



# THE BOOK STALL

May 2022  
Vol. XXXIII, No. 4  
Nancy Dreher, *Editor*



## THE FRONT LINE



May brings flowers, an occasional day over 65 degrees, and, most important, Mother's Day. We've assembled a list of some suggestions inside, but we're always happy to help you select just the right book for any mother on your list. I wonder if Roger will give me *Books Make a Home: Elegant Ideas for Storing and Displaying Books* by Damian Thompson; he doesn't seem to appreciate the random towers of books that decorate our home. May also kicks off graduation season, and I'll be very happy to see my son receive his college diploma! We have some suggestions for the recent grad, as well, ranging from inspirational to practical.

This month brings some wonderful events to the store, and the weather is no longer an excuse to stay home! For a bit of history, join us on Wednesday, May 4 at 6:30 pm to hear Jon Marshall discuss his timely new book *Clash: Presidents and the Press in Times of Crisis*. Our friend Rich Cohen returns to the store on Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 pm to talk about his fascinating new book about his father called *The Adventures of Herbie Cohen* (out May 10). Cohen led a truly extraordinary life as a negotiator for both corporations as well as hostages! Finally, we're so happy to welcome back B.A. Shapiro on Tuesday, May 24, at 6:30 pm for her new novel, *Metropolis* (out May 17). While Shapiro's earlier books explored the art world, her latest centers around a tragic accident at a self-storage unit and the mysterious characters involved.

The Family Action Network (FAN) continues to host amazing authors virtually, and May is packed! Subjects range from insubordination (Todd Kashdan with *The Art of Insubordination: How to Dissent and Defy Effectively* on Wednesday, May 4 at 7 pm, to health (Theresa Brown with *Healing: When a Nurse Becomes a Patient* on Thursday, May 5 at 7 pm, and Thomas Insel, MD with *Healing: Our Path from Mental Illness to Mental Health* on Thursday, May 19 at 7 pm). And if you've not yet joined one of FAN's after-hours programs, you are missing out! These remarkable virtual gatherings allow attendees (those who have purchased the author's book from The Book Stall) to interact with these writers, respected experts in their fields, in a very personal way.

Lots of great books are hitting our shelves, and here are a few that I've enjoyed: Nina Stibbe's trademark wit is on full display in her new novel *One Day I Shall Astonish the World; Marrying the Ketchups* by Jennifer Close is a wonderful family story set in Chicagoland; *This Time Tomorrow* by Emma Straub, about a young woman who wakes up and is 16 again—a delightful family story as only Straub can write. I was also moved by Alison Espach's *Notes on Your Sudden Disappearance* (out May 17), a novel about grief and loss, written with hope and even some humor. My husband Roger read fast-paced thriller *In the Blood* by Jack Carr (out May 17) in just a couple of sittings. And two non-fiction titles are out this month that I'm excited to read: *River of the Gods: Genius, Courage, and Betrayal in the Search for the Source of the Nile* by Candice Millard (out May 17) and *The Palace Papers: Inside the House of Windsor—the Truth and Turmoil* by Tina Brown.

We've been excited to welcome people back to the store for events and book groups! Check out our roster for book discussions, some of which are in-store. And with our increased traffic, we're also happy to introduce two new booksellers: Susan Davis from Highland Park, who previously worked at a library at Indianapolis and is here from Monday through Saturday, and Leah Gordon, who is moving to Winnetka from Chicago this summer with her young family. We're so happy to have these two vibrant women on staff!

See you in the store!

*Steph*

Most Book Stall events this month are **live** appearances—some are author open houses, where visitors can come in and meet with the writers; others are sit-down events where authors talk about their books. Please go to our website [www.thebookstall.com](http://www.thebookstall.com), click on "Events" and scroll down to "May Events." Click on the date of the event for more info.

### SUNDAY, MAY 1

10 am, Temple Beth Israel  
3601 West Dempster St., Skokie  
**LAUREN FOX**  
*Send for Me*

This Sunday Morning Seminar features **Lauren Fox** telling the story of her fact-based novel about four generations of Jewish women, based on a series of letters written by Fox's great-grandmother in Germany to her grandmother in Milwaukee between 1938 and 1941. This event is free, but registration is required. Please go to our website to register.

### TUESDAY, MAY 3

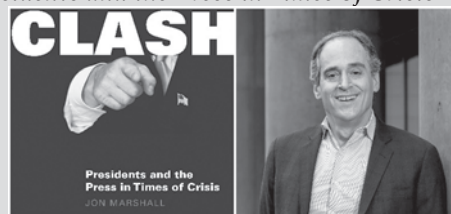
4:30 pm at the store  
Writing Workshop for kids  
**LORELEI SAVARYN**  
*The Edge of In Between*

This Children's Book Week after-school event is ticketed, with the author's book, writer's notebook, and pencil included. Ages 10 - 14. The focus of the workshop will be on "Writing Spooky Stories." See details on page 6.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

6:30 pm at the store  
**JON MARSHALL**  
*Clash: Presidents and the Press in Times of Crisis*

In his book, **Jon Marshall**, an Associate Professor at Northwestern's Medill School,



explores the political, economic, social, and technological forces that have shaped the relationship between U.S. presidents and the press during times of crisis. It examines Donald Trump's presidency, and those of John Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama.

