THE FRONT LINE

The year 2020 has been uniquely challenging. Here at The Book Stall, we’ve been touched by the outpouring of support from the community with many kind notes and warm words over the phone. And our mountain of holiday orders attests to the fact that a bookstore is an important part of the neighborhood. We’re grateful for your patience as you wait outside our door and for your understanding when publishers’ printing and shipping problems keep us from having the book you’re looking for.

For the past 7½ years, I’ve come into the store keenly aware of how lucky I am to work with such an amazing group of people. They are all smart, well-read (of course!), kind, and dedicated to The Book Stall. This year, our operations have changed weekly, and we’ve had to innovate to keep our enterprise going—and everyone has been so adaptable, so good-natured and so creative. This year, I am truly inspired by the commitment and scrappiness of the remarkable team that is The Book Stall!

Although January and February are typically quiet months for events, we do have a fairly robust calendar of virtual events. Local author and our great friend Jeanne Bishop will discuss her timely book about forgiveness, *Grace from Rubble: Two Fathers’ Road to Reconciliation After the Oklahoma City Bombing* on Sunday, January 10 at 2 pm. Events coordinator Robert McDonald picked up Michelle Gallen’s debut novel *Big Girl, Small Town* and was instantly charmed. (See his review inside.) For anyone who loved the feel-good vibe of *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*, our virtual event with Ms. Gallen on Tuesday, January 12 at 6:30 pm will be a crowd-pleaser. Acclaimed author André Aciman (*Call Me by Your Name*) will “be” with us on Tuesday, January 26 to discuss his collection of essays *Homo Irrealis* about creativity and memory. The Family Action Network (FAN) continues to provide excellent programming. See inside for some of their upcoming speakers and subscribe to our weekly e-blast for more details.

Typically, our annual New Year, New You books have focused on health and organization—the traditional New Year’s resolutions. But this year, it seemed important to think more broadly about how to move forward in 2021—how to appreciate nature, nurture friends and family, work toward social justice and professional and personal growth, cook, make a cocktail, learn something. See New Year, New You for recommendations on a broad array of topics. And know that the wonder of a bookstore is that we have something for every interest.

There are some excellent books coming out in the next two months. I was fortunate to be part of a virtual event featuring George Saunders for his new book, *A Swim in a Pond in the Rain: In Which Four Russians Give a Master Class on Writing, Reading, and Life* (out January 12). The inimitable Mr. Saunders led a discussion of one of the stories included in this collection of Russian short stories, along with his thoughts, in essay form, on each. If you’ve not read much Russian literature, this book is a great place to start. I really enjoyed *The Smash-Up* (out February 23) by Ali Benjamin, an observant novel exploring the effect of the current culture wars on a typical family. I’m currently staying up late reading *Two Truths and a Lie* by Ellen McGarrah (out February 2), a well-written and very personal look at our justice system by a private investigator who delved into a murder in Florida after witnessing a botched execution. There are many more great books coming, and we’ll be reviewing these in our e-blast.

Happy New Year everyone! Here’s to a healthy 2021!

Virtual Events in January and February

Our author events are virtual in January and February, available to you on your computer or mobile device. Each requires registration. To sign up, please go to www.thebookstall.com and on the home page, click “Events” and scroll down to “January” or “February” Events. Click on the date of your event and follow directions for reserving your spot.

**SUNDAY, JAN. 10**

2 – 3 pm

**JEANNE BISHOP**

*Grace from the Rubble: Two Fathers’ Road to Reconciliation After the Oklahoma City Bombing*

Local public defender and author Jeanne Bishop speaks about her book, the story of how the father of a young woman killed in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing and the father of her killer, Timothy McVeigh, forged an unlikely friendship and found forgiveness. Writes Publishers Weekly in a starred review: “Readers should have tissues at hand before beginning Bishop’s affecting story. This incredible and empathetic story is a testament to the powers of forgiveness, fellowship, and redemption.”

**TUESDAY, JAN. 12**

5:30 pm

**MICHELLE GALLEN**

*Big Girl, Small Town*

This debut novel, set in a small Northern Ireland town just after the Troubles, is about a character who comes to realize there may be more to life than town gossip, the pub, and the chip shop. In fact, there just may be a whole big world outside her small town. See Robert McDonald’s review inside.

