Once again, summer has passed too quickly! The light has started to change, and the days are getting shorter. Still, I find September exhilarating as it marks the start of the year—getting kids ready for school—in my case, Lexy, my youngest, heads off to start her freshman year at UCSB. September is also when our Book Stall in the Schools programming starts, and we’re happy to be bringing some incredible authors to area schools: Mac Barnett, Kate Hannigan, and Carolyn Crimi to name a few. If you’re interested in author appearances for your school, give us a call!

At the Book Stall, fall is our busiest season for author events and a particularly exciting time for new books. We’re kicking off our September events calendar with one of our favorite authors. William Kent Krueger will be at the store on Saturday, September 7 at 12 noon with his new book, This Tender Land. Krueger’s Ordinary Grace is a favorite among both bookellers and customers. On September 11 at 6:30 pm, Andrew Gross will return to the store for his latest thriller, The Fifth Column, set against the backdrop of pre-World War II in New York City. Our own Jon Grand will be in conversation with the author to explore the historical context in Mr. Gross’s new novel. YA author Scott Westerfeld, author of the popular Uglies series, will talk about his new book, Shatter City, at the store on September 18 at 6:30 pm.

The Family Action Network (FAN) launches its fall season with some high-profile authors of very topical books: Ibram X. Kendi (How to Be an Antiracist) on September 6 at Evanston Township High School, Paul Tough (The Years That Matter Most: How College Makes or Breaks Us) on September 16 at New Trier High School Northfield, and Emily Bazelon (Charged: The New Movement to Transform American Prosecution and End Mass Incarceration) on September 26 at Evanston Township High School.

Fall is the season for many new releases and we’re so excited for stacks of new titles. Margaret Atwood’s much-anticipated follow-up to The Handmaid’s Tale, The Testaments, will be out this month. Atwood picks up 15 years after Offred ventured into the unknown. Ta-Nehisi Coates has a new novel, The Water Dancer, set in 19th century Virginia about a man born into slavery and his plan to escape. Singer/songwriter and National Book Award winner Patti Smith has written a memoir of a difficult time in her life in Year of the Monkey. Ann Patchett has penned another incredible story of family and forgiveness in The Dutch House (see Liz’s review on page 3). Finally, I was fortunate to have dinner with YA powerhouse Leigh Bardugo to talk about her new adult novel, The Ninth House, a ghost story set at the author’s alma mater, Yale. My daughter, Katie (22) loved it as did I.

The Booker Prize Longlist finalists were announced at the end of July and include some Book Stall favorites. Manager Mike Wysock was an early fan of two titles that made the cut: My Sister, the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite and Lost Children Archive by Valeria Luiselli. I was very glad to see John Lanchester’s The Wall included. The Shortlist will be announced on September 3 and the winner on October 14.

Lastly, customers have sometimes asked whether The Book Stall sells e-books or audio books, and the answer is yes! Visit our website to learn how you can purchase either of these formats from your local independent bookstore!

Hope to see you in the store!
Western-style democracies. But it remains a part of all political arsenals, as it always has been. The title, a partial quote taken from an ancient version of the Talmud, suggests the justification for preemptive strikes: *If someone comes to kill you, rise up and kill him first.* The State of Israel exists surrounded by peoples who question its very right to exist. Ancient grievances coupled with modern dislocations create a level of on-going threat that is almost unimaginable to most of us. Its defense organizations, along with its intelligence service—the famed Mossad—have, from the earliest days, developed and implemented sophisticated poaches that brook no threats of aggression to Israeli sovereignty. Those policies include the use of assassination. Ronen Bergman has chronicled the history of targeted assassinations by Israel against its enemies. It is said that truth is stranger than fiction. Berman’s book is a real-life spy thriller with heroes and heroines who pay a heavy price for their successes and failures. Yet, even as he justifies the actions, Bergman raises fundamental moral and ethical questions that should trouble all of us. The exhortation to rise and kill first applies to our enemies as well.