### THURSDAY, MAY 5

7 pm, a Virtual Event  
**KATHRYN ORMSBEE and MOLLY BROOKS**  
*Growing Pangs*

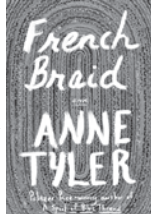
The author and illustrator of this graphic novel join us from the East and West Coasts for this only national virtual event featuring their book about friendship, anxiety, and growing up. See page 6 for details.

# THE INSIDE LINE

## KATHLEEN CRAWFORD



**French Braid** by Anne Tyler (\$27). In Tyler's 24th novel, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author once again is untangling the frangible threads of a multi-generational family living in Baltimore. In 1959, Robin and Mercy Garrett take their three children on a summer vacation for

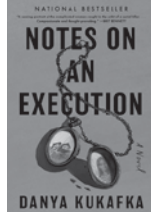


the first and last time. The tiny cabin at Deep Creek Lake can hardly contain them all; yet this family seems especially far apart. Mercy wishes to pursue her painting full-time; however, this leaves her husband, Robin, lonely and without a homemaker. Their eldest child, Alice, is steady and maternal to the youngest, David, who prefers to live in his imaginary world. Lily, their boy-crazy middle child, is often away from home and is unforthcoming about her activities. As the book progresses, the characters and their offspring age, but readers must draw their own conclusions as to what goes on in the minds of each Garrett, as the family is not prone to discuss what's really happening in their world. In the end, it's David—as a grandfather—who observes that families are like the French braids that left his daughter's hair in waves after she undid them. "You're never really free; the ripples are crimped in forever." **French Braid** is written with a soft and lyrical prose and makes an excellent book club choice that will offer rich and thoughtful discussion.

## KARA GAGLIARDI



**Notes on an Execution** by Danya Kukafka (\$27.99) is a mash-up between *Long Bright River*, *Push* and *Girl on a Train*. If you are looking for a break from historical fiction, this psychological thriller might be for you. The novel begins with Ansel Parker, in jail for what we assume



are horrible crimes. His world is isolated and small. He befriends a female prison guard. He plots manipulation and escape. What follows is the thrust of the novel: a searing look at the women who shape his life and suffer as a result of his crimes. We meet Ansel's mother, Lavender, pregnant as a teenager, living in a remote farm with a man who locks the kitchen cabinets. Saffy, the detective, who herself grew up in the foster system, knows Ansel is guilty before she can prove it. And then there's Hazel, twin sister to Ansel's wife, who sees through his mask of charm and faux intellect. If only she can convince her sister and parents before the destruction of her family. What makes **Notes on an Execution** interesting is that it focuses less on the crime and more on the women who tried to stop it. It is unflinching, empathetic, and will put you smack-dab in the middle of the criminal justice system. This is like the scary Netflix show that you can't help but watch late at night.

## LEAH GORDON



**The Beauty of Dusk (on Vision Lost and Found)** by Frank Bruni (\$28) brings us a deeply personal memoir from Bruni chronicling the medical journey that befell him when he woke up blind in his right eye. After a diagnosis from a neuro-ophthalmologist, that he suffered a specific



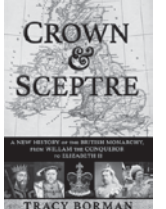
type of stroke in his sleep, he was told that the vision would not restore itself, due to permanent damage to the optic nerve, and that there was a chance he would eventually go blind in his left eye as well. Known best for his journalism career with *The New York Times*, Bruni opens up about how his work became affected by the loss of his vision, as it had an immediate impact on his reading, writing, and travel. Through a series of interviews, he begins to explore how others living with blind-

ness, deafness, and physical limitations—such as Parkinson's—cope with feeling a sense of loss and unwanted change. Using the "fork" analogy throughout his writing, we are taken down the roads traveled by Bruni and those interviewed, while also examining what could have been. Not to be overlooked is Bruni's love letter to New York and his beloved dog, Regan, as he cracks his heart open for the reader. **The Beauty of Dusk** offers the best of Bruni as an author, as he takes a profound and honest look at what the loss of vision means to his personal choices and priorities.

## JON GRAND



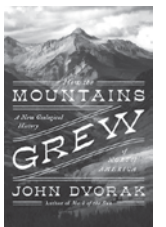
**Crown and Scepter: A New History of the British Monarchy from William the Conqueror to Elizabeth II** by Tracy Borman (\$32). On a given day, if I concentrate, I can name all the U.S. presidents in order. But despite years of reading British history, I still get lost in the



British monarchy. Beginning with the earliest rulers and their complicated affiliations, followed by the jumble of Edwards, Georges, Henrys *et al*, it is difficult to keep it all straight. Add to the confusion by the various lineages of rivals for, and occupiers, of the throne—Normans, Plantagenets, York, Lancaster, Tudor, Stuart, Orange, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and Windsor—and you may throw up your hands in dismay. Some, of course, are familiar to us: Richard III, or Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I, for example. And we may have some idea about the War of the Roses (not the movie with Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner and Danny Devito). But to name all 42 British monarchs in proper order, with explanations of each one's claim, seems almost impossible. Tracy Borman is the Chief Curator of Historic Royal Palaces. In relatively short biographical sketches, she discusses the key aspects of each monarch's reign, along with the basis for their claim, their heirs, and major accomplishments (and failings). No straight line connects all monarchs, past and present. Rather what we see is an often-contested progression, with sometimes tenuous justifications. But as Borman moves through the ages, the reader discovers that the names fall into place along with their lineage. More importantly, Borman also traces the role and power of the monarchy as it changes over time, largely due to the strength or weakness of the monarch. Will the monarchy survive? That is a matter of much speculation. The succession from Elizabeth II appears set with Charles, William, and George...or is it?

