

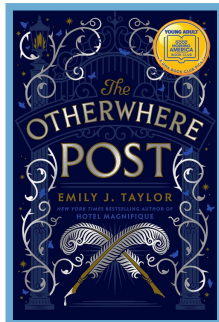
Best Teen Books



The Last Bookstore on Earth

by Lily Braun-Arnold

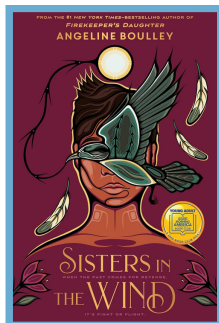
Ever since the first storm wreaked havoc on civilization, Seventeen year old Liz Flannery has been holed up in an abandoned bookstore in suburban New Jersey. Until she learns that another earth-shattering Storm is coming...and everything changes.



The Otherwhere Post

by Emily J. Taylor

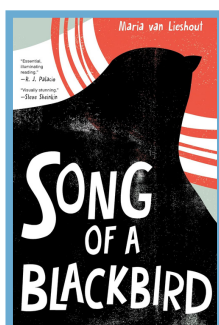
To uncover the truth of her father's past and crimes, Maeve Abenthy poses as an apprentice for the Otherwhere Post, where she'll be trained in the art of scriptmancy - the dangerous magic that allows couriers to enchant letters and deliver them to other worlds.



Sisters in the Wind

by Angeline Boulley

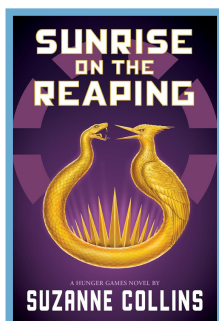
Lucy Smith's father died five years ago, and has been on the run from the state. But when the sharp-eyed and kind Mr. Jameson with an interest in her case comes looking for her, Lucy wonders if hiding from her past will ever truly keep her safe.



Song of a Blackbird

by Maria Van Lieshout

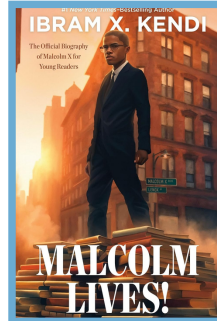
In 1943 Amsterdam, Emma Bergsma's world changes when she witnesses Jewish families being forcibly deported to concentration camps. That pivotal moment lights a fire within her, and she decides to join the Dutch Resistance.



Sunrise on the Reaping

by Suzanne Collins

As the day dawns on the fiftieth annual Hunger Games, fear grips the districts of Panem. When Haymitch's name is called, he can feel all his dreams break. But there's something in him that wants to fight...and have that fight reverberate beyond the deadly arena.



Malcolm Lives

by Ibram X. Kendi

As a youth, Malcolm endured violence, loss, hunger, racism, and incarceration. To trace Malcolm's childhood and adult years, Kendi draws on an abundance of never-before-published letters, notes, flyers, photos, and more to give young readers a front row seat to his life.



Run Away with Me

by Brian Selznick

Danny is spending his sixteenth summer in Rome, where he wanders the ancient sites and streets, until he encounters a shadow...who becomes a voice...who becomes a boy his age: Angelo. Visit a stunning creation to tell the story of a transformative love over the course of one Roman summer.



(S)kin

by Ibi Zoboi

(S)Kin is a contemporary YA fantasy novel in verse based on Caribbean folklore. Drawing on the myth of the soucouyant - women who shed their skins and consume souls - it weaves together the stories of two young women living in Brooklyn.



A Song For You and I

by Kay O'Neill

Rowan dreams of being a ranger, but when their flying horse Kes is injured, they must journey with the carefree Leone. Along the way, challenges and teamwork spark an unlikely friendship—and maybe something more—forcing Rowan to rethink what matters most.



Wizard of Earthsea: Graphic Novel

by Ursula K. Le Guin, adapted by Fred Fordham

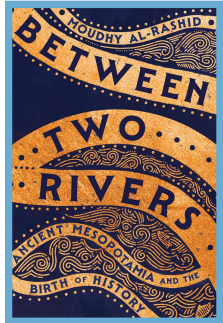
Ged was the greatest sorcerer in Earthsea, but in his youth he was the reckless Sparrowhawk. This is the tumultuous tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed a dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance.

