THE FRONT LINE

The holiday season is in full swing at The Book Stall, and it is our favorite time of the year! Staffers worked to compile the “List of Lists” on the inside of this newsletter and will be happy to help you find that perfect book for everyone on your list. Of course, we will have our annual 20% off sale on Sunday, December 4 as part of Winnetka’s “Red Invitation” Holiday Sunday Sale. Our hours that day are extended to accommodate everyone’s busy schedule (10 am–5 pm). We’re also excited (and a little scared) to be welcoming back the Grinch! He’ll be at the store on Wednesday, December 14 at 4 pm, causing trouble and posing for photos. We’ll have a holiday storytime and treats for the family.

Although December is usually a quiet month for events, we do have a few author appearances on our calendar. The Wilmette Library is hosting Scott Ellsworth for his fascinating book, The Secret Game: A Wartime Story of Courage, Change, and Basketball’s Lost Triumph on Thursday, December 1 at 7 pm. Cokie Roberts will be appearing at the University Club for a luncheon on Monday, December 5 to introduce her new book for young readers, Ladies of Liberty, and to discuss the role of women in America. Jeremy McCarter will also be at the University Club on Tuesday, December 6 for a lunch event to talk about his book Hamilton: The Revolution, the definitive book about the incredible musical. Please call the store to make reservations for these events. We’re thrilled to welcome back Anne Bryn at 2 pm on Saturday, December 10 for her beautiful new book, American Cake: From Colonial Gingerbread to Classic Layer, the Stories and Recipes Behind More Than 125 of Our Best-Loved Cakes. Booksellers will be baking for this meet and greet; I’ll be attempting the Hershey Bar Cake. Our rep Anne Hellman, from Macmillan, has promised to bake the Cinnamon Flop. Finally, the Family Action Network is presenting Harvard Business School professor Michael Norton for his book Happy Money: The Science of Happier Spending on Wednesday, December 14 at 7 pm at New Trier High School.

As busy as it is, I still find the best form of relaxation is time with a good book. Searching for John Hughes: Or Everything I Thought I Needed to Know About Life I Learned from Watching ’80s Movies by Jason Diamond is a book both charming and thoughtful about growing up and letting go of the past. Am I Alone Here? by Peter Orner is a book about books, or “a book of unlearned criticism that stumbles into memoir.” One of my very favorite authors is Michael Chabon, whom I had the great luck to meet by chance after he’d published his first book Mysteries of Pittsburgh. I have marveled as his career has taken off, fueled by his extraordinary writing. Moonglow is his latest novel, inspired by his dying grandfather’s deathbed revelations about family and the mid-century American experience. (See a review on page 2.) Roger, my husband, has been staying up late reading Michael Connelly’s excellent new thriller The Wrong Side of Goodbye. Katie (19) is re-reading one of her favorite books by Neil Gaiman, Stardust. Nicky (18) is enjoying Kraken by China Miéville, a family favorite; and Lexy (15) really liked Lauren Oliver’s Replica (“creepy and fast-paced—would appeal to those who enjoy Patrick Ness”).

We’re looking forward to 2017 but look back on 2016, grateful for the community’s continued support of The Book Stall. We love what we do at the store and at the many events in and around Chicago, and every day I feel very lucky to be part of this incredible store.

Happy Holidays to you and yours!
THE INSIDE LINE

CHERYL DEFRANCESCHI

Moonglow: A Novel by Michael Chabon ($28.99). Once upon a time, first-time published author Michael Chabon spent a week at the bedside of his terminally ill grandfather. Facing his own mortality and filled with painkillers, Mr. Chabon’s grandfather dazzled him with never-before-heard tales from his life history. Moonglow opens with the death-bed confession of a grandfather to his grandson. It is an epic confession, rife with all the things we’ve come to love in a Chabon novel—adventure, war, love, madness, sex, and desire. The underlying theme of the power and devastating effects of lies flows all through the book like skeins of yarn, coming together to form something larger. And it is a large story, filled with all the adventures and heartbreaks that make up a life. Plus…rocketry! As always, Chabon’s prose is luminous, playful, acute, and joyous. It’s a great book to curl up with cocoa by the fire and enjoy.

