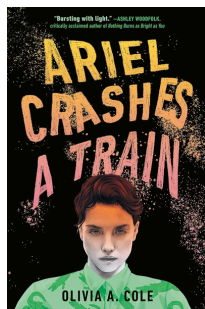
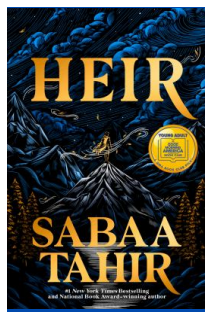


# Best Teen Books



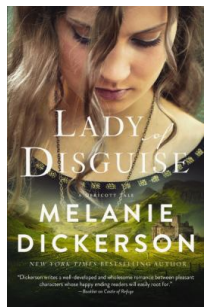
**Ariel Crashes a Train**  
by Olivia A. Cole

Ariel grapples with her fear of her own mind, driven by her desire to meet her parents' expectations and societal norms, until a summer job at a carnival leads her to new friends who help her discover her struggle with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and find acceptance and support for her true self.



**Heir**  
by Sabaa Tahir

An orphan. An outcast. A prince. And a killer who will bring an empire to its knees. Growing up in the Kegari slums, Aiz has seen her share of suffering. An old tragedy fuels her need for vengeance, but it is love of her people that propels her. Until one hotheaded mistake lands her in an inescapable prison.



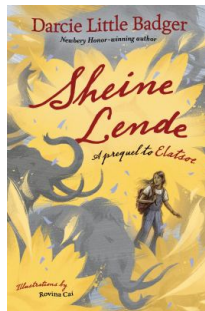
**Lady of Disguise**  
by Melanie Dickerson

Set in medieval England, eighteen-year-old Louisa teams up with the chivalrous knight, Sir Charles, to find hidden treasure and save her younger sister Margaret before their uncle marries her off.



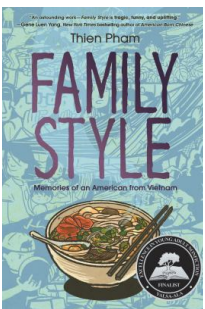
**Lunar New Year Love Story**  
by Gene Luen Yang

High school senior Valentina adored Valentine's Day until a shocking revelation leads her to believe her love life is cursed, until a Lunar New Year celebration introduces her to charming lion dancer boys and a chance at breaking her family's curse.



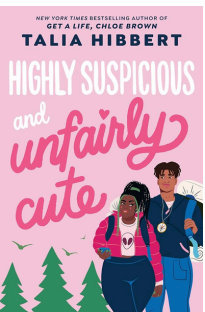
**Sheine Lende**  
by Darcie Little Badger

Shane works with her mother and their ghost dogs, tracking down missing persons. Their own family was displaced from their traditional home years ago following the loss of Shane's father and her grandparents. Then Shane's mother and a local boy go missing, after a strange interaction with a fairy ring.



**Family Style**  
by Thien Pham

Thien's first memory isn't a sight or a sound. It's the sweetness of watermelon and the saltiness of fish. It's the taste of the foods he ate while adrift at sea as his family fled Vietnam. And through each chapter of his life, food takes on a new meaning.



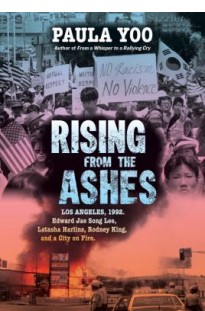
**Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute**  
by Talia Hibbert

Celine & Bradley were friends until they weren't. Both are highly competitive for top marks in their school and know all too well how to irk each other. When a scholarship opportunity places them out of their comfort zone, they find themselves thrust far too close to stomach.



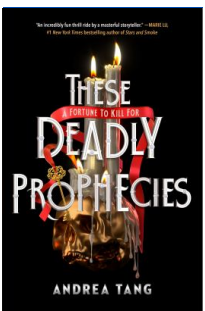
**The Last Bloodcarver**  
by Vanessa Le

Nhika is a bloodcarver. A coldhearted, ruthless being who can alter human biology with just a touch. In the industrial city of Theumas, Nhika is seen not as a healer, but a monster that kills for pleasure. And in the city's criminal underbelly, the rarest of monsters are traded for gold.



