

Midmonth BookNotes

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Spring into Good Reading

Cozy Corner

Child, Laura. [The Lemon Curd Killer](#) (Penguin \$27)

Tea shop entrepreneur Theodosia Browning has been tapped to host a fancy Limón Tea in a genuine lemon orchard as a rousing kickoff to Charleston Fashion Week. But as fairy lights twinkle and the scent of lemon wafts among the tea tables, the deadly murder of a fashion designer puts the squeeze on things.

Keyse-Walker, John. [Bert and Mamie Take a Cruise](#) (Severn House \$30.99)
February 1939. Mamie Mason thinks her husband's gone mad when he suggests an African cruise. Bert might be pining for adventure, but she enjoys her comfortable life in Ohio. Still, once she's aboard the luxurious German ship, she can start to see the appeal. Then Mamie witnesses something shocking - and their African adventure takes a deadly turn. "Keyse-Walker offers a fascinating look at pre-war African ports-of-call in the company of a lively cast of characters. Bert and Mamie Mason are the most entertaining detective couple since Nick and Nora Charles." (PW)

Lansing, Kate. [Till Death Do Us Part](#) (Penguin \$9.99)

When murder mars her cousin's wedding, leaving behind a bitter aftertaste, young vintner Parker Valentine, to save the day, sets out to solve this mystery, while at the same time trying to keep her family from asking too many personal questions about the state of her own love life.

Moore, Ian. [Death and Croissants](#) (Poisoned Pen \$16.99)

Richard is a middle-aged Englishman who runs a B&B in the fictional Val de Follet in the Loire Valley. Nothing ever happens to Richard, and really that's the way he likes it. One day, however, one of his older guests disappears, leaving behind a bloody handprint on the wallpaper. Another guest, the exotic Valérie, persuades a reluctant Richard to join her in investigating the disappearance. Richard remains a dazed passenger in the case until things become really serious and someone murders Ava Gardner, one of his beloved hens... and you don't mess with a fellow's hens! U.K. comedian Moore makes his U.S.

debut with this start to a new cozy series.

Pandian, Gigi. [The Raven Thief](#) (St. Martin's \$26.99)

Taking part in a mock séance to remove any trace of her cheating ex-husband, famous mystery author Corbin Colt, from her life, Tempest Raj is stunned when his dead body crashes the party. When suspicion falls on her beloved grandfather for the death, Tempest must now conjure up the real killer. *PW* had this to say about the excellent follow up to Pandian's debut *Under Lock & Skeleton Key* "Pandian's clever solution matches the challenge she sets for her endearingly imperfect lead. This brilliant homage to classic golden age authors such as John Dickson Carr augurs well for a long series run."

Sutanto, Jesse Q. [Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers](#) (Berkley \$17)

When she discovers a dead man in the middle of her tea shop, Vera Wong, a suspicious Chinese mother with time on her hands, calls the police but not before swiping the flash drive from the body and setting a trap for the killer that becomes complicated by unexpected friendships with her customers. "Vivid sensory descriptions of the custom teas Vera concocts and the elaborate feasts she prepares further heighten the feel-good appeal. Literary comfort food in the guise of a quirky whodunit." (*Kirkus*)

Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Romance and More

Adams, Luci. [Not That Kind of Ever After](#) (St. Martin's \$16.99)

Newly empowered after she stops looking for "the one," Bella Marble unexpectedly becomes a viral sensation when she posts a fairytale retelling of a disastrous one-night-stand under the name of @B.Enchanted and soon seeks out new fairytales to live through

and share with her fans. "A charming British-flavored rom-com debut." (*PW*)

Baird, Ginny. [Right Girl, Wrong Side](#) (Sourcebooks \$16.99)

With a bad breakup behind her, relaxing at the shore with her folks and her brothers and their families sounds like the sure cure for heartache for Evia Machado, and their vacation destination looks like an amazing place! But when they arrive at the quaint rose-covered cottage, another group has already put down stakes: the Hatfields. Ryan Hatfield was Evita's former crush from high school, but their business rival moms refused to let them date. Now history professor Ryan is here for a week with his parents, who won them this oceanfront rental in a society silent auction. Once it's clear there's been a double-booking due to a bidding mistake, Ryan's mom digs in her heels, meaning to stay. When Evita's mom won't back down either, both sides tepidly agree to share the luxury accommodations by dividing the cozy space. "The Hatfields and McCoys get an update in this delightful rom-com from Baird." (*PW*)

