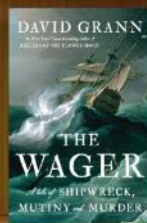
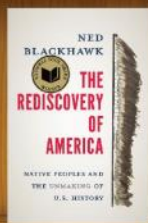
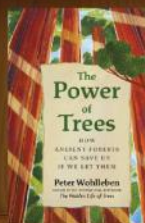
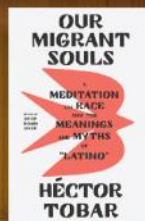
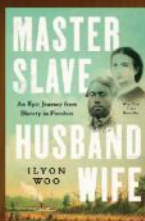
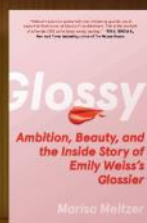
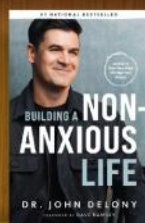
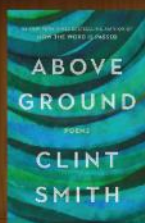


Our Favorite Nonfiction of 2023



Cook
Memorial Public
Library
District

701 Aspen Dr, Vernon Hills
413 N Milwaukee Ave, Libertyville
847-362-2330 • cooklib.org

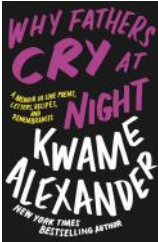


Adler, Tamar

The Everlasting Meal Cookbook: Leftovers A-Z
(641.552 ADL)

Vogue editor Adler serves up an inspiring, money-saving, environmentally responsible, A-to-Z collection of simple recipes that utilize all kinds of leftovers you may find in your fridge.

—Recommended by Erica

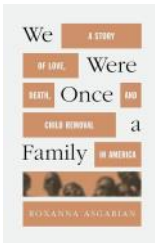


Alexander, Kwame

Why Fathers Cry at Night (811.6 ALE)

Kwame Alexander shares snapshots of a man learning how to love. He deals with the unravelling of his marriage and the grief of his mother's recent passing while sharing the solace he found in learning to perfect her fried chicken dish.

—Recommended by Amy B.



Asgarian, Roxanna

We Were Once a Family: A Story of Love, Death, and Child Removal in America
(364.1523 ASG)

This exposé of the foster care and adoption systems that continue to fail America's most vulnerable children recounts the murder-suicide of a married couple and their six children.

—Recommended by Natalie



Auster, Paul

Bloodbath Nation (363.33 AUS)

Traces centuries of America's use and abuse of guns, exploring the bitter divide between our gun control and anti-gun control camps and how gun violence has become so prevalent and out of proportion to the rest of the world.

—Recommended by Sonia



Balingit, Abi

Mayumu: Filipino American Desserts Remixed (641.86 BAL)

A sweet baking book of fantastically imaginative remixed Filipino American dessert recipes, plus stories of the Filipino American experience by baker and activist, Abi Balingit.

—Recommended by Hannah

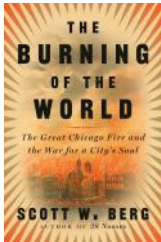


Berens, Abra

Pulp: a Practical Guide to Cooking with Fruit : 215+ Sweet and Savory Recipes and Variations, Including a Baker's Toolkit (641.64 BER)

Here are 95 approachable, healthful recipes for 22 fruits in sweet and savory preparations, each featuring the acidity, sweetness, color, and texture different fruits bring to the plate.

—Recommended by Hannah



Berg, Scott W.

The Burning of the World: the Great Chicago Fire and the War for a City's Soul (977.311041 BER)

Recounting one of the most infamous natural disasters in history—the 1871 Great Chicago Fire—this book traces the fire's devastating path and its aftermath. A new political order rose out of the ashes, causing a city-wide power struggle.

—Recommended by Rob

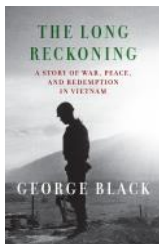


Bhargava, Rohit

The Future Normal: How We Will Live, Work, and Thrive in the Next Decade (612.352 BHA)

Entrepreneur Bhargava and consultant Coutinho-Mason predict new patterns for work and society in this debut nonfiction work. The future is already here—it just hasn't gone mainstream yet.

—Recommended by Natalie

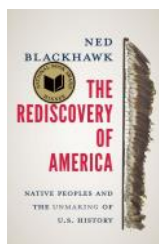


Black, George

The Long Reckoning: A Story of War, Peace, and Redemption in Vietnam (959.70431 BLA)

Follows a small group of veterans, scientists and Quaker-inspired pacifists and their Vietnamese partners as they used their moral authority, scientific and political ingenuity and sheer persistence to heal the horrors left in the wake of the military engagement in Southeast Asia.

