

Midmonth BookNotes

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A Bounty of Books

Cozy Corner

Atherton, Nancy. [Aunt Dimity and the Enchanted Cottage](#) (Penguin \$26)

In the twenty-fifth installment of the bestselling Aunt Dimity series, when an inscrutable newcomer arrives in Finch, Lori Shepherd, a self-described “friend, neighbor, gossip-monger par excellence and community volunteer” and her confidante, the late Dimity Westwood, are determined to befriend him--and in the process they discover Finch’s own heart-wrenching past.

Berry, Tamara. [Buried in a Good Book](#) (Sourcebooks \$8.99)

Bestselling thriller writer Tess Harrow is almost at the end of her rope when she arrives with her teenage daughter at her grandfather’s rustic cabin in the woods. She hopes this will be a time for them to heal and bond after Tess’s recent divorce, but they’ve barely made it through the door when an explosion shakes the cabin. Suddenly it’s raining fish guts and... is that a human arm? “Whimsy meets woodsy” in this start to a new series by Berry.

Besette, Alicia. [Smile Beach Murder](#) (Penguin \$26)

Callie Padget, a former reporter-turned-bookshop clerk in the Outer Banks, is drawn into a mystery involving a deadly fall at a lighthouse that could be

linked to her past. In the launch to her new series, “Besette offers everything a cozy lover could possibly want: a charming setting with a host of quirky natives, a bookstore with a cat, a lighthouse, and a hunky potential boyfriend. With any luck, the appealing Callie will be back soon.” (PW)

Carcattera, Lorenzo. [Nonna Maria and the Case of the Missing Bride](#) (Random \$27)

On Ischia, an island in the Gulf of Naples, Nonna Maria, who knows everyone’s business, helps a recently engaged woman disappear while she investigates the true nature of the woman’s betrothed since Captain Murino of the carabinieri is occupied with the death of a tour boat captain. “All the nice people involved are rewarded with happy endings. Italophiles wishing for a brief vacation in charming and clever company will revel in this love letter to Ischia.” (PW)



Duncan, Emmeline. [Double Shot Death](#) (Kensington \$15.95)

At Campathon, the festivities begin with a stream of customers, friends, and acquaintances stopping by for Ground Rules’ world-class blends, expertly brewed by Sage Caplin and her newest barista. But

there are tensions between Maya and her former bandmates, who are on the cusp of making it big, and with Ian, the band's manager. When Sage stumbles upon Ian's dead body in the nearby woods—his hand still clutching one of her coffee mugs—it's clear that someone's grudge boiled over into murder. Can Sage work out who's responsible before another innocent life fades out, and the curtain falls on Campathon, and maybe her own future, for good?

Mentink, Dana. [A Sprinkle in Time](#)
(Sourcebooks \$8.99)

While preparing for her sweet upcoming feature in *The Scoop* magazine, Shimmy and Shake Shop owner Trinidad Jones must deal with her Papa Luis, who, setting himself up as a taxi driver in his classic 1951 Buick, finds a body in his trunk, which then disappears.

Nagendra, Harini. [The Bangalore Detective's Club](#)
(Pegasus \$26.95)

When clever, headstrong Kaveri moves to Bangalore to marry handsome young doctor Ramu, she's resigned herself to a quiet life. But that all changes the night of the party at the Century Club, where she escapes to the garden for some peace and quiet--and instead spots an uninvited guest in the shadows. Half an hour later, the party turns into a murder scene. When a vulnerable woman is connected to the crime, Kaveri becomes determined to save her, and she soon finds that sleuthing in a sari isn't as hard as it seems when you have a talent for mathematics, a head for logic, and a doctor for a husband.

Polito, Frank Anthony. [Renovated to Death](#)
(Kensington \$15.95)

Just as they are about to start filming the renovation of twin brothers Terry and Tom Cash's local Tudor, real-life domestic partners and stars of a new reality TV show Peter and JP discover Tom Cash dead and must chip away at the clues to catch a killer. *HGTV* meets *Murder She Wrote* in this fun launch of Polito's new series.

Popp, Misha. [Magic, Lies, and Deadly Pies](#)
(Crooked Lane \$26.99)

Preparing for the statewide pie contest, which could help wronged women everywhere, Daisy Ellery, whose pies have the magical ability to avenge women done wrong by men, finds herself in a sticky situation when a blackmailer threatens to reveal her true calling to the world. "An exciting debut that has you

rooting for a morally conflicted witch while salivating over her pies." (*Kirkus*)

Thorogood, Robert. [The Marlow Club Murder](#)
(Sourcebooks \$16.99)

After witnessing a murder while out for a swim in the Thames river, 77-year-old Judith Potts, when the police don't believe her story, investigates for herself with the help of a salt-of-the-earth dog walker and the prim and proper wife of the local vicar, forming the Marlow Murder Club.

