

Midmonth BookNotes

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All Treats and No Tricks Books!

Cozy Corner

Andrews, Donna. [Five Golden Wings](#) (St. Martin's \$28)

When two feuding cousins plan their Christmas destination weddings on the same day in the same town, Meg Langslow mediates only to stumble across a murdered photographer in the process. Meg quickly discovers that there are plenty of suspects for the murder. The photographer has been hitting on many of the guests, bridesmaids . . . possibly even one or both of the brides. He's also been slinking about and taking candid shots that are unflattering, embarrassing, occasionally even incriminating. Can Meg help the local police nab the killer in time for the weddings to go on as planned?

Beaton, M.C. and R.W. Green. [Sugar and Spite](#) (St. Martins \$27)

When a series of deaths within the small Cotswolds birdwatching community begins to unravel her village, Agatha and her team at Raisin Investigators are certain there has been

foul play involved.

Brock, Allison. [Death on Dickens Island](#) (Crooked Lane \$29.99)

Returning home to Dickens Island, Delia Dickens finds her island town embroiled in a murder investigation stemming from a family feud over a farm. Now Delia must seek some help from her ghostly grandmother to find the killer. A series debut.

Brown, Rita Mae. [Fox and Furious](#) (Random \$30)

Two brothers fight over the inheritance of five acres and a hunting beagle kennel—until one of them is murdered. Now it's up to "Sister" Jane Arnold to hunt down the truth, with a little help from her four-legged friends.

Cambridge, Colleen. [Two Truths and a Murder](#) (Kensington \$27) SIGNED

While her famous employer investigates aboard the Orient Express, full-time housekeeper and part-time amateur sleuth Phyllida Bright is called to a dinner party where a bold murder claim and the subsequent death of a shy guest thrust her into a deadly mystery

involving two murders and hidden secrets. In the latest of Cambridge's deliciously fun mysteries featuring Agatha Christie's housekeeper – this one is inspired by Christie's *Halloween Party* - "Phyllida's deductive skills are on par with Marple and Poirot." (PW)

Gerber, Daryl Wood. [Murder by the Millions](#) (Kensington \$27)

Feast for the Eyes bookstore manager and Allie Catt's best friend, Tegan, is hosting a book club soiree and wants it to be a glittering affair based on F. Scott Fitzgerald's iconic Jazz Age-set novel, *The Great Gatsby*. Amid the party planning, charismatic developer Jason Gardner arrives in town to buy some historic buildings on Main Street. He, too, has plans: to create a modern mall. Allie is more than concerned. She even wants to protest. But when Jason invites her to cater a lavish party, she finds him surprisingly likable. Then she's summoned to his estate for a meeting—and finds him dead.

Hills, Kat. *Dead & Breakfast*[Dead & Breakfast](#) (Penguin \$19)

After the mayor of Trident Falls, Oregon, turns up dead in their flower bed with suspicious bite marks, undead couple Arthur and Sal must prove their innocence with help from a werewolf barista and an elven coroner. The start to a new series that promises a different yet fun take on cozies.

Penney, Elizabeth. [Vows and Villainy](#) (St. Martin's \$9.99)

It's wedding season in Cambridge, and Molly Kimball is thrilled that it's almost time for her best friend's special day. With the help of her boyfriend Kieran Scott, she is determined to be the best maid of honor for Daisy and Tim. Daisy's heart is set upon a Shakespeare-themed wedding to be held at Hazelhurst House, Kieran's family's home. The

Scotts are also hosting a Shakespeare troupe for the summer, and the actors have kindly agreed to be part of the festivities. But all goes awry with the discovery of Sir Nigel Peck, a famous actor with a checkered past and present-day misdeeds, floating dead in the moat with flowers strewn around him, à la Ophelia.

Quigley, Mindy. [At Death's Dough](#) (St. Martin's \$9.99)

In snowy Geneva Bay, Wisconsin, pizza chef Delilah O'Leary and her detective boyfriend Calvin Capone stumble onto a century-old mystery tied to his mobster ancestry, unraveling small-town secrets, buried treasure, and a danger that threatens both their love and their lives. The latest entertaining addition to Quigley's "Deep Dish" series is a "fine combination of food lore, historical tidbits, and chilly adventures." (Kirkus)

Sanders, Angela. [Witch and Tell](#) (Kensington \$8.99)

When librarian-witch Josie Way discovers a corpse that vanishes before help arrives, her unreliable magic, strained romance with the sheriff, and growing list of suspects lead her to a baffling mystery in which secrets run deep and she's the prime suspect.

