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BOOK CLUB

What Will You Read Next?

Volume 7

Suggested titles and sample discussion questions
for the **Book Clubs @ Your Library**



Kate Alcott

The Daring Ladies of Lowell:

A Novel

978-0-385-53649-3 | \$25.95/\$28.95C | Knopf | HC

📞 978-0-385-53650-9

📻 CD: 978-0-8041-4831-3 | 📺 AD: 978-0-8041-4832-0

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of *Roses* and
Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

From the bestselling author of *The Dressmaker* comes the warm-hearted and enthralling saga of a bold young woman caught between two worlds—the vibrant camaraderie of factory life and the opulence that a budding romance with the mill owner's son affords—as the murder of her best friend sends shock waves throughout the town. Based on a real murder and trial in 1834 Lowell, MA, and intertwined with the broader Labor Movement, *The Daring Ladies of Lowell* is a deeply human story about the resilient power of the American Dream.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How is the treatment of the “factory girls” different from the way women are treated in today's work place? How is it similar?
2. Did the descriptions of how much work went into creating a simple piece of cotton cloth surprise you?
3. When Alice first meets Lovey, she doesn't quite know what to make of Lovey's frankness and her high spirits. What was your initial reaction to Lovey?
4. *The Daring Ladies of Lowell* takes place in 1832, ten years before the landmark decision in *Commonwealth v. Hunt* held that workers have the right to organize and strike, and more than one hundred years until federal law was passed prohibiting child labor. Why do you think progress has been so slow in protecting working people?
5. Alice and her co-workers at the mill are all young and strong. Could you make it through a “factory girl” workweek?

For more discussion questions visit [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

Elizabeth Joy Arnold

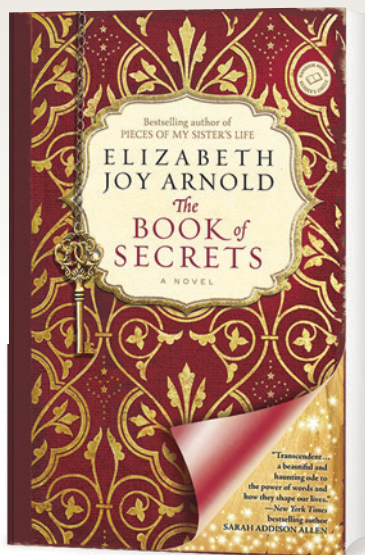
The Book of Secrets:

A Novel

978-0-553-59253-5 | 15.00/\$18.00C | Bantam | TR
978-0-345-53866-6

READERS' ADVISORY:

A captivating mystery, a love letter to classic literature, and a sharp-eyed examination of marriage. Perfect for fans of Lisa Scottoline, Jodi Picoult, and Jennifer Weiner.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

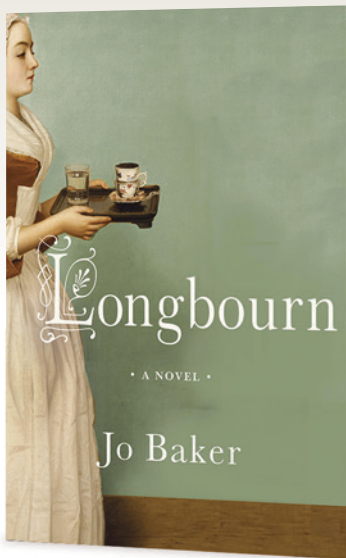
After twenty years of marriage, Chloe Sinclair comes home one night to find that her husband, Nate, is gone. All he's left behind is a cryptic note explaining that he's returned to their childhood town.

While trying to reach Nate, Chloe stumbles upon a notebook tucked inside his antique copy of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Written in code, the pages contain long-buried secrets from their past. As Chloe struggles to decipher the hidden messages, she revisits the seminal moments of their youth: the day she met the Sinclair children; the first time Nate kissed her; and the elaborate plan she and Nate devised, inspired by *Romeo and Juliet*, to break away from his oppressive father. As the reason for Nate's absence comes to light, the truth will forever shatter everything Chloe has ever known.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Our childhoods can impact us in far-reaching ways, as seen in Nate's and Chloe's lives. Can you think of any childhood experiences or relationships that have greatly impacted you?
2. Nate uses books to communicate with Chloe and their son, Gabriel. What children's books do you still refer to in times of sadness or trouble? Why? What do you get out of them? If you had to create a treasure hunt/secret code using books, which ones would you choose?
3. Nate and Chloe play together first as small children acting out Narnia books and then as teenagers daring each other to do things for badges. In both scenarios, they use their imaginations heavily. Do you think using one's imagination can ever be dangerous, as Mr. Sinclair seemed to believe? What was different from their play acting as children and their pretending as adults?

For more discussion questions visit RandomHouse.com



Jo Baker

Longbourn:

A Novel

978-0-385-35123-2 | \$25.95 | Knopf | HC
978-0-345-81360-2 | \$30.00C | Random House Canada | HC
📍 978-0-385-35124-9
📍 CD: 978-0-8041-4942-6 | 📍 AD: 978-0-8041-4943-3
📍 978-0-8041-2114-9

READERS' ADVISORY:
For fans of *Pride and Prejudice*, *Death Comes to Pemberley*, and *Downton Abbey*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

The servants at Longbourn estate—only glancingly mentioned in Jane Austen’s classic—take center stage in Jo Baker’s lively, cunning new novel. Here are the Bennets as we have never known them: seen through the eyes of those scrubbing the floors, cooking the meals, emptying the chamber pots. Our heroine is Sarah, an orphaned housemaid beginning to chafe against the boundaries of her class. When the militia marches into town, a new footman arrives under mysterious circumstances, and Sarah finds herself the object of the attentions of an ambitious young former slave working at neighboring Netherfield Hall, the carefully choreographed world downstairs at Longbourn threatens to be completely, perhaps irrevocably, up-ended.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What did you think of Jo Baker’s stylistic choice to include multiple characters’ perspectives in a single chapter? Do you think it enhanced the book?
2. What were your thoughts on the beginning of Volume Three, which was dedicated entirely to James Smith?
3. How would you compare and contrast the love stories between Sarah and James, and Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy?
4. *Longbourn* provides an alternative angle to *Pride and Prejudice*. Can you think of a classic novel that you would like to see rewritten in another character’s voice?
5. What did you make of each chapter’s introductory quote? Were there any that you were particularly drawn to? Why?

For more discussion questions visit [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

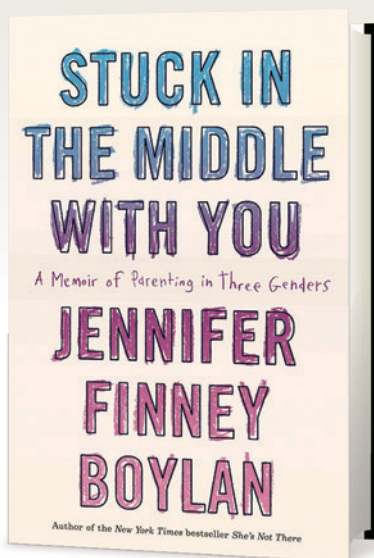
Jennifer Finney Boylan Stuck in the Middle with You: A Memoir of Parenting in Three Genders

978-0-7679-2176-3 | \$24.00/\$28.00C | Crown | HC
978-0-7679-2177-0 | \$14.00/\$17.00C | Broadway | TR | April 2014
📞 978-0-307-95284-4

READERS' ADVISORY:

“Boylan illuminates diverse family relationships and the many ways families operate fluidly on a seemingly never-ending spectrum. This unique and giving book has tremendous resonance.”