**Rising from the Ashes**  
by Paula Yoo

This is a compelling, nuanced account of Los Angeles's 1992 uprising and its impact on its Korean and Black American communities. In the spring of 1992, after a jury returned not guilty verdicts in the trial of four police officers charged in the brutal beating of a Black man, Rodney King, Los Angeles was torn apart.



**These Deadly Prophecies**  
by Andrea Tang

Being an apprentice to one of the most famous sorcerers has its challenges. Tabatha just didn't think they would include solving crime. When her boss, the fortuneteller Sorcerer Solomon, predicts his own brutal death—and it comes true. Tabatha finds herself caught in the crosshairs.

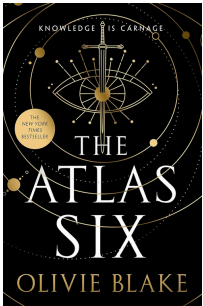
# BEST BOOKS

2024



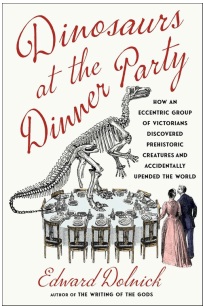


# Library Staff Favorites in 2024



Dillon recommends:  
**The Atlas Six**  
by Olivie Blake

Six potential initiates of the Alexandrian Society, caretakers of lost knowledge from antiquity, will fight to survive the next year of their lives, and if they can prove themselves to be the best among their rivals, most of them will. But only most of them.



Korie recommends:  
**Dinosaurs at the Dinner Party**  
by Edward Dolnick

Featuring an unconventional cast of characters, this is the story of how prehistoric creatures upended humanity's understanding of the world, and how a group of paleontologists worked to bring it back into focus again.



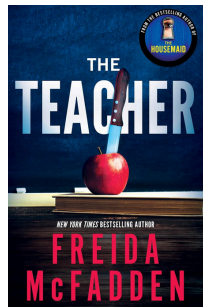
Tiffany recommends:  
**Here**  
by Richard McGuire

“Here” is the graphic novel story of a corner of a room and the events that happened in that space while moving forward and backward in time.



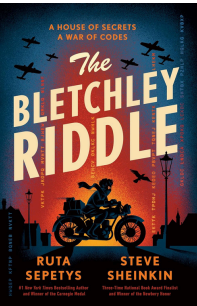
Sarah recommends:  
**Plain Jane and the Mermaid**  
by Vera Brosgol

The depths of the ocean hold beautiful mysteries and dangerous creatures. What good can a plain Jane do?



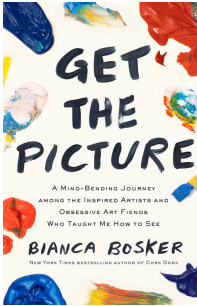
Jessica recommends:  
**The Teacher**  
by Freida McFadden

Something isn't right at Caseham High School. Last year, the school was rocked by scandal. Some have secrets about what happened last year. And someone in this school will do anything to keep them silent.



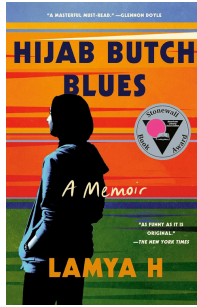
Korie recommends:  
**Bletchley Riddle**  
by Ruta Sepetys & Steve Sheinkin

Summer, 1940: Jakob and his quirky y sister Lizzie share a love of riddles and puzzles. And now they're living inside of one. They find themselves amidst one of the greatest secrets of World War II--Britain's eccentric codebreaking factory at Bletchley Park.



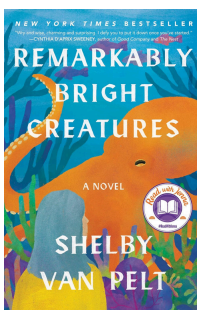
Shanna recommends:  
**Get the Picture**  
by Bianca Bosker

The author takes readers on another fascinating, hilarious, and revelatory journey--this time burrowing deep inside the impassioned, secretive world of art and artists.



April recommends:  
**Hijab Butch Blues: a Memoir**  
by Lamya H

Spanning childhood to an elite college in the US and early adult life in New York City, each essay places Lamya's struggles and triumphs in the context of some of the most famous stories in the Quran.