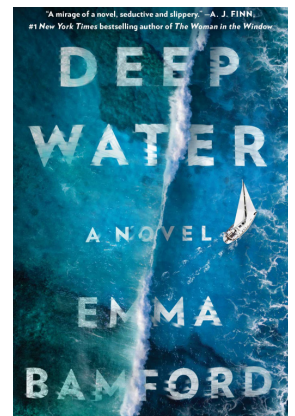
Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Romance and More

Alexander, T.J. [Chef's Kiss](#)
(Atria \$17)

A high-strung pastry chef's professional goals are interrupted by an unexpected career transition and the introduction of her wildly attractive nonbinary kitchen manager in this baked to perfection 'rom-com that manages to both subvert and embrace the tropes it's working with, and the result is one of the most intricate and satisfying queer romances in years. Fans of Casey McQuiston will be wowed." (*PW*)

Bamford, Emma. [Deep Water](#)
(Gallery \$28)

Responding to a rescue call in the Indian Ocean, a Captain discovers a mortally injured man and his traumatized wife who describes how their exotic trip to a tiny, remote island forced her to become a murderer. Freelance journalist Bamford's debut is getting a big push from her publisher as well as garnering a number of starred reviews including one from *PW*, which concluded with "This suspenseful high seas adventure moves briskly, delivering evocative, tense scenes on and under the water. Thriller fans will eagerly await Bamford's next."



Banerjee Divakaruni, Chita. [The Last Queen](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

A commoner elevated to royalty, Queen Jindan, when her husband dies, leaving her 6-year-old son to in-

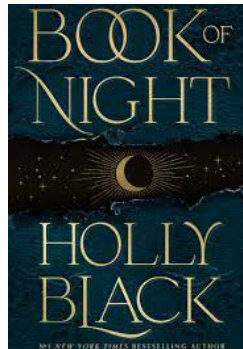
herit the throne, defies tradition to transform herself into a warrior ruler, determined to protect her people and son's birthright from the encroaching British Empire.

Birchall, Katy. [The Wedding Season](#)
(St. Martin's \$16.99)

Four Weddings and a Funeral meets *The Wedding Party* in this witty rom-com in which recently jilted bride Freya Scott is forced to attend seven weddings in one summer, so her friends devise a series of challenges as distraction.

Black, Holly. [Book of Night](#)
(Tom Doherty \$27.99)

In a world where shadows have feelings and memories and can be altered, low-level con artist/bartender Charlie Hall is pitted against doppelgangers, mercurial billionaires, shadow thieves and her own sister while trying to keep out of trouble.



Blake, Audrey. [The Surgeon's Daughter](#)
(Sourcebooks \$16.99)

In the 19th century, Nora Beady is chosen to work with the only female professor in her medical school to develop the caesarian section, drawing the wrath of her male peers and professors as she risks everything to help revolutionize this life-saving surgery.

Callaway, Joy. [The Grand Design](#)
(Harper \$17.99)

Set at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, in both 1908 and 1946, this historical novel tells the story famed interior designer Dorothy Draper and how the historic retreat and the love she found there as a young woman influenced her bold shift from illustrious New York socialite to world-renowned decorator.

Cana, Natalie. [A Proposal They Can't Refuse](#)
(MIRA \$15.99)

Kamilah Vega, a Puerto Rican chef and Liam Kane, an Irish American whiskey distiller are blackmailed by their grandfathers, best friends since boyhood, into getting married or risk losing the building that houses both their businesses.

Chu, Lily. [The Stand-In](#)
(Sourcebooks \$14.99)

When actress Wei Fangli, due to their uncanny resemblance, asks Gracie Reed to pretend to be her for the next two months, Gracie, drawn into a world of luxury she never knew existed, must play the role of a lifetime that leads to a shocking discovery, forever uniting these two women. Well, they do say everyone has a double out there somewhere.

Cleeton, Chanel. [Our Last Days in Barcelona](#)
(Penguin \$17)

In 1964, when her sister Beatriz disappears in Barcelona. Isabel Perez goes to Spain in search of her, and, with the help of an unlikely ally, is thrust into Beatriz's dangerous world of espionage, leading to a shocking revelation about her family history that transforms her life.

Colgan, Jenny. [An Island Wedding](#)
(HarperCollins \$16.99)

Flora MacKenzie and her fiancé have their plans for their tiny "sweetheart wedding" on the Scottish island of Mure disrupted when an expat with money wants to throw the most extravagant wedding possible on the same day.

Day, Elizabeth. [Magpie](#)
(Simon & Schuster \$26.99)

When their new lodger, Kate, becomes obsessed with her, her husband, and the baby they are desperately trying to conceive, Marisa must find out who Kate really is before she loses everything she's worked so hard to create--her perfect romance, her perfect family, and her perfect self.

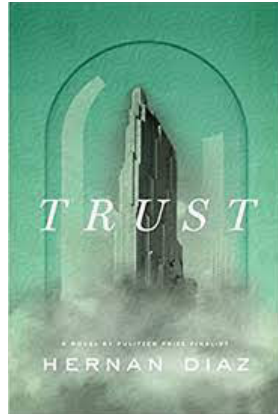
Dev, Sonali. [The Emma Project](#)
(HarperCollins \$15.99)

Knightlina (Naina) Kohli wants to have nothing to do with the unfairly blessed Raje family ever again to bring economic independence to millions of women in South Asia through her microfinance foundation. However, just when Naina's dream is about to come to fruition, Vansh Raje shows up with his misguided Emma Project. And suddenly she's fighting him for funding and wondering if a friends-with-benefits arrangement that's as toe-curlingly hot as it is fun is worth risking her life's work for.