BEST BOOKS

2025

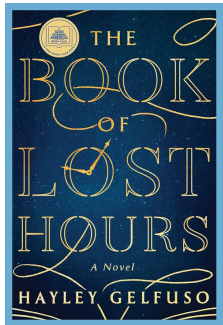
 **Newberg**
Public Library

Library Staff Favorites in 2025



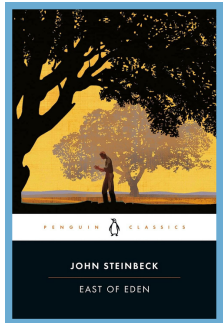
Will recommends:
Between Two Rivers
by Moudhy Al-Rashid

With breathtaking intimacy and grace, Al-Rashid brings the lives of ancient Mesopotamians—with all their anxieties, aspirations, and intimacies—vividly close to our own.



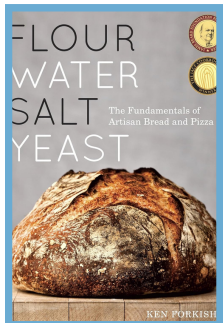
Bobbie recommends:
Book of Lost Hours
by Hayley Gelfuso

A sweeping, unforgettable novel following two remarkable women moving between postwar and Cold War-era America, a library filled with books containing the memories of those who bore witness to history.

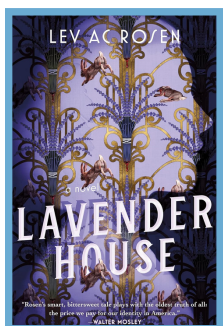


Robert recommends:
East of Eden
by John Steinbeck

Set in California's Salinas Valley, the Trask and Hamilton families as they reenact the biblical tale of Cain and Abel. Steinbeck's masterpiece explores love, identity, and its absence, creating unforgettable characters and timeless themes.



Audrey recommends:
Flour Water Salt Yeast
by Ken Forkish
From Portland's most acclaimed and beloved baker comes this must-have baking guide, featuring recipes for world-class breads and pizzas and a variety of schedules suited for the home baker.



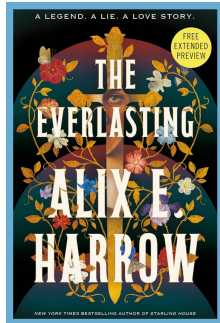
Lori recommends:
Lavender House
by Lev AC Rosen
Lavender House, 1952: the family seat of recently deceased matriarch Irene Lamontaine, head of the famous soap empire. Irene's recipes for her signature scents are a well guarded secret—but it's not the only one behind these gates.



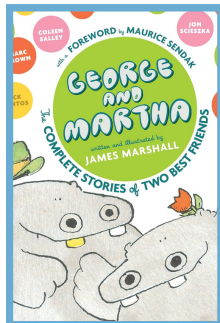
Emily recommends:
Bog Queen
by Anna North
A strangely well-preserved Iron Age body turns up in an English bog, and the American forensic anthropologist on the case is thrust into an absorbing, complex mystery



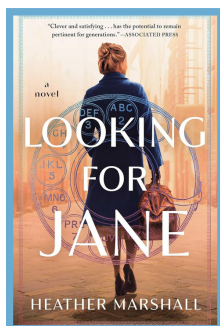
Alexis recommends:
Don't Trust Fish
by Neil Sharpson
A laugh-out-loud picture book warning readers why fish are not to be trusted. From hidden schemes in their watery schools to buses-sized threats, this absurd guide hilariously exposes the villainy lurking beneath the waves.



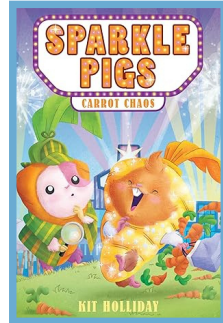
Korie recommends:
The Everlasting
by Alix E. Harrow
A moving and genre-defying quest about the lady-knight whose legend built a nation, and the cowardly historian sent back through time to make sure she plays her part—even if it breaks his heart.