Gabriella recommends:  
**Remarkably Bright Creatures**  
by Shelby Van Pelt

Tova becomes acquainted with Marcellus, a curmudgeonly giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine and forms a remarkable friendship with Tova.

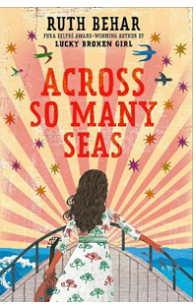


Lori recommends:  
**That Librarian**  
by Amanda Jones

Mapping the book banning crisis occurring all across the nation, “That Librarian” is calling book lovers everywhere to rise in defense of our readers.

# Children’s Books

## Chapter and Young Teen Fiction



**Across So Many Seas**  
by Ruth Behar  
Stories of four girls from a Jewish family. Separated by many years and many seas, they are united by a love of music and poetry, a desire to belong and to matter, and their longing for a home where all are welcome. And each is lucky to stand on the shoulders of their courageous ancestors.



**Astrid & Apollo and the Cutest Canine Contest**  
by V.T. Bidania  
Twins, Astrid and Apollo, decide to enter their dog, Luna, in the Cutest Canine Contest. But they discover that teaching Luna the tricks needed to compete in the contest might be "trickier" than they thought! On the day of the contest, will Luna dazzle or fizzle?



**Invasion of the Pugs**  
by Susan Tan  
It is hard for Chihuahua Ember to decide which is worse: a pack of pugs who announce that they are aliens, or the dog park which is filled with large and overexcited dogs--but he is convinced that he and his animal friends must stop the pugs to save the world (for themselves).

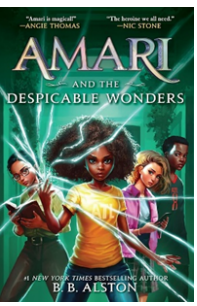


**The Princess in Black and the Kitty Catastrophe**  
by Shannon Hale

The Princess in Black, who knows how to handle all kinds of monsters, meets her match in an adorable kitten bent on annihilation and must figure out what her finicky feline friend wants.



**Warrior on the Mound**  
by Sandra Headen  
1935. Cato wants nothing more than to play baseball and meet Mr. Satchel Paige--the best pitcher in Negro League baseball. But when he and his teammates "trespass" on their town's whites-only baseball field for a practice, the resulting racial outrage burns like a brushfire through the entire community.



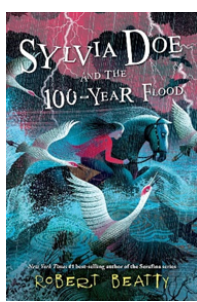
**Amari and the Despicable Wonders**  
by B. B. Alston  
War has come, and Amari's two worst enemies are leading the charge. Elaine has manipulated her way into becoming prime minister and Dylan, the new leader of the League of Magicians, is after a destructive new power that would not only ensure the magicians' victory . . . it would make him invincible.



**The Cookie Crumbles**  
by Tracy Badua  
Two best friends must solve the mystery behind a baking competition gone awry. While competing in the Golden Cookie Competition, Laila gets mixed up in a mystery as she and her best friend, Lucy, search for the truth after one of the celebrity judges collapses after sampling her showpiece.



**The Night War**  
by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley  
It's 1942 and Miriam, who is Jewish, is not safe. With help, Miri is saved from the roundup that takes her entire neighborhood. Taken in at the boarding school, Miri volunteers one night to undertake a deadly task, one that spans the castle grounds, its bridge, and the very border to freedom.



**Sylvia Doe and the 100-Year Flood**  
by Robert Beatty  
Twelve-year-old Sylvia Doe keeps running away from foster homes to return to the mountains of North Carolina, until a 100-year flood, a strange boy, and a cave that is a portal to other times and places, bring her back where she truly belongs.



**Wrath of the Triple Goddess**  
by Rick Riordan  
Percy Jackson needs three recommendation letters from the Greek gods in order to get into New Rome University. He earned his first one-- Now Percy has another "opportunity" -- all he has to do is pet sit her polecat, Gale, and mastiff, Hecuba, over Halloween week while she is away. Piece of cake, right?