—*Booklist*



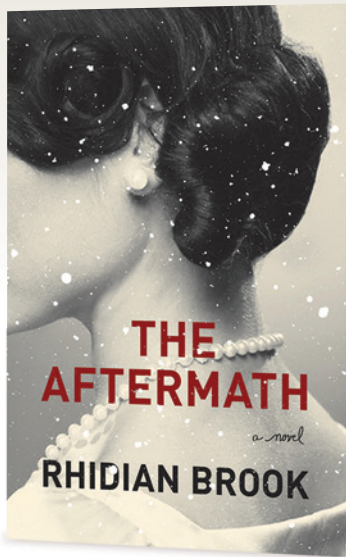
ABOUT THE BOOK:

A memoir about gender and parenting, including incredible interviews discussing gender, how families are shaped, and the difficulties and wonders of being human. A father for ten years, a mother for eight, and for a time in between, neither, or both. When her two children were young, Boylan came out as transgender, and as Jenny transitioned from a man to a woman and from a father to a mother, her family faced unique challenges and questions. In this thoughtful, tear-jerking, hilarious memoir, Jenny asks what it means to be a father, or a mother, and to what extent gender shades our experiences as parents.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In chapter one, author Jennifer Finney Boylan compares her own marriage to Deirdre with that of the stranger, Grenadine Phelps, whom she meets at a fencing match. “By almost anyone’s measure,” she writes, “Deedie and I are the dangerous outliers, and Grenadine and her husband Mr. and Mrs. Normal. Even though Deedie and I love each other beyond all understanding, and Grenadine’s fondest hope was that her husband would be murdered by insurgents.” Do you think of Jennifer and Deirdre as “outliers?” What makes a family “normal?”
2. Boylan writes, “I would like to think that [having a transgender parent] has been a blessing to [her sons] and not a curse. It is my hope that having a father who became a woman has made my two remarkable boys, in turn, into better men.” Do you believe this is true? How does having a parent who “atypical” affect children? Does it strengthen a family, or place it at risk?
3. Deirdre Boylan says that “Marrying Jenny was the luckiest thing that ever happened to me.” Do you think this is true? If you were married to a spouse who emerged as transgender, would you be able to stay married to him or her? How important is gender to a relationship? Do you believe that we fall in love with a person, with a body, or both?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)



Rhidian Brook

The Aftermath:

A Novel

978-0-307-95826-6 | \$25.95 | Knopf | HC

978-0-307-36104-2 | \$22.95C | Random House Canada | TR

📖 978-0-307-95827-3

📻 CD: 978-0-8041-4950-1 | 📻 AD: 978-0-8041-4951-8

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of *Bel Canto*, *The Life of Objects*, and *History of a Pleasure Seeker*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Hamburg, 1946. While thousands wander the rubble, lost and homeless, Colonel Lewis Morgan, charged with overseeing the rebuilding of this devastated city and the de-Nazification of its defeated people, is stationed in a grand house on the River Elbe. He is waiting for the arrival of his wife Rachael—still grieving for their eldest son, one of the war's many casualties—and their only surviving son, Edmund. But rather than force the owners of the house, a German widower and his rebellious daughter, out onto the streets, Lewis insists that the two families live together. In this charged atmosphere, both parents and children will be forced to confront their true selves as enmity and grief give way to passion and betrayal, to their deepest desires, their fiercest loyalties, and the transforming power of forgiveness.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The novel's title appears to be straightforward, but there are many types of aftermath within. What do you think the title represents?
2. What is the beast? What does it symbolize?
3. On page 6, Wilkins says that, as Germans, the Luberts are "not allowed the luxury of disappointment." What does he mean by that? Who is allowed to be disappointed?
4. Several times in the novel, characters mention *Stunde Null*, the Zero Hour. How does the concept hold them back, or help them?
5. Why do you think Lewis is so soft-hearted, compared to the other British officers? During the novel Rachael seems bothered by his leniency, but do you think it was a trait she viewed differently before the war?

For more discussion questions visit [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

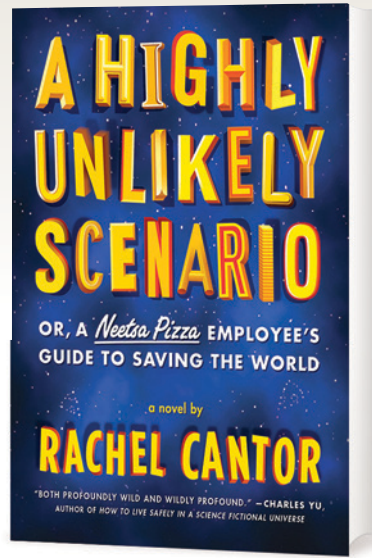
Rachel Cantor
**A Highly Unlikely
Scenario or, a
Neetsa Pizza
Employee's Guide
to Saving the World**

978-1-61219-264-2 | \$16.95/\$16.95C | Melville House | TR
E 978-1-61219-265-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

**"For fans of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*...
There's a lot going on here, and all of it is amusing."**

—Library Journal



ABOUT THE BOOK:

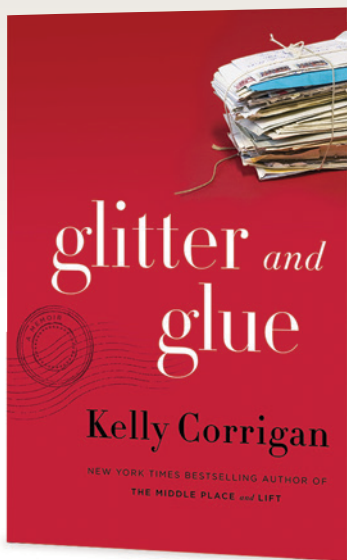
In the not-too-distant future, competing giant fast food factions rule the world. Leonard works for Neetsa Pizza, the Pythagorean pizza chain, answering calls on his complaints hotline. It's a boring job, but he likes it. There's a set answer for every scenario, and he never has to leave the house. Except when he starts getting calls from Marco, who claims to be a thirteenth-century explorer just returned from Cathay. What do you say to a caller like that? Plus, Neetsa Pizza doesn't like it when you go off script.

Meanwhile, Leonard's sister keeps disappearing on secret missions with her "book club," leaving him to take care of his nephew, which means Leonard has to go outside. And outside is where the trouble starts.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Did you feel like you were reading science fiction? Was there anything in the text that you were surprised to find in a science fiction novel?
2. Food is everywhere in this book. Leonard, the novel's protagonist, is "a good egg," (page 15) and the novel is populated by groups that identify themselves through food. Is food really at the center of the novel, or does Cantor use food as a vehicle for talking about ideas that are more central to the text?
3. What does it say about the world in which the novel is set that the legacies of many of history's most important mystics, theologians, and thinkers have been appropriated by a "parastatal corporation," (page 79) like Neetsa Pizza that uses their ideas as advertising tools? Do you think a statement is being made about the place of spirituality and mysticism in our world? What do you think that statement might be?

For more discussion questions visit TinyURL.com/HighlyUnlikelyQuestions



Kelly Corrigan

Glitter and Glue:

A Memoir

978-0-345-53283-1 | \$26.00/\$30.00C | Ballantine | HC

📞 978-0-345-53284-8

📻 CD: 978-0-385-39288-4 | 📻 AD: 978-0-385-39289-1

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of *The Middle Place* and *Lift* and fans of Anna Quindlen.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

When Kelly Corrigan was in high school, her mother neatly summarized the family dynamic as “Your father’s the glitter but I’m the glue.” This meant nothing to Kelly, who, after college, armed with a backpack, her personal mission statement, and a wad of traveler’s checks, took off for Australia to see things and do things and Become Interesting.

But it didn’t turn out the way she pictured it. In a matter of months, her fanny pack full of savings had dwindled and she realized she needed a job. That’s how Kelly met John Tanner, a newly widowed father of two looking for a live-in nanny. And there, in that house in a suburb north of Sydney, her mother’s voice was suddenly everywhere. Every day she spent with the Tanner kids was a day spent reconsidering her relationship with her mother.