Townsend, Peggy. [The Botanist's Assistant](#) (Penguin \$19)

Plenty of people consider Margaret Finch odd. Six-feet-tall and big-boned, she lives alone in a small cabin in the woods, drives a 20-year-old truck, and schedules her life so precisely you can tell the time and day of the week by the chore she is doing and what she is wearing. But the same attributes that cause her to be labeled eccentric—an obsessive attention to detail and the ability to organize almost anything—make her invaluable in her job as Research Assistant II to a talented and charis-

matic botanist. It's those very same qualities, however, that also turn Margaret into a detective after the death of that same botanist shakes the small university where she works.

Historical Fiction, Mysteries, Romance and More

Beissel, Jill. [Glitter and Gold](#) (Rising Action \$17.99) SIGNED

After her mother's death, Delaney Byrne faces escalating debts and a sister to support. Their home is then burglarized, hinting that there might actually be something to her mother's obsession with a hidden treasure in Arizona's mountains. When her estranged best friend, Joss, proposes one final treasure hunt, Delaney is skeptical but desperate. As they delve into the wilderness, Delaney and Joss navigate a maze of old betrayals and hidden dangers. Each clue they uncover draws them closer to the treasure but deeper into risk. Delaney vows not to repeat her mother's mistakes, but the mountain's perils are relentless, and trust is scarce.

Bellefleur, Alexandria. [The Devil She Knows](#) (Penguin \$19)

Down-on-her-luck Samantha Cooper makes a deal with a crafty demon to win back her ex-girlfriend after a proposal gone awry, only to discover the girl of her dreams might be the devil she knows. A wickedly fun romance for readers who like their Sapphic love stories served up with a generous side of the supernatural.

Bellezza, Audrey. [Anne of Avenue A](#) (Gallery \$19)

A decade after Anne Eliot and Freddie Wentworth's fateful romance, the only thing they

still have in common is a desire to leave their relationship firmly in the past, but between a disastrous off-Broadway show and a drunken Thanksgiving dinner, nosey neighbors and flirtatious friends, they suddenly find their lives more intertwined than ever before. Jane Austen's *Persuasion* meets the Big Apple in this swoon-worthy holiday romance.

Blacke, Olivia. [Death at the Door](#) (St. Martins \$28)

Ruby Young is slowly adjusting to her new life in Boston. A big part of that is her unexpected roommate-the ghost of the woman who lived there before: Cordelia Graves. When Ruby discovers the body of a delivery guy at work, the new life she's been building hangs in the balance. The last time Cordelia dragged Ruby into a murder investigation, it was almost two ghosts living in the apartment, not one. Determined to protect Ruby, Cordelia tries to shield her from the investigation, but Ruby has other ideas. It will take both of them working together to navigate the fine line between the dead and the living to bring a killer to light.

Catalano, Andrea. [The First Witch of Boston](#) (Amazon \$16.99) SIGNED

Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1646. Thomas and Margaret Jones arrive from England to build a life in the New World. Though of differing temperaments, cautious Thomas and fiery Margaret, a healer, are bound by a love that has lasted decades. With a child on the way, their new beginning promises only blessings.

But in this austere Puritan community, comely faces hide malicious intent. Wrong moves or words are met with suspicion, and Margaret's bold and unguarded nature draws scorn. Soon, Margaret is mistrusted as more cunning woman than kind caregiver. And when per-

sonal tragedies, religious hysteria, and wariness of the unknown turn most against her, even the devotion Margaret and her husband share is at risk. Inspired by actual diary entries and court records surrounding the first woman to be found guilty of witchcraft in seventeenth-century Massachusetts, *The First Witch of Boston* is at once the riveting story of a woman unjustly accused and a love story set amid the political and social turmoil of both Old and New England.