Ruby recommends:
George and Martha: The Complete Stories of Two Best Friends
by James Marshall
These incomparable hippos will delight readers of all ages in these five funny, warm, and wonderful stories.



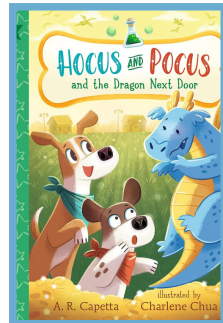
Katie recommends:
Looking for Jane
by Heather Marshall
Three women are bound together by a long-lost letter, a mother's love, and a secret network of women fighting for the right to choose—inspired by true stories.



Carrot Chaos
by Kit Holliday
Muffin and Ziggy are complete opposites; they have no chance of becoming friends. That is, until the two guinea pigs discover a door at the back of their hutch. A door--or is it a portal? Once they cross, they are whisked off to Piggie-Town!



The Girl in the Walls
by Meg Eden Kuyatt
Sent to spend the summer with her seemingly critical Grandma Jojo, neurodivergent and artistic V discovers a ghostly girl in the walls and must uncover the ghost's desires and her grandmother's secrets before their relationship is irreparably damaged.



Hocus and Pocus and the Dragon Next Door
by A.R. Capetta
Magical puppies Hocus and Pocus have a new neighbor: Bye-Bye the dragon! Hocus is delighted, but Pocus is nervous about making friends—and about fire breath.



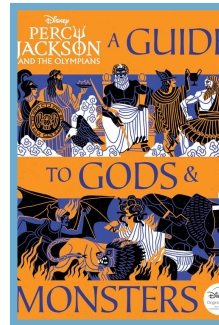
The Last Resort
by Erin Entrada Kelly
When Lila's estranged grandfather dies, her family decides she'll spend the summer in Ohio at the creepy Victoria Inn - A place where spirits reside. With the help of others, Lila must uncover how to stop the evil spirits from controlling the inn and from making their way into the human world.



Troubling Tonsils!
by Aaron Reynolds
Jasper the Rabbit is back! A little older and wiser, he collects creepy stories to share as cautionary tales. If you're ready for some chills and chuckles alike, tune in as Jasper weaves the yarn of Charlie Marmot and the particular pickle he found himself in.



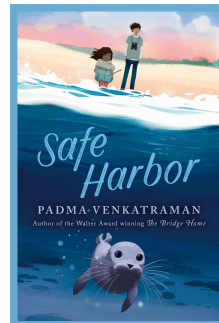
Family Forever
by Kallie George
When a stranger turns up at the Heartwood with a map, the whole forest is taking part in a big treasure hunt. But Mona has an idea to get things back to normal: throw a surprise birthday party at the Heartwood Hotel to bring everyone together.



A Guide to Gods & Monsters
by Stephanie Peters
Ever wonder if you have what it takes to go head to head with the gods and monsters of Percy Jackson's world? This complete compendium, written by Camp Half-Blood director Chiron, contains everything you need to know about those you may encounter.



I'm No Scaredy Rat
by Cam Higgins
Word on the street is that there's a monster living in the darkest, gloomiest alley of the City. The monster is bigger than a cat, smellier than rotten cabbage, and always hungry! One night, when Ratnip gets carried away, he accidentally wanders into the monster's den.



Safe Harbor
by Padma Venkatraman
Moving from India to the US is difficult for Geetha. Things start to get better when she meets Miguel, a kid with whom she has a lot in common with, and together they help rescue a stranded seal on the beach.



A Wolf Called Fire
by Rosanne Parry
When enemy wolves attack, Warm leads four helpless pups to a mountain. Alone, he and the pups face dangerous events while learning responsibility. Will Warm have the courage to be the leader his pack needs when the fiercest enemy of all comes to challenge him?