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13**

7 pm

**CHRISTIAN PICCIOLINI**

*Breaking Hate: Confronting the New Culture of Extremism*

Christian Picciolini is an award-winning television producer, a public speaker, author, peace advocate, and a former violent extremist. After leaving the hate movement he helped create during his youth in the 1980s and ‘90s, he began the painstaking process of making amends and...
JON GRAND

The Fragile Earth: Writing from The New Yorker on Climate Change, edited by David Remnick and Henry Finder ($29.99). Climate change: the term conjures up visions of apocalyptic events. Searing heat, drought, desertification, rising ocean levels, melting glaciers, extreme weather—all these and more are the predicted results of climate change. Is it real? Well over 90% of scientists believe it is. As to what can be done? On that there is disagreement. Can reducing our use of fossil fuels have any effect, given the amounts of pollutants already contaminating the atmosphere? And how much of what we call “climate change” is just a short-term shift in weather patterns? Over the years, The New Yorker has carried articles on the changes taking place on our planet. From across the globe, reporters and scientists have recorded the effects of a shifting climate and discussed the long-term future impacts on human populations. This collection of articles will educate all readers, skeptics and believers, on the complexity of the debate, the state of the science, and the need for action.

First Principles: What America’s Founders Learned from the Greeks and Romans and How That Shaped Our Country by Thomas Ricks ($29.99). When we think of the influences on the Founders, we think of the Enlightenment. We think of Hobbes, Rousseau, Voltaire, Montesquieu, and Locke. But we rarely consider the ancient works, like the Iliad, or Plutarch’s Lives, or writers like Aristotle or Cicero, as having a direct influence on the Founders. But Ricks argues that the influence of ancient Greece and Rome was more direct than previously thought. He examines the classical studies of our first four presidents—Washington, Adams, Jefferson, and Madison—and how they influenced their political thought. And, as Ricks points out, how each learned is almost as important as what they learned. The result is a different, less restricted, view of the political philosophies of these first four presidents with greater insights into their personal and public decisions. And it raises a question. Could a better understanding of, and acquaintance with, the classical writers improve contemporary government?

A Promised Land by Barack Obama ($45). Political memoirs are generally written to give the reader’s take on their time in office and to serve as the baseline against which future historians interpret the deeds and decisions of the public figure. Some are, of course, much better than others. Obama tells us at the beginning, that one of his primary objectives in the book is to draw back the curtain and show readers what the job of president is like. He invites us in to discussions in the Oval Office. And we fly with him to meetings with leaders around the world. As he describes his early years, we watch as a carefree young man becomes more serious and driven. A bi-racial child, he talks about being uneasy in his own skin. Yet he is surprised by the racial antipathy he experiences from members of the Congress. Obama pulls back a second curtain as he reveals his own doubts and fears along with his struggle to remain himself. The intimate portrait sometimes seems at odds with his professional persona: committed, self-assured, and relaxed. Obama is a decent, honest, and idealistic man. Like any public figure, he experienced both success and failure. Unlike many politicians, he is quick to own both. Reading this memoir, one comes away feeling as though Obama has been talking directly to you, his thoughts and opinions conveyed through elegant, confident writing.

The Chemistry of Fire: Essays by Laurence Gonzales ($22.95 in paperback). Someone asked me, “What does Gonzales write about?” I thought about that for a while and concluded that he writes about being human. He writes about human resilience and human foibles with equal empathy and grace. He has the uncanny ability to see people as they are and write their stories without prejudicing the reader. His new essays are Gonzales at his best: snapshots of “us.” There is a new quality to his writing, as well. In Deep Survival, for example, the voice of the scientist and the reporter dominates. Here, there are more personal elements. In the final essay, Gonzales is no longer the observer but rather the participant in the personal tragedy. As he tracks the progression of his wife’s disease, the elegance of the writing heightens the emotional impact of events without ever becoming maudlin. These essays are deeply satisfying. They are best read in small bursts, allowing readers to immerse themselves in each distinct story—and then re-read them.