—Recommended by Natalie



Blackhawk, Ned

The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History (970.00497 BLA)

Yale historian Blackhawk brings to light the role Indigenous Americans played United States' historical development, from the arrival of Spanish explorers to the 20th century.

—Recommended by Rob and Natalie



Bohannon, Cat

Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution (613.0424 BOH)

Cognitive researcher Bohannon explores the evolution of the female body by combing through scientific literature on bipedalism, childbirth, menopause, and more.

—Recommended by Joe



Broussard, Meredith

More than a Glitch: Confronting Race, Gender, and Ability Bias in Tech (303.483 BRO)

In this book, Broussard argues that structural inequalities reproduced in algorithmic systems are actually part of the system design, and how we can change and challenge this outcome for the better.

—Recommended by Joe

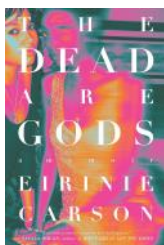


Bruesehoff, Jamie

Raising Kids Beyond the Binary (261.835768 BRU)

This book helps parents navigate the emotional, spiritual, and logistical landscape of raising a gender-diverse child, specifically drawing on the author's experience as a mother walking with, and learning from, her own transgender child.

—Recommended by Amy B.

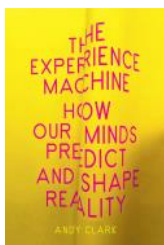


Carson, Eirinie

The Dead Are Gods (155.937 CAR)

After losing her best friend Larissa, Carson attempts to make sense of the events leading up to her death, alongside a timely, honest, and personal exploration of Black love and Black life.

—Recommended by Michelle



Clark, Andy

The Experience Machine: How Our Minds Predict and Shape Reality (153 CLA)

A grand new vision of cognitive science that explains how our minds build the world, learn from it, and sometimes deceive themselves. Seeing errors in prediction help us learn and make us confident, but watch out for feedback loops.

—Recommended by Natalie



Cross, Kim

In Light of All Darkness: Inside the Polly Klaas Kidnapping and the Search for America's First Child (363.25954 CRO)

This book revisits the Polly Klaas case and shows what it led to, including the Three-Strikes law, the modern day Amber Alert System, and improved child-abduction protocols nationwide.

—Recommended by Becky

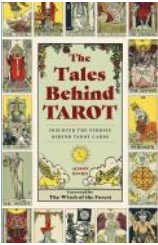


Darkshire, Oliver

Once Upon a Tome: The Misadventures of a Rare Bookseller (381.45002 DAR)

Darkshire describes his time as a bookseller working for the historic Henry Southern Ltd. Bookstore in loving detail, from interactions with the 'local ghost' to taking care of antiquated collectors' editions.

—Recommended by Sonia

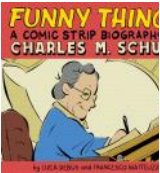


Davies, Alison

The Tales Behind Tarot: Discover the Stories within Your Tarot Cards (133.32424 DAV)

This book supplies an introduction to tarot, the Rider-Waite-Smith tarot deck, and its history, with 78 unforgettable tales behind all of the cards within modern tarot.

—Recommended by Natalie



Debus, Luca

Funny Things: A Comic Strip Biography of Charles M. Schulz (Graphic Novel Debus, L.)

In this graphic novel, Debus and coauthor Matteuzzi pay tribute to cartoonist Charles M. Schulz by telling the story of Schulz's life in the medium that made him immortal: the comic strip.

—Recommended by Ellen

MONSTERS A Fan's Dilemma



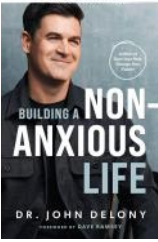
CLAIRE DEDERER

Dederer, Claire

Monsters: A Fan's Dilemma (700.103 DED)

Exploring often-debated artists such as Woody Allen, Roman Polanski, Richard Wagner, and Doris Lessing, Dederer attempts to tackle the question "What's a fan to do when they love the art, but hate the artist?"

—Recommended by Nate and Natalie

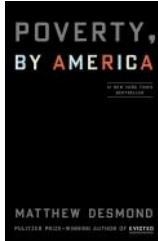


Delony, John

Building a Non-Anxious Life (152.46 DEL)

Dr. John Delony maps out a plan to understand where our anxiety is coming from and the actions we can take to change it through scientific research and personal anecdotes.