**How the Mountains Grew: A New Geological History of North America** by John Dvorak (\$29.95).

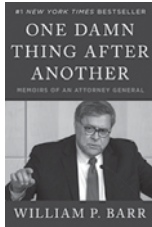
There is history and then there is history. The landscape of North America—the Appalachians, the Black Hills, the Rockies, the Sierras—these and other features were forming long before human history began. Many of you may remember the books by John McPhee that also looked at North American geologic history. Since then, our knowledge and understanding of the forces and processes in play have greatly increased—and so have our questions. Some of the answers to these questions get a bit technical, but Dvorak is careful to illustrate his points with examples that are easily understood. Some of his conclusions challenge accepted wisdom. How, for example, can the Black Hills be considered part of the Rockies? History implies something that is past, but Dvorak is careful to point out that the process of mountain-building, along with mountain destruction, continues today, though at a pace that makes it (usually) imperceptible. Geologic history is big history. It reminds us that the "solid earth" we inhabit is constantly shifting beneath our feet. More importantly, it reminds us that humans' place within geologic time is but a mere moment. Many of us will travel across North America in





the coming months. Through Dvorak's stories, you will see the landscape as you have not seen it before.

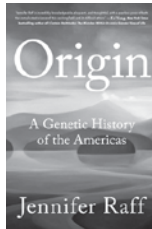
**One Damn Thing After Another: Memoirs of An Attorney General** by William P. Barr (\$35). OK. Let's get the obvious negative comments out of the way first. Some say that the book is too self-serving. Others argue that if Barr really felt strongly about what he was witnessing, he would have resigned. It would be easy to dismiss the book as just another tell-all by a disaffected former official. That would be a mistake. Barr draws a portrait of a president whose grasp of government and understanding of the Constitution is minimal and determinedly ignorant. Democratic rules, norms, traditions, and laws were viewed as impediments to a political agenda bent on deconstruction, but with little in the way of defined new construction. Barr's vantage point is from the highest level. He is (OK, some will say, was) a respectable lawyer, who, as Attorney General was the lawyer for the United States, not the President. His recollections and insights should be read carefully by Democrats, Republicans, liberals, and conservatives. His warnings go beyond the hubris of Donald Trump. Rather, they illustrate how fragile our democracy and our system of checks and balances really is. There are lessons here that we ignore at our peril.



#### SHARMAN MCGURN



**Origin: A Genetic History of the Americas** by Jennifer Raff (\$30). This fascinating look at the current state of genetic anthropology, related to the first homo sapiens in the Western Hemisphere (First Peoples), is a journey in three parts:



- a history of anthropology and paleontology, as applied to the oldest North and South Americans;

- recent discoveries, particularly those using DNA, furthering our knowledge of these First Peoples; and
- ethical questions related to their study, including the racism that has all-too-often accompanied the "science."

Rapp, with PhDs in both genetics and anthropology, is passionate about her subject, telling her story in (mainly) layman's terms. While the history of the earliest peoples of the Americas has only been partially written, what has been learned, through recent technological improvements in genetic sequencing and DNA testing, tells a complex tale. These new insights are particularly significant, because there is so little physical evidence of the existence of humans prior to the arrival of Columbus—few skeletons or bones at all! We have been taught that the First Peoples came across the Bering Land Bridge at the end of the last Ice Age and were in North America by about 11,500 years ago. Some evidence disputes this, putting humans in the Americas long before that.

But who were these people and others who might have come earlier and perhaps by different routes? What we know currently is that much of the DNA of today's indigenous people of the Americas can be traced to ancestry from Ancient Northern Siberians and Ancient Eastern Eurasians. Recent evidence now includes DNA, in certain Amazonian groups and others from the west coast of South America, that is shared with some indigenous people from Australasia. Along with the science, Raff discusses ethics as related to the study of ancient remains of indigenous groups. Who can study these remains, and what input from their descendants is necessary, before doing so? The book is dense with interesting information related to these topics. We've come a long way from early attempts to understand First Peoples, both in terms of the science and of cultural sensitivity. But there is much more to learn.



Calendar continued from page 1

#### SATURDAY, MAY 7

10 am - 12 noon, Open House at the store  
**MICHAEL SAMPSON**  
*Armadillo Antics*

Please stop by and bring your children ages 3 – 7 to meet **Michael Sampson** and follow an adventurous armadillo through nighttime fun as dawn approaches. See page 6 for details.

2 - 4 pm, Open House at the store  
**DUSTI BOWLING**

*Aven Green Baking Machine: Volume 2*

Here's another opportunity to come into the store and chat with **Dusti Bowling**, one of our favorite authors. She'll sign the second book in her Aven Green early chapter book series for kids ages 6 – 8.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

7 pm, A Virtual Event  
Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave.  
2022 One Book, Everyone Reads

**DAWN TURNER**

*Three Girls from Bronzeville:  
A Uniquely American Memoir of Race,  
Fate, and Sisterhood*

Award-winning journalist and author **Dawn Turner** discusses her memoir about three Black girls from the storied Bronzeville section of Chicago that offers a penetrating exploration of race, opportunity, friendship, sisterhood, and the powerful forces at work that allow some to flourish...and others to falter. She appears in conversation with fellow writer **Alex Kotlowitz**. This virtual program is free but registration is required; go to [wilmette.libnet.info](http://wilmette.libnet.info).