Donohue, Meg. [The Memory Gardener](#) (Gallery \$19)

Lucy Barnes is a gardener with an uncanny ability to know exactly which scent among her flowers will illuminate to a person a key from their past that might change their future. Sadly, after a tragedy ten years ago, she no longer uses her gift and has fled her hometown. But six months after her mother's death, Lucy awakens to find her mother's unmistakable scent drifting over her, and she knows that she is being called home. And when a mysterious note leads her to take a job as the gardener at the Oceanview Home, a senior-living residence, Lucy finds herself wondering if there is more to her gift—and her mother's past—than she ever knew.

Dornbush, Jennifer. [What Darkness Does](#) (Blackstone \$19.99) SIGNED

Called in to investigate the body of a young mother found floating in a small Michigan lake, Freeport coroner Dr. Emily Hartford quickly determines that Savannah Browdey was murdered. Among the many questions circling this horrifying event is one that yanks hard on Emily's heartstrings: Where is Savannah's infant daughter? Working alongside police detective Ishkode Aditson, Emily becomes ferociously determined to find the missing baby, Brooklyn.

At the same time, Emily's longtime ex-cop turned FBI agent boyfriend Nick Larsen has reappeared—after being missing, presumed dead, for over a year. Now as far as Nick is concerned, helping Emily catch a sadistic killer seems like good way for him to work through all the trauma he has endured over the last year.

Gates, Maggie. [Dust Storm](#) (Penguin \$19)
The last thing single dad rancher Christian Griffith needs is another problem in his life. Unfortunately, argumentative Cassandra Parker showing up on his family's ranch and sticking her nose in their business isn't even his biggest problem—neither is the fact that with nowhere else to live, she's in his house. The biggest problem? The engagement ring on her finger.

Gregory, Philippa. [Boleyn Traitor](#) (HarperCollins \$32)

For Jane Boleyn, survival demands playing every role required of her: a loving wife who conceals her doubts, a devoted sister to Anne Boleyn at the height of her power, and an obedient spy who carefully wields her words. But in a court ruled by ambition and a tyrant's sword, Jane must rely on her sharp wit and skillful maneuvering to outthink those around her, knowing that one wrong move could cost her everything.

Hannah, Sophie. [The Last Death of the Year](#) (HarperCollins \$30)

New Year's Eve, 1932. Hercule Poirot and Inspector Edward Catchpool arrive on the tiny Greek island of Lamperos to celebrate the holiday with what turns out to be a rather odd community of locals living in a dilapidated house. A dark sense of foreboding overshadows the beautiful island getaway when the guests play a New Year's Resolutions game after dinner and one written resolution glee-

fully threatens to perform “the last and first death of the year. Hours later, one of the home’s residents is found dead on the terrace. In light of the shocking murder, Poirot reveals to Catchpool the real reason he’s brought him to the island—the life of another community member has been threatened. Now both men resolve to ensure that the first murder will be the last. “Once again, Hannah proves both a quick study and an inventive thinker, delivering a whodunit that honors Poirot’s history without feeling like a mere retread. Golden age mystery fans are in for a treat.” (PW)

Ihli, Noelle W. [Ask for Andrea](#) (Kensington \$18.95) SIGNED

He hunted them online, masquerading as an eligible bachelor. Then he played the perfect gentleman, a thick layer of charm and a thousand-watt smile hiding the fact that his first dates end in shallow graves. He’s gotten away with murder three times now. The only thing that might keep him from killing again? The women he murdered. Meghan, Brexia, and Skye might be dead, but they’re not gone. They’ve found each other. And they won’t rest until they find a way to stop him

Karon, Jan. [My Beloved](#) (Penguin \$32)

When Father Tim’s wife, Cynthia, asks what he wants for Christmas, he pens the answer in a love letter that bares his most private feelings. Then the letter goes missing and circulates among his astonished neighbors. Can a letter change a life? More than twenty-five years ago, Karon introduced readers to the North Carolina small town of Mitford and its colorful inhabitants. Now, Karon returns to that world with another quietly powerful and completely charming book that celebrates the mysteries and miracles of everyday life with both humor and heart.