# Children's Books

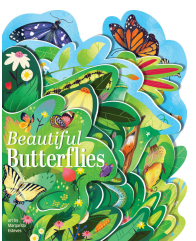
## Picture, Informational, and Readers



### Are You Big? Are You Small?

by Mo Willems

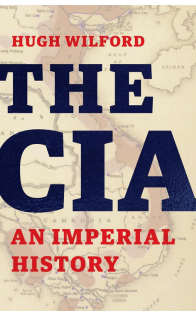
Mo Willems is back with two new STEAM-based, early-learning concept books. Bold text, expressive art, and real-world science from the author of the beloved Pigeon series.



### Beautiful Butterflies

by Margarida Esteves

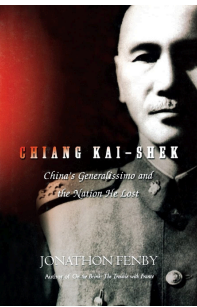
Every page turn of this chunky board book reveals a new layer of a stage in the life of a butterfly. This rhyming story reminds readers that everyone begins life small and then grows through various stages, some slightly awkward, to then emerge as a butterfly flying high in our own uniquely beautiful way.



### The CIA: An Imperial History

by Hugh Wilford

The CIA is the story of the birth of a new imperial order in the shadows. It offers the most complete account yet of how America adopted unaccountable power and secrecy abroad and at home.



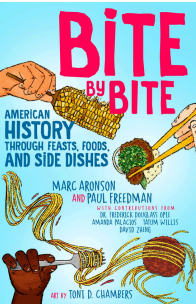
Audrey S. recommends:  
**Chiang Kai shek : China's Generalissimo and the Nation He Lost**  
by Jonathan Fenby  
Chronicles Chiang Kai-shek's turbulent political career as head of China's nationalist movement and the impact his rule had on Chinese culture, society, government, and history.



### Betty the Yeti reader series

by Mandy R. Marx

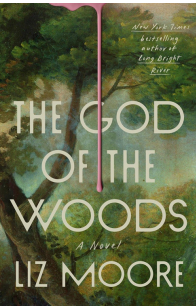
Betty the Yeti has never lived around humans until now. Betty, Mama Yeti, and Betty's twin brothers, Eddy and Freddy, move from their home to the big city. Betty makes friends, goes to school, tries new food, and learns new games. Betty the Yeti shows readers it's okay to stand out and stay true to yourself!



### Bite By Bite

American History Through Feasts, Foods, & Side Dishes  
by Marc Aronson and Paul Freedman

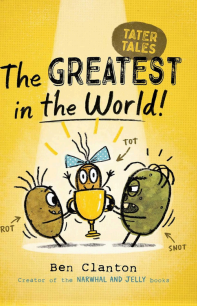
Explore the fascinating history of America as told through the lens of food. In twelve dishes that take readers from thousands of years ago through today, this book explores the diverse peoples and foodways that make up the United States.



### The God of the Woods

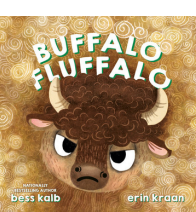
by Llz Moore

Chasing down the layered secrets of the Van Laar family and the community working in its shadow, Moore's multi-threaded drama brings readers into the hearts of characters whose lives are forever changed by this eventful summer.



Amanda recommends:  
**The Greatest in the World!**  
by Ben Clanton

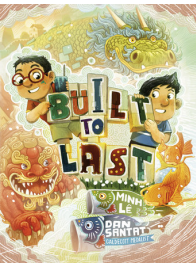
Two spud siblings face off in a series of epic challenges to prove who's "the greatest in the world."



### Buffalo Fluffalo

by Bess Kalb

A sweet and silly buffalo who tries to bluff and fluff his way into being bigger than he really is. This laugh-out-loud story by an Emmy-nominated comedy writer shows it's okay to be yourself.



### Built to Last

by Minh Lê

Meet two friends who think they're building imaginative worlds with blocks but come to realize they've been building something far greater—a sturdy, solid friendship—in this picture book by award-winning creators Minh Le and Dan Santat.



### The Ministry of Time

by Kaliane Bradley

A recently established government ministry is gathering "expats" from across history to establish whether time travel is feasible—for the body, but also for the fabric of space-time.



Samantha recommends:  
**The Mystwick School of Musicraft**  
by Jessica Khoury

Twelve-year-old Amelia gets the opportunity to attend a boarding school and learn how to use music to create magic, hoping to become a Maestro like her deceased mother.