**American Carnage: On the Front Lines of the Republican Civil War and the Rise of President Trump** by Tim Alberta ($29.99). In Alberta’s telling, the emergence of Donald Trump, or someone like him, was inevitable. Why and how that happened in 2015 is the “perfect storm” that saw the Republican Party tear itself apart and then reform even as the Democrats alienated broad swaths of the electorate. The rise of the Tea Party was soon overshadowed by a new class of ultra-conservatives with little trust of their party elders or the institutions in which they served. Yet they had connected in a visceral way with the disaffection, anger, and fear that was abroad in the country. The battles within the Republican Party, which had been going on in the post-Bush era, left a power vacuum. Trump filled the void. Alberta’s thoroughly documented and rigorously researched book argues that Trump’s victory in 2016 was not an anomaly but rather the logical outcome of the civil war inside the Republican Party and the rapid cultural and technical shifts in society. Trump appealed to the emotional sentiments of the electorate, eschewing the logical reason-based arguments of his opponents. Trump’s message was received because it resonated with the mood of the voters. And it destroyed the illusion of the Republican Party as the inclusive “big tent.” This is a troubling story whose ending has yet to be written.

**The New Girl** by Daniel Silva ($28.99). OK you caught me. I do read something other than nonfiction and, I confess, I like a good thriller. And I particularly like Silva’s protagonist Gabriel Allon. In this story, Allon must work with a Saudi prince, whose daughter has been abducted. Allon is, of course, the perfect man for the job, with a mythical history of work in the field as an agent for the Israeli Secret Service. But this is why I like Daniel Silva so much:

Allon, unlike James Bond, is not Peter Pan, the boy who never grows up. But Allon ages through the series as Silva writes. He gets grey at his temples. He isn’t as swift or agile as he once was. And he questions the relative importance of things in his life. Yet he remains a formidable operative and opponent. He can think faster than he can run. He has morphed from puppet to master puppeteer, guiding the actions and thinking of his team. We read thrillers because they fulfill certain fantasies and play to self-images we value. As we age, the suave image of James Bond seems less real. But Gabriel Allon: he is us. A bit older but he still has it.

**Late Migrations: A Natural History of Love and Loss** by Margaret Renkl ($24). Margaret Renkl, a writer for *The New York Times*, skillfully weaves short essays about the flora and fauna surrounding her Nashville home with stories about her childhood in Alabama and her family’s history. The pieces about nature are beautiful and rich in detail. I could actually picture the newborn rabbits in a fur-lined nest hidden under a rosemary bush, or the illuminated cardinal singing at dusk. Much of the family’s narrative is taken from interviews that the author’s brother did with his grandmother and is filled with warmth and humor. Billy, Margaret’s brother, also did the book’s gorgeous illustrations. Some of the essays that deal with aging parents are poignant, but they are lightened by observations of nature. This is not a book that you will devour in a day. You will want to reread passages, write down quotes, and just make it last as long as possible.

This month we feature a review from another of our summer interns, ISABEL MANGUM, a junior at New Trier High School. *The Lost for Words Bookshop* by Stephanie Butland ($26.99). After years in the foster care system, Loveday Cardew has almost given up on love when an old man named Archie whiskers her away to work at his used bookshop. There she finds solace and safety in her job and the books that surround her. With time, she distances herself from her traumatic childhood, but the scars from those years last—turning Loveday into a biter and sarcastic adult. When odd books begin arriving for Loveday, it seems like someone knows about the secrets of her childhood and is threatening to release them. As Loveday’s secrets begin to bubble to the surface, she meets Nathan Avebury, a poet and magician. Nathan is able to see Loveday for who she really is, despite her attempts to keep him at arms-length. Filled with characters that feel painfully human, Butland has written a story that leaps off the pages and nestles itself into your heart.

**The World That We Knew** by Alice Hoffman ($27.99, out September 24). In the spring of 1941, the Nazi noose was encircling the Jews in Berlin. Hanni Kohn understood that the only way to save her daughter, Lea, was to send her to live with cousins in Paris. To provide an escort whose sole purpose was to protect Lea, Hanni used the last of her jewelry to bribe Ettie,
the rabbit’s daughter, to create the mythical creature of a golem, Ava, to accompany her. Ettie, aware of the increasing dangers in Germany, also flees with her sister, Marta. Thus begins this engaging novel that explores the strengths of maternal love, romantic love, and love of life which carries each character on their journey. Constantly watched by the Angel of Death, these three women face the challenges of hunger, loss, and the brutal reality of France during WWII. This story uses magical realism and the strength of resistance to explore what it means to be mortal and to maintain one’s humanity in evil times.