—Recommended by Korie

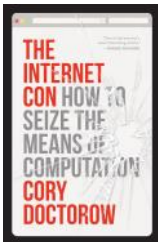


Desmond, Matthew

Poverty, by America (362.5 DES)

Sociologist Matthew Desmond draws on history, research, and original reporting to show how affluent Americans knowingly and unknowingly keep poor people poor.

—Recommended by Nate, Andrea, and Natalie

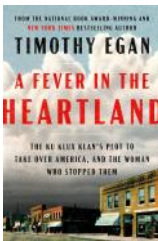


Doctorow, Cory

The Internet Con: How To Seize the Means of Computation (338.47004 DOC)

Journalist Doctorow details a plan for how to break up large tech companies through legislating in favor of interoperability (new technologies that plug into various services, systems and platforms).

—Recommended by Rob

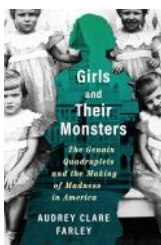


Egan, Timothy

A Fever in the Heartland: The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America, and the Woman Who Stopped Them (322.42 EGA)

A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist traces the Ku Klux Klan's rise to power in the 1920s and how a seemingly powerless woman named Madge Oberholtzer brought them to their knees.

—Recommended by Ellen

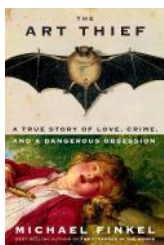


Farley, Audrey Clare

Girls and Their Monsters: The Genain Quadruplets and the Making of Madness in America (306.875 FAR)

Recounts the tragic tale of quadruplets born in 1930 who largely lived in the public spotlight and privately battled severe mental health issues.

—Recommended by Natalie

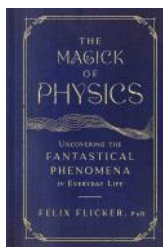


Finkel, Michael

The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime, and a Dangerous Obsession (364.16287 FIN)

Carrying out more than two hundred heists over nearly eight years in museums and cathedrals all over Europe, Stéphane Breitwieser, along with his girlfriend, stole more than three hundred objects, until it all fell apart in spectacular fashion.

—Recommended by Becky

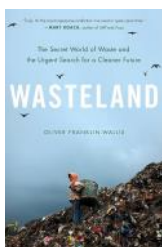


Flicker, Felix

The Magick of Physics: Uncovering the Fantastical Phenomena in Everyday Life (530 FLI)

If you were to present the feats of modern science to someone from the past, those feats would surely be considered magic. Theoretical physicist Felix Flicker proves that they are indeed magic—just familiar magic: condensed matter physics.

—Recommended by Natalie



Franklin-Wallis, Oliver

Wasteland: The Secret World of Waste and the Urgent Search for a Cleaner Future (363.728 FRA)

An award-winning investigative journalist takes us on a shocking journey inside the waste industry, the secretive multibillion dollar world underpinning the modern economy, to tell a new story of humanity based on what we leave behind.

—Recommended by Natalie

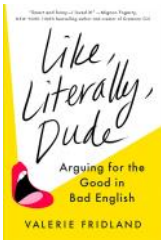


Fraser, Antonia

Lady Caroline Lamb: A Free Spirit (823.7 LAM)

The vivid and dramatic life of Lady Caroline Lamb, whose scandalous love affair with Lord Byron overshadowed her own creativity and desire to break free from society's constraints.

—Recommended by Hannah

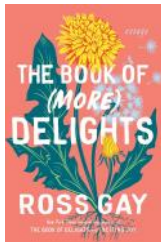


Fridland, Valerie

Like, Literally, Dude: Arguing for the Good in Bad English (420.141 FRI)

Linguist Valerie Fridland argues that our most hated or confusing speech habits (ums, likes, and you knows) shape our conception of the world and our place in it in remarkable ways.

—Recommended by Jennifer

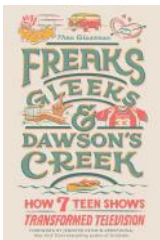


Gay, Ross

The Book of (More) Delights (814.6 GAY)

In this new collection of genre-defying stories, again written over the course of a year, Gay explores the meaning of "delight," revealing how small, daily wonders connect us and give us meaning in these unsettling times.

—Recommended by Hannah and Natalie

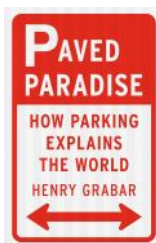


Glassman, Thea

Freaks, Gleeeks, and Dawson's Creek: How Seven Teen Shows Transformed Television (791.456 GLA)

Entertainment journalist Thea Glassman takes readers behind the scenes of seven culturally significant series of the last three decades, drawing on dozens of new interviews with showrunners, cast, crewmembers, and more.