Beaton, M.C. [Emily Goes to Exeter](#) (Blackstone \$12.99)

A dead employer's legacy of five thousand pounds allows spinster Hannah Pym to resign from housekeeping and find adventure traveling the English countryside by coach. But the adventure soon finds Miss Pym traveling with Miss Emily Freemantle, a spoiled, violet-eyed beauty fleeing an arranged marriage to a rake she has never met. When Emily's darkly handsome betrothed boards their stage, Miss Pym is certain the girl was rash to bolt from this aristocratic catch! So, as soon as the travelers repair to an inn, Miss Pym begins her matchmaking. In addition to writing two popular cozy series featuring Hamish Macbeth and Agatha Raisin, the late and much missed

M.C. Beaton writing under the name Marion Chesney turned out a number of delightful traditional Regency romances in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s including this re-released title, which launched the author's Traveling Matchmaker series.

Berg, Elizabeth. [Earth's the Right Place for Love](#) (Random \$27)

This beautiful new novel by the beloved author of *Open House* and *Talk before Sleep* tells the story of two young people growing up in Mason, Missouri, and how Arthur Moses, a shy young man, becomes the wise and compassionate person readers loved in *The Story of Arthur Truluv*.

Biller, Diana. [Hotel of Secrets](#) (St. Martin's \$17.99)

Trying to restore her family's hotel in Vienna during ball season, Maria Wallner unwittingly teams up with a secret service agent on an assignment after he has to twice save her life from seemingly-random attacks by masked assassins.

Biller (*The Brightest Star in Paris*) transports readers to sparkling 19th century Vienna for a unique and wonderful tale of intrigue and espionage. (PW)

Bond, Gwenda. [Mr. & Mrs. Witch](#) (St. Martin's \$17.99)

When their secret identities are revealed on their wedding day, powerful witch Savannah Wilde and her witch-hunter husband-to-be are tasked to take the other out until they are forced to team up to stop a plot to take down both their agencies. So, imagine the spy film starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie but with spells and magic.

Cabot, Meg. [The Quarantine Princess Diaries](#) (Avon \$9.99)

In this diary written during the COVID-19

pandemic, Princess Mia Thermopolis of Genovia records her most heartfelt emotions while dealing with personal and political battles, such as imposing health restrictions on her small European nation; living in lockdown; and dealing with her demanding grandmother.

Casati, Costanza. [Clytemnestra](#) (Sourcebooks \$26.99)

After her husband starts the Trojan War to bring her sister back, Clytemnestra begins an affair with Aegisthus and plots to kill her husband for sacrificing their daughter in this retelling of the classic Greek tragedy. "Despite the essential plot beats being well-known, Casati makes this grim tale feel fresh through vivid imagery and nuanced characterizations. It's sure to please fans of the revisionist genre." (PW)

Davis, Barbara. [The Echo of Old Books](#) (Lake Union \$16.99)

Rare-book dealer Ashlyn Greer's affinity for books extends beyond the intoxicating scent of old paper, ink, and leather. She can feel the echoes of the books' previous owners—an emotional fingerprint only she can read. When Ashlyn discovers a pair of beautifully bound volumes that appear to have never been published, her gift quickly becomes an obsession. Not only is each inscribed with a startling incrimination, but the authors, Hemi and Belle, tell conflicting sides of a tragic romance. With no trace of how these mysterious books came into the world, Ashlyn is caught up in a decades-old literary mystery, beckoned by two hearts in ruins, whoever they were, wherever they are.

Dodd, Christina. [Forget What You Know](#) (HQN \$29.99)

Even though their marriage ended in a bitter divorce, Zoey Phoenix is certain that her ex-husband Luca Damezas isn't trying to kill

her. After all, why would Luca volunteer as Zoey's bodyguard if he really wanted her dead? That still leaves someone out there who seems determined not to stop until Zoey is out of the picture. Could the answer to who is stalking Zoey be buried in her early past, of which Zoey can remember next to nothing? Or, would it just be safer for Zoey if she simply forgets whatever she may know? A protagonist who propagates flowers for a living, an ex-husband who used to be a professional wrestler, a legendary ruby gone missing, and a small town California coastal town filled to the brim with quirky characters might seem like a lot for an author to juggle, but Dodd does it all effortlessly deftly integrating all of these literary elements into a perfectly paced plot that is expertly punctuated with plenty of moments of white-knuckle suspense and spiked with a generous dose of Dodd's dry sense of wit.