This is a book about the difference between travel and life experience, stepping out and stepping up, fathers and mothers. But mostly it’s about who you admire and why, and how that changes over time.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

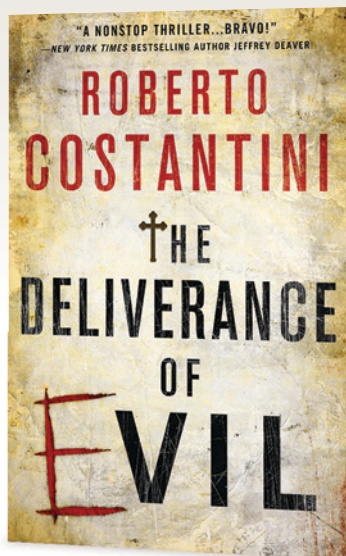
1. As a young woman, Kelly thinks, “Things happens when you leave the house,” and books a round-the-world trip to Australia. Do you think that these types of adventures are necessary to gain life experience? Does Kelly’s maxim change by the end of the book?
2. Milly and Martin respond differently to Kelly’s entry into their lives. Why do you think this is? When (if ever) do things begin to change with Milly?
3. Like the characters in the book *My Antonia*, Kelly wants to be someone important to Evan. What does she mean by that? Based on what Kelly reveals about Evan at the end of her story, do you think she was successful? Why or why not?
4. John Tanner is barely hanging on by a thread when Kelly arrives. How does he change over the course of the book?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)

Roberto Costantini,
Translated by N.S. Thompson
**The Deliverance
of Evil**

978-1-62365-002-5 | \$26.95/\$26.95C | Quercus | HC
978-1-62365-003-2

READERS' ADVISORY:
"Rich with fascinating political history,
filled with brilliant psychological insight,
and a nonstop thriller...Bravo!"
—Jeffery Deaver



ABOUT THE BOOK:

After the 1982 World Cup Finals, Italians are filled with hopeful feelings extending beyond the stadium. But the night before the big match, Elisa Sordi—an eighteen year-old employed by the Vatican—vanishes. The case falls to a young, hedonistic officer named Michele Balistreri, who is at a party watching the match and deciding which pretty girl will be his next sexual conquest. Headstrong and ambivalent about spending his life as a policeman, Balistreri is annoyed to be interrupted during the festivities and takes the case lightly. But when Elisa's tortured corpse surfaces in the Tiber and the man he arrested gets exonerated, Balistreri doubts he will ever be able to forgive himself for his inattention.

Twenty-four years later Italy has changed and Balistreri has changed along with his country... a small detail in a new case makes Balistreri think of the cold Sordi case, and he is forced to confront his (and Italy's) history with Fascism—the darkest part of his and his country's past.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Italy's two World Cup victories and their connections to the events and issues are a central theme in the book. How are they relevant to the story?
2. Michele Balistreri says, "Things change around us, but not inside us." What is your opinion of Balistreri's morals and character in 1982? What about in 2006? How has time changed him, and how has time failed to change him?
3. Does being female help or hinder Linda Nardi's work as a journalist, both in general and in her work on the murder story she is chasing with Balistreri?
4. Does *The Deliverance of Evil* seem to be forgiving or indicting of the Catholic Church? Does Cardinal Alessandrini seem to represent the church as a whole, or does Roberto Costantini present him as an isolated case?

For more discussion questions visit RandomHouse.com



Maddie Dawson

The Opposite of Maybe:

A Novel

978-0-7704-3768-8 | \$14.00/\$17.00C | Crown | TR

📞 978-0-7704-3769-5

READERS' ADVISORY:
For readers of Maeve Binchy, Kristin Hannah,
and Debbie Macomber.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

The story of two loves at the worst possible moment. Rosie's relationship with Jonathan is comfortable, easy, and seems unlikely to ever change, until suddenly it does. After nearly decades of living together, he finally proposes only after he has decided to move across the country, away from their tidy life. When Jonathan's inability to consider Rosie's needs finally pushes her too far, they take a temporary break...Rosie realizes just in time that sometimes you have to let go of everything you love in order to find the life you were meant for. Amusing, witty, and altogether human, Rosie's growth as she's torn between two men, two ways of life, and two kinds of love, is heartfelt, funny, and warmly wonderful.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When Rosie and Jonathan get interrupted making love and he loses interest in continuing, Jonathan says this is just middle-aged life. Is Rosie's need for romance realistic after fifteen years?
2. Is Soapie accurate that Jonathan's love of the ancient, unusable, untouchable teacups says something about his personality? If he hadn't gotten the opportunity to move to California with the teacups and start a museum, do you think they would have stayed together?
3. What is the significance of the teasing their friends do—"The Jonathan and Rosie" game, for instance?
4. Why is Tony so reluctant to challenge his former wife and her partner, and what eventually changes his mind? What is it that Rosie sees in Tony that he doesn't see in himself, and why does she eventually fall in love with him?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)

Jenni Fagan
The Panopticon:
A Novel

978-0-385-34786-0 | \$22.00/\$24.00C | Hogarth | HC
978-0-385-34795-2 | \$15.00/\$18.00C | Hogarth | TR | April 2014
978-0-385-34787-7

READERS' ADVISORY:

*"... How Late It Was, How Late meets One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest. Not to be missed."
—Library Journal (starred review)*



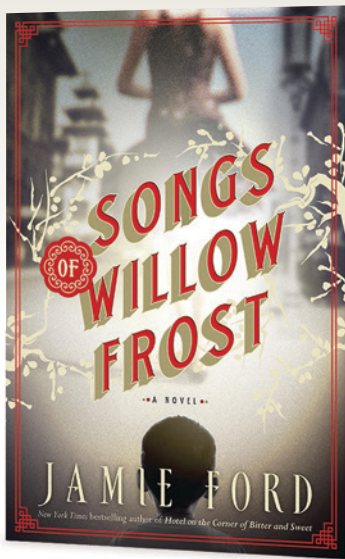
ABOUT THE BOOK:

A few months shy of her sixteenth birthday, Anais Hendricks sits in the back of a police car in Midlothian, Scotland, headed for the Panopticon, a home for chronic young offenders. She can't remember the events that led her here, but across town a policewoman lies in a coma and there is blood on Anais's school uniform. Put in foster care at birth, and moved through twenty-three placements before she even turned seven, this is a dazzling and energetic story of resourcefulness and courage, of one girl's will to survive even when everyone in her life has given her up as lost.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What were your first impressions of Anais? As she told you about her past, how did your feelings toward her shift?
2. How does Anais's vocabulary reflect her view of the world?
3. When do Joan and Angus get it right when they're trying to help the youth in their care? When do they get it wrong? What could have been done to keep Anais safe in the foster care system?
4. What does sex mean to Anais and the other residents? How does it play out in their intense longing for loyalty, and in their fear of abandonment?
5. One of Anais's most important rules is "you dinnae bully people, ever." What enables her to hold fast to this principle, saving violence for self-defense? How does her sense of justice help her survive while constantly putting her at odds with the law?
6. For much of the novel, Anais's fate is linked to the fate of PC Dawn Craig. What were your theories about PC Craig's injuries?

For more discussion questions visit RandomHouse.com



Jamie Ford

Songs of Willow Frost: A Novel

978-0-345-52202-3 | \$26.00/\$28.00C | Ballantine Books | HC
978-0-345-52203-0 | \$15.00/\$18.95C | Ballantine Books | TR | March 2014
📞 978-0-345-52204-7
📻 CD: 978-0-307-87623-2 | 📻 AD: 978-0-307-87624-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the author of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* comes a much-anticipated second novel, perfect for fans of historical fiction.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Twelve-year-old William Eng, a Chinese American boy, has lived at Seattle's Sacred Heart Orphanage ever since his mother's listless body was carried away from their small apartment five years ago. On his birthday, William and the other orphans are taken to the historical Moore Theatre, where William glimpses an actress on the silver screen who goes by the name of Willow Frost. Struck by her features, William is convinced that the movie star is his mother, Liu Song.