—Recommended by Brooke B.

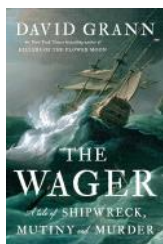


Grabar, Henry

Paved Paradise: How Parking Explains the World (388.474 GRA)

Since the advent of the car, we have deformed—and in some cases demolished—our homes and our cities in a Sisyphean quest for cheap and convenient car storage. An investigation into how parking, parking structures, and parking planning dominate the American life and landscape.

—Recommended by Natalie



Grann, David

The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder (910.91641 GRA)

This tale of shipwreck, survival, and savagery recounts the events on His Majesty's Ship The Wager, a British vessel that left England in 1740 on a secret mission, resulting in a court martial that revealed a shocking truth.

—Recommended by Marianne



H, Lamya

Hijab Butch Blues: a Memoir (306.8773 H)

A gay Muslim immigrant recalls her coming of age and how she drew inspiration from the stories in the Quran throughout her lifetime search for safety and belonging.

—Recommended by Joe



Hardin, Lara Love

The Many Lives of Mama Love: a Memoir of Lying, Stealing, Writing, and Healing (Biography Hardin, L.)

Lara Love Hardin recounts her slide from soccer mom to opioid addict to jailhouse shot-caller and her unlikely comeback as a highly successful ghostwriter in this no-holds-barred memoir.

—Recommended by Natalie



Harris, Malcolm

Palo Alto: a History of California, Capitalism, and the World (979.473 HAR)

The first comprehensive, global history of Silicon Valley, from railroad capitalists to microchip assemblers, showing how Northern California created the world as we know it.

—Recommended by Rob

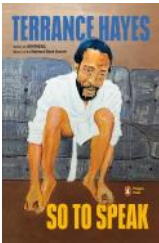


Harry, Prince, Duke of Sussex

Spare (Biography Harry)

As Diana, Princess of Wales, was laid to rest, billions wondered what the princes must be thinking and feeling—and how their lives would play out from that point on. For Harry, this is that story at last.

—Recommended by Jennifer

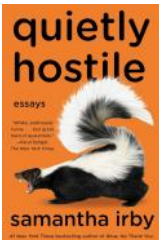


Hayes, Terrance

So to Speak (811.54 HAY)

In this seventh collection from the 2010 National Book Award winner, the author maps the strange and lyrical grammar of thinking and feeling while exploring themes of fatherhood, history, and longing with remarkable openness and humanity.

—Recommended by Hannah

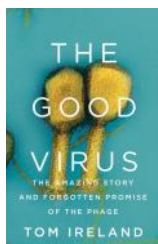


Irby, Samantha

Quietly Hostile (814.6 IRB)

In this much-anticipated new collection of hilarious essays, Irby takes us on another outrageously funny tour of all the gory details that make up the true portrait of a life behind the screenshotted depression memes.

—Recommended by Kevin



Ireland, Tom

The Good Virus: The Amazing Story and Forgotten Promise of the Phage (579.26 IRE)

Within our bodies and all around us, microscopic combatants are waging a war that shapes our health and life on Earth. Ireland explores how a long-neglected microbe rules our world and can rescue our health in the age of antibiotic resistance.

—Recommended by Natalie



Johnson, Sheila

Walk Through Fire: A Memoir of Love, Loss and Triumph (338.04092 JOH)

The cofounder of BET and first African-American woman billionaire shares her personal journey through love and loss in an inspiring story of overcoming toxic influences, discovering her true self, and finding happiness in her work and life.

—Recommended by Becky

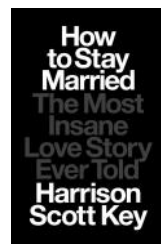


Kelleher, Katy

The Ugly History of Beautiful Things: Essays on Desire and Consumption (111.85 KEL)

A *Paris Review* contributor blends science, history and memoir to explore our obsession with gorgeous things, exposing the fraught histories of makeup, silk, jewels, perfume, and other objects, helping us to ethically partake in the beauty of the world.

—Recommended by Hannah

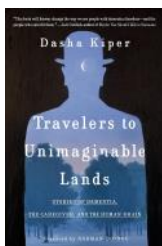


Key, Harrison Scott

How to Stay Married: The Most Insane Love Story Ever Told (813.6 KEY)

How to Stay Married tells the hilarious, shocking, and spiritually profound story of one man's journey through hell and back when infidelity threatens his marriage.