LIZ ROGAJTZ

The Reckless Oath We Made by Bryn Greenwood ($26). This book quickly became my favorite book of 2019. It’s a novel that has it all: beautiful writing, gritty, totally original plot, and thoroughly unforgettable characters. Each chapter is told from the perspective of one of the nine main players, with the most captivating of all being Gentry, an autistic young man who truly believes he is a knight from the Middle Ages. He decides Zee will be his maiden, in the most gentlemanly of fashion. He is her protector and will do her bidding, which mostly involves driving her from place to place. Zee is nobody’s idea of a fairy-tale princess. She has lasting injuries to her hip due to a motorcycle accident, deals drugs, couch surfs at her sister’s apartment, and is no beauty. Initially Zee isn’t sure what to make of Gentry; he speaks middle English and jousters for fun, but as their friendship blossoms, there is no word to describe it other than tender. As with Gentry, Zee, and the other characters, Greenwood makes them utterly human—flawed, complex, and fiercely loyal to the ones they love. I could not put this book down, and it actually made me cry. I read a lot, and I cannot think of the last time a book had that effect on me.

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett ($27.99, out September 24). As Ms. Patchett’s Commonwealth did, this novel explores a dysfunctional family. Cyril Conroy brings his wife and children out of poverty and creates a vast real estate empire. He surprises his wife by purchasing “The Dutch House” in a Philadelphia suburb. The house is fully furnished down to the portraits on the wall of the previous owners. Cyril’s wife cannot adjust to this lifestyle and flees to India to help the poor, abandoning Cyril and her two young children, Maeve and Danny. The novel follows the relationship between Maeve and Danny, their father, and the house. The children realize at a young age that they can only truly count on each other. Over the course of five decades, the reader is drawn into this unbreakable sibling bond. Patchett is a gifted storyteller, and The Dutch House will grab you from the first page to the last.

MICHAEL WYSOCK

The Divers’ Game by Jesse Ball ($26.99, out September 10). Jesse Ball builds a palpably horrifying alternate reality in his latest novel, and in doing so makes his own contribution to the ever-growing body of near-future, dystopian literature. Writers achieve success in this genre when their imaginary worlds, however bizarre, reflect the darker truths of our own realities. In this aspect, Ball is a master world builder, and through three disturbing vignettes he creates a vision of a future distorted by the very fear and hate fueling present-day conflicts and injustice. We are introduced to a nation divided into two classes, refugees and citizens. Horribly disfigured and maimed, the refugees are stripped of all rights and left out of the laws that uphold a suspect commonwealth. The privileged citizens may kill the refugees at will and without recourse. We witness a pageant of ritualistic scapegoating and sacrifice that echoes the horror of Shirley Jackson’s short story, The Lottery. Finally, we follow the anguish of one citizen coming to terms with her complicity in this strange, unjust society. With nods toward climate change, species extinction, and a slow submission to radical leadership, The Divers’ Game is a most timely, thought-provoking read.

Doxology by Nell Zink ($27.99). Nell Zink’s Doxology is novel of subplots that stretch from the early 1990s through 2016 and centers on one Pam Bailey, a 17-year-old runaway from Washington D.C., who finds herself in New York City at the turn of the 21st century. Pam will go on to forge an intense relationship with a socially awkward punk rocker destined for stardom and an early death, marry a Midwestern transplant, and mother a future environmental activist. But this is so much more than a slice-of-life tale. Nell Zink is pitting Pam’s life, and the lives of those she loves, against the backdrop of our most confusing recent history. Zink peppers her novel with enough cultural details to engage the reader as she simultaneously breaks our hearts in describing personal tragedies, the events of 9/11, and the cultural milieu leading up to the 2016 election.