Children's Books

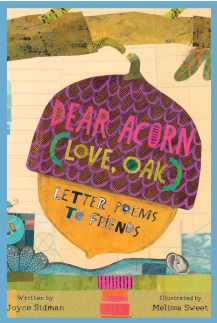
Picture, Informational, and Readers



Bear & Bird: the Stick and Other Stories

by Jarvis

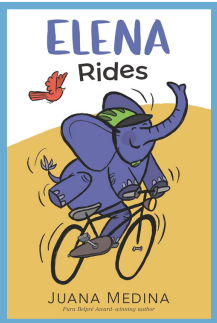
Bear and Bird are the kind of friends who just want to make each other happy. So when Bird realizes Bear has had a leaf stuck to his face all day, she goes to comical extremes not to embarrass him--even if it means encouraging a new trend.



Dear Acorn (Love Oak): Letter Poems to Friends

by Joyce Sidman

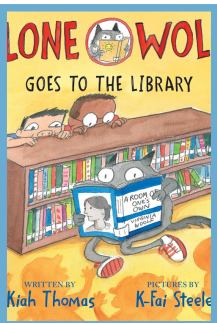
Whether it's a small bubble writing to the enormous sky, or a mighty oak reassuring its tiny acorn, these surprising and delightful poems examine how we're all connected—in both big and small ways.



Elena Rides

by Juana Medina

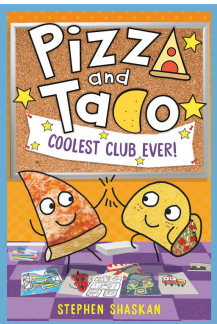
Elena the elephant is determined to learn to ride her bike, with her loyal little red bird cheering her on. Full of wobbles, bumps, and persistence, this bright, energetic story celebrates trying again and the joy of mastering something new.



Lone Wolf Goes to the Library

by Kiah Thomas

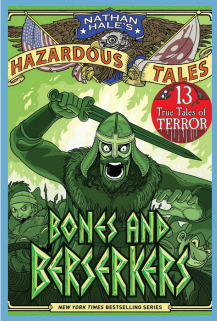
Wolf's library book is overdue, and the librarian says if it's not returned today, he will never ever be able to check a book out again. Even worse: the book is due by the end of story time.



Pizza and Taco: Coolest Club Ever!

by Stephen Shaskan

Pizza and Taco are serving up more awesomeness with a cool new club! They can't wait to talk about all their favorite interests...including making comic books. Lots of people signed up, so they know it's going to be popular!



Bones and Berserkers

by Nathan Hale

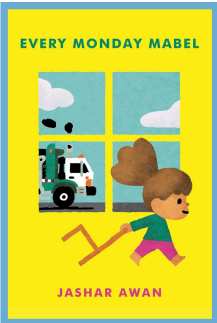
Bones and Berserkers is the unlucky 13th book in the Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales series, and you know what that means? It's time to gather around the gallows and tell the spookiest stories in US history!



Don't Trust Fish

by Neil Sharpson

Why, dear reader, must you NEVER EVER trust fish? 1) They spend all their time in the water where we can't see them. 2) Some are as big as a bus--that is not okay. 3) We don't know what they're teaching in their "schools." 4) They are likely plotting our doom.



Every Monday Mabel

by Jashar Awan

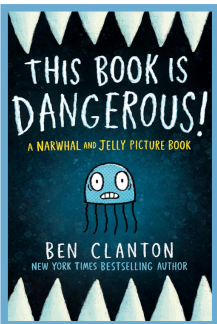
Every Monday, Mabel wakes up early and peeks out her window to make sure she didn't miss the one thing she's been looking forward to the whole week. What is Mabel waiting for every Monday? According to Mabel, it's the best thing in the world.



Papilio

by Ben Clanton

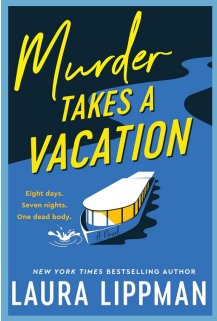
Introducing Papilio Polyxenes, the Black Swallowtail Butterfly! She's an adorable and hilarious caterpillar who is ready to join the world and become a butterfly!



This Book is Dangerous

by Ben Clanton

Did the title just say that this book is dangerous? Jelly doesn't do dangerous. Can you help Jelly find a way out? Just don't move a muscle or make any loud noises, okay? And definitely DON'T touch anything!