Diaz, Hernan. [Trust](#)

(Penguin \$28)

Told from the perspective of one woman bent on disentangling fact from fiction, this unrivaled novel about money, power, intimacy and perception is centered around the mystery of how the Rask family acquired their immense fortune in 1920s-1930's New York City. *The New York Times Book Review* lauded Diaz's latest saying "This exhilarating novel subverts readers' expectations with each of its four parts while paying tribute to literary titans from Henry James to Jorge Luis Borges."



Dumond, Susie. [Queerly Beloved](#)

(Random \$17)

In mid-2010s Tulsa, Oklahoma, Amy, a semi-closeted, people-pleasing bridesmaid-for hire, tries to balance her newfound career with her already strained relationships, forcing her to decide what it looks like to be true to herself—and to determine if she has the courage to try.

Eding, Stephanie. [The Unplanned Life of Josie Hale](#)

(Sourcebooks \$15.99)

When Josie discovers that she's unexpectedly pregnant with her ex-husband's baby (darn that last attempt to save their marriage), she seeks comfort in deep-fried food at the county fair. There she runs into her two old friends, Ben and Kevin. While sharing their own disappointments with adult life, they devise a plan to move in together and turn their lives around.

Emezi, Akwaeke. [You Made a Fool of Death with Your Beauty](#) (Atria \$27)

Learning how to feel joy while healing from loss, Feyi Adekola starts dating the perfect guy, but discovers she has feelings for someone else who is off limits. Now Feyi must decide just how far she is willing to go for a second chance at love.

Erlick, Nikki. [The Measure](#) (HarperCollins \$28.99)

It seems like any other day. You wake up, pour a cup of coffee, and head out. But today, when you open

your front door, waiting for you is a small wooden box. This box holds your fate inside: the answer to the exact number of years you will live. From suburban doorsteps to desert tents, every person on every continent receives the same box. In an instant, the world is thrust into a collective frenzy. Where did these boxes come from? What do they mean? Is there truth to what they promise? As society comes together and pulls apart, everyone faces the same shocking choice: Do they wish to know how long they'll live? And, if so, what will they do with that knowledge?

Evans, Harriet. [The Beloved Girls](#)

(Grand Central \$16.99)

Catherine, a successful barrister, vanishes from a train station on the eve of her anniversary. Is it because she saw a figure - someone she believed long dead? Or was it a shadow cast by her troubled, fractured mind? The answer lies buried in the past. It lies in the events of the hot, seismic summer of 1989, at Vanes - a mysterious West Country manor house - where a young girl, Jane LeStrange, arrives to stay with the gilded, grand Hunter family, and where a devastating tragedy will unfold. Over the summer, as an ancient family ritual looms closer, Janey falls for each member of the family in turn. She and Kitty, the eldest daughter of the house, will forge a bond that decades later, is still shaping the present.

Foster, Brooke Lea. [On Gin Lane](#)

(Gallery \$27.99)

Set in June of 1957, socialite Everleigh Farrows, gifted a beachside hotel on the prized Gin Lane by her fiancé, shakes off flashbacks of another hotel from her past until a tragedy occurs on the hotel's opening weekend, causing the cracks in her perfect life to slowly reveal themselves.

Foster, Lori. [The Honeymoon Cottage](#)

(HQN \$15.99)

When it comes to creating the perfect happily-ever-after, Yardley Belanger is a bona fide miracle worker. From bridal bouquets to matching cowboy boots, the quirky wedding planner's country-chic affairs have caused quite a stir in the small town of Cemetery. But when it comes to her own love life? She's clueless. Perhaps it's for the best. The thirty-one-year-old has poured her heart and soul into her business and doesn't have time for anything—or anyone—else. And that's something not even Travis

Long, the gorgeous older brother of her newest client can change...right?

Giacco, Francesca. [Six Days in Rome](#)

(Grand Central \$28)

When a romantic trip to Rome ends her relationship, Emilia, experiencing the beautiful city to its full extent on her own, forms an immediate connection with an American expat who helps her see herself anew—and reckon with both her origins and the choices she's made.

Gray, Claudia. [The Murder of Wickham](#)

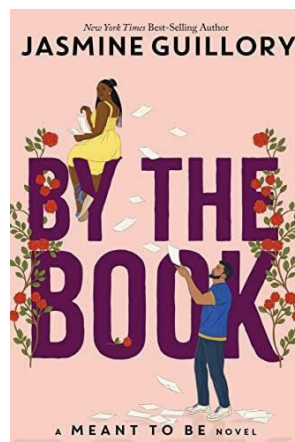
(Knopf \$17)

The happily married Mr. Knightley and Emma are throwing a party at their country estate, bringing together distant relatives and new acquaintances. Definitely not invited is Mr. Wickham, whose latest financial scheme has netted him an even broader array of enemies. As tempers flare and secrets are revealed, it's clear that everyone would be happier if Mr. Wickham got his comeuppance. Yet they're all shocked when Wickham turns up murdered—except, of course, for the killer hidden in their midst. Agatha Christie meets Jane Austen in Gray's delightfully fun mystery debut.

