 'Preserving', and forgotten processes such as curing bacon and making yogurt and butter are explained in the simplest terms. The delicious recipes show you how to use your homemade produce to its best, and include ideas for using forgotten cuts of meat, baking bread and cakes and even eating food from the wild.

America's Test Kitchen. [The Savory Baker](#)
(America's Test Kitchen \$35)

Baking is about a lot more than just desserts. This unique collection, one of the few to focus solely on the savory side of baking, explores a multitude of flavor possibilities. Get inspired by creative twists like gochujang-filled puff pastry pinwheels or feta-studded dill-zucchini bread. And sample traditional baked goods from around the world, from Chinese lop cheung bao to Brazilian pão de queijo.

Anderson, Robert Tuesley. [Jane Austen's Table](#)
(Thunder Bay \$19.99)

This beautiful collection of more than 50 recipes inspired by the novels of Jane Austen brings readers a sumptuous array of dishes that capture all the spirit and verve of Austen's world and the Regency era, adapted and reimaged for the modern day. With recipes such as Charles Bingley's White Soup, Box Hill Picnic Pies, General Tilney's Hot Chocolate, and Donwell Abbey Strawberry and Rose Delice, you'll be able to serve breakfast, prepare tea, go on a picnic, or sit down for a posh dinner in the same style as your favorite characters from Austen's stories.

Delaney, Emily. [Around the Board](#)
(Alpha \$24.99)

With a chapter for Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall, you'll learn to make nearly 50 creative, delicious boards that capitalize on the flavors and festivities of the season. Complete with suggested flavor and beverage pairings, styling tips, ingredient profiles, and more, *Around the Board* is your guide to year-round entertaining.

Lopez-Alt, J. Kenji. [The Wok](#)
(WW Norton \$50)

Lopez-Alt, author of *The Food Lab*, focuses on what he considers to be the most versatile pan in the kitchen: the wok. Not only does Lopez-Alt show home cooks how to master the mechanics of stir-fry, but he illustrates how useful the wok can be for a variety of other dishes through more than 200 recipes.

Tosi, Christina. [Dessert Can Save the World](#)
(Harmony \$26)

The two-time James Beard Award winning chef shares her personal stories and passion for desserts and examines how the combination of sugar, flour and butter can help mark milestones in our lives and provide lasting memories of joy.

Nonfiction

Avlon, John. [Lincoln and the Fight for Peace](#)
(Simon & Schuster \$30)

This groundbreaking history by a CNN journalist shows how Abraham Lincoln's plan to secure a just and lasting peace after the Civil War inspired future presidents as well as the world's most famous peace-

makers, including Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Galloway, Stephen. [Truly, Madly](#)
(Grand Central \$30)

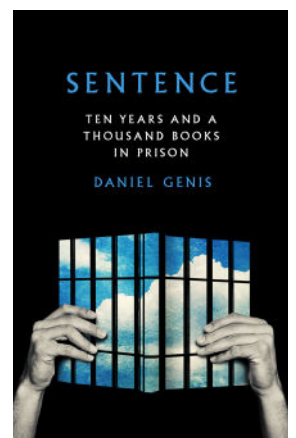
Drawing on new research, interviews with family and friends, and a groundbreaking exploration of Vivien Leigh's battle with mental illness, Galloway, the executive editor of *The Hollywood Reporter*, studies the tempestuous marriage of Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier as they struggled with love, loss and the ultimate agony of their parting.

Fleming, Candace. [Murder Among Friends](#)
(Random House \$19.99)

In 1924, eighteen-year-old college students Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb made a decision: they would commit the perfect crime by kidnapping and murdering a child they both knew. But they made one crucial error: as they were disposing of the body of young Bobby Franks, whom they had bludgeoned to death, Nathan's eyeglasses fell from his jacket pocket. Multi-award-winning author Candace Fleming depicts every twist and turn of this harrowing case--how two wealthy, brilliant young men planned and committed what became known as the crime of the century (and which became the inspiration for Alfred Hitchcock's movie *Rope*), how they were caught, why they confessed, and how the renowned criminal defense attorney Clarence Darrow enabled them to avoid the death penalty.