Swing Time by Zadie Smith ($27). This is the story of two London friends who both dream of becoming dancers. Sadly, only one of them is actually talented enough to realize her dream. There is the type of friendship that shapes us as we become who we are, the type of friendship that ends suddenly but is never forgotten or far from our thoughts. The novel moves back and forth in time, showcasing a London on the cusp of Gothic and punk, and these passages just shine with Zadie’s brilliant prose. The passages from the present, in Africa and London, are meant to raise larger questions about privilege and cultural precepts and offer plenty of issues to ponder.

ROBERT McDoNALD

My Private Property by Mary Ruefle ($25). I like writing that stands at the borders of genre, and the poet Mary Ruefle’s certainly does in this new book of prose. In this brief, wise, and altogether delightful book you can be reading prose poems, memoir, essay—does it matter what we call it as long as the prose is so sharp, thought-provoking, and beautiful? Whether she is writing about the many varieties of sadness, as she does in short imagistic pieces scattered throughout the book, or writing longer works on shrunken heads, menopause, a near-miss in a car, Ruefle employs humor, surprise, and an uncaring ear for the right word to offer up page after page of amazement. My only criticism is that I wanted this book to be longer.

Upstream: Selected Essays, by Mary Oliver ($26). The poet Mary Oliver is beloved for her poems celebrating and amplifying the natural world. In this collection she assembles some of the best of her work in prose. As with the poems, Oliver is on the whole concerned not with the human world of streets and offices, jobs, restaurants, and houses, but rather with how one individual navigates the sometimes heady, sometimes sobering experience of being both soul and body in the natural world. Her realm is the swamp, the dunes, the ocean, the forests of her beloved Cape Cod, and the characters in these essays are foxes, fish, deer, owls, and of course Oliver herself, proud to count herself among them, one creature among the many. These essays will make you want to walk in the woods, in solitude, with dry leaves cracking at your feet. They will make you glad to be a brain and a spirit in the apartment of your body. If you are an Oliver fan, this is a must; if you have never read her before, these essays can serve as a great introduction to the poems.

JON GRAND

American Ulysses: A Life of Ulysses S. Grant by Ronald C. White ($35). Let’s get right to it: This book is magnificent! Grant has only recently been reassessed by historians. His reputation as a drunkard and as an uncaring butcher, which was current in his own time, has proven to be largely untrue. What emerges in White’s portrait is a man of tremendous military ability, deep humility, limited ambition, and a strong commitment to honor and duty. Plagued by self-doubt and often blinded by loyalties, he is a man of deep contradictions. White brilliantly captures the crosscurrents that were constantly at war within General Grant. Nor is this a static portrait. White carefully charts Grant’s changing attitudes toward slavery, state’s rights, and reconstruction. It is this on-going growth that ultimately makes Grant so interesting. I worried that White’s summary questions and assessments of the battles would detract from the narrative but, in fact, they are not intrusive and are thought-provoking. This is a compelling read for anyone interested in the Civil War or the history of the American Presidency.

The Tide: The Science and Stories Behind the Greatest Force on Earth by Hugh Aldersey-Williams ($27.95). Tides are a daily yet still often mysterious force that affect the lives of anyone living along the oceans’ coasts. Obvious impacts include shipping schedules and shoreline inundation. More subtle influences of tides on human physiology tend to be anecdotal rather than scientific. The history of tides—what they are, how they form, what they mean—has captured the imagination of writers from the ancient Greeks to the present. Aldersey-Williams brings much of this history together in a fascinating volume that is sure to be of particular interest to sailors and landlubbers alike.