—Recommended by Nate

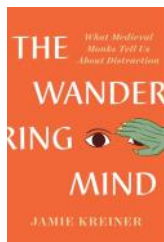


Kiper, Dasha

Travelers to Unimaginable Lands: Stories of Dementia, the Caregiver, and the Human Brain (616.831 KIP)

In these poignant stories of parents and children, husbands and wives, the author dispels the myth of the perfect caregiver and explores the existential dilemmas created by Alzheimer's disease.

—Recommended by Natalie



Kreiner, Jamie

The Wandering Mind: What Medieval Monks Tell Us About Distraction (206.57 KRE)

A revelatory account of how Christian monks identified distraction as a fundamental challenge and how their efforts to defeat it can inform ours, more than a millennium later.

—Recommended by Hannah



Lambert, Megan Dowd

Book Bonding: Building Connections Through Family Reading (028.55 LAM)

A collection of essays about family, reading, and bonding with others through books from children's literature educator and children's book author Megan Dowd Lambert.

—Recommended by Natalie

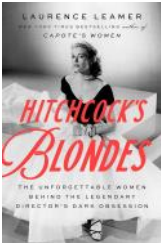


LaPointe, Sasha taq̓w̓səblu

Rose Quartz: Poems (811.6 LAP)

LaPointe opens her first collection with poems exploring language as a means of mending a self splintered between cultures, then builds like a storm, capturing that duality and its price.

—Recommended by Michelle

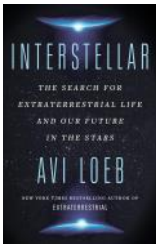


Leamer, Laurence

Hitchcock's Blondes: The Unforgettable Women Behind the Legendary Director's Dark Obsession (791.430233 LEA)

Through the stories of June Howard-Tripp, Madeleine Carroll, and others who starred in Hitchcock's most notable films and who bore the brunt of his fondness and fixation we can finally start to see the enigmatic man himself.

—Recommended by Becky



Loeb, Abraham

Interstellar: The Search for Extraterrestrial Life and Our Future in the Stars (576.839 LOE)

Combining cutting-edge science, physics, and philosophy, Loeb revolutionizes the approach to our search for extraterrestrial life and our preparation for it, showing how this interaction will be essential for humanity's survival.

—Recommended by Natalie

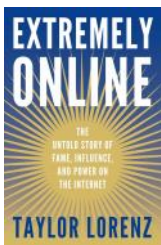


Loftis, Larry

The Watchmaker's Daughter: The True Story of World War II Heroine Corrie ten Boom (940.5318092 LOF)

The inspiring true story of Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch watchmaker whose heroic efforts saved the lives of hundreds of Jews during World War II, at a tremendous cost to herself and her family.

—Recommended by Natalie

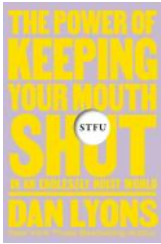


Lorenz, Taylor

Extremely Online: The Untold Story of Fame, Influence, and Power on the Internet (302.231 LOR)

An authority on internet culture, Taylor Lorenz documents its far-reaching effects on all corners of our lives. Her reporting illuminates deep truths about ourselves and the lives we create online.

—Recommended by Joe

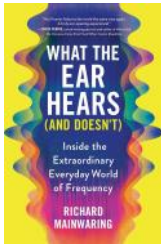


Lyons, Daniel

STFU: The Power of Keeping Your Mouth Shut In An Endlessly Noisy World (302.2 LYO)

Lyons describes the art of communication through listening, pausing, and finally, speaking. This book supplies prescriptive tools for those who want to better the ways they talk with others.

—Recommended by Natalie

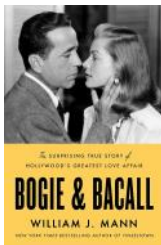


Mainwaring, Richard

What the Ear Hears (and Doesn't): Inside the Extraordinary Everyday World of Frequency (531.1133 MAI)

Mainwaring reveals the extraordinary world of frequency, from medicine to environment to the paranormal, not through abstract theory, but through a selection of small stories laced with dry humor.

—Recommended by Natalie

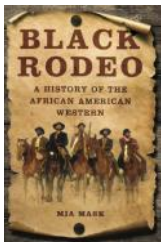


Mann, William J.

Bogie & Bacall: The Surprising True Story of Hollywood's Greatest Love Affair (791.43028092 BOG)

Mann details Bogart and Bacall's relationship. He paints a vivid portrait of their courtship and twelve-year marriage: the fights, the reconciliations, the children, the affairs, Bogie's illness and Bacall's steadfastness until his death.

—Recommended by Becky



Mask, Mia

Black Rodeo: A History of the African American Western (791.43652996 MAS)

Mia Mask examines the African American western hero within the larger context of film history by considering how Black westerns evolved and approached wide-ranging goals.