Determined to find Willow and prove that his mother is still alive, William escapes from Sacred Heart with his friend Charlotte. The pair navigate the streets of Seattle, where they must not only survive but confront the mysteries of William's past and his connection to the film star.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. William's life at Sacred Heart is, he feels, a hard one. Do you agree? In the long run, do the caregivers at Sacred Heart do more to help or harm their young wards?
2. The orphans at Sacred Heart share a collective "birthday," one for boys and one for girls. What would it be like to celebrate such an event? Would it feel less special without a focus on the individual, or even more joyful to share it with a community?
3. On May 4, 1931, the first bookmobile hit the streets of Seattle, where it did indeed visit the historical Sacred Heart Orphanage (as well as Boeing Field). Why do you think there was such a need to bring the library to its patrons, rather than allowing those patrons to visit the library as they chose?
4. What qualities does Liu Song share with her mother? How are their lives similar or different?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)

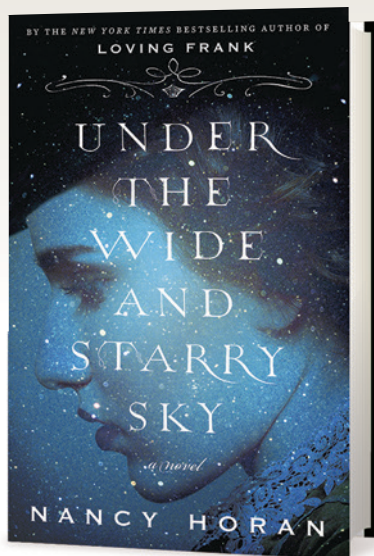
Nancy Horan
**Under the Wide
and Starry Sky:**
A Novel

978-0-345-51653-4 | \$26.00/\$30.00C | Ballantine | HC
978-0-345-53882-6
CD: 978-0-449-80812-2 | AD: 978-0-449-80813-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

"Horan's spectacular second novel has been worth the wait. . . . An exhilarating epic about a free-spirited couple who traveled the world yet found home only in one another."

—Booklist (starred review)



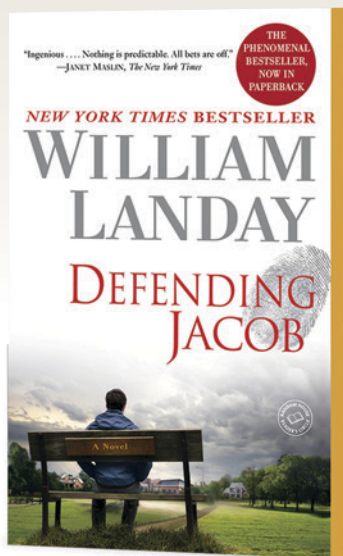
ABOUT THE BOOK:

In her masterful new novel, Nancy Horan has recreated a love story that is as unique, passionate, and overwhelmingly powerful as the one between Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney depicted so memorably in *Loving Frank*. *Under the Wide and Starry Sky* chronicles the unconventional love affair of Scottish literary giant Robert Louis Stevenson, author of classics including *Treasure Island* and *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and American divorcee Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne. They meet in rural France in 1875, when Fanny, having run away from her philandering husband back in California, takes refuge there with her children. Stevenson too is escaping from his life, running from family pressure to become a lawyer. And so begins a turbulent love affair that will last two decades and span the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In order to separate from her unfaithful husband, Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne takes her children across the continental U.S. and the Atlantic to study art in Europe. Do you think it's the wisest choice, given the impact on her children? Would you make a similar decision under the circumstances? Are there other options she could have pursued?
2. At first glance, Fanny and Robert Louis Stevenson might seem an unlikely match. Why do you think they are so drawn to each other? Why does their relationship endure?
3. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* has become a phrase synonymous with the idea of the divided self. At any point in the novel, does Louis seem to live a double life? Does Fanny? In what ways do Fanny, Louis, and other characters struggle with their own identities?
4. The Stevensons travel all over the globe in search of the ideal climate for their family, from Switzerland to the South Seas. How do landscape and environment affect each of them?
5. Many of Louis's friends find Fanny overprotective of her husband. Do you agree or disagree? Are her actions justified?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)



William Landay

Defending Jacob:

A Novel

978-0-345-53366-1 | \$15.00/\$17.00C | Bantam | TR
978-0-440-24613-8 | \$7.99/\$9.99C | Dell Books | MM
📞 978-0-345-52759-2

READERS' ADVISORY:

"A legal thriller that's comparable to classics such as Scott Turow's *Presumed Innocent* . . . Tragic and shocking." —Associated Press

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Andy Barber has been an assistant district attorney for two decades. He is respected. Admired in the courtroom. Happy at home with the loves of his life: his wife, Laurie, and their teenage son, Jacob.

Then Andy's quiet suburb is stunned by a shocking crime: a young boy stabbed to death in a leafy park. And an even greater shock: The accused is Andy's own son—shy, awkward, mysterious Jacob. Andy believes in Jacob's innocence. Any parent would. But the pressure mounts. Damning evidence. Doubt. A faltering marriage.

It is the ultimate test for any parent: How far would you go to protect your child?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How would you have handled this situation if you were Andy? Would you make the same choices he made? Where would you differ the most?
2. Before and during the trial, how would you have handled the situation if you were Laurie? Do you feel she made strong choices as a mother and a wife?
3. Is Andy a good father? Why or why not?
4. Do you believe Jacob is guilty?
5. Is Jacob a product of his upbringing? Do you think he is a violent person because his environment made him violent, or do you think he has had violent inclinations since birth?
6. How do you think people could or should stop adolescent bullying?
7. How much of a factor did Jacob's age play into your sympathies for him or lack thereof? If Jacob were seventeen, would you view him differently? What about if he were nine?
8. Do you think Neal Logiudice acts ethically in this novel? What about Andy?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)

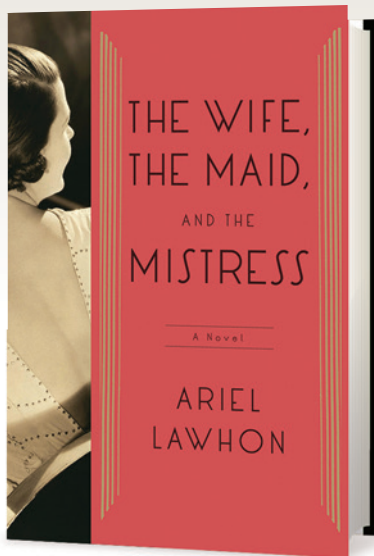
Ariel Lawhon
**The Wife, The Maid,
and The Mistress:**
A Novel

978-0-385-53762-9 | \$25.95/\$28.95C | Doubleday | HC

978-0-385-53763-6

CD: 978-0-8041-4888-7 | AD: 978-0-8041-4889-4

READERS' ADVISORY:
For fans of *Rules of Civility*
and *Boardwalk Empire*.



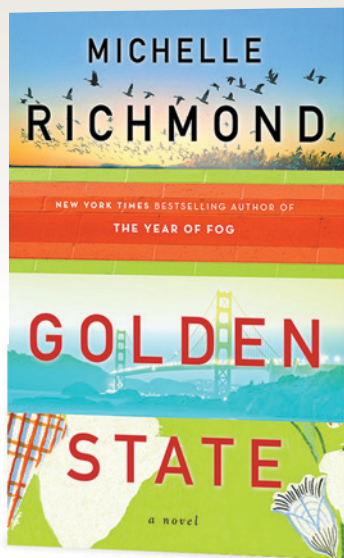
ABOUT THE BOOK:

A tantalizing reimagining of a scandalous mystery that rocked the nation in 1930—Justice Joseph Crater’s infamous disappearance—as seen through the eyes of the three women who knew him best. Stella Crater, the judge’s wife, is the picture of propriety draped in long pearls and the latest Chanel. Ritzi, a leggy showgirl with Broadway aspirations, thinks moonlighting in the judge’s bed is the quickest way off the chorus line. Maria Simon, the dutiful maid, has the judge to thank for her husband’s recent promotion to detective in the NYPD. On a sultry summer night, as rumors circulate about the judge’s involvement in wide-scale political corruption, the Honorable Joseph Crater steps into a cab and disappears without a trace. Or does he? With a layered intensity and prose as effervescent as the bubbly that flows every night, *The Wife, the Maid, and the Mistress* is a wickedly entertaining historical mystery that will transport readers to a bygone era with tippy spins through subterranean jazz clubs and backstage dressing rooms.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Many of the scandals depicted in *The Wife, the Maid, and the Mistress* could easily be on the cover of *People* magazine today. We often tend to romanticize bygone eras like the 1930s. Did this novel open your eyes to the fact that the more things change the more they stay the same?
2. What did you think when Maria returned to Judge Crater’s room and took the envelope her husband had planted there? Gutsy move or foolish?
3. There is a very unusual bond that develops between Maria, Ritzi and Stella. How is their connection different from female friendships today? Are there similarities?
4. The three women actually exert a tremendous amount of influence over the men in their lives, but it’s all done in a very surreptitious way. What does this say about the dynamic between men and women in the 1930s?