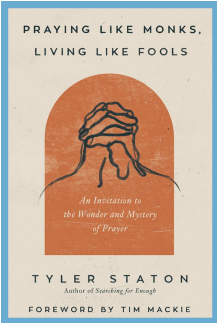


Gabriella recommends:

Murder Takes a Vacation

by Laura Lippman

Delightful Muriel Blossom is a former private investigator and middle-aged widow whose vacation on a Parisian river cruise turns into a deadly international mystery...that only she can solve.

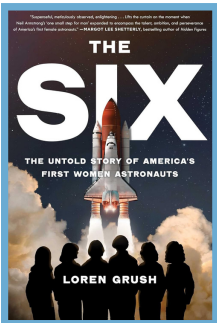


Cynthia recommends:

Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools: An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer

by Tyler Staton

Transform your faith and discover a powerful connection with God through the unexpected gift of prayer.

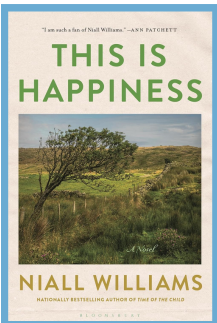


Korie recommends:

The Six: The Untold Story of America's First Women Astronauts

by Loren Grush

In this account of America's first women astronauts Grush weaves a story about the longing of six women to reach heights that were forbidden to them.



Shanna recommends:

This Is Happiness

by Niall Williams

Harking back to a simpler time, this is a tender portrait of a community - its idiosyncrasies and traditions, its paradoxes and kindnesses, its failures and triumphs - and a coming-of-age tale like no other.



Ruth recommends:

When the World Tips Over

by Jandy Nelson

With road trips, rivalries, family curses, love stories within love stories within love stories, and sorrows and joys passed from generation to generation, this is the intricate, luminous tale of a family's complicated past and present.



Samantha recommends:

Once a Villain

by Vanessa Len

Wrenched between love and rivalry, three rivals must negotiate their fractured pasts to survive because only they remember that there was once a better timeline.

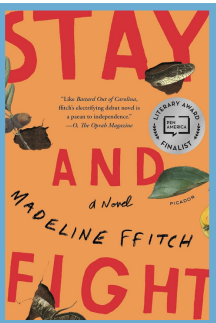


Kirsten recommends:

The Retirement Plan

by Sue Hincenbergs

Three best friends turn to murder to collect on their husbands' life insurance policies... But the husbands have a plan of their own in this darkly funny debut.



April recommends:

Stay and Fight

by Madeline Ffitch

Absorbingly spun, perfectly voiced, and disruptively political, this story takes us, laughing and fighting, into a new understanding of what it means to love and to be free.

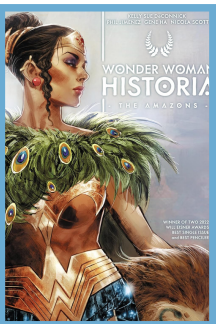


Jessica recommends:

The Underwood Tapes

by Amanda DeWitt

A captivating and profoundly moving novel with hints of supernatural intrigue. The mystery that has haunted the community of Hermitage through the generations won't be silenced.



Sarah recommends:

Wonder Woman Historia

by Kelly Sue DeConnick, Phil Jimenez, Gene Ha, Nicola Scott

Millennia ago, Queen Hera and the goddesses of the Olympian pantheon grew greatly dissatisfied with their male counterparts...and far from their sight, they put a plan into action.

Best Books

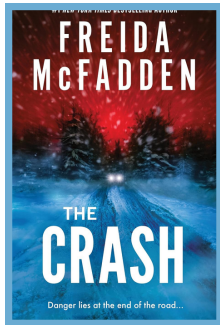
Adult Fiction



Atmosphere: A Love Story

by Taylor Jenkins Reid

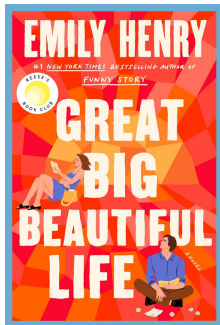
Joan Goodwin, a quiet physics professor, joins NASA's first class of women astronauts and finds unexpected friendship and love during training. But on the 1984 mission STS-LR9, everything changes in an instant.