Guillory, Jasmine. [By the Book](#)

(Hyperion \$15.99)

When she first began her career in publishing after college, Isabelle did not expect to be twenty-five, still living at home, and one of the few Black employees at her publishing house. Overworked and underpaid, constantly torn between speaking up or stifling herself, Izzy thinks there must be more to this publishing life. So, when she overhears her boss complaining about a beastly high-profile author who has failed to deliver his long-awaited manuscript, Isabelle sees an opportunity to finally get the promotion she deserves. All she has to do is go to the author's Santa Barbara mansion and give him a pep talk or three. How hard could it be?



Hall, Alexis. [A Lady for a Duke](#)

(Grand Central \$15.99)

When Viola Carroll was presumed dead at Waterloo, she took the opportunity to live, at last, as herself. But freedom does not come without a price, and Viola paid for hers with the loss of her wealth, her title, and her closest companion, Justin de Vere, the Duke of Gracewood. Only when their families reconnect, years after the war, does Viola learn how deep that loss truly was. Shattered without her, Gracewood has retreated so far into grief that Viola barely recognizes her old friend in the lonely, brooding man he has become. As Viola strives to bring Gracewood back to himself, fresh desires give new names to old feelings. Feelings that would have been impossible years earlier.

Harper, Lana. [From Bad to Cursed](#)

(Penguin \$16)

Wild child Isidora Avramov is a thrill chaser, adept demon summoner, and—despite the whole sexy-evil-sorceress vibe—also a cuddly animal lover. When she's not designing costumes and new storylines for the Arcane Emporium's haunted house, Issa's nursing a secret, conflicted dream of ditching her family's witchy business to become an indie fashion designer in her own right. But when someone starts sabotaging the celebrations leading up to this year's Beltane festival with dark, dangerous magic, a member of the rival Thorn family gets badly hurt—throwing immediate suspicion on the Avramovs. To clear the Avramov name and step up for her family when they need her the most, Issa agrees to serve as a co-investigator, helping none other than Rowan Thorn get to the bottom of things.

Herrera, Ariana. [A Caribbean Heiress in Paris](#)

(HQN \$16.99)

Luz Alana set sail from Santo Domingo armed with three hundred casks of rum, her two best friends and one simple rule: under no circumstances is she to fall in love. In the City of Light, she intends to expand the rum business her family built over three generations, but buyers and shippers alike can't imagine doing business with a woman...never mind a woman of color. This, paired with being denied access to her inheritance unless she marries, leaves the heiress in a very precarious position. Enter James Evanston Sinclair, Earl of Darnick, who has spent a decade looking for purpose outside of his father's dirty money and

dirtier dealings. Ignoring his title, he's built a whiskey brand that's his biggest—and only—passion. That is, until he's confronted with a Spanish-speaking force of nature who turns his life upside down.

Henry, Emily. [Book Lovers](#)

(Penguin \$17)

Agreeing to a holiday escape to the country, literary agent Nora Stephens keeps running into Charlie Lastra, a bookish, hardheaded, arrogant editor she knows from Manhattan, and wishes she didn't, even as she discovers they have more in common than previously thought.

Janovsky, Timothy. [Never Been Kissed](#)

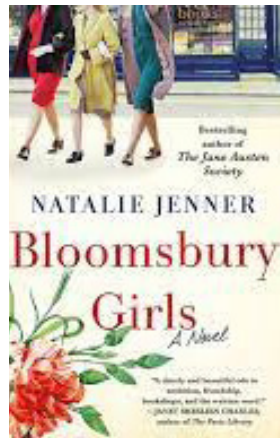
(Sourcebooks \$14.99)

Wren Roland has never been kissed, let alone been in love, but he wants that movie-perfect ending more than anything. Feeling nostalgic on the eve of his twenty-first birthday, he sends emails to all the boys he (ahem) loved before he came out. He didn't expect a response from Derick Haverford, Wren's #1 pre-coming-out-crush...but now that they're working together at their hometown's vintage drive-in theater, maybe that perfect-kiss-before-the-credits is finally within reach.

Jenner, Natalie. [Bloomsbury Girls](#)

(St. Martin's \$27.99)

No one has to tell the female employees of Bloomsbury Books, a new and rare book store in London, that it is a man's world. For more than a hundred years, men, guided by the general manager's unbreakable fifty-one rules, have run things at Bloomsbury's. But when the general manager must take a leave of absence for health reasons, things begin changing. For Vivien Lowry, it means the chance to finally run the store's fiction department not to mention giving books written by women authors a shot with readers. For married with two sons Grace Perkins, the changes at work may be a precursor to some important changes at home. After being denied an academic position at Cambridge in favor of her less accomplished male rival, a new job at Bloomsbury offers Evie Stone the chance to rethink what she



wants from life. As they interact with various literary figures of the time--Daphne Du Maurier, Ellen Doubleday, Sonia Blair (widow of George Orwell), Samuel Beckett, Peggy Guggenheim, and others--these three women with their complex web of relationships, goals and dreams are all working to plot out a future that is richer and more rewarding than anything society will allow.