### Grand Hotel of Feelings

by Lidia Brankovic

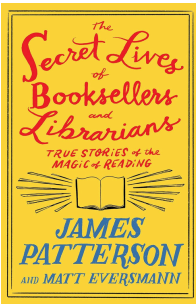
Welcome to the Grand Hotel of Feelings, where all kinds of feelings come and stay. Every guest has unique needs. Some feelings are big and some are small, some are fun and some are tricky, but no feeling is ever turned away.



### I Am Going to Build a Snowman

by Jashar Awan

When a little boy wakes up to see a blanket of snow covering the world outside, there's only one thing to do: make a snowman, and not just any snowman—he wants the best snowman ever. But when his dreams clash with cold, slushy reality, he realizes the best snowman ever may be out of reach...or is it?



### The Secret Lives of Bookseller & Librarians

by James Patterson

Meet the smart and talented people who live between the pages--and who can't wait to help you find your next favorite book.



Ruth recommends:  
**Somewhere Beyond the Sea**  
by TJ Klune

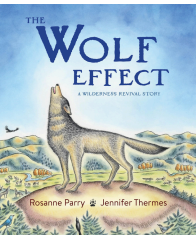
When Arthur is summoned to make a public statement about his dark past, he finds himself at the helm of a fight for the future that his family, and all magical people, deserve. (Sequel to *House in the Cerulean Sea*)



### Sour Apple

by Linda Liu

A funny and delightful new picture book about an apple who learns the importance of self-acceptance and patience after being left behind during picking season.



### The Wolf Effect: A Wilderness Revival Story

by Rosanne Parry

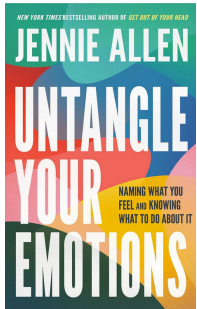
This narrative non-fiction book beautifully explores wolves, food chains, habitats, animal behavior, the environment, and the history of Yellowstone Park with a blend of reader-friendly comic panels, side panels and poetry.



### The Unhoneymooners

by Christina Lauren

Olive braces herself for wedding hell with nemesis best man Ethan. But when the entire party gets food poisoning, there's a free honeymoon up for grabs. Agreeing to a temporary truce, the pair head for Maui.



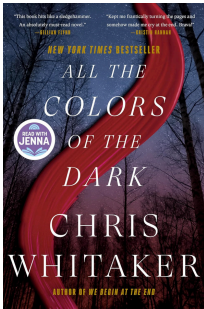
Cynthia recommends:  
**Untangle Your Emotions: Naming What You Feel and Knowing What to Do About It**  
by Jennie Allen

This is a revolutionary path to embracing a healthy relationship with your emotions, one that leads to life-giving connection with God and others as well as to a richer understanding of yourself.



# Best Books

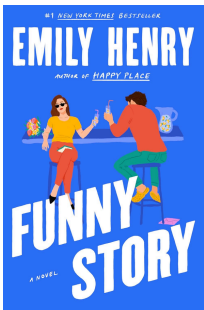
## Adult Fiction



### All the Colors of the Dark

by Chris Whitaker

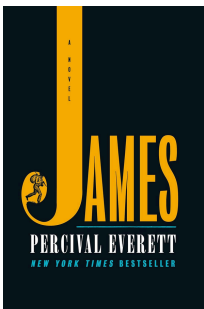
1975 is a time of change in America. And in the smalltown of Monta Clare, Missouri, girls are disappearing. A missing person mystery, a serial killer thriller, a love story, a unique twist on each, Chris Whitaker has written a novel about what lurks in the shadows of obsession and the blinding light of hope.



### Funny Story

by Emily Henry

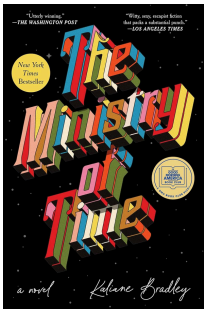
A shimmering, joyful new novel about a pair of opposites with the wrong thing in common. But it's all just for show, of course, because there's no way Daphne would actually start her new chapter by falling in love with her ex-fiancé's new fiancée's ex...right?