Dollar, Trish. [Off the Map](#) (St. Martin's \$16.99) When fate throws together worldwide adventurer Carla Black, who doesn't do love—or stay in one place too long, and modern-day cartographer Eamon Sullivan, they find a simple drive across Ireland becoming complicated by chemistry-filled detours, unexpected feelings and the possibility of something more.

Edwards, Melodie. [Jane & Edward](#) (Penguin \$17) A former foster kid, Jane has led a solitary life as a waitress in the suburbs, working hard to get by. Tired of years of barely scraping together a living, Jane takes classes to become a legal assistant and shortly after graduating accepts a job offer at a distinguished law firm in downtown Toronto. Everyone at the firm thinks she is destined for failure because her boss is the notoriously difficult Edward Rosen, the majority stakeholder of Rosen, Haythe & Thornfield LLP. The bleak moors of *Jane*

Eyre are transformed into the cutthroat streets of Toronto's financial district in this rom-com twist on Charlotte Brontë's classic novel.

Ellis, Philip. [Love & Other Scams](#) (Penguin \$17) Single, broke, and about to be ejected from her London flat, Cat feels left behind by her friends, who are all either married or engaged. At least if she picked a few pockets when fellow wedding guests get handsy, no one's the wiser. No one, that is, except her favorite bartender, Jake, who has his own less-than-legal side hustle. When she's unceremoniously fired and roped into bridesmaid duties for best frenemy Louisa, Cat can't help but notice that Louisa's priceless diamond engagement ring sure would solve a lot of problems. But Cat isn't as skilled a thief as Jake is, so to pull off the scheme of their lives, they'll have to become partners.

Fishman, Zoe. [The Fun Widow's Book Tour](#) (HarperCollins \$18.99) Mia was the class clown; a member of the mile high club; the mom who made her sons giggle with her bad British accent and well-placed tickles. But three years after the death of her husband, there's no time for that. She's the only parent they have. Now, her memoir is out and she has to promote it. But how to sell herself when her heart is still broken? And so her three best friends—Chelsea, Rachel and George—organize her book tour in their respective hometowns. With her father Ira on deck for the boys, Mia sets off on a week-long journey to San Francisco, Chicago, and Atlanta: her hometown. Armed with her trademark agenda, Mia plans to fix her friends' lives as a means of repayment for all they've done for her.

Fulton, Victoria and Faith McClaren. [Ellie Is Cool Now](#) (Forever \$15.99)

TV writer Ellie Jenkins worked her butt off to put her nerdy, outcast teen years behind her. So there's a certain delicious irony in that she works for a hit show about popular high school kids when she was So. Not. Cool. And now she's been offered the promotion of a lifetime—if she attends her reunion. The only way Ellie is going to survive this whole weird ordeal is by fixing her bad high school karma, kissing the boy who got away, and getting the hell out of Ohio for good. But Ellie's discovering that in real life, she can't just rewrite the script.

Gout, Leopoldo. [Piñata](#) (Tor \$28.99)
Returning to New York with her daughters after supervising the renovation of an ancient abbey in Mexico, Carmen Sanchez soon discovers that something evil and unexplainable has followed them home, and now it may already be too late to escape what's been awakened.

Green, Jocelyn. [The Metropolitan Affair](#) (Bethany House \$16.99)
With a notorious forger preying on New York's high society, Metropolitan Museum of Art curator Lauren Westlake is just the expert needed to track down the criminal. As she and Detective Joe Caravello search for the truth, the closer they get to discovering the forger's identity, the more entangled they become in a web of deception and crime “With a convincing backdrop of Prohibition-era New York, Green carefully weaves historical detail and complex relationships into a tense narrative that doesn't let up till the close.” (*PW*)

Guertin, Chantel. [Gigi, Listening](#) (Kensington \$16.95)
Romance novel aficionado and bookstore owner Gigi Rutherford signs up for a ten-day tour of the English countryside led by her favorite audio book narrator Zane Wilkenson.

Along the way, not only does Gigi discover her own real-life romantic hero, but she meets an eclectic group of characters, who become an important part of her life as well.

Hart, Emilia. [Weyward](#) (St. Martin's \$27.99)
Told over five centuries through three connected women, this riveting novel follows Kate, in 2019, as she seeks refuge in Weyward Cottage; Altha, in 1619, as she uses her powers to maintain her freedom; and Violet, in 1942, as she searches for the truth about her mother's death. *Kirkus* had this to say about Hart's debut “Thoughtful and at times harrowing, this novel is a successful blend of historical fiction and modern feminism.”