The Crash

by Freida McFadden

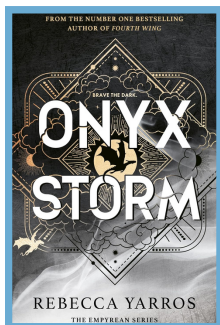
Eight months pregnant and fleeing a collapsing life, Tegan becomes stranded in a Maine blizzard and is taken in by a seemingly kind couple. But as the storm drags on, she realizes their cabin is anything but safe—and she must fight to protect herself and her unborn child.



Great Big Beautiful Life

by Emily Henry

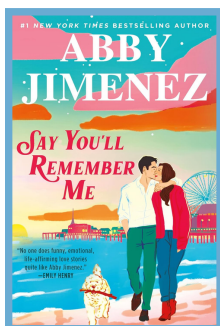
Alice and Hayden compete to write reclusive heiress Margaret Ives's biography, each given only fragments of her story. As secrets mount and their rivalry sparks chemistry, their own connection becomes as compelling as the mystery they're trying to untangle.



Onyx Storm

by Rebecca Yarros

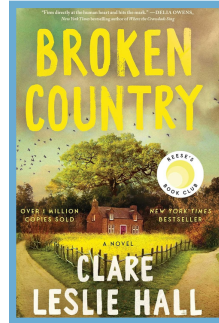
Violet Sorrengail must leave Basgiath War College to rally allies and protect her dragons, family, and home, all while guarding a dangerous secret that could destroy everything. As enemies close in and war looms, only she can uncover the truth—and survive the coming storm.



Say You'll Remember Me

by Abby Jimenez

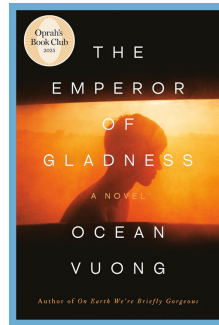
Xavier seems perfect—but his words often get him in trouble. One unforgettable date with Samantha sparks a connection neither can ignore, yet family crises force her to push him away. What began as a single perfect night may grow into something unforgettable.



Broken Country

by Clare Leslie Hall

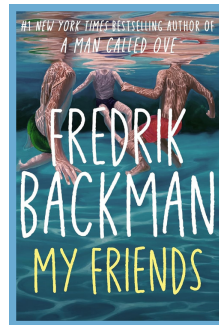
Beth's quiet life with her husband Frank unravels after a shooting incident brings her former love, Gabriel Wolfe, back into the village with his young son. As old secrets resurface, Beth must choose between the woman she was and the woman she has become.



The Emperor of Gladness

by Ocean Vuong

Hai is prepared to end his life when a cry from Grazina, an elderly widow with fading memory, pulls him back—and into an unexpected role as her caretaker. Their unlikely bond reshapes his understanding of everything. A story of loneliness, love, and the yearning for a second chance.



My Friends

by Fredrik Backman

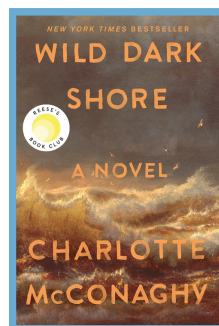
Aspiring artist Louisa uncovers the story behind three mysterious figures in a famous painting, tracing it back to a summer when troubled teens found friendship, love, and inspiration. Her journey reveals that life—and art—often hold unexpected endings.



The Names

by Florence Knapp

After a storm, Cora must name her newborn son—a choice that sets in motion three alternate lives over thirty-five years. *The Names* explores the ripple effects of domestic abuse, family ties, & the power of autonomy, showing how a single decision can shape a lifetime.



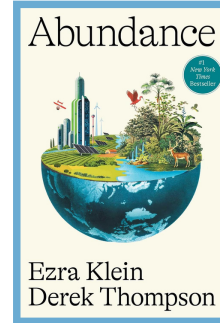
Wild Dark Shore

by Charlotte McConaghy

On the isolated island of Shearwater, Dominic Salt and his children are shaken when a mysterious woman, Rowan, washes ashore. As secrets emerge, they must decide if they can trust each other to survive the storm and protect the world's largest seed bank.