Kawashiro, Saki. [The Ex-Boyfriend’s Favorite Funeral Recipe Committee](#) (Crown \$27)

Heartbroken Momoko finds unexpected comfort in cooking her ex’s favorite curry for kind strangers, and this helps her launch a café group where patrons heal through sharing breakup stories and recreating dishes that symbolized their lost relationships.

Levine, Jennna. [Road Trip with a Vampire](#) (Penguin \$19)

Peter Elliott, a gorgeous vampire who can’t remember his past, and reformed bad witch Grizelda “Zelda” Watson -- with secrets of her own -- hit the road for answers -- only to find what they’re looking for in each other.

McDermott, John A. [The Last Spirits of Manhattan](#) (Atria \$29)

After fleeing her mundane life in the Midwest, Carolyn Banks finds herself in her enigmatic great-aunts’ eerie mansion on Manhattan’s Upper East Side. Inside its crumbling façade, suspense director Alfred Hitchcock is throwing a party, gleefully informing his celebrity guests that the venue is supposedly haunted. It all seems like a fun gag, but Carolyn knows that the line between reality and the supernatural is dangerously blurred here. Soon, the paranormal entities are mingling with guests like Charles Addams and Henry Fonda. As Carolyn grapples with romantic entanglements and ghostly encounters, she discovers long-buried family secrets, challenging her understanding of love, loyalty, and legacy.

McFarlane, Mhairi. [Cover Story](#) (HarperCollins \$18.99)

Bel Macauley is an award-winning podcaster turned investigations editor at a small three-person Manchester newspaper office, where she finds herself locked in professional combat with the office’s new thirty-something intern, Connor Adams. When the tip of a life-

time comes Bel's way, she creates a plan that has her going undercover, but Bel's carefully constructed cover story is threatened when she bumps into Connor while pretending to be someone else. Now the only way to keep her journalistic investigation on track is by convincing Connor to pretend to be her boyfriend.

McKinlay, Jenn. [Witches of Dubious Origin](#) (Penguin \$19) SIGNED

Zoe Ziakas enjoys a quiet life, working as a librarian in her quaint New England town. When a mysterious black book with an unbreakable latch is delivered to the library, Zoe has a strange feeling the tome is somehow calling to her. She decides to consult the Museum of Literature, home to volumes of indecipherable secrets, some possessing dark magic that must be guarded. Here, among their most dangerous collection, the Books of Dubious Origin, Zoe discovers that she is the last descendant of a family of witches and this little black book is their *grimoire*. Zoe knows she must decode the family's spell book and solve the mystery of what happened to her mother and her grandmother. McKinlay debuts a new fantasy-based series that contains a generous dash of mystery and romance as well as plenty of the author's deliciously dry sense of wit.

Nelson, Hollie. [A Heart So Haunted](#) (Crooked Lane \$29.99)

Left reeling from her aunt's sudden death, Landry knows she has to restore her old house and sell it for much needed cash, but as renovations begin, she notices some ghostly peculiarities, and when she uncovers a hidden door during the renovations, Landry dares to open it.

O'sullivan, Molly. [The Book of Autumn](#) (Kensington \$28)

Anthropologist and reluctant Magician Marcella Gibbons reunites with her former partner, rancher Max Middlemore, to investigate eerie deaths and possessions at their New Mexico college, uncovering ancient forces that demand she face forgotten truths and rekindle her magical bond with Max. Mystery, romance, and magic collide in this debut that takes the dark gothic to the sun-drenched Southwest.

Palmer, Caroline. [Workhorse](#) (Flatiron \$31.99)

At the turn of the millennium, Editorial Assistant Clodagh "Clo" Harmon wants nothing more than to rise through the ranks at the world's most prestigious fashion magazine. There's just one problem: she doesn't have the right pedigree. Instead, Clo is a "workhorse" surrounded by beautiful, wealthy, impossibly well-connected "show horses" who get ahead without effort, including her beguiling cubicle-mate, Davis Lawrence, the daughter of a beloved but fading Broadway actress. Now, in a career punctuated by moments of high absurdity, sudden windfalls, and devastating reversals of fortune, Clo wades across boundaries, taking ever greater and more dangerous risks to become the important person she wants to be within the confines of a world where female ambition remains cloaked. But who really is Clo underneath all the borrowed designer clothes and studied manners—and who are we if we share her desires?