#### THURSDAY, MAY 12

2 pm, A Live Event  
Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave.

**CHARLOTTE ADELMAN and MONICA BUCKLEY**

*A Program on "All Season Gardening with Native Plants"*

Author, native plant lobbyist, and Wilmette resident **Charlotte Adelman** and **Monica Buckley** of Red Stem Native Landscaping will discuss all-season gardening with native plants. This program is free and open to the public. We'll have books by Ms. Adelman available at the program! For more info, go to [wilmette.libnet.info](http://wilmette.libnet.info).

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

6:30 pm at the store

**RICH COHEN**

*The Adventures of Herbie Cohen*  
Book Stall friend **Rich Cohen** writes about his father, **Herb Cohen**, who parlayed the Brooklyn street smarts of his youth into a surprising career as "The World's Greatest Negotiator." Author of the 1980s mega-best-seller *You Can Negotiate Anything*,

Herbie became not only a guru of the corporate retreat, but an adviser to presidents and corporations, and an arms and hostage negotiator.

#### TUESDAY, MAY 24

6:30 pm, an In-store event

**B.A. SHAPIRO, Metropolis**

We welcome back our great friend **B.A. Shapiro**. Her new book is a spellbinding contemporary novel of psychological suspense. Set in the century-old urban Metropolis Storage Warehouse in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the narrative is told

from multiple characters' points-of-view as Shapiro explores timely issues of our current cultural moment.





**Jennifer Egan** (right) signed her new bestseller, *The Candy House*, at the store. She was interviewed by fellow author **Rebecca Makkai**.



Two days later, **Libby Hellmann** discussed her new book, *A Bend in the River*, to a full house!

## Family Action Network (FAN) Events

**FAN** All FAN events are virtual. The programs are free and open to the public, but registration is required. Most events feature an "After Hours" session that is available to attendees who purchase the author's book from The Book Stall. For more information, go to [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net).

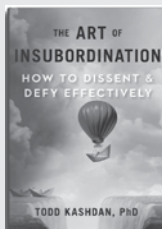
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 4**

7 pm



**TODD B. KASHDAN, PhD**  
*The Art of Insubordination: How to Dissent and Defy Effectively*

**Todd Kashdan**, a professor psychology at George Mason University, discusses his book, the essential guide for anyone seeking to be heard, make



change, and rebel against an unhealthy status quo. It helps people to unlock the benefits of being in a group of diverse people holding divergent views, and to cultivate curiosity, courage, and independent, critical thinking in youth. Dr. Kashdan will be interviewed by his good friend, **Jane McGonigal**, who appeared at a FAN event in April.

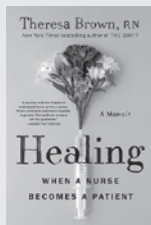
**THURSDAY, MAY 5**

7 pm



**THERESA BROWN, PhD, BSN, RN**  
*Healing: When a Nurse Becomes a Patient*

From the mammogram that would change her life through her diagnosis, treatment, and recovery, *New York Times* bestselling author



**Theresa Brown, RN**, tells a poignant and powerful story about having breast cancer in the United States. Despite her training and years of experience as an oncology and hospice nurse, Brown finds it difficult to navigate the medical maze from the other side of the bed. Why is she so often left in the dark about procedures and treatments? Why is she expected to research her own best treatment options? Why is there so much red tape? *Healing* is must-read for all of us who have tried to find healing through our health-care system.

**MONDAY, MAY 9**

7 pm

**LUMA MUFLEH**

*Learning America: One Woman's Fight for Educational Justice for Refugee Children*

**Luma Mufleh**—the founder of Fugees Family, the only network of schools in the U.S. dedicated to immigrant and refugee



education, and a 2017 CNN Hero of the Year—writes about how a pickup soccer game transformed her life. "An absorbing account of [Mufleh's] journey from a Jordanian immigrant to an influential educational leader and activist...An impassioned, penetrating critique and

inspiring model for progress." Kirkus Reviews (starred review) She will be interviewed by **Jose Antonio Vargas**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, filmmaker, and producer.

**THURSDAY, MAY 12**

7 pm



**SUSIE WISE, PhD**  
*Design for Belonging: How to Build Inclusion and Collaboration in Your Communities*

Designer and teacher **Susie Wise** presents her practical, illustrated guide to using the tools of design to create feelings



of inclusion, collaboration, and respect in groups of any type or size—a classroom, a work team, an international organization. The guide comes from Stanford University's Hasso Plattner Institute of Design (known as the d.school). She will be interviewed by **Morgan Vien** from Stanford.

**THURSDAY, MAY 19**

7 PM

**THOMAS INSEL, MD**

*Healing: Our Path from Mental Illness to Mental Health*

Mental illnesses are medical problems. But in his book, **Thomas Insel**, a psychiatrist and neuroscientist who served as Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) from 2002-2015, discovers that the cures for the crisis are not just medical, but social. This path to healing, built upon what he calls the three Ps (people, place, and purpose), is more straightforward than one might imagine. He will be interviewed by **David Schreiber, MD**, the founder and executive director of Compass Health Center. Compass is co-sponsoring the give-away of Dr. Insel's book to randomly selected event attendees.







## Happy Mother's Day—May 8!

Here are a few new books with special appeal for moms!