For more discussion questions visit [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)



Michelle Richmond

Golden State:

A Novel

978-0-385-34328-2 | \$15.00/\$18.00C | Bantam | TR
📞 978-0-345-53240-4

READERS' ADVISORY:

“Mesmerizing and intricate . . . [a] riveting read that can be recommended to fans of Jodi Picoult and Jacquelyn Mitchard.”

—*Booklist* (starred review)

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Doctor Julie Walker has just signed her divorce papers when she receives news that her younger sister, Heather, has gone into labor. Though theirs is a strained relationship, Julie sets out for the hospital to be at her sister's side—no easy task since the streets of San Francisco are filled with tension and strife. Today is also the day that Julie will find herself at the epicenter of a violent standoff in which she is forced to examine both the promising and the painful parts of her past—her Southern childhood; her romance with her husband, Tom; her estrangement from Heather; and the shattering incident that led to her greatest heartbreak.

Infused with emotional depth and poignancy, *Golden State* takes readers on a journey over the course of a single, unforgettable day—through an extraordinary landscape of love, loss, and hope.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

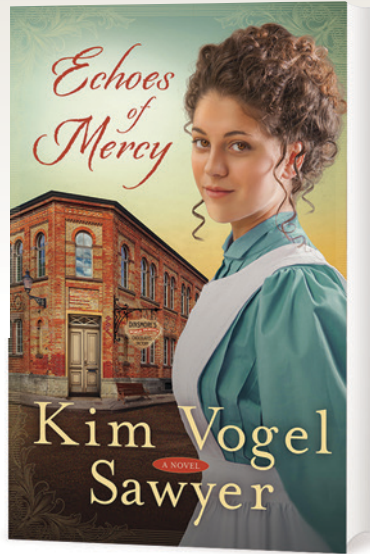
1. The author uses an unconventional timeline to tell her story, moving back and forth between past, present, and earlier that morning. What elements does this add to the reading experience? How would the experience have changed had the author used a strictly linear approach?
2. How are music and lyrics important throughout the story?
3. Describe how Heather and Julie's relationship changes. What are the most influential moments? If you were Julie, would you have been able to forgive Heather?
4. On page 148, Julie questions her and Tom's relationship by saying, “Without a child, are we even a family?” Ethan undoubtedly transforms Julie and Tom's life, but does he prove that children are necessary to have a real family?
5. On page 80, Julie wonders, “Between a marriage one chooses and a blood relation one doesn't, shouldn't marriage be the more powerful bond?” Does Julie find an answer to this question? Which do you think is the stronger bond?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)

Kim Vogel Sawyer
Echoes of Mercy:
A Novel

978-0-307-73127-2 | \$14.99/\$16.95C | Waterbrook Press | TR
📞 978-0-307-73128-9

READERS' ADVISORY:
“...love stories that speak to the heart.”
—*Library Journal*



ABOUT THE BOOK:

Caroline Lang goes undercover in the Sinclair, Kansas, Dinsmore Chocolate Factory, driven by the desire to spare children the drudgery of laboring long hours rather than pursuing an education. She believes that this mission is God’s calling for her life. Oliver Dinsmore is proud of his factory’s age-level for employment. Offering youngsters an opportunity to earn a wage, stay off the streets, and learn a skill that will benefit them in adulthood solves many of society’s problems (in his own opinion). When Caroline and Oliver—who are both hiding their true identities—cross paths, they are forced to examine one another’s point of view. Can either of them emerge triumphant in this battle of wills when the truth is revealed?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. As an investigator, Caroline is sometimes put into a position of needing to hide the truth, but as a Christian, she found this necessity difficult. Have you ever been faced with an ethical dilemma in your workplace? How did you handle it?
2. Caroline stubbornly refused to enter the place that she viewed as the source of her childhood trauma. How did holding on to the pain of her past prevent her from truly living in freedom as an adult? How do we overcome the scars that hinder us?
3. Oliver didn’t believe God listened to prayer because his prayer for healing for Mr. Holcomb was denied. Kesia likened God’s “no” answer to the wise decision of a parent refusing a child something he shouldn’t have. Do you believe God knows best? Do you trust Him even when He denies you something you want deeply? How do we maintain our faith in the face of “no” answers?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)



Jan-Philipp Sendker **A Well-Tempered Heart**

978-1-59051-640-9 | \$15.95/\$17.95C | Other Press | TR
● 978-1-59051-641-6

READERS' ADVISORY:
*The follow up to **The Art of Hearing Heartbeats**.
For fans of Nicholas Sparks and Elizabeth Gilbert.
Set in Burma.*

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Almost ten years have passed since Julia Win came back from Burma, her father's native country. Though she is a successful Manhattan lawyer, her private life is at a crossroads. Julia is lost and exhausted.

One day, in the middle of an important business meeting, she hears a stranger's voice in her head that causes her to leave the office without explanation. Not only does the female voice refuse to disappear, but it starts to ask questions Julia has been trying to avoid. Why do you live alone? To whom do you feel close? What do you want in life?

Interwoven with Julia's story is that of a Burmese woman named Nu Nu who finds her world turned upside down when Burma goes to war and calls on her two young sons to be child soldiers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

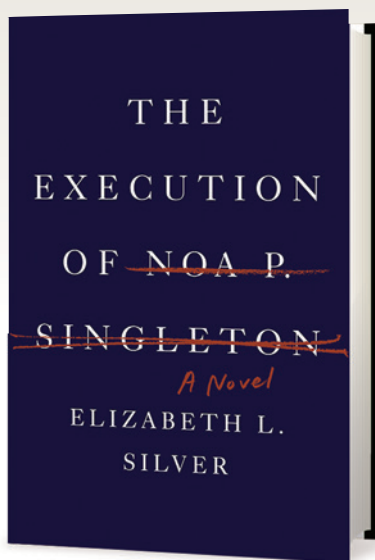
1. In the beginning of the novel, the voice in Julia's head asks her, "Why do you live alone? To whom do you feel close? What do you want in life?" How do Julia's answers to these questions develop throughout the story? What do these answers signal to us about her evolution as a character?
2. What role does Burma play in this novel? How do its landscape, history and ethos provide fertile ground to tease out both Julia and Nu Nu's journeys?
3. Why is it Nu Nu's voice that enters Julia's consciousness? How are their stories interwoven, and how does Nu Nu's tale of love and loss both relate to and differ from Julia's?
4. If the *Art of Hearing Heartbeats* was Julia's quest to find out who her father was, what is she's setting out to uncover in this sequel *A Well-Tempered Heart*?

For more discussion questions visit TinyURL.com/ArtofHearingHeartbeats

Elizabeth L. Silver
**The Execution of
Noa P. Singleton:**
A Novel

978-0-385-34743-3 | \$25.00/\$27.00C | Crown | HC
978-0-385-34745-7 | \$14.00/\$17.00C | Broadway | TR | March 2014
978-0-385-34744-0
CD: 978-0-8041-2085-2 | AD: 978-0-8041-2086-9

READERS' ADVISORY:
Before I Go to Sleep meets Defending Jacob.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

Six months before her execution date, Noa is visited on Pennsylvania's death row by a high-powered attorney named Marlene Dixon who initiates a clemency petition on her behalf. She also happens to be the mother of Noa's victim, Sarah, and ten years earlier, she helped cement Noa's fate on the witness stand.

What unfolds is the haunting account of Noa. She is an insular, acerbic thirty-five-year-old woman who agrees to entertain this last-minute appeal because Marlene has unexpectedly reversed her belief in the death penalty. Marlene wants to know why her daughter died, and she scours Noa's past to reveal the bright loner who took Sarah's life, but Noa doesn't want to fight for her life, and she is only slowly persuaded to tell what happened that day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The book begins with the words "I know I did it." Did you take Noa at her word—did you believe that she did it at the beginning of the story? Did your conviction change as you progressed through the book?
2. Do you like any of the characters in the book? In general, do you find it important to like the characters in order to enjoy a book?
3. Noa says, "You must choose one way of life or the other. Victor or victim. And when you do, the fear drips away as seamlessly as a river drains into an ocean." How does this apply to the characters in the book, and to Noa herself? Which choice—victim or victor—does each of them make (if any)? Are any of them truly without fear as a result?
4. Discuss Noa's name: Noa Persephone Singleton. What significance do you think the author intends this name to carry?
5. Do you find Noa's early childhood memories credible? Do you think she truly remembers the episode in which her mother dropped her as a baby? How much do you trust her memories—or her reports of them—overall?