ROBERT MCDONALD

Writer Ocean Younig is rightly being lauded for his debut novel, On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous. I just wanted to remind our readers that before he was a best-selling novelist, he was a prize-winning poet. Night Sky with Exit Wounds, his first full collection, put him on the map in 2016, as he explored the themes of otherness, immigration, mothers and sons, desire, and myth, that he expands upon in his fiction. An even older collection on our shelves is Anne Sexton’s Transformations, her hilarious and disturbing retellings of Grimm’s Fairy Tales. Kurt Vonnegut said of Sexton’s work here that “she domesticates my terror, examines it and describes it, teaches it some tricks that will amuse me, then lets it gallop wild into my forest once more.” This is an accessible introduction to Sexton if you don’t know her work. Finally, let me recommend Only As the Day Is Long: New and Selected Poems by Dorian Laux. Each day I find new poems to love in this collection, poems of childhood, insomnia, suburbia, and the magic of the everyday.

JACOB ZAWA

Joy Harjo was appointed the 23rd U.S. Poet Laureate in June of this year, officially taking up the mantle this September. What better way to welcome her as our nation’s foremost poet, than to luxuriate within her brand-new poetry collection, An American Sunrise: Poems ($25.95)? This collection begins in regions poetically sparse, even remote, but it quickly ventures into vibrant, emotional realms of remembrance, rediscovery, and strength. At times, these poems are astoundingly real, grounded in the communal world we all experience together. At other times, Harjo digs into the more abstract, personal world of her inner-life—thus exposing her spirit in an intimate and vulnerable way. Life goes on in the dark, Harjo seems to express, but when the sun rises and we are confronted with the vision of our present moment, how will we respond?
We welcome baseball historian and longtime friend Charles N. Billington to celebrate the release of his new book about the White Sox, charter members of the American League and the country's last "neighborhood" pro baseball franchise. Covering the 1959 White Sox from a range of perspectives, his book examines the club's historical importance to Chicago and the significance of the 1959 "South Side Series"—the first in 40 years.

6:30 pm at the store

KIM THI PHUC
Fire Road: The Napalm Girl’s Journey Through the Horrors of War to Faith, Forgiveness, and Peace
Kim Thi Phuc, the 9-year-old girl in the infamous photo from Vietnam, speaks about how she survived excruciating treatments for her napalm burns and physical pain and ultimately survived the pain of her devastated soul. She will be joined by former Associated Press photographer Nick Ut, who took the Pulitzer Prize-winning photo. The Book Stall is working with Kim Phuc to raise money for a library in her Vietnamese village. We will donate 20% of all sales that day to that cause. (As with any donation, customers need to identify that they are making their purchases for this purpose.)

6:30 pm at the store

ANDREW GROSS
The Fifth Column
Andrew Gross returns to the store, just one day after the publication of his new book, a thrilling novel about the only man who can thwart a Nazi sympathizer uprising in New York during the Second World War. Under the growing threat of war, fears of a "fifth column"—German spies embedded into everyday life—are everywhere. Mr. Gross has written several international bestsellers and also co-authored five #1 New York Times bestsellers with James Patterson. He will be joined in conversation by Book Stall staffer Jon Grand.

2 pm at the store

CATHERINE O’CONNELL
First Tracks
Northbrook native Catherine O’Connell presents her program Page to Published: How to Pierce the Literary Firewall, and discusses and signs copies of First Tracks, the first book in her new mystery series. This event is recommended for mystery and thriller fans, as well as writers seeking advice on how to get published. Free and open to the public.

Two FAN Events with Paul Tough

MONDAY, SEPT. 16

7 pm, New Trier High School Northfield Cornog Auditorium, 7 Happ Rd.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17

7 pm, Latin School of Chicago, 59 N. Blvd., Chicago Wrigley Theatre

PAUL TOUGH
The Years That Matter Most: How College Makes or Breaks Us
Paul Tough tells the stories of students trying to find their way through the application process and into college. Drawing on new research, his book reveals how the landscape of higher education has shifted in recent decades and exposes the hidden truths of how the system works and whom it works for. Mr. Tough is the bestselling author of How Children Succeed.