Genis, Daniel. [Sentence](#)
(Viking \$28)

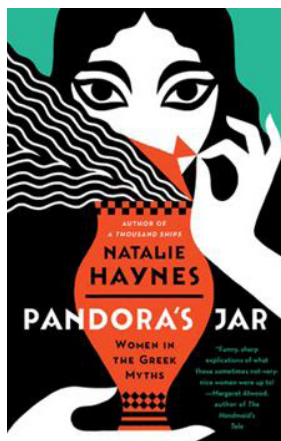
In 2003 Daniel Genis, the son of a famous Soviet émigré writer, broadcaster, and culture critic, was fresh out of NYU when he faced a serious heroin addiction that led him into debt and ultimately crime. After he was arrested for robbing people at knifepoint, he was nicknamed the "Apologetic Bandit" in the press, given his habit of expressing regret to his victims as he took their cash. He was sentenced to twelve years—ten with good behavior, a decade he survived by reading 1,046 books, taking up weightlift-



ing, having philosophical discussions with his fellow inmates, working at a series of prison jobs, and in general observing an existence for which nothing in his life had prepared him. Written with empathy and wit, *Sentence* is a strikingly powerful memoir of the brutalities of prison and how one man survived them, leaving its walls with this book inside him, “one made of pain and fear and laughter and lots of other books.”

Haynes, Natalie. [*Pandora's Jar*](#)
(HarperCollins \$17.99)

The tellers of Greek myths—historically men—have routinely sidelined the female characters. When they do take a larger role, women are often portrayed as monstrous, vengeful or just plain evil—like Pandora, the woman of eternal scorn and damnation whose curiosity is tasked with causing all the world's suffering and wickedness when she opened that forbidden box. But, as Natalie Haynes reveals, in ancient Greek myths there was no box. It was a jar . . . which is far more likely to tip over. In *Pandora's Jar*, the broadcaster, writer, stand-up comedian, and passionate classicist turns the tables, putting the women of the Greek myths on an equal footing with the men. With wit, humor, and savvy, Haynes revolutionizes our understanding of epic poems, stories, and plays, resurrecting them from a woman's perspective and tracing the origins of their mythic female characters



Hendy, David. [*The BBC*](#)
(Public Affairs \$38)

A former BBC producer—an expert in broadcasting and cultural history who has privileged access to previously unused behind-the-scenes resources—tells the 100-year history of the oldest national public broadcaster in the world for which millions of viewers and listeners use as their constant source of information, comfort and entertainment.

Katz, Evan Ross. [*Into Every Generation a Slayer Is Born*](#) (Hachette \$29)

Over the course of its seven-year run, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* cultivated a loyal fandom and fea-

tured a strong, complex female lead, at a time when such a character was a rarity. Evan Ross Katz explores the show's cultural relevance through a book that is part oral history, part celebration, and part memoir of a personal fandom that decades later, still has universal resonance.

Kleon, Austin. [*Steal Like an Artist 10th Anniversary Ed.*](#) (Workman \$24.95)

Ten years after its initial publication, the message of *Steal Like an Artist* remains powerful: embrace influence, follow interests wherever they take us, forget old clichés like writing about what you know—instead, write the book that you want to read, make the movie you want to watch. And above all, find the space you need to be wild and daring in your imagination and your work. This 10th anniversary edition includes a new afterword by the author, discussing the book's influence and how “stealing” has been misunderstood, and offering a unique, personal perspective on a book that's touched so many.

Rappaport, Helen. [*After the Romanovs*](#)
(St. Martin's \$29.99)

The best-selling author of *The Romanov Sisters* looks at the Russian aristocrats, artists and intellectuals who sought refuge in Paris in the wake of the brutal Bolshevik revolution. Rappaport chronicles the colorful adventures of everyone from the writers, composers, and artists who shook up the Parisian creative world with their efforts to the noblemen and noblewoman, who ended up driving taxis and working as seamstresses.