### Nonfiction

**Roar: A Collection of Mighty Women** by Ashley Longshore (\$45)

Ashley Longshore presents pop art portraits of legendary stateswomen, artists, and notable women from all walks of life, accompanied by descriptions about what makes them such meaningful icons.

**Wild Life: The Life and Work of Charley Harper** (\$90)

Ladybugs, birds, dogs, and owls: with a never-ending curiosity for the world around him, Charley Harper developed one of the most recognizable styles of American illustration in the 20th century.

**Garden Stories** by Diana Secker Tesdell (\$22) This anthology of short stories from around the world celebrates gardens and gardeners, featuring secret gardens, enchanted gardens, gardens public and private, grand and humble.

**A History of the World in 100 Animals** by Simon Barnes (\$39.95)

Here are the 100 animals who have had the greatest impact on humanity and on whom humanity has had the greatest effect. We see how animals have been domesticated for food and for transport, and how animals powered agriculture, making civilization possible.

**The English Country House** by James Peill, Julian Fellows, James Fennell (\$50) This tour of 10 magnificent and architecturally distinctive English country houses, all still in the hands of their original families, provides entertaining information about the families and insights into the houses' architecture and interior décor.

**Queen Elizabeth II: An Oral History** by Deborah Hart Strober and Gerald Strober (\$35) Detailed interviews, rarely seen color photos, and insightful accounts range from the very early years of Elizabeth's reign to Prince Phillip's death in 2021.

**Fly Girl: A Memoir** by Ann Hood (\$26.95) In 1978, Ann Hood became a TWA flight attendant, and as the airline industry changed around her, she began to write. She reveals how the job empowered her, despite its roots in sexist standards, and captures the nostalgia and magic of air travel at its height.

**Rooms of Their Own: Where Great Writers Write** by Alex Johnson, illustrations by James Osos (\$26) Discover how great writers pen their texts, and the routines and habits they perfect. Some rely on silence and seclusion and others need people, music, and whisky. Some novelists travel half-way across the world to a luxury writing retreat, others just need an empty shed at the bottom of the garden.

**In on the Joke: The Original Queens of Standup Comedy** by Shawn Levy (\$30) This account of the trailblazing women of stand-up comedy—from Black vaudeville between the world wars to modern times—shows how women broke into the boys' club, offered new ideas of womanhood, and had great laughs along the way.

**Arrival Stories: Women Share Their Experiences of Becoming Mothers**, collected by Amy Schumer and Christy Turlington Burns (\$28) Actors, athletes, academics, CEOs, writers, small-business owners, birth workers, physicians, and activists all share their experiences of becoming mothers.

**Diamonds and Deadlines: A Tale of Greed, Deceit, and a Female Tycoon in the Gilded Age** by Betsy Prioleau (\$30) The first major biography of Mrs. Frank Leslie, who ran the county's largest publishing company. She made a fortune and became a national celebrity, but was also a byword for scandal.

**Wonderland: Adventures in Decorating** by Summer Thornton (\$45) In her first book of interiors, the rising star designer takes readers into her highly polished, sophisticated interiors that indulge in a lighthearted, almost irreverent sense of whimsy.

**Around the Board: Boards, Platters, and Plates: Seasonal Cheese and Charcuterie for Year-Round Celebrations & Elevated Gatherings** by Emily Delaney (\$24.99) With a chapter for Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall, you'll learn to make nearly 50 creative, delicious boards that capitalize on the flavors and festivities of the season, with annotated photos that guide you through the steps to create your display.

**Dressed to Swill: Runway-Ready Cocktails Inspired by Fashion Icons** by Jennifer Croll, illustrated by Daiana Ruiz (\$14.95) Here are 60 easy-to-make cocktail recipes inspired by style icons from the 20th century to today, including fashion designers, models, photographers, stylists, influencers, and more.

**Half Baked Harvest Every Day: Recipes for Balanced, Flexible, Feel-Good Meals: A Cookbook** by Tieghan Gerard (\$29.99) This new cookbook delivers more of Tieghan's trademark simple, wholesome decadence with 125 all-new recipes for food that everyone can feel good about.

### Fiction

**One Day I Shall Astonish the World: A Novel** by Nina Stibbe (\$27) Two women have been best friends for years, starting at a haberdashery shop in 1990s Leicestershire. We follow the sometimes surprising path of friendship: from its conspiratorial beginnings, along its irritating wrong turns, to its final gratifying destination.

**The Good Left Undone: A Novel** by Adriana Trigiani (\$28) A hardworking family of Tuscan artisans have long-held secrets in this story that covers generations and a setting from Viareggio to Marseille to Scotland and Liverpool in World War II.

**Sea of Tranquility: A Novel** by Emily St. John Mandel (\$25) This novel of art, time, love, and plague takes the reader from Vancouver Island in 1912 to a dark colony on the moon 500 years later, unfurling a story of humanity across centuries and space.

**The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post: A Novel** by Allison Pataki (\$28) A reimagining of the remarkable life of Marjorie Merriweather Post, the American heiress and trailblazing leader of the 20th century.

**The Candy House A Novel** by Jennifer Egan (\$28) A brilliant tech demi-god comes up with a new technology that allows you access to every memory you've ever had, and to share every memory in exchange for access to the memories of others. Set partly in Winnetka! We have signed copies available.