—Recommended by Joe



McDonell, Nick

Quiet Street: On American Privilege (305.52 MCD)

This deeply personal exploration of wealth, power and the American elite demonstrates how outsiders (the poor, the nonwhite, the suburban) are kept out, examining the problem of America's one percent, whose vision of a more just world never materializes.

—Recommended by Natalie

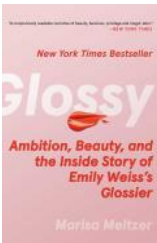


McKenzie, Emilia

But You Have Friends (Graphic Novel McKenzie, E.)

In her candid graphic memoir debut, McKenzie pays tribute to her longtime friend Charlotte, who died by suicide, sketching her memories of their relationship. Full of humor and poignancy, this graphic memoir is a meditation on the meaning of friendship and a love letter to an irreplaceable friend.

—Recommended by Zach

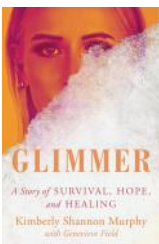


Meltzer, Marisa

Glossy: Ambition, Beauty, and the Inside Story of Emily Weiss's Glossier (338.7 MEL)

Journalist Meltzer, author of *This Is Big and Girl Power*, charts Glossier head Emily Weiss' trajectory to industry mogul with a billion-dollar valuation.

—Recommended by Michelle

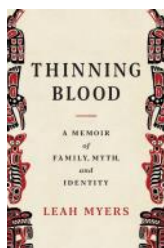


Murphy, Kimberly Shannon

Glimmer: a Story of Survival, Hope, and Healing (362.76092 MUR)

A memoir from one of the most successful stuntwomen in Hollywood chronicles her path to recovery from a childhood of sexual abuse and offers hope for others who have suffered through the same ordeal.

—Recommended by Natalie



Myers, Leah

Thinning Blood: A Memoir of Family, Myth, and Identity (Biography Myers, L.)

Leah Myers may be the last member of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe in her family line, due to her tribe's strict blood quantum laws. Myers excavates the stories of four generations of women in order to leave a record of her family.

—Recommended by Natalie



Nance, Sarafina

Starstruck: A Memoir of Astrophysics and Finding Light in the Dark (523.01 NAN)

Egyptian-American astrophysicist Sarafina Nance shares her personal story of overcoming sexism, racism, and adversity, and appreciating the most important moments and people in her life by focusing on her lifelong love of the stars.

—Recommended by Joe

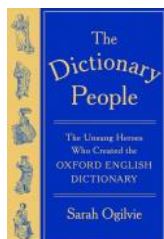


Ndopu, Eddie

Sipping Dom Pérignon Through a Straw: Reimagining Success as a Disabled Achiever (362.4 NDO)

A global humanitarian born with spinal muscular atrophy and the first-ever disabled African awarded a full scholarship at Oxford University shows how he broke through every barrier put in front of him.

—Recommended by Natalie



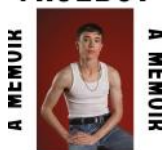
Ogilvie, Sarah

The Dictionary People: The Unsung Heroes Who Created the Oxford English Dictionary (423.092 OGI)

The Oxford English Dictionary is one of humankind's greatest achievements, and yet its creators are almost never considered. Who were the people behind this unprecedented book?

—Recommended by Mary T. and Amy B.

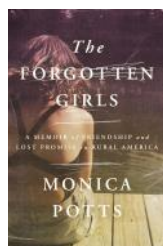
PAGEBOY Page, Elliot



Pageboy: A Memoir (791.43028092 PAG)

Canadian actor/director/producer Elliot Page tells his story of untangling himself from the expectations of others on his journey to being his true self as a transgender man.

ELLIOT PAGE —Recommended by Amy B. and Natalie

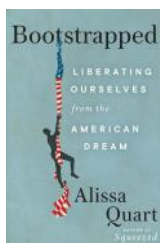


Potts, Monica

The Forgotten Girls: A Memoir of Friendship and Lost Promise in Rural America (818.603 POT)

While working as a journalist covering poverty, the author returns to her hometown in the Ozarks where she connects with her childhood best friend, who has become an addiction statistic.

—Recommended by Natalie



Quart, Alissa

Bootstrapped: Liberating Ourselves from the American Dream (305.5 QUA)

An acclaimed journalist examines the American obsession with self-reliance, how it has led to inequality and self-blame, and shifted the responsibility for survival onto the backs of ordinary people.