Note: As many of you know, I don’t read a lot of fiction. But I do like a good story, and if it’s based on history, then I’m all in. The Evening and the Morning by Ken Follett ($36) was reviewed by my colleague Aimee last month. The story takes place at the beginning of the Middle Ages in England, a time of turmoil and danger to be sure, but also a time of positive change, technical innovation, and learning. These things laid the groundwork for the flowering of the Renaissance. As the days are short and darkness and cold grip the area, this is the perfect novel to curl up with.

ELIZABETH HUBBARD

Hi Five by Joe Ide ($27). For the mystery lover who wants something a little more hip and contemporary, meet Private Investigator Isaiah Quintabe. In Hi Five, the fourth in a great new series, Isaiah, or IQ as he’s known in the neighborhood, gets hired to solve the murder of Tyler, the loyal sidekick of arms dealer and all-around bad guy, Angus. The bad guy’s daughter is accused of the crime but denies any involvement. IQ wrestles with his conscience but agrees to take the case in order to save someone he cares about. Unfortunately, the daughter, Christiana, has multiple personalities, so IQ has to piece together the murder with clues from each of the personalities. This series is a lot of fun, and IQ is a flawed but impressive main character, who has been compared to a young Sherlock Holmes, albeit one who hails from South Central Los Angeles. You will root for this young P.I. with his strong moral compass, his street smarts, and his intelligence!
as he reveals his own doubts and fears along with his struggle members of the Congress. Obama pulls back a second curtain he is surprised by the racial antipathy he experiences from around the world. As he describes his early years, we watch as book is to draw back the curtain and show readers what the better than others. Obama tells us at the begin serve as the baseline against which future the writer’s take on their time in office and to points out, dentists—Washington, Adams, Jefferson, and Madison—and Greece and Rome was more direct than previously thought. writers like Aristotle or Cicero, as having a direct influence on Founders, we think of the Enlightenment. We $29.99). When we think of the influences on the That Shaped Our Country Learned from the Greeks and Romans and How JON GRAND ($29.99). Climate change: the apocalyptic events. Searing term conjures up visions of ($22.95). Someone asked ELIZABETH HUBBARD (Note ($28.99). For fans of historical fiction, particularly U.S. history, The Cold Millions is a worthy read. The Dolan brothers are approaching adulthood, 16-year old Rye and 20-year old Gig. Their parents and siblings are deceased; the boys have to forge their place in the hardscrabble world of early-20th century Eastern Washington State. The landscape is dominated by unscrupulous titans of the lumber and mining industries, robber barons who keep down the little guy to line their own pockets. Vagrants, hobos, migrants, newly arrived people from all corners of the globe, live in poverty in a shanty town, symbolically located on a ball field. The city of Spokane, whose railroad terminal is referred to as Tramp Central Station, is home to nearly 200 bars and many theaters, houses of ill-repute, and gambling dens. “Employment agents” control who works where, for a price and a poverty-level wage. The tenderloin district is wildly successful, as powerful overlords and crooked cops run the show. Enter the labor movement, specifically the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). Trouble ensues as the social upheaval, including violence and a murder, is propelled by the labor and suffrage movements. In addition to quiet tow-the-line Rye and his good-looking, book-loving, trouble-seeking, hard-living older brother Gig, the novel is populated by other wonderful characters. Among them are the vaudevillean actress Ursula the Great, whose well-attended show, including a real cougar, is “the last of four acts of increasing depravity,” according to the local paper. In contrast to Ursula there is also an historical character—the labor organizer, feminist, and suffragette Elizabeth Gurley Flynn; Lemuel Brand, an unscrupulous millionaire who lives in one of “the big houses on the hill”; Frank Little, “part Indian and the rest trouble”; and many others round out the story. It’s a good story, too. While the novel’s heart is the relationship of the two brothers, its soul is social.