Les Parisiennes: How The Women of Paris Lived, Loved, and Died Under Nazi Occupation by Anna Sebba ($27.99). Pictures of female collaborators with their heads shaved bare, paraded through the streets of Paris, have been the staple of many books. But the advent of World War II brought immediate, serious threats to the health and welfare of Parisian women. Many fled. But for those who stayed, the range of options ranged from collaboration to resistance, choices that held no promises of success or survival. Time is Sebba’s great ally. Distanced from the emotionally charged judgments of the post-war era, Sebba delves into the subtle, nuanced choices that faced women and the forces that shaped their decisions. The end result is a look at a world where black and white have devolved into endless shades of grey.
SATURDAY, DEC. 10
2 – 4 pm, Meet & Greet with cake at the store

ANNE BYRN
American Cake
The bestselling “Cake Mix Doctor” will be here with her brand-new book, whose subtitle says it all: From Colonial Gingerbread to Classic Layer, the Stories and Recipes Behind More Than 125 of Our Best-Loved Cakes. Ms. Byrn shows that no matter what’s happening in our history, Americans always need a piece of cake.

SUNDAY, DEC. 11
3 pm, Book Release Party at the store

ERICA O’ROURKE/LUCY KERR
Time of Death
Local author O’Rourke, writing under the pen name Lucy Kerr, celebrates her new adult mystery about an emergency room nurse who stumbles across a murder victim at the hospital in her rural hometown.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14
4 pm at the store
How the Grinch Stole Christmas Storytime
Join our traditional “How The Grinch Stole Christmas” storytime. This will be a Toys For Tots event! We invite guests to bring an unwrapped new toy for ages 2 – 14. We will deliver the collected toys so they can be distributed to those in need.

Book Stall Gift Ideas

♦ Adult Book Club: a great gift for a relative or friend: You select the frequency—every month, every other month or four times a year—and our staff will select books appropriate for the person that you have told us about.

♦ Children’s Book Club: Designed for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends who want to encourage the habit of reading in a child. A children’s book specialist will select books appropriate for the child’s age and interests.

♦ Membership in our 10% Discount Club: For an annual fee of $15, members receive a 10% discount on all purchases, this monthly newsletter in the mail, and invitations to members-only events.

♦ A Book Stall Gift Card in any denomination.

For more information, please ask any staff member or call us at 847 446-8880. See complete details on the homepage of our website www.thebookstall.com.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14 continued
7 pm, A FAN Event, Cornog Auditorium, New Trier HS
Northfield, 7 Happ Rd.

MICHAEL NORTON, PhD
Happy Money: The Science of Happier Spending
Harvard Business School professor Norton discusses his book that explains how consumers can structure buying experiences to create the largest impact on their happiness and satisfaction. No reservations required.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18
7 pm, Central School, 620 Greenwood Ave. (auditorium entrance on Grove St.), Glencoe

VERONICA ROTH
Carve the Mark
Celebrate the release of Ms. Roth’s new novel, just one day after it hits bookstores across the country. The author of the Divergent trilogy will be on-stage in conversation with Sarah Enni of the podcast First Draft. Audience members will have a chance to ask questions. All books sold will be autographed. Call The Book Stall at 847-446-8880 to reserve a seat and your copy of Carve the Mark, which is the first in a new science fiction-fantasy series by Ms. Roth.

Book Discussion Groups at The Book Stall

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 9:30 am
The Marriage of Opposites
by Alice Hoffman
Led by Nancy Buehler

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 9:30 am
The Sympathizer
by Viet Thanh Nguyen
Led by Judy Levin

Evening Book Discussion
Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 6:30 pm
Commonwealth
by Ann Patchett
Led by Alice Moody

There is a $5 charge to participate in book discussion groups, fully redeemable for merchandise in the store.
The Book Stall's 2016 Holiday List of Lists
What Book Should I Choose for the Person Who...

...loves to settle down with a good novel

The Nix by Nathan Hill ($27.95)
Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi ($26.95)
The Girls by Emma Cline ($27)

Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue ($28)
A compulsively readable debut novel about a young Cameroonian couple making a new life in New York just as the Great Recession upends the economy.