Lauren, Christina. [Something Wilder](#)

(Gallery \$26.99)

Growing up the daughter of notorious treasure hunter and absentee father Duke Wilder left Lily without much patience for the profession...or much money in the bank. But Lily is nothing if not resourceful, and now uses Duke's coveted hand-drawn maps to guide tourists on fake treasure hunts through the red rock canyons of Utah. It pays the bills but doesn't leave enough to fulfill her dream of buying back the beloved ranch her father sold years ago, and definitely not enough to deal with the sight of Leo Grady, the man she once loved walking back into her life with a motley crew of friends ready to hit the trails. But when the trip goes horribly and hilariously wrong, the group wonders if maybe the legend of the hidden treasure wasn't a gimmick after all. There's a chance to right the wrongs—of Duke's past and their own—but only if Leo and Lily can confront their history and work together.

Lewis, Susannah B. [Bless Your Heart](#), Rae Sutton

(Thomas Nelson \$17.99)

When Raeley Ann Sutton's mama passes away and leaves her the house where she grew up, Rae can't imagine how the little old place might restore her broken life. Mourning the recent loss of her marriage, she takes the house and settles back in tiny, "one-horse Whitten" with her fourteen-year-old daughter, Molly Margaret, and their overweight dog. There she's embraced by her mother's close-knit circle of friends, the Third Thursday ladies: Mrs. Fannie, Mrs. Dora, and Aunt Maxine. Though almost half their age and far less confident of positive outcomes, Rae joins their ministry-slash-book-club-slash-gossip circle and allows the women to speak wry honesty and witty humor into her tired heart. As a new career and a new romance bring their own complications, Rae relies on the unlikely family she's found and begins to wonder if her future holds more hope than she ever could have imagined.

Lloyd, Catherine. [Miss Morton and the English House Party Murder](#) (Kensington \$26)

While attending a house party in the countryside, Caroline Morton, lady's companion to wealthy widow Mrs. Matilda Frogerton, finds her normal work routine thrown off course when an elderly family member is murdered. Now, in addition to catering to Mrs. Frogerton's every whim, Caroline finds herself adding find a murder to her job duties when she attempts to solve the crime with some help from an unexpected ally.

Mallery, Susan. [The Boardwalk Bookshop](#) (MIRA \$16.99)

When fate brings three strangers to a charming space for lease on the California coast, the Boardwalk Bookshop is born. Part bookstore, part gift shop, part bakery, it's a dream come true for Bree, Mikki and Ashley. But while their business is thriving, their personal lives are...not.

Bree, wounded by brilliant but cold parents and her late husband's ultimate betrayal, has sworn to protect her heart at all costs. Mikki has this divorce thing all figured out—somehow, she's stayed friends with her ex and her in-laws...until a new man changes how everyone looks at her, and how she sees herself. Meanwhile, Ashley discovers that the love of her life never intends to marry. Can she live without being a wife if it means she can have everything else she's ever wanted?

McCoy, Sarah. [Mustique Island](#) (HarperCollins \$27.99)

In 1972, Willy May, a wealthy divorcee from Texas, is drawn into the Mustique island's inner circle of aristocrats and celebrities until her daughters discover Mustique's dark side.

McPhail, Diane C. [The Seamstress of New Orleans](#) (Kensington \$26)

Young widow Constance, in 1900 New Orleans, and widowed and pregnant seamstress, Alice, who, in exchange for lodging, agrees to help her create a beautiful Mardi Gras gown, form an unlikely bond that reveals the truth surrounding her Constance's husband's mysterious death.

"An undercurrent of New Orleans's dark side propels the story, heightening the tension and supplying McPhail with a wealth of evocative details. Historical fiction fans will be drawn to this." (PW)

Murphy, Nora. [The Favor](#) (St. Martin's \$27.99)

Even though they've never met, Leah and McKenna lead parallel lives, trapped in marriages where their "perfect" husbands are not what they seem. Then Leah, deciding to keep an eye out for McKenna, intervenes one night, irrevocably changing both of their lives forever.

Newton, Dylan. [All Fired Up](#) (Forever \$15.99)

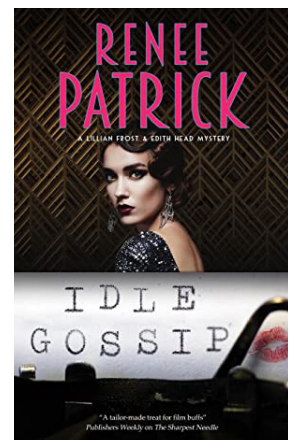
Returning to her small hometown to care for her grandmother, successful book publicist Imani Lewis must reconcile her burgeoning feelings for Zander Matthews, the handsome ex-Marine she had a one-night stand with on her last visit.

Oliveras, Priscilla. [West Side Love Story](#) (Montlake \$12.95)

Determined to win the Battle of the Mariachi Bands to solve her adoptive parents' financial problems, Mariana escalates a decades-old feud with her father's enemy Hugo Montero, especially when she embarks on a forbidden affair with Hugo's son, who wants to bring peace between their families.