Parker, Liz. [Witches of Honeysuckle House](#) (Crooked Lane \$29.99)

Florence and Evie Caldwell have long disagreed on how to break their family's curse, and tension in the family has been high since their mother's death thirteen years ago. Hon-

eyesuckle House, the family estate where every Caldwell has lived, now only houses one of the sisters. Evie has crafted it into an enchanted bed and breakfast while Florence runs a magical bookstore in town, refusing to even set foot inside Honeysuckle House. But when the house starts behaving dangerously and catches fire, Florence and Evie must set aside their differences and dig into past generations of their family and the town's history before the curse claims someone they love.

Pell, Tanya. [Her Wicked Roots](#) (Gallery \$29)
In a queer retelling of the Nathaniel Hawthorne classic gothic story, "Rappaccini's Daughter," Cordelia Beecher is lured to a lush estate owned by Lady Evangeline Edenfield, a botanist who might be hiding dark secrets.

Perkins, Stephanie. [Overdue](#) (St. Martins \$31)
Ingrid Dahl, a cheerful twenty-nine-year-old librarian in the cozy mountain town of Ridgetop, North Carolina, has been happily dating her college boyfriend, Cory, for eleven years without ever discussing marriage. But when Ingrid's sister announces her engagement to a woman she's only been dating for two years, Ingrid and Cory feel pressured to consider their future. Neither has ever been with anybody else, so they make an unconventional decision. They'll take a one-month break to date other people, then they'll reunite and move toward marriage. Ingrid even has someone in mind: her charmingly grumpy coworker, Macon Nowakowski, on whom she's secretly crushed for years. But plans go awry, and when the month ends, Ingrid and Cory realize they're not ready to resume their relationship—and Ingrid's harmless crush on Macon has turned into something much more complicated.

Reedy, Allyson. [Mrs. Wilson's Affair](#) (Union Square \$17.99)

This brilliantly clever debut offers a retelling of *The Great Gatsby* from the perspective of an often forgotten, yet indispensable, female character—Myrtle Wilson, Tom Buchanan's mistress.

Richman, Alyson. [The Missing Pages](#) (Union Square \$18.99)

Harry Widener boards the Titanic holding tight to a priceless book he just purchased in London. After mayhem strikes the ship, Harry's last known words are that he must return to his cabin for his treasure. Neither the young man nor the book are seen again. In his honor, his mother builds the Harry Widener Memorial Library at Harvard to memorialize her son and house his extensive book collection. Decades later, Violet Hutchins, a Harvard sophomore recovering from her own great loss, is working as a page at the Widener Library. When strange things begin happening at the library—books falling off shelves or opening to random pages—Violet wonders if Harry Widener's ghost is trying to communicate the missing pieces of his story from beyond the grave.

Roberts, Sheila. [The Man Next Door](#) (MIRA \$18.99)

After busting out a move on the dance floor while on a cruise to Hawaii results in a busted leg, Louise Hartman finds herself back home looking for ways to fill her days while recuperating. Louise's daughter Zona and her granddaughter Brie suggest that Louise take all her newly found free time and finally write the book she has been talking about for years. The question is what to write about? Perhaps their new neighbor Alex James might provide some inspiration. After all, has anybody seen the young woman living with him after she and

Alex got into a big fight? Roberts puts a cozy spin on *Rear Window* in this charmer that *PW* calls a “heartwarming diversion.”

Rowley, Steven. [The Dogs of Venice](#) (Penguin \$20)

After months of planning a romantic holiday getaway in Venice, Paul is blindsided when his five-year marriage suddenly unravels. Fueled by heartbreak, Paul endeavors to take the trip alone. Soon after arriving in Italy, he notices a small, scruffy, self-assured dog trotting alongside a canal with the confidence he so desperately wants for himself. When their paths cross again, Paul feels compelled to learn how his new four-legged friend thrives on his own. Amid the food, sights, and welcoming people of Venice, Paul’s journey culminates in a magical encounter that leads him to feel real connection—to a dog, to a foreign city and, most importantly, to himself.

Saldivar, Samantha. [Play You For It](#) (Random \$18)

When journalist Caroline snags an interview with Jordan, the first woman head coach of a top-level men’s college basketball team, the women have undeniable chemistry. Now with the national tournament in sight and their careers on the line, they must decide whether to take a shot on their love story.