Commonwealth by Ann Patchett ($27.99)
Everybody’s Fool by Richard Russo ($27.95)
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles ($27)
The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead ($26.95)
Nutshell by Ian McEwan ($24.95)
Today Will Be Different by Maria Semple ($27)
Julian Fellowes’s Belgravia by Julian Fellowes ($27)
Faithful by Alice Hoffman ($26)
The Last Days of Night by Graham Moore ($28)

...is a mystery buff

The Trespasser by Tana French ($27)
Night School: A Jack Reacher Novel by Lee Child ($28.99)
Coffin Road by Peter May ($26.99)
Thrice the Brinded Cat Hath Mew’d by Alan Bradley ($26)
Home by Harlan Coben ($28)
Manitou Canyon by William Kent Krueger ($24.99)
Closed Casket: A New Hercule Poirot Mystery by Sophie Hannah, Agatha Christie ($26.99)
The Wrong Side of Goodbye by Michael Connelly ($29)
Echoes of Sherlock Holmes: Stories Inspired by the Holmes Canon edited by Laurie R. King and Leslie S. Klinger ($24.95)
A Great Reckoning by Louise Penny ($28.99)

...is in the mood for a good seasonal read

Christmas Bells by Jennifer Chiaverini ($16)
The Mistletoe Murder and Other Stories by P.D. James ($24)
Pretty Paper: A Christmas Tale by Willie Nelson ($21)
A Lowcountry Christmas by Mary Alice Monroe ($19.99)
Twelve Days of Christmas: A Christmas Novel by Debbie Macomber ($20)

A Very Russian Christmas: The Greatest Russian Holiday Stories of All Time Contributors: Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Chekhov, Lukashevitch, Zoshchenko, and more ($21.95)

...relives history through books

Spain in Our Hearts: Americans in the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939 by Adam Hochschild ($30)
The Face of Britain: A History of the Nation Through Its Portraits by Simon Schama ($39.95)
Rasputin: Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs by Douglas Smith ($35)
Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, a Daring Escape, and the Making of Winston Churchill by Candice Millard ($30)
Somme: Into the Breach by Hugh Sebag-Montefiore ($35)

Moscow Nights: The Van Cliburn Story – How One Man and His Piano Transformed the Cold War by Nigel Cliff ($28.99)
The dramatic story of a young Texan pianist who played his way through the wall of fear built by the Cold War, won the hearts of the American and Russian people, and eased tensions between two superpowers on the brink of nuclear war.

...is fascinated by the lives of others

Al Capone: His Life, Legacy, and Legend by Deirdre Bair ($30)
Pilgrimage: My Search for the Real Pope Francis by Mark K. Shriver ($28)
Victoria the Queen: An Intimate Biography of the Woman Who Ruled an Empire by Julia Baird ($35)
American Ulysses: A Life of Ulysses S. Grant by Ronald C. White ($35)
Hitler: Ascent 1889-1939 by Volker Ullrich ($40)
She Made Me Laugh: My Friend Nora Ephron by Richard Cohen ($27)

Retro Photo: An Obsession—A Personal Selection of Vintage Cameras and the Photographs They Take by David Ellwand ($45) A love song to film photography and the vintage cameras that capture it—a book that takes the fear out of old-style photography and puts the fun back in.

...can’t resist a new cookbook

How to Bake Everything: Simple Recipes for the Best Baking by Mark Bittman ($35)
Cooking for Jeffrey: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook by Ina Garten ($35)
Cook’s Science: How to Unlock Flavor in 50 of Our Favorite Ingredients by Cook’s Illustrated ($40)
Dorie’s Cookies by Dorie Greenspan ($35)
Cooking with Mary Berry by Mary Berry ($25)
A Recipe for Cooking by Cal Peternell ($29.99)
Alton Brown, EveryDayCook: This Time It’s Personal ($35)
Chef’s Library: Favorite Cookbooks from the World’s Great Kitchens by Jenny Linford ($40)
American Cake by Anne Byrn ($29.99)
...practices the scientific method