### And here are more gift ideas for Mom:

- **Exquisite candles, hand cream and soap** from Seda France Candles.
- **Darling tote bags**, big and small, from RockFlowerPaper.
- **Felt bird houses** made by women in Nepal.
- **Socks...**and more socks!
- **New puzzles and games** that Mom can play with the whole family.
- **New colorful journals** from Rhodia and Leuchtturm.
- **Cheerful notepads** from Donovan Designs
- **Charming coin purses** from September Skye Bags & Accessories



# the children's line...



Hello Children's Book Lovers,

We are starting May off with some delightful events for **Children's Book Week**. I hope you can join us! On **Tuesday, May 3 at 4:30 pm** we're thrilled to host a special writing workshop in the store, conducted by **Lorelei Savaryn**, author of *The Circus of Stolen Dreams* and a brand-new novel, *The Edge of In Between*. Lorelei will talk about and lead exercises in writing spooky

**KARI PATCH**

stories! This workshop is recommended for writers ages 10 - 14. The cost of the program is \$17.65, which includes a writer's notebook and all other workshop materials, plus a copy of *The Edge of In Between*. Sign up now, as space is limited! To register, sign up in the store, call The Book Stall at 847 446-8880, or email Robert at events@thebookstall.com.



*The Edge of In Between* is a spellbinding tale of magical realism and superb, twisty retelling of *The Secret Garden*, where 12-year-old Lottie's colorful world turns suddenly gray, when an unexpected accident claims her parents, and she is uprooted from her home to live with an eccentric uncle she never knew she had.



**Thursday, May 5 at 7 pm** we will be joined virtually by writer **Kathryn (K.E.) Ormsbee**, and illustrator **Molly Brooks** to talk about and celebrate their brand-new graphic novel, *Growing Pangs*! Join us for the official book launch. Faith Erin Hicks calls



*Growing Pangs*, "an incisive and empathetic look at fitting in, anxiety, and what it means to be a good friend." This free virtual program is part of our **Children's Book Week** celebration, and we recommend it for fans of *Smile*, *Sunnyside Up*, the *Baby-Sitter Club* series, and all graphic novel fans ages 8 - adult. **All copies purchased from The Book Stall will**



**contain a bookplate signed by both the author and artist.** Note that this book is published simultaneously in paperback and hardcover. Register for this event via our website.



To close out Children's Book Week on **Saturday, May 7**, we have two open houses with children's book creators. From **10 am to 12 noon**, author **Michael Sampson** will be in the store to sign copies of his new book, *Armadillo Antics*. Mr.



Sampson taught kindergarten through fourth grade before meeting fellow literacy expert Bill Martin, Jr. at a conference in Tucson in 1978. They established a lifelong friendship and collaborated on many bestselling and award-winning books for children, including *Chicka Chicka 1, 2, 3* and *Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See?*



Later that same day, **Saturday, May 7, from 2 to 4 pm** author **Dusti Bowling** will be visiting The Book Stall. She will be in the store to meet fans and sign copies of her new book, *Aven Green Baking Machine*, as well as her previous books about Aven Green.



**Please note:** Both of these events are open houses, not sit-down readings or programs. Feel free to stop by any time during those hours to say hello and get a book signed.

Please join us!

Kari P.

**AMY TROGDON**



*Tiny Cedric* by Sally Lloyd-Jones, illustrated by Rowboat Watkins (\$16.99). To make himself feel "all big and tall, not small," Tiny Cedric banishes everyone who is taller than himself from his kingdom. Unfortunately, he is left with no adults to work, only



babies! Predictably, the babies wreak havoc in the castle and hilarious chaos ensues. At this point, Tiny Cedric is forced to help some of the babies in distress. It is only then that he recognizes his own selfish and insecure ways and is able to reach out to others (tall or not so tall). The themes of fairness, respect, and kindness prevail in this funny, timeless story.

Ages 4 - 7

*Knight Owl* by Christopher Denise (\$17.99).

Young Owl has always dreamed of being a knight. He wants to slay dragons and become famous for his bravery. When several knights go missing, he applies to Knight School and, to his surprise, is accepted. He is much smaller than the other knights-in-training, has a hard time handling the large weapons, and often nods off during the day. But he graduates and is assigned the Knight Night Watch (perfect for him!). While patrolling the castle walls one night, a hungry dragon shows up and Owl must use his wits to avoid being seriously injured. Owl shows courage and decides to make friends with dragon instead of fighting him. Will he succeed? Humorous illustrations are made even more so by the fact that Owl is the only animal in the group of strong human knights. Once again, brains win over brawn! Great read-aloud! Ages 4 - 7



*A Song Called Home* by Sara Zarr (\$16.99). Lou, her 15-year-old sister Casey, and her mom have lived in a San Francisco apartment for as long as she can remember. Her dad, an alcoholic, has lived with them also, on and off. Lou loves her life and her family, until her mom divorces her dad and meets Steve. Now everything is changing. Her mom and Steve are getting married, and they are moving into Steve's house, which is about 30 minutes from San Francisco. So, for Lou and her sister, they are facing many transitions—living with a new person, going to a new school, and meeting new friends. On her 11th birthday, Lou receives an anonymous gift of a guitar. She believes it is from her Dad, and if she learns to play, her family will become closer. After the move, Lou and Casey become friends with Marcus and Shannon, a lovely couple who, along with their three young children, live on Steve's block. Marcus even begins giving Lou guitar lessons. Lou still worries about her dad's well-being and losing her best friend from home. This is an excellent portrayal of a tween navigating the many sides of a blended family. Compassionate and written from the heart. Ages 9 - 12