Silver, Josie. [Kooky Spooky Love](#) (Random \$19)

Melody and her motley ghostbusting crew investigate the death of trapeze artist Britannia a century ago in Maplemead Castle, aided (or more often, interrupted) by her rakish ex Leo Dark and sarcastic reporter Fletcher Gunn.

Simpson, Rosemary. [In Deadly Fashion](#) (Kensington \$27)

Heiress turned lawyer and PI Prudence Mackenzie and ex-Pinkerton Geoffrey Hunter are about to become more than partners as inves-

tigators—they are to be wed at Trinity Church in Lower Manhattan. But a killer has designs on ruining the wedding as well as their lives when Brenda Leavitt, the seamstress working on Prudence’s wedding gown, is found murdered. The ferociously competitive fashion scene of 19th-century New York City makes a delicious backdrop for Simpson’s excellent latest Gilded Age mystery.

Solomons, Natasha. [I Am Cleopatra](#) (Harper-Collins \$18.99)

When her father dies, naming both Cleopatra and her selfish brother Ptolemy as his successors to the throne, danger arises. While the young Queen sails the Nile to greet her people, her brother plots to eliminate her and rule the empire alone.

But while Ptolemy has the power of the kingdom behind him, Cleopatra has her cunning wits. When the great Caesar arrives from Rome, she realizes he could be the key to her salvation—though courting this powerful man could cost her everything. Can Cleopatra save her life, her throne, and her beloved Egypt and finally write her own history?

Waters, Martha. [And then There Was the One](#) (Atria \$19)

In a quaint 1930s village in the Cotswolds, Georgiana Radcliffe has accidentally become an amateur detective after helping solve four murders in a single year, but when the chairman of the village council turns up dead, everyone agrees with the official ruling of a heart attack, except Georgie, who believes he is the fifth murder victim. So, Georgiana decides to do some investigating of her own with some help from the world famous detective Delacey Fitzgibbons. However, after arriving at the train station to pickup her guest, Georgie discovers Delacey has delegated his sleuthing duties to his secretary Sebastian Fletch-

er-Ford, whose primary skills as far as Georgie can determine seem to be flirting with females and looking stylish in jumpers. Waters' latest deliciously fun book is the perfect marriage of sparkling romance and cozy mystery as well as being a witty love letter to the joys of Golden Age detective fiction.

Weiss, Thea. [The Second Chance Cinema](#) (Atria \$29)

At the end of a fog-covered alley, glitters a glamorous cinema. It's nearly impossible to find. When Ellie and her fiancé, Drake, stumble upon it during a late-night walk, they're shocked to discover what's playing inside the red-velvet auditorium: their formative memories. Drake fears what the cinema might reveal, but eventually gives in when Ellie insists they return for more viewings. She's haunted by a night from her past that she doesn't fully remember. This is her opportunity to piece the story back together. But as the memories displayed on screen inch closer to the present, they realize they're both keeping secrets from each other.

Zipps, Emily. [Alice Rue Evades the Truth](#) (Random \$18)

Mistaken as the girlfriend of her comatose office crush, Alice Rue leans into the lie until she falls for his sister and must untangle the truth to claim a shot at real love. Zipps offers romance readers a Sapphic twist on *While You Were Sleeping*.

Teen

Bennett, Jenn. [The Prince of Mourning](#) (Simon and Schuster \$21.99)

After receiving a strange summons, 18-year-

old nursing student Molly O'Rinn becomes the private live-in nurse for a wealthy young man in a haunted mansion, but she learns he's not what he seems and is a prisoner locked behind magical barriers.

Drews, C. G. [Hazelthorn](#) (Feiwel & Friends \$19.99)

Evander, a reclusive autistic boy, inherits his murdered guardian's estate — which includes a sentient, carnivorous garden - and Evander must now find out who killed his guardian before they come for him next.

Hamilton, Amber. [Seven Deadly Thorns](#) (Bloomsbury \$20.99)

When Viola Sinclair's deadly shadow magic is discovered, the queen tells Roze, an assassin, that he has seven days to kill Viola or he will die. But Roze needs something from Viola, and now they must work together while dealing with the impossible attraction growing between them.