The Tide: The Science and Stories Behind the Greatest Force on Earth by Hugh Aldersey-Williams ($27.95)
The Undoing Project: A Friendship That Changed Our Minds by Michael Lewis ($28.95, out Dec. 6)
The Gene: An Intimate History by Siddhartha Mukherjee ($32)
Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War by Mary Roach ($26.95)
Time Travel: A History by James Gleick ($26.95)

...has a soft spot for our four-legged friends

Being a Dog: Following the Dog into a World of Smell by Alexandra Horowitz ($27)
Let Me Tell You About Jasper…How My Best Friend Became America’s Dog by Dana Perino ($27)
The Perfect Horse: The Daring U.S. Mission to Rescue the Priceless Stallions Kidnapped by the Nazis by Elizabeth Letts ($28)

The Lion in the Living Room: How House Cats Tamed Us and Took Over the World by Abigail Tucker ($26)
A lively adventure through history, natural science, and pop culture in search of how cats conquered the world, the Internet, and our hearts.

...can’t wait to get on the road again

The Road to Little Dribbling: Adventures of an American in Britain by Bill Bryson ($16.95)
Far and Away: Reporting from the Brink of Change by Andrew Solomon ($30)
Epic Bike Rides of the World: Explore the Planet’s Most Thrilling Cycling Routes by Lonely Planet ($35)
On Trails: An Exploration by Robert Moor ($25)
City Squares: Eighteen Writers on the Spirit and Significance of Squares Around the World by Catie Marron ($32.50)
Where to Go When: The World’s Best Destinations by DK ($20)

...is (almost) all-business

Eccentric Orbits: The Iridium Story by John Bloom ($27.50)
Smarter Faster Better: The Secrets of Being Productive in Life and Business by Charles Duhigg ($28)
Originals: How Non-Conformists Move the World by Adam Grant, foreword by Sheryl Sandberg ($27)
Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike by Phil Knight ($29)
A Field Guide to Lies: Critical Thinking in the Information Age by Daniel J. Levitin ($28)
The Attention Merchants: The Epic Scramble to Get Inside Our Heads by Tim Wu ($28.95)

...has a song in their heart

Born to Run by Bruce Springsteen ($32.50)
Just Getting Started by Tony Bennett with Scott Simon ($27.99)
Kill ‘em and Leave: Searching for James Brown and the American Soul by James McBride ($28)
The Rolling Stones All the Songs: The Story Behind Every Track by Philippe Margolin and Jean-Michel Guesdon ($50)
Forever Words: The Unknown Poems by Johnny Cash ($25)

...believes humor is the best medicine

Good Clean Fun: Misadventures in Sawdust at Offerman Woodshop by Nick Offerman ($35)

The Daily Show (The Book): An Oral History as Told by Jon Stewart, the Correspondents, Staff and Guests by Chris Smith, foreword by Jon Stewart ($30)
The people behind the show share memories of last-minute rewrites, improvisations, pranks, romances, blow-ups, and moments of Zen both on and off the set of one of America’s most groundbreaking shows.

In Such Good Company: Eleven Years of Laughter, Mayhem, and Fun in the Sandbox by Carol Burnett ($28)

...is a good sport (fan)

Forward: A Memoir by Abby Wambach ($26.99)
When Nobody Was Watching: My Hard-Fought Journey to the Top of the Soccer World by Carli Lloyd ($26)
The Legends Club: Dean Smith, Mike Krzyzewski, Jim Valvano, and an Epic College Basketball Rivalry by John Feinstein ($27.95)
A History of Sailing in 100 Objects by Barry Pickthall ($35)
Sports Geek: A Visual Tour of Myths, Debates, and Data by Rob Minto ($20)
Gamechangers: The Unsung Heroines of Sports History by Molly Schiot ($25)
A History of American Sports in 100 Objects by Cait Murphy ($29.99)
99: Stories of the Game by Wayne Gretzky with Kirstie McMillan Day ($28)