Patrick, Renee. [Idle Gossip](#) (Severn \$28.99)

Hollywood's most famous gossip columnist, Lorna Whitcomb, has summoned Lillian Frost and her sleuthing partner, costume designer extraordinaire Edith Head, to her office. Lorna's "leg man" Sam Simcoe – the man who finds the scandalous material for her columns – is in trouble. Tipster Glenn Hoyle has been murdered, and Sam is the LAPD's prime suspect. But Sam didn't just find Glenn's body when he paid him a visit. Hiding in a wastebasket was a list of three names – a starlet, a producer, and a director – and Sam's sure Glenn had an explosive story on all of them. Was it just idle gossip, or could this explain Glenn's murder?



Polito, Frank Anthony. [Renovated to Death](#)
(Kensington \$15.95)

Just as they are about to start filming the renovation of twin brothers Terry and Tom Cash's local Tudor, real-life domestic partners and stars of a new reality TV show Peter and JP discover Tom Cash dead and must chip away at the clues to catch a killer. *HGTV* meets *Murder She Wrote* in this fun launch of Polito's new series.

Roberts, Nora. [Nightwork](#)
(St. Martin's \$29.99)

Harry Booth is a clever thief who can't afford to get attached to anyone. So, when Miranda Emerson steals his heart, Harry does what he must do and breaks things off with her without any explanation. When they meet again a few years later, Harry finds Miranda still holds the key to his heart. But can Harry outwit one of his old clients, who wants him to steal a rare and valuable piece of art, and forge a new future with Miranda?

Ryan, Jennifer. [The Wedding Dress Sewing Circle](#)
(Random \$28)

After losing everything in the London Blitz, renowned fashion designer Cressida Westcott heads to the country where she inspires a local village sewing group to mend wedding dresses for both local brides and brides across the county, helping others celebrate love while searching for it themselves.

Saint, Jennifer. [Elektra](#)
(Flatiron \$27.99)

When Clytemnestra marries Agamemnon, she ignores the insidious whispers about his family line, the House of Atreus. But when, on the eve of the Trojan War, Agamemnon betrays Clytemnestra in the most unimaginable way, she must confront the curse that has long ravaged their family. In Troy, Princess Cassandra has the gift of prophecy, but carries a curse of her own: no one will ever believe what she sees. When she is shown what will happen to her beloved city when Agamemnon and his army arrives, she is powerless to stop the tragedy from unfolding.

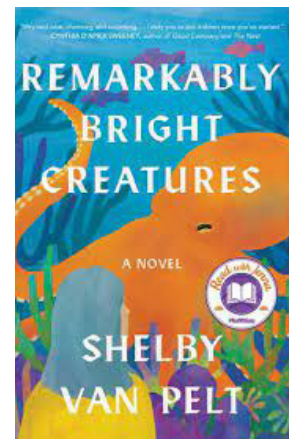
Elektra, Clytemnestra and Agamemnon's youngest daughter, wants only for her beloved father to return home from war. But can she escape her family's bloody history, or is her destiny bound by violence, too?

Sereno, Annie. [Blame It on the Brontës](#)
(Forever \$15.99)

English professor Athena Murphy is an authority on the novels of the Brontë sisters. But as they say in academia, *publish or perish*. To save her job, Athena decides to write a biography of C.L. Garland, the author heating up bestseller lists with spicy retellings of classic literature. Tracking down the reclusive writer and uncovering her secret identity, though, means Athena must return to her small midwestern hometown where Garland—and her ex-boyfriend, Thorne Kent—live.

Van Pelt, Shelby. [Remarkably Bright Creatures](#)
(HarperCollins \$27.99)

After her husband dies, widow Tova Sullivan starts working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping up floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped Tova cope, which she has been trying to do ever since her eighteen-year-old son Erik mysteriously vanished on a boat in the Puget Sound over thirty years ago. As she works, Tova becomes acquainted with the curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine, but he wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight tentacles for his human captors – until he forms an unlikely friendship with Tova. A sweet, gentle, dryly witty and at times heartbreaking debut by poet and short story writer Van Pelt.



Vo, Nghi. [Siren Queen](#)
(Tom Doherty \$26.99)

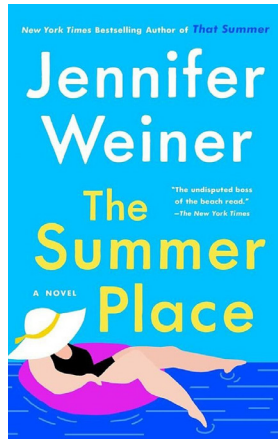
Coming of age in pre-Code Hollywood, Chinese American actress Luli Wei, desperate to become a star, bargains with blood and ancient magic to realize her dreams, but the steep price for success may turn her into something she despises. "Vo's hypnotic prose blends metaphor with magic so seamlessly that reality itself becomes slippery. Her dazzling voice, evocative scene setting, and ambitious protagonist make this a knockout." (*PW*)

Waxman, Abbi. [Adult Assembly Required](#)
(Penguin \$17)

Moving to Los Angeles to escape memories of an awful accident, Laura Costello finds herself homeless in a fire, taken in by a rogue bookseller running a lovely but illegal boardinghouse, and tasked with rescuing a losing trivia team.