Hinds, Emma. [Witchlore](#) (St. Martins \$21)
As the only shapeshifter at Demdike College of Witchcraft, Lando feels like an outcast, especially after the accidental death of their girlfriend, until a mysterious witch named Bastian arrives, claiming he can cast a spell to bring her back.

Nanua, Sarena. [A Riddle of Thorns](#) (Candlewick \$19.99)

Per her "dead" mother's will, 18-year-old Sana Gupta and three strangers must solve riddles to win the deed to Razorthorn Manor, Sana's ancestral home in Paris, but feeling betrayed by her mother, Sana sets out to uncover the truth of where her mother really went and what links the competitors together.

Penn, Farrah. [Right Where We Belong](#) (Penguin \$20.99)

After the death of her father and the closing

of the boarding school she attends, Delaney Carmichael searches for a sense of belonging only to find it in an unexpected -- and undeniably charming -- visitor from nineteenth century London: Lord William Cromwell of Dunbry.

Ruhterford, Mara. [A Curious Kind of Magic](#) (St. Martin's \$21)

Seventeen-year-old Willow Stokes gets by selling fraudulent charms and magical items at her father's shoppe, but when outlander Brianna unintentionally turns her fake wares real, the girls' paths intertwine as they search for a missing *grimoire*.

What's Cooking

Bastianich, Lidia Matticchio. [Lidia's The Art of Pasta](#) (Knof \$35)

No one knows pasta like Lidia Bastianich. Through her bestselling cookbooks and award-winning television programs, she has introduced generations of home cooks to the wonders of Italy's greatest export. Now, for the first time, she has compiled her decades of expertise into one authoritative volume: the definitive book on pasta. Through more than a hundred simple, perfect recipes, Lidia showcases pastas of all kinds—stuffed, baked, and sauced; in soups and pasta salads; plus, of course, directions for making fresh pasta doughs and sauces at home.

Lakshmi, Padma. [Padma's All American](#) (Knopf \$40)

When Padma Lakshmi arrived in New York City in the 1970s, she witnessed firsthand the cuisines of the immigrant communities around her: uniquely their own and yet quintessentially American. Here, in this very personal

book—the result of seven years of traveling and tasting, listening and observing for her show *Taste the Nation*—Lakshmi compiles dozens of recipes from the immigrant and Indigenous communities she visits, as well as many from her own family, showing us what really comprises American cuisine.

McKinnon, Hetty Lui. [Linger](#) (Knopf \$40)

From her salad-delivery days in Sydney to her current career as a food writer and bestselling cookbook author in New York, Hetty Lui McKinnon has long known the power of salads to connect and create community. Salads are meant to be shared; they are what you bring to a gathering of friends or family, the ultimate comfort food. With over 100 inventive recipes for meal-worthy salads, smaller bites and simple sweets, Hetty invites you to become a part of an unforgettable shared experience of community, food and friendship.

Nosrat, Samin. [Good Things](#) (Random \$45) *Good Things* is an essential, joyful guide to cooking and living, whether you're looking for a comforting tomato soup to console a struggling friend, seeking a deeper sense of connection in your life, or hosting a dinner for ten in your too-small dining room. Here you'll find go-to recipes for ricotta custard pancakes, a showstopping roast chicken burnished with saffron, a crunchy, tingly Calabrian chili crisp, super-chewy sky-high focaccia, and a decades-in-the-making, childhood-evoking yellow cake with chocolate frosting. Along the way, you'll also find plenty of tips, techniques, and lessons, from how to buy olive oil (check the harvest date) to when to splurge (salad dressing is where you want to use your best ingredients) to the best uses for your pressure cooker (chicken stock and dulce de leche, naturally).

Roman, Alison. [Something from Nothing](#) (Clarkson Potter \$37.99)

In *Something from Nothing*, bestselling author Alison Roman gives you a collection of simple, smart, timeless recipes that rely on a home cook's best kept secret: a well-stocked pantry. Making the most of your shelf-stable bottles, bags, jars and cans, Alison shows you how to cook as she does—loosely, intuitively, and with maximum flavor. With each recipe you'll fall deeper in love with the magic of pantry cooking by using flavorful, hardworking ingredients, leaving you to ask, "How did something so wonderful come from basically nothing?"