Healey, Jane. [Goodnight from Paris](#) (Lake Union \$16.99)
Paris, 1939. Hollywood actress Drue Leyton, married to Frenchman Jacques Tartiére, lives as an expatriate in love. But when her husband is dispatched to Brittany to work as a liaison for the British military, Drue finds herself alone. Befriended by seasoned wartime journalist Dorothy Thompson and urged on by political operative Jean Fraysse, Drue broadcasts radio programs to the United States. Her duty: shake America from its isolationist apathy.

Heyer, Georgette. [Frederica](#) (Sourcebooks \$16.99)
In this newly repackaged edition, which includes a forward from *NYT* best-selling romance author Eloisa James, Frederica Meriville's attempts to play matchmaker for her stunningly beautiful younger sister, and her attempts to keep her younger brothers in line are complicated by their guardian's, the Marquis of Alverstoke's, attempts to interfere their lives.

Jaffe, Rona. [The Best of Everything](#) (Penguin \$20)

When Rona Jaffe's superb page-turner was first published in 1958, it changed contemporary fiction forever. Some readers were shocked, but millions more were electrified when they saw themselves reflected in its story of five young employees of a New York publishing company. Sixty-five years later, *The Best of Everything* remains touchingly—and sometimes hilariously—true to the personal and professional struggles women face in the city. There's Ivy League Caroline, who dreams of graduating from the typing pool to an editor's office; naïve country girl April, who within months of hitting town reinvents herself as the woman every man wants on his arm; and Gregg, the free-spirited actress with a secret yearning for domesticity. Jaffe follows their adventures with intelligence, sympathy, and prose as sharp as a paper cut.

Jaswal, Balli Kaur. [Now You See Us](#) (HarperCollins \$30)

When a Filipina maid is arrested for murdering her female employer, three Filipina other domestic workers — Corazon, Donita and Angel — are shocked into action, using their moxie and insight to piece together the mystery of what really happened and exposing the secrets of Singapore's elite along the way. The publisher is calling this *Crazy Rich Asians* meets *The Help*.

Kelly, Anita. [Something Wild & Wonderful](#) (Forever \$16.99)

When he meets outgoing hiker Ben Carvalho on the Pacific Crest Trail, Alexei Lebedev falls in love on the biggest adventure of his life, but when their plans for the future are tuned upside down, he hopes they can hold on to something this wild and wonderful.

Kelly, Julia. [The Lost English Girl](#) (Gallery \$28.99)

During World War II, Viv Byrne, with her hus-

band serving in the Royal Air Force, discovers the countryside safe haven she sent her daughter to wasn't immune from the horrors of war, and it is only years later, with his help, that she learns what it will take to put their family back together again.

Kingfisher, T. [A House with Good Bones](#) (Tor \$26.99)

Warned by her brother that their mother seems "off," Sam visits and discovers a once-cozy home with sterile white walls, her mom a jumpy, nervous wreck and a jar of teeth hidden in the rosebushes. "Horror fans who like a little whimsy on the way to a chilling climax won't want to miss this." (PW)

Landsem, Stephanie. [Code Name Edelweiss](#) (Tyndale \$15.99)

In the summer of 1933, a man named Adolf Hitler is the new and powerful anti-Semitic chancellor of Germany. But in Los Angeles, no-nonsense secretary Liesl Weiss has concerns much closer to home. The Great Depression is tightening its grip and Liesl is the sole supporter of two children, an opinionated mother, and a troubled brother. Leon Lewis is a Jewish lawyer who has watched Adolf Hitler's rise to power—and the increase in anti-Semitism in America—with growing alarm. He believes Nazi agents are working to seize control of Hollywood, the greatest propaganda machine the world has ever known. The trouble is, authorities scoff at his dire warnings. When Liesl loses her job at MGM, her only choice is to work with Leon Lewis and the mysterious Agent Thirteen to spy on her friends and neighbors in her German American community. What Leon Lewis and his spies find is more chilling—and more dangerous—than any of them suspected.