...is a fashion follower

In the Name of Gucci: A Memoir by Patricia Gucci ($28)
The Autobiography of a Snake: Drawings by Andy Warhol ($21.95)
American Dreamer: My Life in Fashion & Business by Tommy Hilfiger ($30)
Does This Book Make My Butt Look Big? A Cheeky Guide to Feeling Sexier in Your Own Skin & Unleashing Your Personal Style by Carson Kressley ($25.99)
Audrey: The 50s by David Wills ($45)

...is a follower of arts and letters

Treasure Palaces: Great Writers Visit Great Museums edited by Maggie Ferguson ($16.99, paperback)
A Lowcountry Heart: Reflections on a Writing Life by Pat Conroy ($25)
A Lowcountry Heart: Reflections on a Writing Life by Pat Conroy ($25)
The View from the Cheap Seats: Selected Nonfiction by Neil Gaiman ($26.99)
Literary Wonderlands: A Journey Through the Greatest Fictional Worlds Ever Created edited by Laura Miller ($29.99)
What’s Your Story? True Experiences From Complete Strangers by Brandon Doman, ($29.99)
Dear Children’s Book enthusiasts,

Happy Holidays! I’m keeping the letter short this month because we have so many books we recommend for the young and young-at-heart this season. We hope you find titles that speak to you, but please come in and visit with us as well. Amy, Betsy, Laurel, Robert, and I are always happy to help you find just the right book for all the special kids on your list!

Please join us on Wednesday, December 14 at 4 pm, when the one-and-only Grinch will be on hand (live and in-person!) to greet young fans. But don’t worry—this is the Grinch after his heart has grown three sizes. There will be a reading of How the Grinch Stole Christmas by our very own Jon Grand, followed by a meet-and-greet with the Grinch himself. Kari

Gift Collections and Non-Fiction

The end of the year has brought a delightful overabundance of gift books for children’s book lovers of all ages.

**Under Water/Under Earth** by Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielinska ($35). Dive below the surface and find out what happens under earth and under sea—from early submarines and deep-sea life to burrowing animals and man-made tunnels. You will never look at the world in the same way again! **Ages 8 and up**

**Land of Stories: A Treasury of Classic Fairy Tales** by Chris Colfer, illustrated by Brandon Dorman ($25). Here is a gorgeous, full-color companion book to the Land of Stories series that will appeal to new and old fans alike. **Ages 8 and up**

**A Celebration of Beatrix Potter: Art and Letters by More Than 30 of Today’s Favorite Children’s Book Illustrators** ($25). A 150th birthday tribute to the beloved creator of Peter Rabbit and numerous other children’s classics, with beautiful illustrations of Potter’s characters, as interpreted by well-known illustrators. **Ages 8 and up**

Holiday Picture Books

**Presents Through the Window** by Taro Gomi ($15.99). There are so many presents to deliver, and so little time. It’s a good thing Santa has a plan. He’ll just peek into every window and toss in a gift. Done! The trouble is, Santa is moving much too quickly to see who really lives in each house. **Ages 4-6**

**Refuge** by Anne Booth and Sam Usher ($15.99). A timely rendition of the nativity follows Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus as they travel in a strange land, hoping to find refuge in the kindness of strangers. $1 from the sale of each book sold until October 2017 will go to the UN refugee agency, UNHCR. **Ages 4 and up**

**The Christmas Boot** by Lisa Wheeler, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney ($17.99). Hannah, lonely and poor, is delighted to discover a warm black boot as she gathers kindling in the forest. “Glory be! I only wish I had your mate,” she says to the boot, and the next morning, to her great surprise, there is not just one boot but two sitting by her bed! **Ages 4-8**

**Yitzi and the Giant Menorah** by Richard Ungar ($16.99). On the eve of Hanukkah, the People of Chelm receive a special gift from the Mayor of Lublin—a giant menorah they place in the square for all to admire. Every night, the villagers gather to watch the lighting of a candle and ponder how to thank the Mayor of Lublin. Finally, on the last night of Hanukkah, Yitzi has an idea. **Ages 4-8**

Graphic Novels

**Goldie Vance** by Hope Larson and Brittney Williams ($9.99). Sixteen-year-old Marigold “Goldie” Vance dreams of one day becoming the in-house detective at the Florida resort her dad manages. When the current detective encounters a case he can’t crack, he agrees to mentor Goldie in exchange for her help solving the mystery. Delightful fun for ages 8 and up.