Weiner, Jennifer. [The Summer Place](#)
(Atria \$28.99)

At her stepdaughter's wedding day to her pandemic boyfriend--the last gathering at the family's beach house in Cape Cod--Sarah is faced with lovers being revealed as their true selves, misunderstandings, and secrets, ensuring that nothing will ever be the same.



White, Kiersten. [Hide](#)
(Random \$27)

Fourteen contestants, including Mack, a homeless shelter resident who lost everything, embark on a seven-day competition and the chance to win \$50,000 if they can successfully play hide and seek in an abandoned amusement park without being found and eliminated. "Bram Stoker Award-winning YA author White (*Camelot Rising*) makes her adult debut with an enthralling, high-energy thriller grounded in supernatural horror. (PW)

Teen

Glasgow, Kathleen and Liz Lawson. [The Agathas](#)
(Random \$18.99)

To claim the hefty reward for information about Brooke Donovan's disappearance, Iris and Alice use the complete works of Agatha Christie to teach them how to solve a mystery, but they don't realize the danger they are about to face.

Heard, Wendy. [Dead End Girls](#)
(Little Brown \$17.99)

Desperate to escape suffocating expectations and menacing families, seventeen-year-old Maude and her step-cousin Frankie fake their own deaths while on a family vacation in Hawaii, with deadly consequences.

Henry, April. [Two Truths and a Lie](#)
(Little Brown \$17.99)

When a snowstorm strands her acting troupe in a creepy motel, Nell and her friends meet a group of strangers from another high school who insist they play the game "Two Truths and a Lie," which turns into a matter of life and death.

June, Jason. [Out of the Blue](#)
(HarperCollins \$17.99)

Told in alternating voices, Crest, a merperson, who grudgingly undergoes a mandatory sojourn to help a human within one moon cycle or risk staying on land forever, suddenly develops feelings for his beneficiary Sean, leaving them torn between two worlds.

Kennedy, Brian D. [A Little Bit Country](#)
(HarperCollins \$17.99)

While working at country music legend Wanda Jean's amusement park, polar opposites Emmett and Luke become inseparable until a long-lost secret about Emmett's idol and Luke's grandmother, a disgraced singer, comes to light.

Kulper, Kendall. [Murder for the Modern Girl](#)
(Holiday House \$19.99)

In 1928 Chicago, 18-year-old Ruby, who uses her mind-reading abilities to target men who prey on vulnerable women, falls in love with a brilliant boy working at the morgue whose knack for forensic detail threatens to uncover her dark hobby.

McQuiston, Casey. [I Kissed Shara Wheeler](#)
(St. Martin's \$19.99)

When her rival, prom queen Shara Wheeler, kisses her and disappears, leaving behind cryptic notes, Chloe Green hunts for answers and discovers there is more to this small town than she thought—and maybe more to Shara, as well.

Mele, Dana. [Summer's Edge](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$19.99)

A year after their best friend's death, Chelsea and her friends return to the lake house where it happened and, as betrayals are revealed and accusations made, they have one night to unravel a mystery before a killer among them exacts their revenge.

Scelsa, Kate. [Improbable Magic for Cynical Witches](#)
(HarperCollins \$17.99)

An atmospheric and romantic coming-of-age story about learning to make peace with the past in order to accept the beauty of the present finds 17-year-old Eleanor opening herself up to magic and romance again after a devastating loss.

Steadman, A. F. [Skandar and the Unicorn Thief](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$18.99)

Thirteen-year-old Skandar Smith has always wanted to be a Unicorn rider, but when the mysterious Weaver steals the most powerful unicorn in the world, Skandar must face sky battles, ancient secrets, and bloodthirsty unicorns in order to save his island.

Weber, Robby. [If You Change Your Mind](#)
(Inkyard Press \$18.99)

Aspiring screenwriter Harry is determined to finish his script for an upcoming competition, but finds himself distracted by the return of his first love, Grant, who reveals a secret that could change everything.

Nonfiction

Baer, Robert. [The Fourth Man](#)
(Hachette \$30)

In this real-life thriller, a *New York Times* best-selling author and former CIA officer tells the never-before-told story of the hunt for a KGB spy in the top ranks of the CIA led by three women who squared off against a man who could have been the most damaging man in history.

Carvan, Tabitha. [This Is Not a Book about Benedict Cumberbatch](#) (Penguin \$17)

In a humorous, heartfelt memoir about one woman's midlife obsession with Benedict Cumberbatch, the author shares how her preoccupation with the British-born actor helped her feel passionate about something at a point in her life when she had lost touch with her own identity and sense of self.

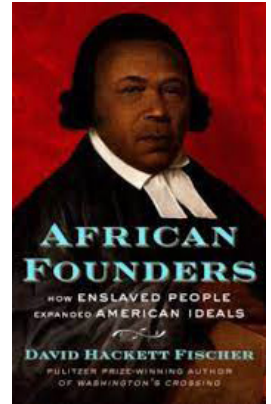
Conefrey, Mick. [Everest 1922](#)
(Pegasus \$27.95)

The first attempt on Everest in 1922 by George Leigh Mallory and a British team is an extraordinary story full of controversy, drama, and danger. The expedition ended in tragedy when, on their third bid for the

top, Mallory's party was hit by an avalanche that left seven men dead. Using diaries, letters, and unpublished accounts, Conefrey creates a character-driven narrative that explores the motivations and private dramas of the key individuals, who masterminded this epic adventure.