6:30 pm at the store

SCOTT WESTERFELD
Shatter City
The author of the Uglies series appears at the store just one day after the publication of his new book, Shatter City, the sequel to his New York Times bestseller Impostors. See page 6.

6:30 pm at the store

JAMIE BAUM
Then She Woke Up
Glencoe resident Jamie Baum celebrates the publication of her new novel with a book discussion and signing. Ms. Baum, a longtime journalist and public relations specialist, has her fiction debut with a novel of one woman’s self-discovery.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 21
10:30 am, Special Storytime at the store
BETH FERRY
The Scarecrow
Hear the author read her gorgeous and poignant picture book about two unexpected friends—old Scarecrow and a tiny baby crow he saves. See page 6.

3 pm, A Workshop for Kids at the store
LOWEY BUNDY SICHOL
From an Idea to…
Kids age 7 – 11 are invited to an interactive session, where Lowey Bundy Sichol will explain how some of the biggest and best-known companies on the planet were once just a new idea thought up by a bright individual. She’ll give tips on what makes a good business idea. Cost of the workshop is $6, and includes a snack and one of Lowey’s books. See page 6.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22
10 am, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster, Skokie
MARGARET McMULLAN
Where the Angels Lived:
One Family’s Story of Exile, Loss and Return
Margaret McMullan tells the story behind her memoir, an unexpected journey of revelation and connection that pieced together the story of her family’s fragmented history throughout the Hungarian Holocaust. A bagel brunch ($5 charge) at 9 am precedes the book talk. The 10 am book talk is free and open to the public.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24
Two events
• 12 noon, Luncheon, University Club of Chicago
• 6:30 pm at the store
R.D. ROSEN
Tough Luck: Sid Luckman, Murder, Inc., and the Rise of the Modern NFL
R.D. Rosen, a Highland Park native and former senior editor for ESPN Books and Workman Publishing, tells the true story of legendary Chicago Bears quarterback Sid Luckman and his disgraced father, a Brooklyn mobster convicted of murder. Layered over the era of the 1930s and 1940s, it follows the Luckmans, an immigrant Jewish family, and the role they played in two important historical events—the disintegration of the New York mob and the rise of the National Football League.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25
4:30 pm, Superhero Writing Workshop at the store
KATE HANNIGAN
Cape
Kate Hannigan leads a fast-paced writing workshop for kids age 8 – 12 based on her new middle-fiction novel Cape, the first in a new series, The League of Secret Heroes. The cost of the workshop is a $5 gift card to the store, purchased on the day of the event. Because space is limited, registration is required! You can reserve a spot for your child by calling us at 847-446-8880, or emailing events@thebookstall.com. See page 6.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25 continued
6:30 pm at the store
ELENA GONZALEZ
Exhibitions for Social Justice
Elena Gonzalez, PhD, is an independent scholar focusing on curatorial work for social justice and museums’ roles in society today. In a program co-sponsored by the nonprofit group Unsilence, Dr. Gonzalez will discuss how galleries, museums, and other arts programmers can help make our society more hospitable, equitable, and sustainable. Joining her for this conversation will be Unsilence founder Danny M. Cohen, PhD, distinguished professor of instruction at Northwestern University. Dr. Gonzalez is the daughter of Book Stall friend and author Laurence Gonzales.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 26
4:30 pm, Storytime at the store
MATT TAVARES
Dasher: How a Brave Little Doe Changed Christmas Forever
Hear Matt Tavares read his story about a young reindeer who spends her days with her family under the hot sun in a traveling circus but wishes she could be where there is snow beneath her hooves and the North Star above her head. See page 6.

6 – 9 pm, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave.
Winnetka-Northfield Public Library “One Book, Two Villages”

SUSAN ORLEAN
The Library Book
We will be on hand once again for the Winnetka-Northfield Library’s annual “One Book, Two Villages” program, this year featuring Susan Orlean, author of The Library Book. This non-fiction book is an exploration of the history, power, and future of libraries, told through Ms. Orlean’s quest to solve a mysterious act of arson that nearly destroyed the Los Angeles Public Library in 1986. The Library Book was one of the New York Times’ 100 Notable Books of 2018 and the Washington Post’s Best Books of 2018. Orlean is adapting her book for a forthcoming television series with Paramount TV. Tickets are required for this event, which includes a cocktail party and lecture. Tickets available at eventbrite.com.