Loesch, Kristen. [The Last Russian Doll](#) (Berkley \$27)

In a faraway kingdom, in a long-ago land...
...Rosie lived peacefully in Moscow and her mother told her fairy tales. Magical stories that could have been the folklore of their people, or her mother's own imaginings--Rosie was never sure. But one summer night, all of that came abruptly to an end when her father and sister were gunned down. Now, a decade later and studying at Oxford University, Rosie has a fiancé who knows nothing of her former life. When her reclusive mother dies and leaves behind a notebook full of eerie handwritten tales, Rosie returns to Russia and uncovers a devastating family history that spans the 1917 Revolution, the siege of Leningrad, Stalin's purges, and beyond.

Monroe, Mary. [Love, Honor, Betray](#) (Dafina \$27)

With their sham of a marriage in danger, Jessie and Hubert Wiggins, desperately trying to maintain their devout facade and respectable standing, must decide whether or not to reveal the person who might be behind the serial murders plaguing their town, which, if they are to do so, would risk their own web of lies being exposed.

Oakley, Colleen. [The Mostly True Story of Tanner & Louise](#) (Berkley \$27)

Twenty-one-year-old Tanner Quimby needs a place to live. Preferably one where she can continue sitting around in sweatpants and playing video games nineteen hours a day. Since she has no credit or money to speak of, her options are limited, so when an opportunity to work as a live-in caregiver for an elderly woman falls into her lap, she takes it. One slip on the rug. That's all it took for Louise Wilt's daughter to demand that Louise have a full-time nanny living with her. Never mind that she can still walk fine, finish her daily crossword puzzle, and pour the two fingers of vodka she drinks every afternoon. Bottom

line: Louise wants a caretaker even less than Tanner wants to be one. Thus begins the story of a not-to-be-underestimated elderly woman and an aimless young woman who—if they can outrun the mistakes of their past—might just have the greatest adventure of their lives.

Oates, Nathan. [A Flaw in the Design](#) (Random \$28)

After his nephew is orphaned, a creative writing professor and his wife must take in seventeen-year-old Matthew and are concerned and panicked when the young man begins writing chilling stories that imagine the deaths of his parents and relatives.

Painter, Lynn. [The Love Wager](#) (Berkley \$17)

After belly-crawling out of a hotel room (hello, rock bottom), Hallie Piper decides it's time to become a full-on adult. She gets a new apartment, a new haircut, and a new wardrobe, but when she logs onto the dating app that she has determined will find her new love, she sees none other than Jack, the guy whose room she snuck out of. After agreeing they are absolutely *not* interested in each other, Jack and Hallie realize they're each other's perfect wing-person in their searches for The One. Discouraged by the lack of prospects, Jack and Hallie make a wager to see who can find true love first, but when they agree to be fake dates for a weekend wedding, all bets are off.

Penner, Sarah. [The London Séance Society](#) (Park Row \$29.99)

In 1873, Lenna Wickes accompanies acclaimed spiritualist Vaudeline D'Allaire to England where they team up with London's exclusive Séance Society to solve a high-profile murder and soon suspect they are not merely out to solve a crime, but perhaps entangled in one themselves.

Schine, Cathleen. [Kunstlers in Paradise](#) (Henry Holt \$27.99)

In this powerful novel of stories hand down and handed on, and those held close to the heart, Julian Künstler, during the 2020 pandemic, is trapped in Venice, California, with his glamorous, eccentric 93-year-old grandmother who shares her experiences upon arriving in the US after escaping Nazi Germany.

Siegel, Natasha. [Solomon's Crown](#) (Dell \$17)

In 12th-century Europe, newly crowned King Philip of France and Richard, Duke of Aquitaine, the heir to England's royal seat, find themselves staring down an impending war and must choose between their desire for each other and their grand ambitions. "Siegel's smooth, gorgeous writing deliciously evokes the era and establishes her well-drawn characters. This will be catnip for readers who like their historical romance to come with a deep political slant." (*PW*)

Spence-Ash, Laura. [Beyond That, the Sea](#) (Celadon \$28)

As German bombs fall over London in 1940, working-class parents Millie and Reginald Thompson make an impossible choice: they decide to send their eleven-year-old daughter, Beatrix, to America. There, she'll live with another family for the duration of the war, where they hope she'll stay safe. But Beatrix fits in so seamlessly with her new family, that she is hesitant to return to post-war England when she is called home.