SHARMAN McGURN

The Cold Millions by Jess Walter ($28.99). For fans of historical fiction, particularly U.S. history, The Cold Millions is a worthy read. The Dolan brothers are approaching adulthood, 16-year old Rye and 20-year old Gig. Their parents and siblings are deceased; the boys have to forge their place in the hardscrabble world of early-20th century Eastern Washington State. The landscape is dominated by unscrupulous titans of the lumber and mining industries, robber barons who keep down the little guy to line their own pockets. Vagrants, hobos, migrants, newly arrived people from all corners of the globe, live in poverty in a shanty town, symbolically located on a ball field. The city of Spokane, whose railroad terminal is referred to as Tramp Central Station, is home to nearly 200 bars and many theaters, houses of ill-repute, and gambling dens. “Employment agents” control who works where, for a price and a poverty-level wage. The tenderloin district is wildly successful, as powerful overlords and crooked cops run the show. Enter the labor movement, specifically the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). trouble ensues as the social upheaval, including violence and a murder, is propelled by the labor and suffrage movements. In addition to quiet tow-the-line Rye and his good-looking, book-loving, trouble-seeking, hard-living older brother Gig, the novel is populated by other wonderful characters. Among them are the vaudevillean actress Ursula the Great, whose well-attended show, including a real cougar, is “the last of four acts of increasing depravity,” according to the local paper. In contrast to Ursula there is also an historical character—the labor organizer, feminist, and suffragette Elizabeth Gurley Flynn; Lemuel Brand, an unscrupulous millionaire who lives in one of “the big houses on the hill”; Frank Little, “part Indian and the rest trouble”; and many others round out the story. It’s a good story, too. While the novel’s heart is the relationship of the two brothers, its soul is social.

CHARLOTTE ROBERTSON

Eleanor by David Michaelis ($35). The life of Eleanor Roosevelt is well-documented, and David Michaelis’ minutely researched and well-written biography paints a deeply nuanced portrait of this amazing woman. Born into the gilded age, she endured the casual cruelty of her mother who referred to her as “Granny” and the frequent absence of her adoring and adored father, Elliott Roosevelt. When Eleanor was 8, her mother died of diphtheria. When she was 10, her father jumped from a window in an alcoholic mania and died. As an orphan at a young age, Eleanor was shuttled from one family household to another, depending on the season, and it wasn’t until she was sent to boarding school in England that she found a place she could call “home.” The author traces Eleanor’s evolution from a childhood of privilege and neglect, through an unsatisfying marriage to her fifth cousin and loving and intimate relationships with both women and younger men, to the revered figure of the mid-20th century, a champion for human rights and a tireless worker for peace worldwide. I found this book fascinating as the author goes into great detail about both Eleanor Roosevelt’s public life and her private life and the aspects of her character that made her so successful in so many arenas. Out of much unhappiness and longing, there emerged a strong, compassionate and wise woman who shaped our world.

THE CHILDREN’S LINE

The Children’s Line

On Account of the Gum by Adam Rex ($17.99). The best intentions often lead us into trouble. Who hasn’t had a problem with gum? In this hilarious new book, Adam Rex tells us about a young girl and her desperate attempts to remove bubble gum from her hair. Of course, everyone has a solution to her problem. Unfortunately, the solutions all end up in her hair, but none of them work! This very funny book with rhyming text and laugh-out-loud illustrations is sure to make everyone giggle and possibly reminisce! Ages 3-6
The job of president is like inviting us into discussions in the Oval Office, that one of his primary objectives in the first term conjures up visions of Greatness. This is almost as important as the personalities. This series is a lot of fun, and IQ is a flawed detective. Unfortunately, the daughter, Christiana, has multiple personalities, but a working-class setting seldom depicted on either side of the track. There is a new quality here that makes it compelling. Unlike many politicians, he is quick to own both. You'll mostly find it entertaining. You might fall in love because Gallen is showing you that the world is not just black-and-white. In a word: delightful!

Of Curses and Kisses by Sandhya Menon ($18.99). A contemporary spin on Beauty and the Beast begins with tales, and the question, of course, is will the princess save the beast? For Princess Jaya Rao, nothing is more important than family. When the loathsome Emerson clan steps up their centuries-old feud to target Jaya's little sister, nothing will keep Jaya from exacting revenge. When Jaya finds out she will be attending the same boarding school as Gray Emerson, it feels like the opportunity of a lifetime. She has a plan to make Grey fall in love with her and then break his heart. Grey is a misanthrope, and thanks to a curse by the Rao matriarch, he knows he is doomed once he turns 18. He has lived an isolated existence until Jaya bursts into his life. He can't help but feel that she is hiding something—something that might just have to do with the rose-shaped pendant around her neck. Now will the princess save the beast—or not? Age 14 up