7 pm, a FAN Program
Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave.
EMILY BAZELON
Charged: The New Movement to Transform American Prosecution and End Mass Incarceration
Renowned journalist and legal commentator Emily Bazelon exposes the unchecked power of the prosecutor as a driving force in America’s mass incarceration crisis—and charts a way out.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28
10:30 am, Special Storytime at the store
SHERRI RINKER
Three Cheers for Kid McGear
She’s back with another Construction Site book! Sherri Rinker introduces Kid McGear, the newest truck to join the Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site crew. See page 6.

All events at clubs outside the store require reservations; call us at 847-446-8880. Business casual attire required. No denim please.
Hello children’s book fans,

September is upon us again, which means a busier events schedule and oh so many new books to look forward to. For the graphic-novel-loving young reader in your life, September is going to be a good month, and there were a few of them released this summer that might have gotten missed during vacation. The new Dog Man by Dav Pilkey, For Whom the Ball Rolls; the second Making Friends book by Kristen Gudsman, Back to the Drawing Board; and the sequel to Shannon Hale’s Real Friends, Best Friends, all arrived in the store late in August. September sees new graphic novels from Raina Telgemeier, Guts (out September 17); Jen Wang’s Stargazing (out September 10); and Ben Hatke’s, Mighty Jack and Zita the Spacegirl (out September 3). There’s another in the Baby-Sitters Club graphic novel series, Boy-Crazy Stacey out on September 3.

And there are delightful debut works to fall in love with, like Emma Steinkellner’s The Okay Witch (out September 3) about 13-year-old Moth Hush, who suddenly discovers she’s descended from a long line of witches.

We have a great series of events this month for the young readers in your life. Our Saturday Storytimes continue every week at 10:30 am. Three Saturdays this month we have special guests. On Saturday, September 14, we have a concert with Being Bilingual Rocks! Mi Amigo Hamlet has been a beloved Spanish and music educator for young children in the greater Chicago area for over 18 years. His debut album, Happy Land Is Tierra Feliz, was listed as one of Billboard’s top Latin Children’s Albums of 2018. Alina Celeste is an internationally touring family musician, educator and popular YouTuber. Her latest album, Love Is Te Quiero, was released in May. Together, they want you to know that Being Bilingual Rocks! Join them for this multicultural, bilingual celebration of music, language, and culture. You’ll dance, sing and rock in Spanish and English. This free show is appropriate for families with kids from five weeks to 12 years old.

On the final Saturday of the month, it’s a special story-time/book release party for Book Stall favorite, Sherri Duskey Rinker, and her newest picture book in the Construction Site series, Three Cheers for Kid McGear! We know we have a lot of Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site fans out there! You’ll want to join us as we celebrate the release of this brand-new book. We’ll sing “Happy Book Birthday” to Sherri and her new creation and get to hear the story read by the author herself! And of course, a party wouldn’t be a party without cake!

On Saturday, September 21 at 3 pm, meet Lowey Bundy Sichol, the author of From an Idea to... the world’s first business biographies for kids and creator of the Winnetka IDEA Tank for Kids. Lowey will explain how some of the biggest and best-known companies on the planet were once just a bright individual with a new idea and give tips on what makes a good business idea. Kids will get a chance to brainstorm their own outside-the-box ideas with Lowey and learn how to turn that idea into a real business plan. We’ll serve up an afternoon snack, because, hey, thinking makes you hungry. The cost of the workshop is $6 and includes your child’s choice of one of Lowey’s books. We recommend this event for ages 7 - 11. Registration is required, please call us at 847 446-8880 or email events@thebookstall.com to reserve a spot, as space is limited.