For more discussion questions visit [RandomHouse.com](https://www.randomhouse.com)



April Smith A Star for Mrs. Blake: A Novel

978-0-307-95884-6 | \$24.95/\$27.95C | Knopf | HC

● 978-0-307-95885-3

📻 CD: 978-0-8041-6625-6 | 📻 AD: 978-0-8041-6626-3

READERS' ADVISORY:

For fans of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, and *Sarah's Key*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

An emotionally charged, brilliantly realized novel set in the 1930s about five American women—Gold Star Mothers—who travel to France to visit the graves of their World War I soldier sons: a pilgrimage that will change their lives in unforeseeable and indelible ways. The women meet for the first time just before their journey begins: Katie, an Irish maid from Dorchester, Massachusetts; Minnie, wife of an immigrant Russian Jewish chicken farmer; Bobbie, a wealthy Boston socialite; Wilhelmina, a former tennis star in precarious mental health; and Cora Blake, a single mother and librarian from coastal Maine. On the course of their journey, shocking events will guarantee that Cora's life and those of her traveling companions will become inextricably intertwined.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Consider the "Gold Star Mothers of Party A" featured in April Smith's book. How would you characterize their relationship with one another? How are the women different? How are they similar? What tensions are evident between them and what is at the root of these problems?
2. What does Smith mean when she writes of war and "the democracy of death" (page 22)? What examples are found in the book?
3. There are different ideas about war expressed by the book's characters: the mothers, the journalists, Nurse Lily and Lieutenant Hammond. What are those ideas and how do they compare? How does General Perkins's point of view affect our understanding of the issues at hand? Who do you sympathize with the most?
4. Consider the personal choices with which each of the female characters is confronted. What do their situations tell us collectively about the role of women during this time? Do the women change throughout the story, or do they continue to adhere to societal norms and roles?

For more discussion questions visit [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

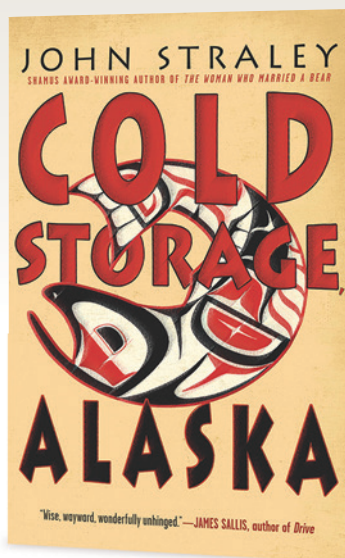
John Straley Cold Storage, Alaska

978-1-61695-306-5 | \$26.95/\$26.95C | Soho Press | HC
📞 978-1-61695-307-2

READERS' ADVISORY:

Big Fish meets *The Last Good Kiss*.

"The nature of small-town life is perfectly rendered here, as are the wonders of coastal Alaska..." —*Library Journal*



ABOUT THE BOOK:

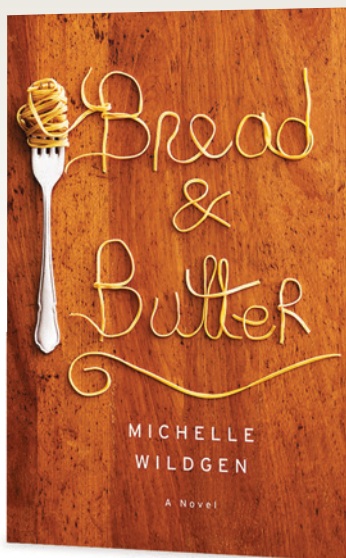
Cold Storage, Alaska, is a remote fishing outpost settled in 1935 by Norse fishermen who liked to skinny dip in its natural hot springs, the town enjoyed prosperity at the height of the frozen fish boom. But now the cold storage plant is all but abandoned and the town is withering.

Clive "The Milkman" McCahon returns to his tiny Alaska hometown after a seven-year jail stint for dealing coke. He has a lot to make up to his younger brother, Miles, who has dutifully been taking care of their ailing mother. But Clive doesn't realize the trouble he's bringing home. Will his arrival in Cold Storage be a breath of fresh air for the sleepy, depopulated town? Or will Clive's arrival turn the whole place upside down?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Straley is often identified as a crime novelist, but he is quick to self-identify as an "oddball" of the genre. Is *Cold Storage, Alaska* crime fiction? Why or why not?
2. While in prison, Clive finds religion, but also picks up the unusual ability to hear animals speak. Do you think Clive is actually able to communicate with animals or is it an expression of something else? How does your response and its counterpoint affect your reading of the book?
3. Straley is often praised for his ability to infuse a sense of place into his novels, especially when he writes about Alaska. Did his descriptions of Cold Storage and rural Alaska feel true? Was it the Alaska you expected?
4. If *Cold Storage, Alaska* were made into a movie, who would you cast as Miles and Clive?

For more discussion questions visit SohoPress.com/Cold-Storage-Book-Club



Michelle Wildgen

Bread and Butter:

A Novel

978-0-385-53743-8 | \$25.95/\$28.95C | Doubleday | HC

📞 978-0-385-53744-5

READERS' ADVISORY:

Kitchen Confidential meets *Three Junes* in this mouthwatering novel about three brothers who run competing restaurants, and the culinary snobbery, staff stealing, and secret affairs that unfold in the back of the house.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Britt and Leo have spent ten years running Winesap, the best restaurant in their small Pennsylvania town. They cater to their loyal customers; they don't sleep with the staff; and business is good, even if their temperamental pastry chef is bored with making the same chocolate cake night after night. But when their younger brother, Harry, opens his own restaurant—a hip little joint serving an aggressive lamb neck dish—Britt and Leo find their own restaurant thrown off-kilter. Filled with hilarious insider detail, *Bread and Butter* is both an incisive novel of family and a gleeful romp through the inner workings of restaurant kitchens.

"A debut delicacy that's as complex as a rich cassoulet and as comforting as good ol' mac-and-cheese." —*Booklist*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

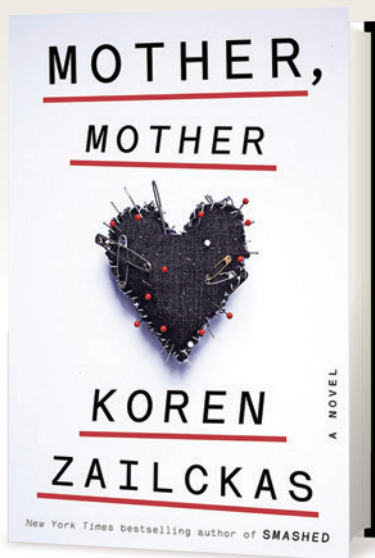
1. How are Harry, Leo, and Britt different? How are they alike?
2. What is Harry trying to prove by opening up a restaurant in the same town where his brothers have their restaurant? Is his experience a useful background for a restaurateur, or do you think Leo and Britt followed a more helpful path toward owning a restaurant?
3. How does the relationship between the brothers evolve over the course of the novel?
4. How would you define the roles the brothers occupy in their family? How do those roles shift over the course of the book?
5. What do you think about the names of the restaurants? What do they reflect about each one?

For more discussion questions visit [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

Koren Zailckas
Mother, Mother:
A Novel

978-0-385-34723-5 | \$24.00/\$27.00C | Crown | HC
978-0-385-34725-9 | \$15.00/\$18.00C | TR | Broadway | June 2014
📞 978-0-385-34724-2
📍 AD: 978-0-8041-4924-2

READERS' ADVISORY:
Will appeal to readers of Gillian Flynn,
Emma Donoghue, and Janet Fitch.