A Whale of the Wild by Rosanne Parry ($17.99). In this stand-alone companion to A Wolf Named Wander, a young Orca must lead her brother on a long, hard journey to reunite with their pod. For Vega and her family, salmon is life. Vega is learning to become a salmon finder. One day she will be her family's matriarch, but then she and her brother are separated from their pod when a devastating earthquake and tsunami make the landscape unrecognizable. Vega must use every skill she has to lead her brother back to the family. On the way they face a shark attack, hunger, and the deep ocean with polluted waters. This is a heart-stopping tale of survival with impeccable research on a delicate ecosystem that threatens marine life. Ages 8-12

Virtual Book Discussion Groups via The Book Stall

Wednesday, January 6
A Repeat Morning Discussion at 9:30 am
Caste by Isabel Wilkerson
Led by Judy Levin

Wednesday, January 13, Evening Discussion at 6:30 pm
The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett
Led by Alice Moody

Wednesday, January 27, Morning Discussion at 9:30 am
The Dutch House by Ann Patchett
Led by Nancy Buehler

These discussion groups are free, but registration is required.
Please email events@thebookstall.com. Note that space is limited.

Go Green Reads Book Discussion
Monday, January 11 at 7 pm
Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer
This free event will be held via Zoom. To register, please email gogreenreads@gmail.com.

If Winter Comes, Tell It I’m Not Here, written and illustrated by Simona Ciraolo ($16.99). A little boy’s big sister cautions him to make the most of summer days filled with swimming and ice cream, warning that winter will be the worst time of his life. They will be stuck inside with nothing to do for days and days. The author’s illustrations do a wonderful job of depicting the joys of each season, belying the sister’s tales. The young boy’s emotions go from the dreadful picture his sister paints for him to discovery and finally the delight to be found in each season. Ages 4-6

BETSY BALYEAT

The Left-Handed Booksellers of London by Garth Nix ($19.99). In a slightly alternate London in 1983, Susan Arkshaw is searching for her father, a man she has never met. Crime boss Frank Thringley might be able to help her, but before she can ask, he is turned to dust by the prick of a silver hat pin in the hands of an outrageous Merlin. Merlin is a young left-handed bookseller (one of the fighting ones). With the right-handed booksellers (the intellectual ones), he belongs to an extended family of magical beings who police the mythic and legendary old world when it intrudes on the modern world. They also run several bookshops. Susan’s search for her father begins with a reading room ticket and a silver cigarette case with a faded engraving that might be a coat of arms. Merlin is on a quest of his own to find out who killed his mother. His quest overlaps with Susan’s, and thus begins their journey as the old world erupts dangerously into the new. A fast-paced, inventive, magical fantasy with lots of humor and charm! Age 14 up

BECOMING MUHAMMAD ALI by James Patterson and Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Dawud Anyabwile ($16.99). Before becoming Muhammad Ali, young Cassius Clay learned history and card tricks from his grandfather, hid report cards from his parents, and biked around town with his friends. But when his bike is stolen, he decides there is something else he wants: to be able to fend off bullies by becoming a boxer. Cassius also has a best friend, Lucky, who sticks by him, whether his fists are raised in victory or he is backed against the ropes. Before long, Lucky is cheering him on in his first amateur fights. But will Cassius make it to the top? James Patterson supplies the prose in the story, and Kwame Alexander supplies the poetry—a perfect combination to make an outstanding sports book. Ages 8-12

Family Action Network (FAN) Calendar continued

TUESDAY, FEB. 9 at 7 pm
ROBERT PUTNAM and SHAYLAN ROMNEY GARRETT
The Upswing: How America Came Together a Century Ago and How We Can Do It Again
The authors discuss their book that shows how we have gone from an individualistic “I” society to a more communitarian “We” society and then back again. Dr. Putnam is a Harvard Professor of Public Policy and Ms. Garret is a writer and award-winning social entrepreneur.