Thomas, Sherry. [A Tempest at Sea](#) (Berkley \$17)

After faking her own death to escape from Moriarty, Charlotte Holmes comes out of hiding to attempt to retrieve a dossier for the crown. "Reminiscent of forced-proximity stories like Christie's *Death on the Nile* or the game and miniseries *Clue*, the novel is an

entertaining read for its wheels-within-wheels structure and the drips of knowledge we are given. Fans of the Victorian lady detective will enjoy her resurrection. (*Kirkus*)

Waldon, Lacie. [The Only Game in Town](#) (Putnam \$17)

The Westing Game meets *Sweet Home Alabama* in *The Only Game in Town*, in which an eccentric millionaire's fortune could change one woman's life forever...if only she can win it!

Webb, Heather. [Strangers in the Night](#) (William Morrow \$19.99)

Transporting readers to the golden age of Hollywood, this captivating novel follows Ava Gardner and Frank Sinatra as they ride a rollercoaster of success and failure, passion and anger, wondering if the next turn will be the end of their careers and the end of all they've shared.

Wilde, Lori. [The Wedding at Moonglow Bay](#) (Avon \$18.99)

When Samantha said "I do" to Luca Ginelli, she knew she'd found a reliable soul mate—a strong, sexy man who'd stand beside her through thick and thin. And so she'd started her wedding day filled with joyful expectation, only to have her dreams shattered when the man she married years before shocking, unexpectedly, reappears, insisting she was still his wife! Seven years before, Luca's brother, Nick, had stubbornly set off in a sailing adventure, ignoring the pleas of his young bride and all common sense. He'd disappeared without a trace; everyone thought he was dead—but now he's expecting to pick up where they'd left off. Now Samantha is faced with an impossible choice and no matter which decision she makes, it threatens to shred the very fabric of the one thing she holds most dear—family.

Willig, Lauren. [Two Wars and a Wedding](#) (William Morrow \$32)

As the Spanish-American war begins, archaeologist Betsy Hayes joins the Red Cross in search of her former best friend and follows Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders straight to the heart of the fighting where dark memories of her last war resurface and her need to protect old and new friends intensifies.

Teen Fiction

Aleman, Daniel. [Brighter Than the Sun](#) (Little Brown \$18.99)

Leaving Tijuana, Mexico, behind to find a part-time job in San Diego to help her dad, 16-year-old Sol, with her life divided by an international border, grapples with loneliness and the part of her that may never want to return home.

Bayron, Kalynn. [My Dear Henry](#) (Feiwel & Friends \$19.99)

In this gothic YA remix of *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*, a teen boy tries to discover the reason behind his best friend's disappearance—and the arrival of a mysterious and magnetic stranger—in misty Victorian London.

McGinnis, Mindy. [A Long Stretch of Bad Days](#) (HarperCollins \$19.99)

To earn the last credit she needs to graduate, Lydia Chass teams up with foul-mouthed Bristol Jamison to transform her listener-friendly local history podcast into a hard-hitting, truth-telling exposé as they investigate an unsolved murder from their small town's past.

McNeil, Gretchen. [Three Drops of Blood](#) (Disney-Hyperion \$17.99)

Seventeen-year-old Kate Williams is willing to do whatever it takes to get her acting career

back on track, even if that means getting a boring office job to support herself—but when she witnesses a double murder in the office across from hers, will she be able to get anyone to believe her before she becomes the next victim? *Rear Window* for the YA set.

Nix, Garth. [The Sinister Booksellers of Bath](#) (HarperTeen \$19.99)

Merlin, his sister Vivien, and an art student struggling with her magical heritage follow a newly discovered sorcerous map to a place separated from this world and guarded by monstrous living statues, where they must stop a murderous Ancient Sovereign from killing again. Sequel to *The Left-Handed Booksellers of London*.

Reintgen, Scott. [A Door in the Dark](#) (Margaret K. McElderry \$19.99)

Snatched from the safety of Balmerick University's campus and set down in the middle of nowhere, Ren Monroe guides the remaining wizards through the punishing wilderness with limited magical resources, stumbling upon tangled secrets while being stalked by something in the dark woods.

Wein, Elizabeth. [Stateless](#) (Penguin \$18.99)

Stella North is one of twelve young pilots competing in a 1937 air race meant to promote peace in Europe, but when one of her competitors is sabotaged, Stella races to determine who among their group is capable of murder, and who might be the next victim.

Nonfiction

Baxter, John et. al. [The Story of Disney](#) (Disney \$60)

Published to coincide with its 100th anniversary in 2023, this official companion to the touring exhibition by Walt Disney Archives

and SC Exhibitions showcases the history and rich legacy of the most magic place on earth through vibrant voices and rare Disney concept art and photographs.