On Wednesday, September 25 at 4:30 pm, Chicago author Kate Hannigan joins us to lead a fast-paced writing workshop for kids based on her new middle-fiction novel Cape, the first in a new series, The League of Secret Heroes. Hidden Figures meets Wonder Woman in this action-packed, comic-inspired adventure about a brilliant girl puzzler who discovers she’s part of a superhero team! This pulse-pounding adventure features 48 pages of comic-style graphic panels throughout the book. The cost of the workshop is a $5 gift card, purchased on the day of the event. Because space is limited, registration is required. You can reserve a spot for your child by calling us at 847 446-8880, or emailing events@thebookstall.com.

Young adult readers should mark their calendars for Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 pm, when we are delighted to welcome Scott Westerfeld, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Uglies series, just one day after the publication of Shatter City (the second book in a new series set in the world of The Uglies). According to Mr. Westerfeld, these new novels “take place in the Uglies future, after Tally’s revolution has changed everything. The Impostors series is about dealing with the consequences of ending the Pretty Regime. The story starts in a city where things did not work out well. Bad people are in charge.”

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The next afternoon, Thursday, September 26 at 4:30 pm, it will be Christmas in September as we welcome author and illustrator Matt Tavares (Red and Lulu), as he presents his new picture book, Dasher: How a Brave Little Doe Changed Christmas Forever. Come meet Matt, and eat Christmas cookies, and learn the story of Dasher! To quote a famous song: “We need a little Christmas now!” This event is free and open to the public. We recommend it for kids ages 4 and up.

We hope to see you in the store for some of these wonderful events, and until next month, happy reading! Kari P.
Hey, Grandude! by Paul McCartney (yes, that Paul McCartney), illustrated by Kathryn Dunst ($17.99, out September 5). Grandude is full of adventure and fun for his four grandkids. With a magic compass, they travel far and wide, experiencing avalanches, stampedes, flying fish, and tons of fun. Perfect bedtime story for little explorers. Ages 4-6

I Am a Tiger by Karl Newson, illustrated by Ross Collins ($17.99). As the book opens, this mouse declares himself a tiger. Many woodland animals come along to dispute his claim but to no avail—until a real tiger appears. But the mouse is undaunted, declaring the tiger is a mouse! This funny read-aloud that encourages us all to be who we want to be! Ages 5-8

Ogilvy by Deborah Underwood, illustrated by T.L. McBeth ($17.99). When Ogilvy moves to a new town, it is exciting to have lots of other bunnies to play with in the neighborhood. But Ogilvy is not included in the games they play because of his attire: a long, knit turtleneck. There are rules! Bunnies in dresses can knit and play baseball. Bunnies in sweaters can create art and go rock climbing. No crossovers! But no one can quite decide if Ogilvy is wearing a dress or a sweater! Ogilvy wants to do everything and convinces the other bunnies that it is okay to be different. This delightful rhyming story is a strong statement for diversity and personal choice. Ages 5-10

Beverly, Right Here by Kate DiCamillo ($16.99, out September 24). When 14-year-old Beverly’s dog, Buddy, dies, she decides to run away. She has no destination but hitch-hikes to Tamaray Beach, Florida. She is befriended by an elderly woman, Lola, and finds a job clearing tables in a local restaurant. It is 1979, four years after the events that bonded Beverly together with Louisiana and Raymie in Kate DiCamillo’s Raymie Nightingale—the Three Rancheros. Beverly meets college-bound Elmer, who teaches her to dance. Through these unlikely friendships, Beverly transitions into a young person who can appreciate life on life’s terms and begins to see herself through the eyes of others. The best way to read this book is after reading Raymie Nightingale and Louisiana’s Way Home (because they are wonderful) but it can also stand alone. Ages 10-14

Planet Earth Is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos ($16.99). Twelve-year-old Nova is an autistic, nonverbal foster child who loves space. The year is 1986 and Nova is counting down the days until the Challenger space launch carrying the first teacher to ever go into space. She and her older sister, Bridget, have been in 11 foster homes in seven years. Each school experience for Nova is the same; she is diagnosed as severely mentally disabled. Nova knows much more than her teachers suspect, as only her sister Bridget can confirm. Bridget has run away but promised to be back in time to watch the Challenger launch. Nova’s new foster family is very supportive and committed to her well-being. As the day of the launch nears and Bridget does not return, Nova is forced to face the facts of her life. As told by Nova, this debut novel is an authentic look at autism and the feelings that accompany this disability. Instilling empathy and compassion, this is a must read! Ages 9-12