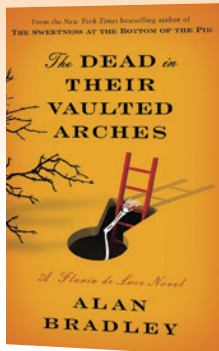
ABOUT THE BOOK:

Full of unexpected twists and turns, and narrators you can never entirely trust. Told from the perspectives of different members of the Hurst family; teenage daughter Violet, whose experiments with hallucinogenic drugs land her in a mental ward; Will, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who is shrinking further and further inside his own world; their father, Douglas, who spends too much time at the office and the remaining hours with a bottle of scotch; and mother, Josephine, whose subtly controlling and seemingly innocent maneuvers may just be the source of everyone else's despair. And then there's Rose, the sister who got away—tired of Josephine's interferences, Rose ran away from home years earlier and hasn't been heard from since. But as her mother's intentions become more terrifyingly clear, Violet begins to wonder whether something far worse happened to her older sister.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. With Violet's drug use and Josephine's manipulation influencing their perception of events, neither William nor Violet is completely reliable as a narrator. Did you consider one of them to be more trustworthy than the other? Were there other characters you would have liked to hear from as narrators?
2. Were you optimistic about Violet's reunion with Rose? How did you envision their life together playing out?
3. Violet assumes that from their birth, Josephine never felt real love toward any of her children. Do you think that is true? Do you think it is possible for a parent to love his or her children and still behave in the ways Josephine did?
4. What do you imagine Josephine's childhood was like? Do you think there is any truth to her assertion that her own upbringing was more painful than the one she is giving her children?
5. What do you think of Douglas's role in the story? Does he share the blame for the state of his family? Do you think Josephine truly suspects him of having an affair, or is this part of her manipulation of William?

For more discussion questions visit RandomHouse.com



Alan Bradley

The Dead in Their Vaulted Arches:

A Flavia de Luce Novel

978-0-385-34405-0 | \$24.00 | Bantam | HC

978-0-385-66815-6 | \$29.95C | Doubleday Canada | HC

📞 978-0-345-53969-4 | 📻 CD: 978-0-307-87987-5 | 📻 AD: 978-0-307-87988-2

On a spring morning in 1951, eleven-year-old chemist and aspiring detective Flavia de Luce gathers with her family at the railway station, awaiting the return of her long-lost mother, Harriet. Yet upon the train's arrival in the English village of Bishop's Lacey, Flavia is approached by a tall stranger who whispers a cryptic message into her ear. Moments later, he is dead, mysteriously pushed under the train by someone in the crowd. Who was this man, what did his words mean, and why were they intended for Flavia? Back home at Buckshaw, the de Luces' crumbling estate, she puts her sleuthing skills to the test.

"If ever there were a sleuth who's bold, brilliant, and, yes, adorable, it's Flavia de Luce." —*USA Today*



Pierce Brown

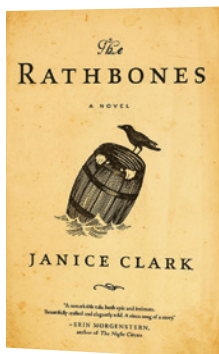
Red Rising

978-0-345-53978-6 | \$25.00/\$25.00C | Del Rey | HC

📞 978-0-345-53979-3

Red Rising is the story of a society in a desolate future, riven by class conflict and shaken by the tremors of an impending revolution. But more than that, it's the story of Darrow—a secret revolutionary who is inspired not only by a longing for social justice, but by lost love. It's only when Darrow's beloved wife is executed by the oppressive government that he begins to question the harsh world he lives in. Recruited by an underground revolutionary cell, Darrow is given a perilous mission: infiltrate the academy that educates the elite—and become one of them.

"Reminiscent of . . . Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games* . . . [*Red Rising*] will captivate readers and leave them wanting more." —*Library Journal* (starred review)



Janice Clark

The Rathbones: A Novel

978-0-385-53693-6 | \$26.95/\$31.00C | Doubleday | HC

📞 978-0-385-53694-3 | 📻 CD: 978-0-8041-4839-9 | 📻 AD: 978-0-8041-4840-5

A gothic, literary adventure set in New England, Janice Clark's haunting debut chronicles one hundred years of a once prosperous and now crumbling whaling family, told by its last surviving member.

"The romantic prose evokes the spirit of *Moby-Dick* and similar tales of epic journeys. Readers can smell the salt air and sense Mercy's utter confusion as she unravels the secrets of her ancestors. Give this to teens who enjoyed the style of Rick Yancey's *The Monstrumologist* and who don't mind oddities in their historical fiction." —*School Library Journal's* Adult Books 4 Teens



Peter Clines

Ex-Communication: A Novel

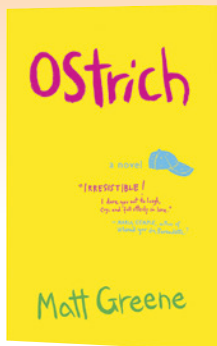
978-0-385-34682-5 | \$14.00/\$16.00C | Broadway | TR

📞 978-0-385-34683-2

The spectacular third adventure in the genre-smashing Ex-Heroes series. It's Superheroes vs. Zombies! What more needs to be said? This is an original and clever genre mashup, with corresponding appeal both to zombie fans and those who like blockbuster superhero movies and comics.

"I loved this pop culture-infused tale of shamed superheroes struggling to survive a zombie apocalypse in the ruins of Hollywood. It's *The Avengers* meets *The Walking Dead* with a large order of epic served on the side."

—Ernest Cline, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Ready Player One*



Matt Greene

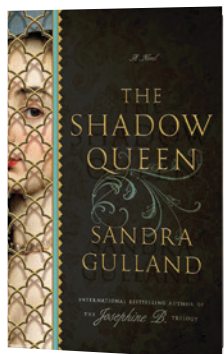
Ostrich: A Novel

978-0-345-54521-3 | \$15.00/\$17.00C | Ballantine | TR

📞 978-0-345-54520-6 | 🎧 CD: 978-0-8041-2750-9 | 📺 AD: 978-0-8041-2751-6

Twelve-year-old Alex has a lot of the same concerns most of us do growing up (exams, puberty and whether his parents might be on the brink of divorce). He's also got some curious obsessions: punctuation, quantum mechanics, making lists of "Things to Google." And ever since the brain surgery that was supposed to stop his seizures, he's noticed that the people around him are behaving suspiciously, from his parents to his beloved hamster Jaws II. Eventually, he is compelled to investigate. But will Alex have the courage to expose what he finds? Or would it be better for everyone if he just buried his head in the sand?

A brilliant and moving coming-of-age story in the tradition of *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon.



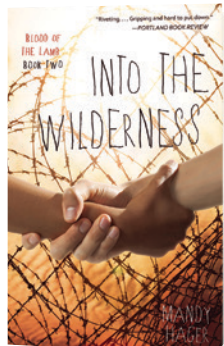
Sandra Gulland

The Shadow Queen: A Novel

978-0-385-53752-0 | \$25.95 | Doubleday | HC | April 2014

📞 978-0-385-53753-7

In 1660, Paris: As the daughter of itinerant actors who once lit up the Parisian stages, Claudette always thought her future lay in the theater. But a series of chance encounters pull Claudette into the alluring orbit of the most beautiful woman in all of France: Athénaïs de Montespan, the mistress to Louis XIV and reigning "Shadow Queen." Needing someone to act as her eyes and ears, Athénaïs hires Claudette as a personal attendant. The young stagehand leaves the world of theater only to find that Court is very much like a stage, with outward shows of loyalty masking more devious intentions.



Mandy Hager

Into the Wilderness

978-1-61614-863-8 | \$17.99/\$19.50C | Pyr | HC

📞 978-1-61614-864-5

A strong message about race and the abuse of religious faith by those in power. Maryam, Ruth, and Joseph have fled Onewere, reluctantly taking Joseph's troublesome cousin, Lazarus, as well. They arrive at their destination, Marawa Island, filled with hope for rescue and reprieve. As Maryam and Joseph experience all the topsy-turvy misunderstandings and sexual tension first love entails, the antagonism between Maryam and Lazarus reaches explosive proportions. But when disaster brings the crushing realization that time is now against them, all four must decide just who they can risk turning to for help.