### James

by Percival Everett

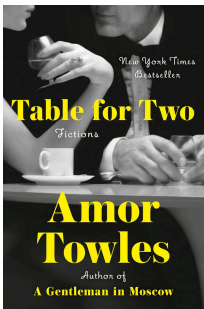
When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. This novel is brimming with the electrifying humor and lacerating observations.



### The Ministry of Time

by Kaliane Bradley

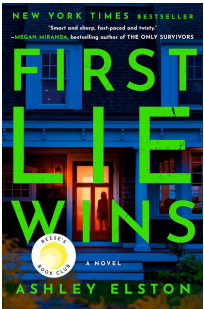
A time travel romance, a spy thriller, a workplace comedy, and an ingenious exploration of the nature of power and the potential for love to change it all. The Ministry of Time asks: What does it mean to defy history, when history is living in your house?



### Table For Two

by Amor Towles

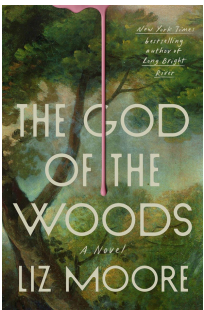
Millions of Amor Towles fans are in for a treat as he shares some of his shorter fiction: six stories based in New York City and a novella set in Golden Age Hollywood. Written with his signature wit, humor, and sophistication, this is another glittering addition to Towles's canon of stylish and transporting fiction.



### First Lie Wins

by Ashley Elston

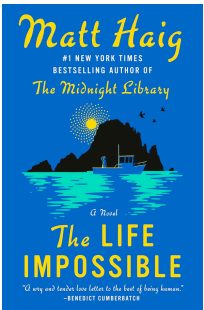
Evie Porter has everything a nice Southern girl could want: a doting boyfriend, a house with a white picket fence, a tight group of friends. The only catch: Evie Porter doesn't exist. The stakes couldn't be higher—but then, Evie has always liked a challenge. . . .



### The God of the Woods

by Liz Moore

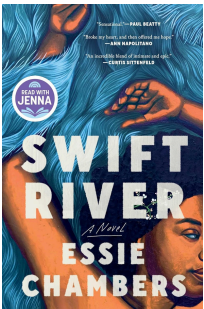
When a teenager vanishes from her camp, two worlds collide. As a panicked search begins, a drama unfolds. Chasing down the layered secrets of the Van Laar family and the blue-collar community working in its shadow, this story invites readers into a rich and gripping dynasty of secrets and second chances.



### The Life Impossible

by Matt Haig

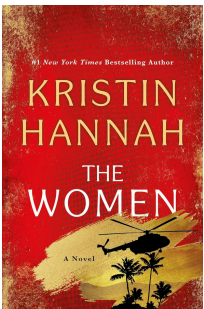
When retired math teacher Grace Winters is left a run-down house by a long-lost friend, curiosity gets the better of her. She arrives in Ibiza with a one-way ticket, no guidebook and no plan. Filled with wonder and wild adventure, this is a story of hope and the life-changing power of a new beginning.



### Swift River

by Essie Chambers

Set in the summer of 1987, this is a coming of age story of Diamond Newberry the only Black person in all of Swift River. A story of first friendships, family secrets, and finding the courage to let go, Swift River is a sensational debut about how history shapes us.



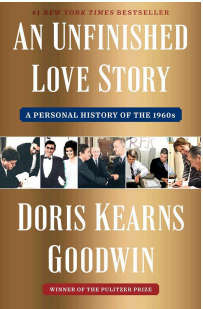
### The Women

by Kristin Hannah

The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism.

# Best Books

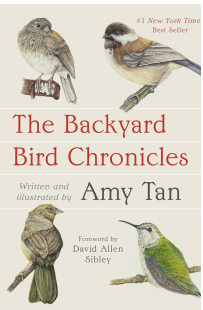
## Adult Non-Fiction



### An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960s

by Doris Kearns Goodwin

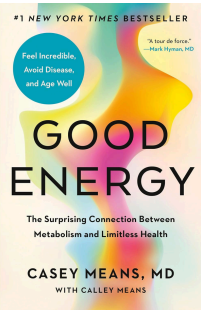
Doris Kearns Goodwin, one of America's most beloved historians, artfully weaves together biography, memoir, and history. She takes you along on the emotional journey she and her husband, Richard (Dick) Goodwin embarked upon in the last years of his life.