**Mighty Jack** by Ben Hatke ($14.99). Jack might be the only kid in the world who’s dreading summer—his single mom takes a second job and leaves him at home to watch his autistic kid sister, Maddy. It’s a lot of responsibility and boring, too, because Maddy doesn’t talk. One day at a flea market, Maddy does talk—to tell Jack to trade their mom’s car for a box of mysterious seeds. What starts as a normal little garden behind the house quickly grows into a wild, magical jungle with pumpkins that bite and…a dragon. **Ages 8 and up**

**Snow White** by Matt Phelan ($19.99). A gorgeous reimagining of the classic fairy tale set in Depression-era New York City. **Ages 11 and up**

Early Readers for Ages 4-7

**The Princess in Black Takes a Vacation** by Shannon Hale ($14.99). After battling monsters all night, a sleepy princess rides her bike to the seaside and settles into a comfy hammock. But just as she is dozing off, she hears a roar! A sea monster? Seriously? **Ages 6-8**

**The Cookie Fiasco** by Mo Willems ($9.99). Four friends. Three cookies. One problem. Hippo, Croc, and the Squirrels are determined to have equal cookies for all! But how? There are only three cookies and four of them. They need to act fast before a very nervous Hippo breaks all the cookies into crumbs. **K-2 level**
**Agatha Parrot and the Odd Street School Ghost** by Kjartan Poskitt ($16.99). A mysterious bell tolls at night, and a glowing face is seen in a distant window. Is Odd Street School haunted? Agatha and her friends are determined to help their teachers find out. Perfect for fans of Clementine and Romona Quimby. *Ages 7-10*

**Good Choices for Middle Grade Readers**

**Missy Piggle-Wiggle** by Ann Martin ($16.99). Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle has once again gone to search for her missing pirate husband and has left her niece, Missy, in charge of the upside down house and all the animals who live there. Families in town soon learn that like her aunt, Missy has just the right cure for all sorts of (mis)behavior. *Ages 7-10*

**The Littlest Bigfoot** by Jennifer Weiner ($16.99). Alice is large and has unruly hair and parents who want nothing to do with her. She has just been sent to her eighth boarding school. Here she rescues an unusual girl named Millie from drowning in the lake. It turns out that Millie is a Yare, a Bigfoot who bonds instantly with Alice. A heartwarming tale of friendship and belonging. *Ages 9-12*

**Above** by Roland Smith ($16.99). This is an excellent adventure perfect for middle grade readers. Pat O'Toole and his brother, Coop, are on the run from an enemy that hides in plain sight. Along with their new companion, Kate, the three must stop Kate’s grandfather from carrying out a scheme with global consequences. *Grades 4-7*

**Welcome to Wonderland** by Chris Grabenstein ($13.99). The Wonderland Motel, located in St. Petes, is the world’s wackiest motel. It has everything a kid could want, but what it doesn’t have is customers. A guy named Walt has just opened Disney World and has drawn all the tourists to Orlando. P.T. Wilke and his friends need to come up with an outrageously clever plan soon or they will be out of business! *Ages 8-12*

**Fever Code** by James Dashner ($18.99). This is the fifth book in the *Maze Runner* series. It is the story that fans everywhere have been waiting for—the story of how Thomas and WICKED built the maze. *Ages 12 and up*

**Crooked Kingdom** by Leigh Bardugo ($18.99). This fast-paced story, a sequel to *Six of Crows*, has all the right elements to keep readers turning the pages late into the night. It has a cunning, likable leader with a plan for every occasion, nearly impossible odds, a great team of misfits, a twisty plot, and a cliffhanger ending. *Grade 7 and up*