THURSDAY, FEB. 18 at 7 pm
JOHN PALFREY JR.
The Connected Parent: An Expert Guide to Parenting in a Digital World
John Palfrey, President of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, has written this book for anyone trying to help their kids flourish in the fast-changing, uncharted territory of the digital age.
rebuilding his life. He appears in conversation with his colleague and Chicago Public School teacher, Nora Flanagan. Register for this webinar on the library website wilmettelibrary.info.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 19**

6:30 pm

**RICH COHEN**

*Pee Wees: Confessions of a Hockey Parent*

Good friend of The Book Stall (and former Glencoe native and New Trier grad) RICH COHEN talks about his latest book, his heartfelt account of watching—and agonizing over—his 11-year-old son’s season playing competitive hockey. Mr. Cohen also recalls his days playing hockey locally as a kid.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 26**

6:30 pm

**ANDRÉ ACIMAN**

*Homo Irrealis: Essays*

From meditations on subway poetry and an empty Italian street, to considerations of the lives and work of great thinkers, and portraits of cities such as Alexandria and St. Petersburg, this book is a deep reflection of the imagination's power to shape our memories.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 2**

6:30 pm, Book Release Party

**MATT CORDELL and PHILIP C. STEAD**

*Follow That Frog*

Don’t miss the release of this book by two Caldecott Medal winners. It’s their story of Aunt Josephine, who launches into a rambling tale about her lifelong pursuit of a rare giant frog as a curiously croaking stranger comes knocking at her door.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3**

6:30 pm

**SUSANNA CALKINS**

*The Sign of the Gallows (A Lucy Campion Mystery)*

in conversation with Lori Rader-Day

**SATURDAY, FEB. 6**

10:30 am, Des Plaines Public Library event

**MICHELLE DUSTER**

*Ida B. The Queen: The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of Ida B. Wells*

**TUESDAY, FEB. 16**

7:30 pm, Book Release Party

**AMI POLONSKY**

*Spin with Me*

Join us to talk about this middle-grade novel about non-binary identity and first love. In a dual narrative, Essie is a 13-year-old girl feeling glum about starting a new school after her professor dad takes a temporary teaching position in a different town. She has 110 days here and can’t wait for them to end. Then she meets Ollie, who is nonbinary. Ollie has beautiful blue eyes and a confident smile. Soon, Essie isn’t counting down the days until she can leave so much as she’s dreading when her time with Ollie will come to an end.

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**THURSDAY, FEB. 18**

7 pm, a Wilmette Public Library Webinar

**KATHLEEN GRACE KATZ**

*Daughters of Yalta: The Churchill, Roosevelts and Harrimans*

Hear Ms. Katz tell her story of the three intelligent and glamorous young women who accompanied their famous fathers to the Yalta Conference with Stalin, and of the fateful reverberations in the waning days of World War II. Register for this webinar on the library website wilmettelibrary.info.

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**Outstanding Family Action Network (FAN) Programs on the Calendar**

A number of truly outstanding speakers are lined up in early in 2021 by our partner, the Family Action Network (FAN). These are virtual events, free to the public. Registration is required. For details about these programs and to register, go to familyactionnetwork.net.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 12, at 7 pm**

**MELISSA KORN and JENNIFER LEVITZ**

*Unacceptable: Privilege, Deciet & the Making of the College Admissions Scandal*

Wall Street journalists Melissa Korn and Jennifer Levitz speak about fraud, corruption, greed, celebrity, and justice in the largest college admissions scam.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 14 at 7 pm**

**CHRISTIE TATE**

*Group: How One Therapist and a Circle of Strangers Saved My Life*

Chicago-based writer and attorney Christie Tate describes her experience of reluctantly agreeing to get psychologically and emotionally naked in a room of six complete strangers—her psychotherapy group—and in turn finding human connection, and herself.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 21 at 7 pm**

**ANGIE THOMAS**

*Concrete Rose*

Angie Thomas finishes her international virtual tour with FAN and The Book Stall, celebrating her new novel Concrete Rose, a prequel to her mega-bestseller The Hate You Give. The new novel is highly anticipated because of its timeliness.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 26 at 7 pm**

**RON LIEBER**

*The Price You Pay for College: An Entirely New Road Map for the Biggest Financial Decision Your Family Will Ever Make*

The New York Times “Your Money” columnist gives parents the clarity they need to make informed choices and helps restore the joy and wonder the college experience is supposed to represent.