Benchwarmer by John Feinstein ($16.99). Jeff Michaels is excited to learn that his middle school will be offering sports teams for 6th graders in the fall: field hockey for the girls and soccer for the boys. When Andrea Carillo shows up for soccer tryouts, he is impressed by her skill on the field. Others, including the coach, are upset that a girl is attempting to join the team, especially because her skills are far better than many of the boys. The coach is unhappy with the situation, and Andi spends a lot of time on the bench. The team will have to learn to work together to reach the goal of winning the conference title. This is a fast-paced novel with detailed play-by-play of the middle school matches, which will appeal to both girls and boys who love the game of soccer. Another winner by Feinstein. Ages 8-12

The Very, Very Far North by Dan Bar-el, illustrated by Kelly Pousette ($16.99, out September 3). Duane the polar bear is very curious. In addition to his favorite activities, eating and napping, he also loves adventure. Upon his adventures, he meets bossy Major Puff the puffin, the very vain Handsome the musk-ox, and the very shy Bob the caribou. All the animals have their quirks and flaws—but they also offer their skills and expertise to the group of friends. Along with the delightful text, which is perfect as a read aloud, are charming charcoal sketches by illustrator Kelly Pousette. This tale will be a special treat to all the readers who loved Winnie the Pooh. As I read it, I often heard the distinctive and well-loved voice of Pooh in the background of my mind. Ages 8-12

The Beckoning Shadow by Katharyn Blair ($17.99). The Magicians meets Fight Club in this heart-stopping contemporary fantasy stand-alone about a girl with special powers who seeks redemption through a dangerous tournament that guarantees the winner a chance to undo the past. Ever since a horrifying incident borne of her lack of control, Vesper has been a runaway loner. After landing in San Francisco, she crosses paths with other oddities and learns about the high-stakes tournament. When she earns a spot in the Tournament of the Unraveling, Vesper finally has a chance to reverse the mistakes that have changed her forever. This is a novel with flawless pacing and well-balanced action. Age 14 up

The Fountains of Silence by Ruta Sepetys ($18.99). Madrid, 1957. Under the Fascist dictatorship of General Francisco Franco, Spain is hiding a dark secret. Meanwhile, tourists and foreign businessmen flock into Spain under the welcoming promise of sunshine and wine. Among them is Daniel Matheson, the son of an oil tycoon, who arrives in Madrid with his parents hoping to connect with the country of his mother’s birth through the lens of his camera. Photography—and fate—introduce him to the Spanish Civil War, as well as chilling definitions of fortune and fear. Daniel’s photographs leave him with uncomfortable questions amidst shadows of danger. He is backed into a corner of difficult decisions to protect those he loves. Lives and hearts collide, revealing an incredibly dark side to the sunny Spanish city. Sepetys, author of the Book Stall favorite and Carnegie Medal winner Salt to the Sea, once again shines light into one of history’s darkest corners in this epic, heart-wrenching novel about identity, unforgettable love, repercussions of war, and the hidden violence of silence—inspired by the true post-war struggles of Spain. Grade 9 to 12
### Morning and Evening Book Discussion Groups at The Book Stall

**Monday, September 9 at 6:30 pm**

*Ask Again, Yes* by Mary Beth Keane  
Led by Alice Moody

**Monday, September 16 at 6:30 pm**

*The Best We Could Do* by Thi Bui  
Led by Kelly Malitz

**Wednesday, September 18 at 9:30 am**

*The Body in Question* by Jill Ciment  
Led by Elise Barack

**Wednesday, October 2 at 9:30 am**

*Chances Are...* by Richard Russo  
Led by Roberta Rubin

**Wednesday, October 16 at 9:30 am**

*Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari  
Led by Jon Grand

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