**Holding Up the Universe** by Jennifer Niven ($18.99). Libby Stroud is used to being alone. Grieving after her mother dies, Libby has eaten her weight up to 600 pounds and become a social media spectacle. Living across the street from Libby is Jack Masselin, a seemingly popular in-crowd kid who is hiding a rare neurological condition that causes face blindness. He and Libby become friends after Libby loses 400 pounds and leaves the house to join kids in high school. A beautiful story of overcoming adversity. *Ages 13 and up*

**Middle Grade Fiction**

**Gertie’s Leap To Greatness** by Kate Beasley ($16.99). Gertie always has at least one project to work on, and she never, never gives up. She is, as her dad is fond of saying, like a “bulldog with its jaws locked on a car tire.” Join her in her latest mission! *Ages 8-12*

**Ms. Bixby’s Last Day** by John David Anderson ($16.99). This is the story of the once-in-a-lifetime teacher we have all had (hopefully!), who taught us life lessons that stayed with us. Ms. Bixby touches the lives of three boys in her class who are exploring life—its gifts and its losses. *Ages 8-12*

**The Great Shelby Holmes** by Elizabeth Eulberg ($16.99). Shelby is a master detective, but friendships have eluded her. Enter John Watson, who moves in downstairs and becomes her right-hand-man—and eventually her best friend. Elizabeth Eulberg’s first middle grade fiction book! *Ages 8-12*

**When the Sea Turned to Silver** by Grace Lin ($18.99). Pinmei’s grandmother is a master storyteller who loves sharing her tales with her granddaughter and others—until she is kidnapped. Pinmei embarks on a magical journey to rescue her dear grandmother, facing obstacles only found in legends. *Ages 8-12*

**Beginning Chapter Books Ages 4-7**

**Waylon! One Awesome Thing** by Sara Pennypacker and Marla Frazee ($15.99). There are many changes in science geek Waylon’s life. When everything is about to implode, something happens to make everything right again. Great new series by the author of *Clementine* about friendship, teamwork, and family. *Ages 7-9*

**Picture Books**

**The Storybook Knight** by Helen and Thomas Docherty ($16.99). Young Leo the knight is a reader, not a fighter. When his parents send him off to fight the dragon, he is worried. He packs lots of sandwiches and, of course, books. Along his way to meet the dragon, he finds several other beasts who are ready to fight. Would they be willing to listen to a story instead? Told in rhyming verse with humorous, colorful illustrations, this is a book to read again and again. *Ages 4-8*
811 Elm Street
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

**Monday - Thursday** 9:30 am to 8 pm
**As of Jan. 1: Monday - Thursday** 9:30 am to 7 pm
**Friday** 9:30 am to 6 pm
**Saturday** 9:30 am to 5 pm
**Sunday** 11 am to 5 pm

**Telephone:** (847) 446-8880
1-800-678-2242

**Fax:** (847) 446-2894

www.thebookstall.com
e-mail: books@thebookstall.com

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**Note:** The Book Stall will close at 4 pm on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31 and will be closed all day, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Beginning in January, the store will close at 7 pm Monday-Thursday. We will be open later for special author events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>4</td>
<td>10 am – 5 pm</td>
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<td>HOLIDAY SALE</td>
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<td>Ladies of Liberty</td>
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<td>3 pm Book Release Party at the store</td>
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<td>ERICA O’ROURKE/LUCY KERR</td>
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<td>Luncheon,</td>
<td>4 pm at the store</td>
<td>7 pm, A FAN Event</td>
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<td>Time of Death</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>How the Grinch Stole Christmas Storytime</td>
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<td>JEREMY MCCARTER</td>
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<td>Hamilton: The Secret Game</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</td>
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<td>Store Closed All Day</td>
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**Coming WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18**

7 pm, Central School, Glencoe

VERONICA ROTH

*Carve the Mark – See details inside!*