Fischer, David Hackett. [African Founders](#)
(Simon and Schuster \$40)

In this sweeping, foundational work, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David Hackett Fischer draws on extensive research to show how enslaved Africans and their descendants enlarged American ideas of freedom in varying ways in different regions of the early United States.



Fraser, Antonia. [The Case of the Married Woman](#)
(Pegasus \$28.95)

Fraser, an award-winning historian as well as an author of a popular mystery series, relates the story of nineteenth-century English poet Caroline Norton, who was denied access to her children by her husband after a sensational trial for adultery, and fought tirelessly for the rights of married women and mothers, resulting in the passage of the Infant Custody Act of 1839.

Harper, A.J. [Write a Must-Read](#)
(Page Two \$27)

An editor and publishing strategist shares the method she developed and used for more than a decade to ghostwrite and edit best-selling books for some of the foremost thought leaders of our time.

Kartes, Danielle. [You Were Always There](#)
(Sourcebooks \$16.99)

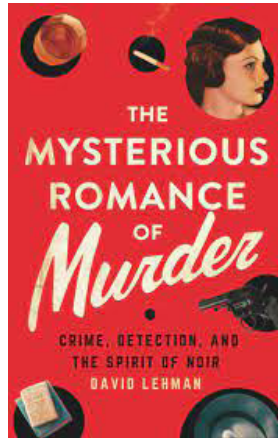
Mixing anecdotes of motherhood, cooking, and chasing your dreams with delicious, comforting recipes, *You Were Always There* is a devotional memoir that will inspire love, faith, and patience through the growing seasons of life. Take a little time each day to indulge in this conversation, reflect as you cook something delicious, and love yourself exactly where you are.

Here, the sweet is always generously folded into the sour, great joy shares space with great sorrow, and

we learn that every single moment in our lives is worth savoring.

Lehman, David. [The Mysterious Romance of Murder](#) (Cornell \$27.95)

From Sherlock Holmes to Sam Spade; Nick and Nora Charles to Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin; Harry Lime to Gilda, Madeleine Elster, and other *femmes fatales*—crime and crime solving in fiction and film captivate us. Why do we keep returning to Agatha Christie's ingenious puzzles and Raymond Chandler's hard-boiled murder mysteries? What do spy thrillers teach us, and what accounts for the renewed popularity of morally ambiguous noirs? In *The Mysterious Romance of Murder*, the poet and critic David Lehman explores a wide variety of outstanding books and movies—some famous (*The Maltese Falcon*, *Double Indemnity*), some known mainly to aficionados—with style, wit, and passion.



Lownie, Andrew. [Traitor King](#) (Pegasus \$32)

Drawing upon newly released archives, bestselling biographer Andrew Lownie tells the story of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's glittering lives after Edward abdicated the throne—a world that was riddled with treachery and betrayal.

Millard, Candice. [River of the Gods](#) (Knopf \$32.50)

Set against the backdrop of the race to exploit Africa by the colonial powers, a story of courage and adventure brings to life the rivalry between two enemies—a decorated soldier, and a young aristocrat and Army officer—as they set out to find the mysterious headwaters of the Nile River.

Morgan, Mochelle. [When Marilyn Met the Queen](#) (Pegasus \$28.95)

In July 1956, Marilyn Monroe arrived in London—on honeymoon with her husband Arthur Miller—to make *The Prince and the Showgirl* with Sir Laurence Olivier. It was meant to be a happy time. Marilyn would work during the day at Pinewood Studios, in Iver Heath, while Arthur would write. Then, in the evening,

the couple would be able to relax together in their private English country cottage. But the cottage was a mansion, in Englefield Green, and Marilyn, used to living in tiny hotel rooms and apartments, felt herself being watched. She was, by several of owner Lord Drogheda's servants, who were selling stories to the papers. And when filming began, all did not go as hoped. Over time, Marilyn grew to hate Olivier; the feeling was mutual. Marilyn found herself a curiosity for the frequently hostile British press. She took solace in bike rides in Windsor Great Park, in small acts of kindness from members of the public, and in a growing fascination with Queen Elizabeth, whom she longed to meet—and eventually did,

Stephens-Davidowitz, Seth. [Don't Trust Your Gut](#) (HarperCollins \$28.99)

An economist, former Google data scientist and *New York Times* best-selling author uses enormous datasets to tell fascinating stories detailing dating strategies, the best places to raise children and why some people rise to the top.

Valentine, Carla. [The Science of Murder](#) (Sourcebooks \$16.99)

Written by mortician and forensic expert Carla Valentine, *The Science of Murder* explores the real-life cases that inspired Agatha Christie and shows how the great mystery writer may have kept up to date with the latest developments in forensic science, from ballistics to blood-splatter analysis. Valentine examines the use of fingerprints, firearms, handwriting, impressions, and toxicology in Christie's novels, before finally revealing the role the dead body itself played in offering vital clues to dastardly crimes.