*Anybody Here Seen Frenchie?* by Leslie Connor (\$17). Sixth grader Aurora Petrequin is loud and says whatever comes to mind, while continuously bursting with energy. Frenchie, her best friend, is non-verbal and autistic. They are perfect complements to each other, and while Aurora does look out for Frenchie, they have great adventures together. But one morning, Frenchie disappears before school, leaving Aurora feeling scared, worried about Frenchie, and how she messed everything up. Is it her fault Frenchie left? A suspenseful and heartwarming story of friendship. Ages 9 - 12





## BETSY BALLYEAT



***Pride and Premeditation*** by Tirzah Price (\$10.99). Seventeen-year-old Lizzie Bennet would be the best solicitor in her father's law firm—and she knows it. But the restrictions of Regency England stand in her way. When young Mr. Bingley is arrested for murder,



Lizzie sees an opportunity to prove her worth by proving him innocent, even if he has chosen another firm headed by Fitzwilliam Darcy to represent him. As Lizzie searches London for clues and the killer with only days to spare, she and Darcy unwittingly find themselves in the sight of the killer. As the case gets more complicated, Lizzie and Darcy may have to start working together to avoid becoming the next victims themselves. Twists and turns abound in this delightfully authentic, yet still utterly original interpretation. *Ages 14 - 17*

***Luck of the Titanic*** by Stacey Lee (\$18.99). Valora Luck has two things: a ticket for the biggest and most luxurious ocean liner in the world and a dream of leaving England behind and making a life for herself as a circus performer in New York. Much to her surprise, though, she is turned away at the gangway. Apparently Chinese people are not allowed into America. But Val must get on that ship. Her twin brother, Jamie, who has spent two long years at sea, is on board the *Titanic*, and so is an influential circus owner. Thankfully there is not much a trained acrobat like Val can't overcome when she puts her mind to it. As a stowaway, Val should keep her head down and stay out of sight. The clock is ticking, however, and she only has seven days to find her brother, audition for the circus owner, and convince him to help them get into America. This is an important retelling of the *Titanic* tragedy. *Ages 13 - 17*



***Witchlings*** by Claribel Ortega (\$17.99). Every year in the magical town of Ravenskill, Witchlings, who participate in the Black Magic ceremony, are placed into covens and come into their powers as full-fledged witches. Twelve-year-old Seven Salazar can't wait to be placed into the most powerful coven with her best friend. But on the night of the ceremony, in front of the entire town, Seven isn't placed in any of the covens. She is a spare! Spare covens have fewer witches, are less powerful, and are looked down upon by everyone. Even worse, when Seven and the other two spares perform the magic circle to seal the coven and cement themselves as sisters, it doesn't work! They are stuck as witchlings and will never be able to perform powerful magic. There is one possible option: The Impossible Task. The three will be assigned an impossible task, and if they work together and succeed at it, all will be well. If they should fail—well, the last group that failed were turned into toads—forever. *Ages 8 - 12*



***Those Kids from Fawn Creek*** by Erin Entrada Kelly (\$17.99). Fawn Creek, Louisiana isn't the kind of town where much changes, so the 7th graders are instantly intrigued when Orchid arrives. There is Grayson, whose interest in style and art are not a good match for his father and brother, who believe in manly sports like hunting and fishing; Dorothy, who has taken to hiding behind her hair; and Janie, clinging to her ringleader best friend Renn. Not only does Orchid have stories of living all over the world, she barely notices the small divisive cliques that make up her new class. As Orchid's stories of other places fascinate the other students, they begin to see possibilities they never dreamed of. Kelly has created a strong cast of students with realistic problems rooted in family life, friendships, and school. This is a relatable novel about misfits and outsiders that rings very true. *Ages 8 - 12*



## Graduation Books



May and June are graduation months—that time when grads from college and high school look forward to the future. We have books—many books—that bring inspiration and humor to that phase of life—all the way from Winnie the Pooh to lessons on creativity taught through LEGO® brick building.

***Lego Build Every Day: Ignite Your Creativity and Find Your Flow*** by Alec Posta (\$16.95) The author shows readers how to build their way through problems—by using LEGO techniques to solve real life challenges. Readers can dip in and out or read all 22 mini-chapters in one sitting.

***Embrace the Work, Love Your Career: A Guided Workbook for Realizing Your Career Goals with Clarity, Intention, and Confidence*** by Fran Hauser (\$19.95) This is a workbook for women who want to get more out of their careers, combining accessible advice, time-tested strategies, creative prompts, and thoughtful exercises into one holistic resource.

***Letters to Change the World: From Emmeline Pankhurst to Martin Luther King*** by Travis Elborough (\$19.95) Here we have a powerful collection of more than 60 of the most politically and socially inspiring letters that have changed the world and the way we see it.

***Maya Angelou's Guide to Hope: 50 Simple Ways to Spread Hope*** (\$9.99) Angelou defines 50 simple acts—from giving words of encouragement to extending a helping hand or spending time with someone—accompanied by illustrations featuring Maya herself. The book helps us to always keep hope alive.

***How to Live Like 'The Little Prince': A Grown-Up's Guide to Rediscovering Imagination, Adventure, and Awe*** by Stéphane Garnier (\$22.95) Garnier captures the brilliance and wisdom of Antoine St. Exupéry's beloved tale. She reminds us who we were before we grew up and teaches us to once again take time to live, play, and find wonder in the small, everyday moments.