Best Books

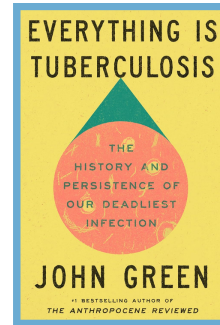
Adult Non-Fiction



Abundance

by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson

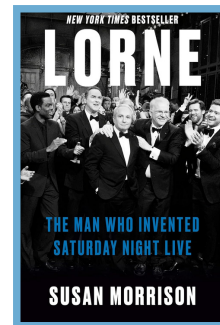
In *Abundance*, Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson show how outdated rules and missed opportunities have created America's crises, from housing to clean energy. They call for a politics that moves beyond scarcity toward bold, generational solutions.



Everything Is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection

by John Green

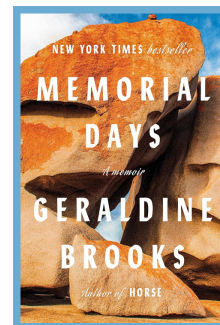
The scientific and social histories of how tuberculosis has shaped our world- and how our choices will shape the future of tuberculosis.



Lorne: The Man Who Invented Saturday Night Live

by Susan Morrison

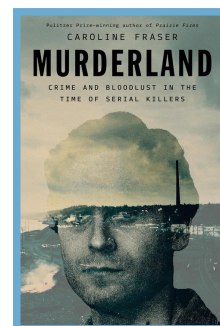
An intimate, deeply reported, and wildly entertaining account of a man singularly obsessed with the show that would define his life- and change American culture.



Memorial Days: A Memoir

by Geraldine Brooks

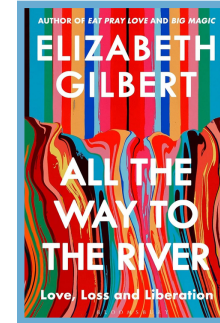
After the sudden death of her husband of 35 years, Brooks takes time and space away from her life to process her grief and reflect on how other cultures grieve.



Murderland: Crime and Bloodlust in the Time of Serial Killers

by Caroline Fraser

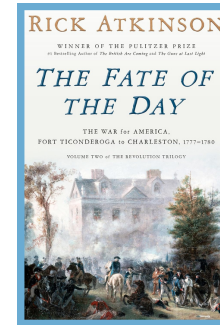
A propulsive nonfiction thriller, *Murderland* transcends true-crime voyeurism and noir mythology, taking readers on a profound quest.



All the Way to the River: Love, Loss, and Liberation

by Elizabeth Gilbert

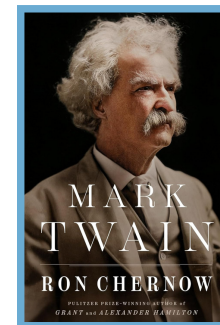
A landmark memoir that will resonate with anyone who has ever been captive to love - or to any other passion, substance, or craving- and who yearns, at long last, for liberation



The Fate of the Day: The War for America, Fort Ticonderoga to Charleston, 1777-1780

by Rick Atkinson

This deeply researched and spectacularly dramatic history is also a new perspective on the demands that a democracy makes on its citizens.



Mark Twain

by Ron Chernow

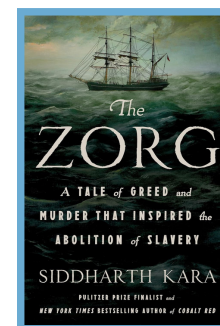
Ron Chernow chronicles Mark Twain's life, from Samuel Clemens' youth to his rise as America's first literary celebrity. Chernow reveals the man behind Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn and his lasting impact on American culture.



The Miracles Among Us: How God's Grace Plays a Role in Healing

by Dr. Marc Siegel

In *The Miracles Among Us*, Dr. Marc Siegel shares true stories where faith and medicine intersect, revealing extraordinary recoveries that defy explanation and showcase the surprising power of hope and healing.



The Zorg: A Tale of Greed and Murder That Inspired the Abolition of Slavery

by Siddharth Kara

The *Zorg* catapulted the nascent anti-slavery movement from a minor cause to one of the most consequential moral campaigns in history.