—Recommended by Natalie



Roberson, Blythe

America the Beautiful?: One Woman in a Borrowed Prius on the Road Most Traveled (917.304 ROB)

The author examines Americans' obsession with freedom, travel, and the open road in this funny, entertaining travelogue that blends the humorous observations of Bill Bryson with the piercing cultural commentary of Jia Tolentino.

—Recommended by Joe



Roelofs, Pieter et al.

Vermeer (759.9492 VER)

Bringing together diverse strands of the Dutch master's professional and private worlds, this is the first major authoritative study of Vermeer's life and work for many years, shedding light on all thirty-seven of his paintings.

—Recommended by Rob



Ruffin, Amber and Lamar, Lacey

The World Record Book of Racist Stories

(818.062 RUF)

The host of *The Amber Ruffin Show* and writer/cast member on NBC's *Late Night with Seth Meyers* and her sister present a hilarious, intergenerational look at the absurdity of everyday racism as experienced across age, gender, and appearance.

—Recommended by Sonia

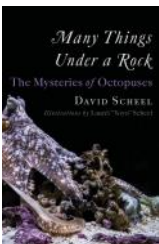


Schafler, Katherine Morgan

The Perfectionist's Guide to Losing Control: A Path to Peace and Power (155.232 SCH)

From psychotherapist Katherine Morgan Schafler, an invitation to every "recovering perfectionist" to challenge the way they look at perfectionism, and the way they look at themselves.

—Recommended by Natalie

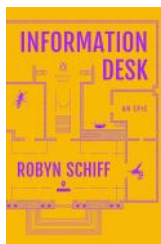


Scheel, David

Many Things Under a Rock: The Mysteries of Octopuses (594.56 SCH)

A behavioral ecologist chronicles his decades-long obsession with octopuses: his discoveries, adventures, and new scientific understanding of their behaviors.

—Recommended by Natalie



Schiff, Robyn

Information Desk: An Epic (811.6 SCH)

Set at The Metropolitan Museum of Art's information desk, this book-length poem in three parts takes readers on a journey to confront the violent forces that inform the museum's encyclopedic collection and the spiritual powers of art.

—Recommended by Hannah



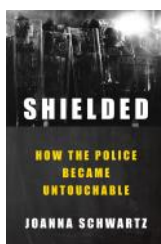
Schneider, Vanessa

My Cousin Maria Schneider: A Memoir

(791.43028092 SCH)

This memoir and tribute to the late French actress, best known for playing Jeanne in the controversial film *Last Tango in Paris*, shows how this role led her to live the rest of her life plagued by scandal, revealing how exploitation has lingering effects.

—Recommended by Natalie



Schwartz, Joanna C.

Shielded: How the Police Became Untouchable

(344.052 SCH)

In the wake of murders that have brought attention to the pervasiveness of police misconduct, a UCLA law professor exposes the many ways in which our legal system protects police at all costs, shedding light on our criminal justice system.

—Recommended by Natalie



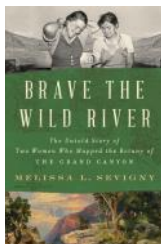
Sedgwick, Icy

Rebel Folklore: Empowering Tales of Spirits, Witches, and Other Misfits from Anansi to Baba Yaga

(398.2 SED)

Rebel Folklore gathers 50 of the darkest and most complicated folktale characters from around the world, showing readers why we should care about the rebels and misfits of ancient stories.

—Recommended by Natalie

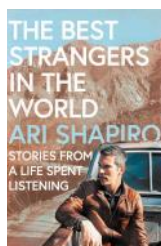


Sevigny, Melissa L.

Brave the Wild River: The Untold Story of Two Women Who Mapped the Botany of the Grand Canyon (979.132 SEV)

Science journalist Sevigny recounts the 43-day rowboat trip down the Colorado River undertaken by University of Michigan botanist Elzada Clover and her mentee Lois Jotter during the summer of 1938.

—Recommended by Michelle



Shapiro, Ari

The Best Strangers in the World (070.92 SHA)

From the host of NPR's *All Things Considered* comes a stirring memoir-in-essays that is also a love letter to journalism.

—Recommended by Amy B.

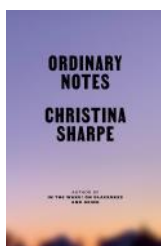


Sharlet, Jeff

The Undertow: Scenes from a Slow Civil War (322.1 SHA)

In *The Undertow*, essayist Sharlet explores the polarization of our nation through the lens of politics and religion, and honors those working in service of community, freedom, and justice for all.