### The Backyard Bird Chronicles

by Amy Tan

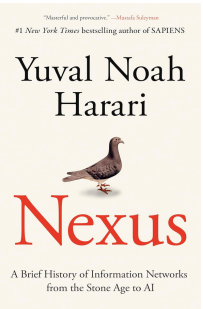
Tracking the natural beauty that surrounds us, The Backyard Bird Chronicles maps the passage of time through daily entries, thoughtful questions, and beautiful original sketches. With boundless charm and wit, author Amy Tan charts her foray into birding and the natural wonders of the world.



### Good Energy: The Surprising Connection Between Metabolism and Limitless Health

by Casey Means, MD

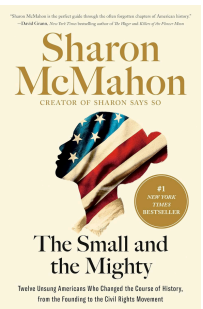
Good Energy offers a new, cutting-edge understanding of the true cause of illness that until now has remained hidden. It will help you optimize your ability to live well and stay well at every age.



### Nexus: A Brief History of Information Networks From The Stone Age to AI

by Yuval Harari

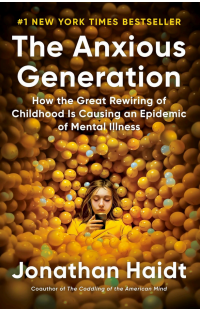
Information is not the raw material of truth; neither is it a mere weapon. Nexus explores the hopeful middle ground between these extremes, and in doing so, rediscovers our shared humanity.



### The Small and the Mighty

by Sharon McMahon

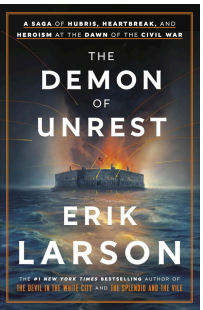
This is a book about what really made America – and Americans – great. McMahon's cast of improbable champions will become familiar friends, lighting the path we journey in our quest to make the world more just, peaceful, good, and free.



### The Anxious Generation

by Jonathan Haidt

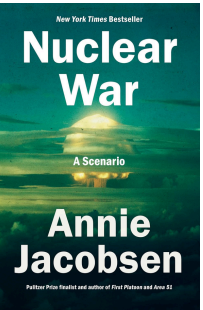
Social psychologist Jonathan Haidt lays out the facts about the epidemic of teen mental illness that hit many countries at the same time. He then investigates the nature of childhood, including why children need play and independent exploration to mature into competent, thriving adults.



### The Demon of Unrest

by Erik Larson

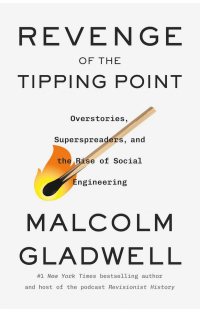
An account of the chaotic months between Lincoln's election and the Confederacy's shelling of Sumter. Drawing on diaries, secret communiques, slave ledgers, and plantation records, Larson gives us a political horror story that captures the forces that led America to the brink—a dark reminder that we often don't see a cataclysm coming until it's too late.



### Nuclear War

by Annie Jacobsen

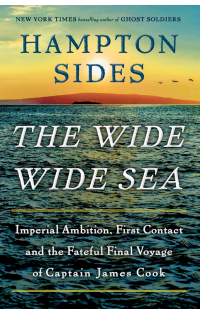
There is only one scenario other than an asteroid strike that could end the world as we know it in a matter of hours: nuclear war. And one of the triggers for that war would be a nuclear missile inbound toward the United States. Nuclear War: A Scenario examines the handful of minutes after a nuclear missile launch.



### Revenge of the Tipping Point: Overstories, Superspreaders, And the Rise of Social Engineering

by Malcolm Gladwell

Social epidemics and tipping points, this time with the aim of explaining the dark side of contagious phenomena. It's time we took tipping points seriously.



### The Wide Wide Sea

by Hampton Sides

On July 12th, 1776, Captain James Cook, set off on his third voyage. Two-and-a-half years later, on a beach on the island of Hawaii, Cook was killed in a conflict with native Hawaiians. How did Cook, who was unique among captains for his respect for Indigenous peoples and cultures, come to that fatal moment?