Stewart, Martha. [Entertaining](#) (Clarkson Potter \$50)

Just in time for holiday parties comes this re-issue of the lifestyle expert and cultural icon's original essential guide to hosting that includes 300 timeless recipes, from pre-theatre dim sum to midnight champagne, plus expert tips, stunning photos and endlessly inspiring ideas for gatherings of every kind.

Nonfiction

Ballaster, Ros. [Jane Austen's Fashion Bible](#) (Macmillan \$24.99)

Beautiful fashion plates from Regency magazine *La Belle Assemblée* are combined with much-loved passages from Jane Austen's novels and juvenilia and woven together with commentary from leading Oxford academic Professor Ros Ballaster in this celebration of Regency fashion and the writing of Jane Austen.

Eckart, Kristine. [Meet Me At Luke's](#) (Andrews McMeel \$29.99)

From music and movies to relationships, *Gilm-*

ore Girls taught us all so much throughout the years. Now, take a walk down Stars Hollow's memory lane and reflect on the show's profound impact with author Kristine Eckart, founder of the Gilmore Book Club, in this beautifully illustrated guide to the beloved show.

Freedland, Jonathan. [The Traitor's Circle](#) (Harcourt \$32)

In 1943 Berlin, a circle of elite anti-Nazi resisters—including countesses, diplomats and educators—unwittingly faces betrayal from within, as their decade-long acts of defiance lead to exposure, persecution and a reckoning with the cost of moral courage.

Vaill, Amanda. [Pride and Pleasure](#) (Farrar, Straus & Giroux \$36)

Angelica and Elizabeth Schuyler, born to wealth and privilege in New York's Hudson Valley during the latter half of the eighteenth century, were raised to make good marriages and supervise substantial households. Instead they became embroiled in the turmoil of America's insurrection against Great Britain—and rebelled themselves, in ways as different as each was from the other, against the destiny mapped out for them. Drawing on deep archival research, including never-published records and letters, Amanda Vaill interweaves this family drama with its historical context, creating a narrative with the sweep and intimacy of a nineteenth-century novel.

Watts, Edward J. [The Romans](#) (Basic \$40)

When we think of "ancient Romans" today, many picture the toga-clad figures of Cicero and Caesar, presiding over a republic, and then an empire, before seeing their world collapse at the hands of barbarians in the fifth century AD. *The Romans* does away with this narrow vision by offering the first comprehensive account of ancient Rome over the

course of two millennia. Prize-winning historian Edward J. Watts recounts the full sweep of Rome's epic past: the Punic Wars, the fall of the republic, the coming of Christianity, Alaric's sack of Rome, the rise of Islam, the Battle of Manzikert, and the onslaught of the Crusaders who would bring about the empire's end. Watts shows that the source of Rome's enduring strength was the diverse range of people who all called themselves Romans.

"natural disasters" that are becoming more frequent and regular.

Whitelock, Anna. [The Sun Rising](#) (Penguin \$35)
Whitelock explores the reign of King James I, highlighting his role in uniting England and Scotland, advancing the kingdom's global trade ambitions, fostering cultural achievements such as Shakespeare's plays, and setting the stage for religious conflicts that shaped 17th-century Europe.

Winchester, Simon. [The Breath of the Gods](#) (HarperCollins \$35)
In 2022, a report was released by atmospheric scientists at the University of Northern Illinois, warning that winds—the force at the center of all these dangerous natural events—are expected to steadily increase in the years ahead, strengthening in power, speed, and frequency. While this prediction worried the insurance industry, governmental leaders, scientists, and conscientious citizens, one particular segment of society received it with unbridled enthusiasm. To the energy industry, rising wind strength and speeds as an unalloyed boon for humankind—a vital source of clean and "safe" power. Between these two poles—wind as a malevolent force, and wind as savior of our planet—lies a world of fascination, history, literature, science, poetry, and engineering which Simon Winchester explores with the curiosity and vigor that are the hallmarks of his bestselling works. In *The Breath of the Gods*, he explains how wind plays a part in our everyday lives, from airplane or car travel to the