Naoki Higashida;

Translated by KA Yoshida and David Mitchell

The Reason I Jump:

The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism

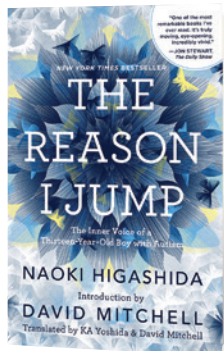
978-0-8129-9486-5 | \$22.00 | Random House | HC

978-0-345-80780-9 | \$25.00C | Knopf Canada | HC

📞 978-0-8129-9487-2

Naoki Higashida was only a middle-schooler when he began to write *The Reason I Jump*. Autistic and with very low verbal fluency, Naoki used an alphabet grid to painstakingly spell out his answers to the questions he imagines others most often wonder about him: Why do you talk so loud? Is it true you hate being touched? Would you like to be normal? The result is an inspiring, attitude-transforming book that will be embraced by parents, caregivers, teachers, and friends of autistic children. This book is proof that inside an autistic body is a mind as subtle, curious, and caring as anyone else's.

"[Higashida] illuminates his autism from within. . . . Anyone struggling to understand autism will be grateful for the book and translation." —*Kirkus Reviews*





Mona Hodgson

Prairie Song: A Novel, Hearts Seeking Home Book 1

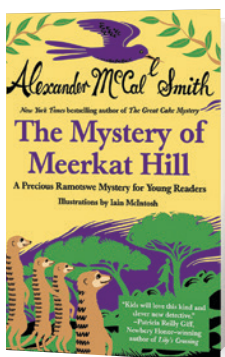
978-0-307-73116-6 | \$14.99/\$16.95C | WaterBrook Multnomah | TR

● 978-0-307-73117-3

This wagon train, historical romance series based on the story of Moses moves an endearing, ensemble cast from St. Charles, Missouri to Sacramento, California. Although the unknown perils of the trail west loom, Anna's commitment to caring for her loved ones leaves no room for fear—or even loving someone new.

During the five-month journey, trail hand Caleb Reger plans to keep a low profile as he watches over the band of travelers and wants to steer as far from Anna as she does him, but she proves to be just as he assessed her from the beginning— independent, beautiful trouble.

www.MonaHodgson.com



Alexander McCall Smith; Illustrated by Iain McIntosh

The Mystery of Meerkat Hill:

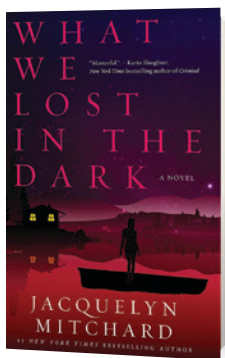
A Precious Ramotswe Mystery for Young Readers

978-0-345-80458-7 | \$12.99/\$14.99C | Anchor | HC

● 978-0-345-80447-1 | ♪ CD 978-0-385-36384-6 | ♪ AD 978-0-385-36385-3

The author of the bestselling *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* and *The Great Cake Mystery: Precious Ramotswe's Very First Case*, serves up another children's mystery adventure from Mma Ramotswe's childhood. Precious has three new friends at school: Teb, Teb's younger brother, Pontsho, and Kosi, Pontsho's mischievous pet meerkat. One day, their family's cow wanders off, and Precious offers to help find her. Kosi the meerkat helps as well—and ultimately saves the day. Appropriate for ages 7 and up.

The book includes a teacher's/reader's guide and a recipe for "fat cakes" (Botswanan doughnuts).



Jacquelyn Mitchard

What We Lost in the Dark: A Novel

978-1-61695-143-6 | \$17.99/\$17.99C | Soho Teen | HC

● 978-1-61695-144-3

Allie Kim's fatal allergy to sunlight, XP, still confines her to the night. Now that she's lost her best friend Juliet to an apparent suicide, the night has never felt darker—even with Rob at her side.

Allie knows why Juliet killed herself: to escape the clutches of Garrett Tabor, whom the trio saw committing an unspeakable crime. Garrett is untouchable; The Tabors founded the world-famous XP clinic that keeps Allie and Rob alive and their small Minnesota town on the map. Allie can't rest until Garrett is brought to justice. But her obsession jeopardizes everything she holds dear.

Michelle Moran

The Second Empress:

A Novel of Napoleon's Court

978-0-307-95304-9 | \$15.00/\$18.00C | Broadway | TR

● 978-0-307-95305-6 | ♪ CD 978-0-449-01059-4 | ♪ AD 978-0-449-01060-0

The nationally bestselling author of *Madame Tussaud*, *Nefertiti*, *The Heretic Queen*, and *Cleopatra's Daughter* returns to Paris, this time under the rule of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte as he casts aside his beautiful wife to marry a Hapsburg princess.

Based on primary resources from the time, *The Second Empress* takes readers back to Napoleon's empire, where royals and servants alike live at the whim of one man, and two women vie to change their destinies.

EXTRA LIBRIS: The trade paperback edition will feature additional content, including a reading group guide, an author essay, and a Q&A.

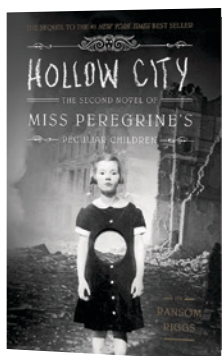




Alastair Reynolds **Doctor Who: Harvest of Time**

978-0-385-34680-1 | \$9.99/\$11.99C | Broadway | TR
 978-0-385-34681-8

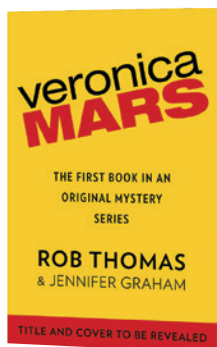
A Global Geek Obsession! One of science fiction's most acclaimed authors delivers a spectacular original novel set in the universe of the smash-hit British sci-fi show *Doctor Who*, featuring BBC-authorized official cover art and storylines, timed to coincide with exploding US interest in the show, the BBC's 50th Anniversary push for the series, and new blocks of episodes set to air in the US. For fans both young and old: *Doctor Who* is the longest-running sci-fi show in existence.



Ransom Riggs **Hollow City:** The Second Novel of Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children

978-1-59474-612-3 | \$17.99/\$19.99C | Quirk Books | HC
 978-1-59474-620-8

This second novel begins in 1940, immediately after the first book ended. Having escaped Miss Peregrine's island by the skin of their teeth, Jacob and his new friends must journey to London, the peculiar capital of the world. Along the way, they encounter new allies, a menagerie of peculiar animals, and other unexpected surprises. Complete with dozens of newly discovered (and thoroughly mesmerizing) vintage photographs, this new adventure will delight readers of all ages.

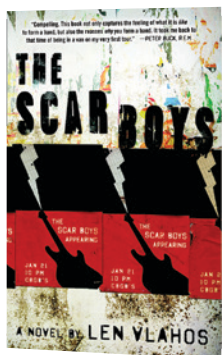


Rob Thomas and Jennifer Graham **Veronica Mars:** The First Book in an Original Mystery Series

978-0-8041-7070-3 | \$15.95/\$17.95C | Vintage | TR | March 2014
 978-0-8041-7071-0 | CD 978-0-8041-9352-8

Twenty-eight-year-old Veronica Mars is back in the game after the events of *Veronica Mars: The Movie*. With the help of old friends—Logan Echolls, Mac Mackenzie, Wallace Fennel, and even Dick Casablancas—Veronica is ready to take on Neptune's darkest cases with her trademark sass and smarts.

"Nancy Drew meets Philip Marlowe, and the result is pure nitro."
 —Stephen King (on the television series)



Len Vlahos **The Scar Boys: A Novel**

978-1-60684-439-7 | \$17.99/\$19.99C | EgmontUSA | HC
 978-1-60684-440-3 | CD 978-0-8041-6728-4 | CD AD: 978-0-8041-6727-7

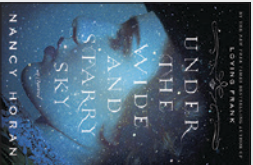
A severely burned teenager. A guitar. Punk rock. The chords of a rock 'n' roll road trip in a coming-of-age novel that is a must-read story about finding your place in the world...even if you carry scars inside and out. In attempting to describe himself in his college application essay, Harbinger (Harry) Jones goes way beyond the 250-word limit and gives a full account of his life. Harry's description of his life in his essay is both humorous and heart-wrenching.

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