***She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World*** by Chelsea Clinton, Alexandra Boiger (\$17.99) We're introduced to tiny feminists, mini activists and little kids who are ready to take on the world as well as 13 inspirational women who never took no for an answer, and who always, inevitably and without fail, persisted.

***Winnie the Pooh: The Little Things in Life*** by Catherine Hapka, illustrated by Mike Wall (\$22.99) Come along with Pooh on a journey to share his simple yet profound observations of the natural world. Each page inspires the reader to stop and take a moment to observe and consider the joy that *The Little Things in Life* can bring.

***Get It Done: Surprising Lessons from the Science of Motivation*** by Ayelet Fishbach (\$29)

Here is a new theoretical framework for self-motivated action, with invaluable strategies for pulling yourself in whatever direction you want to go—so you can achieve your goals while staying healthy, clearheaded, and happy.

***Do Your Laundry or You'll Die Alone: Advice Your Mom Would Give if She Thought You Were Listening*** by Becky Blades (\$14.99) As Ms. Blades prepared to send her firstborn daughter off to Harvard, it occurred to her how much she still needed to learn. About dreams. About life. About laundry.

***The New York Times Cooking No-Recipe Recipes: A Cookbook*** by Sam Sifton (\$28) Here are 100 no-recipe recipes to make with the ingredients you have on hand or could pick up on a quick trip to the store. You'll see how to make these meals as big or as small as you like, substituting ingredients as you go.



811 Elm Street • Winnetka, Illinois 60093

New store hours as of May 1  
Monday- Thursday: 9:30 am - 6:30 pm  
Friday: 9:30 am - 5pm  
Saturday: 10 am - 5pm  
Sunday: 11 am - 5 pm

Telephone: (847) 446-8979

www.thebookstall.com

email: books@thebookstall.com



### Book Discussion Groups via The Book Stall

We are excited to be hosting book groups in the store once again! We will charge \$5 for in-store books groups, for which attendees will receive a gift card to be used on any merchandise in the store.

To monitor numbers, will ask for registration for in-person groups. Email Robert at [events@thebookstall.com](mailto:events@thebookstall.com) to register.

Wednesday, May 4, a Live Morning Book Discussion at the store at 9:30 am. *Great Circle* by Maggie Shipstead. Led by Ann Walters

Tuesday, May 10, A Live Evening Discussion at the store at 6:30 pm  
*Beautiful World, Where Are You* by Sally Rooney  
Led by Alice Moody

Wednesday, June 15, a Live Morning Book Discussion at the store at 9:30 am. *The Reading List* by Sara Nisha Adams.  
Led by Ann Walters

Wednesday, May 25, A Virtual Morning Book Discussion at 9:30 am  
*French Braid* by Anne Tyler. Led by Nancy Buehler

Wednesday, June 1, A Live Morning Book Discussion at 9:30 am  
*Oh William!* by Elizabeth Strout. Led by Amy Barrow

Wednesday, June 22, A Live Morning Book Discussion at 9:30 am  
*Three Girls from Bronzeville: A Uniquely American Memoir of Race, Fate, and Sisterhood* by Dawn Turner.  
Led by Amy Barrow

### Go Green Reads Book Discussion—A Virtual Presentation Monday, May 16, 7 pm

*Bright Green Future: How Everyday Heroes Are Re-Imagining the Way We Feed, Power, and Build Our World*  
by Gregory Schwartz PhD and Trevor Decker Cohen  
Co-author Trevor Cohen will participate virtually and talk about the book! Copies are available at The Book Stall! To register, please email [gogreenreads@gmail.com](mailto:gogreenreads@gmail.com). You will receive a link and log-in information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>May</i> 10 am, Temple Beth Israel 3601 West Dempster St., Skokie LAUREN FOX <i>Send for Me</i>	2	3	4 6:30 pm at the store JON MARSHALL <i>Clash</i> 7 pm, a Virtual Family Action Network (FAN) event TODD B. KASHDAN <i>The Art of Insubordination</i>	5 7 pm, a Virtual Event KATHRYN ORMSBEE and MOLLY BROOKS <i>Growing Pangs</i> 7 pm, a Virtual FAN event THERESA BROWN <i>Healing</i>	6	7 10 am - 12 noon, Open House at the store MICHAEL SAMPSON <i>Armadillo Antics</i> 2 - 4 pm, Open House at the store DUSTI BOWLING <i>Aven Green Baking Machine: Volume 2</i>
8  Mother's Day	9 7 pm, A Virtual FAN event LUMA MUFLEH <i>Learning America</i>	10	11 7 pm, A Virtual Event Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave. 2022 One Book, Everyone Reads DAWN TURNER <i>Three Girls from Bronzeville</i>	12 2 pm, A Live Event Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave. CHARLOTTE ADELMAN and MONICA BUCKLEY <i>A Program on "All Season Gardening with Native Plants"</i> 7 pm, a Virtual FAN event SUSIE WISE <i>Design for Belonging</i>	13	14
15	16	17	18 6:30 pm at the store RICH COHEN <i>The Adventures of Herbie Cohen</i>	19 7 pm, A Virtual FAN event THOMAS INSEL, MD <i>Healing</i>	20	21
22	23	24 6:30 pm, an In-store event B.A. SHAPIRO <i>Metropolis</i>	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day The Book Stall is closed.	31	June 			

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