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27 at 7 pm**

**GLENN ADAMSON**

*Craft: An American History*

Glenn Adamson is Head of Graduate Studies and Deputy Head of Research at the Victoria & Albert Museum. His book is a groundbreaking and surprising history of how artisans created America, from the nation’s origins to the present.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 4 at 7 pm**

**GRETEL EHRlich**

*Unsolaced: Along the Way to All That Is*

A meditation on how water, light, wind, mountain, bird, and horse have shaped Gretel Ehrlich’s life and her understanding of a world besieged by a climate crisis. She embarks on strenuous adventures to Greenland, Africa, Kosovo, Japan, and an uninhabited Alaskan island, always returning to her simple Wyoming cabin at the foot of the mountains.

Continued inside
Change: How to Make Big Things Happen by Damon Centola ($29)

Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones by James Clear ($27)

The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business by Charles Duhigg ($18 in paperback with a new afterword)

Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art by James Nestor ($28)

Breaking Bread with the Dead: A Reader’s Guide to a More Tranquil Mind by Alan Jacobs ($25)

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson ($32)

His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope by Jon Meacham, afterword by John Lewis ($30)

Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times by Jonathan Sacks ($30)

The Lost Spells by Robert MacFarlane and Jackie Morris ($26)

Vesper Flights by Helen Macdonald ($27)


World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments by Aimee Nezhukumatathil and Fumi Nakamura ($25)

A Walk Around the Block: Stoplight Secrets, Mischievous Squirrels, Manhole Mysteries & Other Stuff You See Every Day (And Know Nothing About) by Spike Carlsen ($24.99)

The Stillness of Winter: Sacred Blessings of the Season by Barbara Mahany ($19.99)

Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times by Katherine May ($24)

How to Attract Birds to Your Garden: Foods They Like, Plants They Love, Shelter They Need by Dan Rouse ($25)

This Just Speaks to Me: Words to Live By Every Day by Hoda Kotb ($24)


Failure to Launch: Why Your Twentysomething Hasn’t Grown Up...and What to Do About It by Mark McConville ($18 in paperback)

New Year, New You

The Art of Happiness: A Handbook for Living by Dalai Lama ($17 in paperback)

Your Art Will Save Your Life by Beth Pickens ($14.95 in paperback)

The French Art of Not Trying Too Hard by Ollivier Pourriol, translated by Helen Stevenson ($20)

Lives of the Stoics: The Art of Living from Zeno to Marcus Aurelius by Ryan Holiday and Stephen Hanselman ($28)

Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess by Bobby Fischer, Stuart Margulia, and Don Mosenfelder ($8.95 in paperback)

The Essentials: 52 More Must-See Movies and Why They Matter by Jeremy Arnold ($25.99 in paperback)

The Biggest Bluff: How I Learned to Pay Attention, Master Myself, and Win by Maria Konnikova ($28)


The Home Edit Life: The No-Guilt Guide to Owning What You Want and Organizing Everything by Clea Shearer, Joanna Teplin ($28.50)

Winter Warmers: 60 Cosy Cocktails for Autumn and Winter by Jassy Davis and Sarah Ferone ($14.99)

The New Craft of the Cocktail: Everything You Need to Know to Think Like a Master Mixologist, with 500 Recipes by Dale DeGroff and Daniel Krieger ($35)

Skinnytaste Meal Prep: Healthy Make-Ahead Meals and Freezer Recipes to Simplify Your Life by Gina Homolka ($32.50)

The Well Plated Cookbook: Fast, Healthy Recipes You’ll Want to Eat by Erin Clarke ($30)

Oh She Glows for Dinner: Nourishing Plant-Based Meals to Keep You Glowing by Angela Liddon ($35)

The What to Eat When Cookbook: 135+ Deliciously Timed Recipes by National Geographic ($30)

How Not to Diet Cookbook: 100+ Recipes for Healthy, Permanent Weight Loss by Michael Greger ($29.99)

A Good Bake: The Art and Science of Making Perfect Pastries, Cakes, Cookies, Pies, and Breads at Home by Melissa Weller and Carolynn Carreno ($40)

Poilâne: The Secrets of the World-Famous Bread Bakery by Apollonia Poilâne and Philippe Santamaria ($40)