—Recommended by Nate

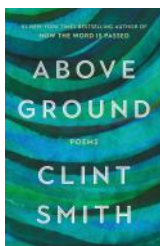


Sharpe, Christina Elizabeth

Ordinary Notes (305.896 SHA)

Told through a series of 248 notes, this volume explores profound questions about loss and the shapes of Black life that emerge in its wake, touching upon such themes as language, beauty, memory, history, and literature.

—Recommended by Natalie



Smith, Clint

Above Ground (811.6 SMI)

Smith's lyrical, narrative poems bring the reader on a journey not only through the early years of his children's lives, but through the changing world in which they are growing up—the changing world of which we are all a part.

—Recommended by Amy B.

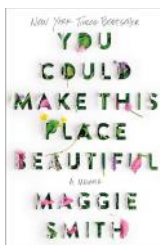


Smith, Crystal Simone

Dark Testament: Blackout Poems (YA 811.6 SMI)

Alongside poems, *Dark Testament* includes a stirring introduction by the author that speaks to the content of the poetry, a Q&A with George Saunders, and a full-color photo-insert that commemorates victims of unlawful killings with photographs of memorials that have been created in their honor.

—Recommended by Rob



Smith, Maggie

You Could Make This Place Beautiful
(306.893092 SMI)

In her memoir, poet Maggie Smith explores the disintegration of her marriage and her renewed commitment to herself in lyrical vignettes that shine, hard and clear as jewels.

—Recommended by Erica



Southon, Emma

A Rome of One's Own: The Forgotten Women of the Roman Empire (937.06082 SOU)

Told with humor and verve as well as a deep scholarly background, *A Rome of One's Own* highlights women overlooked and misunderstood, and through them offers a fascinating chronicle of the ancient world.

—Recommended by Joe



Tobar, Héctor

Our Migrant Souls: A Meditation on Race and the Meanings and Myths of "Latino" (305.868 TOB)

Investigating topics that include the US-Mexico border wall, urban segregation, gangs, and LGBT Latino utopias, Tobar journeys across the country to expose something truer about the meaning of "Latino" in the twenty-first century.

—*Recommended by Natalie*

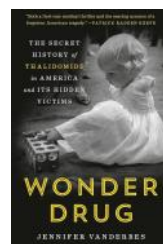


Tulleken, Chris van

Ultra-Processed People (664 TUL)

Van Tulleken delves into the science and economics of ultra-processed foods, reframing obesity as a "commerciogenic disease" driven by an unregulated industry and caused by the consumption of knowingly harmful, addictive substances.

—*Recommended by Gail*



Vanderbes, Jennifer

Wonder Drug: The Secret History of Thalidomide in America and its Hidden Victims (615.782 VAN)

This gripping, never-before-told story of thalidomide, the most notorious drug of the 20th century that harmed scores of Americans, gives voice to the unrecognized victims of this epic scandal.

—*Recommended by Natalie*

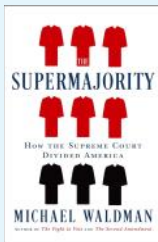


Viren, Sarah

To Name the Bigger Lie (818.609 VIR)

Part coming-of-age story, part psychological thriller, part philosophical investigation, this unforgettable memoir traces the ramifications of a series of lies that threaten to derail the author's life—exploring the line between fact and fiction.

—*Recommended by Nate*



Waldman, Michael

The Supermajority: How the Supreme Court Divided America (347.7326 WAL)

An incisive analysis of how the Supreme Court's new conservative supermajority is reinterpreting decades of law and leading the country in a different political direction.

—Recommended by Rob

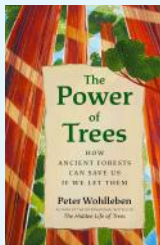


Wertz, Julia

Impossible People: A Completely Average Recovery Story (Graphic Novel Wertz, J.)

Celebrated cartoonist Julia Wertz chronicles her haphazard attempts at sobriety and the relentlessly challenging, surprisingly funny, and occasionally absurd cycle of addiction and recovery.

—Recommended by Zach

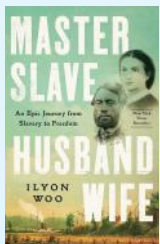


Wohlleben, Peter

The Power of Trees: How Ancient Forests Can Save Us If We Let Them (577.3 WOH)

Sharing emerging scientific research about how forests shape climates both locally and across continents, Wohlleben shows how ancient forests pass their wisdom through generations and why our future lies in protecting them.

—Recommended by Natalie



Woo, Ilyon

Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom (306.362 WOO)

The remarkable true story of Ellen and William Craft, who escaped slavery through daring, determination, and disguise, with Ellen passing as a wealthy, disabled white man and William posing as "his" slave.

—Recommended by Ellen and Natalie