Boessenecker, John. [Gentleman Bandit](#) (Hannover \$32.99)

Black Bart is widely regarded today as not only the most notorious stage robber of the Old West but also the best behaved. Over his lifetime, Black Bart held up at least twenty-nine stagecoaches in California and Oregon with mild, polite commands, stealing from Wells Fargo and the US mail but never robbing a passenger. Such behavior earned him the title of a true “gentleman bandit.”

Darkshire, Oliver. [Once Upon a Tome](#) (WW Norton \$27.95)

Some years ago, Oliver Darkshire stepped into the hushed interior of Henry Sotheran Ltd (est. 1761) to apply for a job. Allured by the smell of old books and the temptation of a management-approved afternoon nap, Darkshire was soon unteetering stacks of first editions and placating the store’s resident ghost (the late Mr. Sotheran, hit by a tram). By turns unhinged and earnest, *Once Upon a Tome* is the colorful story of life in one of the world’s oldest bookshops and a love letter to the benign, unruly world of antiquarian bookselling, where to be uncommon or strange is the best possible compliment.

Egan, Timothy. [A Fever in the Heartland](#) (Viking \$30)

A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist traces the Ku Klux Klan’s rise to power in the 1920s, driven by the con man D.C. Stephenson, and how a seemingly powerless woman named Madge Oberholtzer brought them to their knees.

Hammack, Bill. [The Things We Make](#) (Sourcebooks \$26.99)

From the grand stone arches of medieval cathedrals to the ordinary modern soda can, the author, aka The Engineer Guy, explains the golden rule of thumb that underlies every new building technique, every technological advancement and every creative solution that leads us toward a more functional world.

Healey, Jonathan. [The Blazing World](#) (Knopf \$38)

A noted historian transports us back to seventeenth-century England, painting a vivid portrait of a country in the midst of a revolutionary age where new ideas were forged that were angry, populist, and almost impossible for monarchs to control, and where wealth, creativity and daring curiosity heralded a new world.

Lisle, John. [The Dirty Tricks Department](#) (St. Martin’s \$29.99)

Drawing on extensive archival research and personal interviews, this previously untold story of the OSS Research and Development Branch, a secret group of scientists who invented deadly items, forged documents and performed truth drug experiments during World War II, explores the moral dilemmas they faced and reveals their dark legacy.

Lopez, Kristen. [But Have You Read the Book?](#) (Running Press \$20)

“I love that movie!” “But have you read the book?” Within these pages, Turner Classic Movies offers an endlessly fascinating look at 52 beloved screen adaptations and the great reads that inspired them. Some films, like *Clueless*—Amy Heckerling’s interpretation of Jane Austen’s *Emma*—diverge wildly from the original source material, while others, like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, shift the point of view to craft a different experience within the same story. Author Kristen Lopez explores just what makes these works classics

of both the page and screen, and why each made for an exceptional adaptation—whether faithful to the book or exemplifying cinematic creative license.

Masters, Nathan. [Crooked](#) (Hachette \$30)
Newly elected to the Senate on a promise to root out corruption, Burton “Boxcar Burt” Wheeler sets his sights on ousting Attorney General Harry Daugherty, puppet-master behind President Harding’s unlikely rise to power. Daugherty is famous for doing whatever it takes to keep his boss in power, and his cozy relations with bootleggers and other scofflaws have long spawned rumors of impropriety. But when his constant companion and trusted fixer, Jess Smith, is found dead of a gunshot wound in the apartment the two men share, Daugherty is suddenly thrust into the spotlight, exposing the rot consuming the Harding administration to a shocked public.

McCracken, Patti. [The Angel Makers](#) (William Morrow \$32.99)
Recounts one of the most sensational and astonishing murder rings in all of modern history orchestrated by a 1920s midwife in Hungary known as Auntie Suzy who provided the women of Nagyrév with arsenic-filled vials, which were used to dispose of at least 160 men. “This is a must for true crime fans.” (*PW*)

Waldstreicher, David. [The Odyssey of Phillis Wheatley](#) (Farrar Straus and Giroux \$30)
In this new biography of Phillis Wheatley, whose poetry was at the heart of the American Revolution, a noted historian offers the deepest account to date of her life and works, correcting myths, reconstructing intimate friendships and deepening our understanding of the revolutionary era.