



THE BEST IN  
*Summer  
Reading*

HAND-PICKED  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM  
YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT  
BOOKSTORE





## Blood Rubies

**Mailan Doquang**

In this "captivating, page-turning debut" (Alafair Burke), a jewel thief tangles with a powerful smuggler in a thrilling chase that leads from the slums of Bangkok to the auction houses of New York City.

**Mysterious Press**

**\$26.95** | 9781613165218



## Bonfire Night

**Anna Bliss**

A moving, unexpectedly timely story about the power of art, the tragic tendency of history to repeat itself, and the interfaith romance that blazes between a Jewish doctor and an Irish Catholic photographer amid the rise of fascism in 1936 England.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496747341



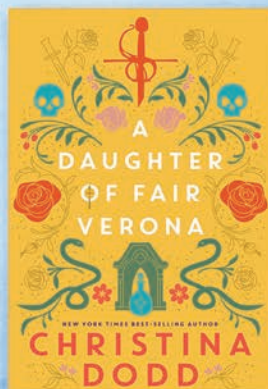
## Clete

**James Lee Burke**

In the latest installment in his iconic Detective Dave Robicheaux series, *New York Times* bestseller James Lee Burke brings Dave's partner and friend Clete Purcel to the forefront for the first time as they attempt to stop a ruthless smuggling ring.

**Atlantic Monthly Press**

**\$28.00** | 9780802163073



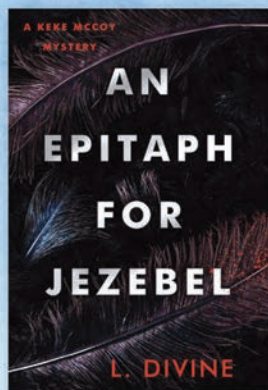
## A Daughter of Fair Verona

**Christina Dodd**

*Knives Out* meets *Bridgerton* as bestselling author Christina Dodd reimagines the fate of Romeo and Juliet in this frothy, laugh-out-loud romp told from the delightful point of view of their clever and rebellious daughter, Rosie Montague.

**Kensington Books**

**\$28.00** | 9781496750167



## An Epitaph for Jezebel

**L. Divine**

*Nancy Drew* meets *P-Valley* as an Atlanta reporter investigates a gruesome, ritualistic murder at a female-owned strip club in L. Divine's sexy, thrilling adult debut for fans of Kellye Garrett, Denise Mina, and Oyinkan Braithwaite.

**Kensington / Dafina**

**\$28.00** | 9781496749963



## The Eyes Are the Best Part

**Monika Kim**

*Crying in H-Mart* meets *My Sister, the Serial Killer* in this feminist psychological horror about the making of a female serial killer from a Korean-American perspective.

**Erewhon Books**

**\$27.00** | 9781645661238



## Familia

Lauren E. Rico

Against the bold beauty of San Juan, a baffling genealogy test connects two twenty-something women across cultures and class in this emotional yet refreshing Indie Next Pick for readers of Xochitl Gonzalez, Elizabeth Acevedo, and Julia Alvarez.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496744647



## Flock

Kate Stewart

Book 1 in Tiktok phenom Kate Stewart's deliciously steamy, irresistibly edgy and suspenseful *Robin Hood* retelling offers a thoroughly unique modern-day spin on the original brotherhood of morally gray bad boys for fans of Lauren Asher and Ana Huang.

**Kensington Books**

**\$18.95** | 9781496754615



## The Flower Sisters

Michelle Collins Anderson

Written in the tradition of Fannie Flagg and inspired by one tragic night at an Ozarks dance hall in the author's hometown comes a beautifully written and surprisingly humorous tale of small town ghosts, split-second decisions, and finding home in 1970s Missouri.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496748287



## Long Time Gone

Charlie Donlea

Thirty years ago, Baby Charlotte vanished. Today, she wants answers. A woman's unexpected DNA results connect her to a decades-old cold case and an ominous Nevada town in this propulsive new novel from the bestselling author of *Twenty Years Later*.

**Kensington Books**

**\$28.00** | 9781496727183



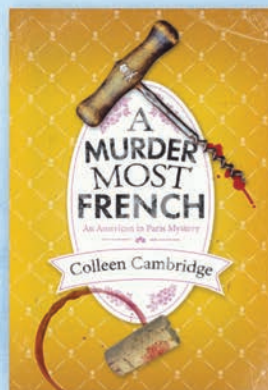
## The Medicine Woman of Galveston

Amanda Skenandore

To support her disabled son, a disgraced former doctor joins a traveling medicine show and its family of strangers led by a menacing snake oil salesman on a collision course with the Galveston Hurricane of 1900—America's deadliest natural disaster.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496741684



## A Murder Most French

Colleen Cambridge

The author of the acclaimed Indie Next Pick *Mastering the Art of French Murder* reimagines Julia Child's postwar Paris years at Le Cordon Bleu in this delicious murder mystery with a culinary twist.

**Kensington Books**

**\$27.00**  
9781496739629





## One Cursed Rose

Rebecca Zanetti

The morally gray heat of Scarlett St. Clair meets the addictively immersive realities of Rebecca Yarros or Sarah J. Maas as obsession takes center stage in this steamy, neon-lit, dark romantasy twist on *Beauty and the Beast*.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496748355



## Pucking Around

Emily Rath

Discover the internationally bestselling, off-the-charts sexy, inclusive, poly, kink-friendly, "why choose" hockey romance that made Emily Rath's *Jacksonville Rays* series a TikTok sensation; all three books are now in print with exclusive bonus content.

**Kensington Books**

**\$19.95** | 9781496752406



## Secrets of Rose

Briar Hall

Kelsey James

In this Gilded Age gothic homage to *Gaslight* from the author of the Indie Next Pick, *The Woman in the Castello*, a young wife is imprisoned in her opulent, yet claustrophobic mansion by a manipulative husband . . . until she decides it's time to fight back.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496742933



## The Still Point

Tammy Greenwood

*Dance Moms* meets *Little Fires Everywhere* in award winning author Tammy Greenwood's addictive new novel set in the hyper cutthroat world of ballet girls and their mothers as they compete for a prestigious prize.

**Kensington Books**

**\$17.95** | 9781496739339



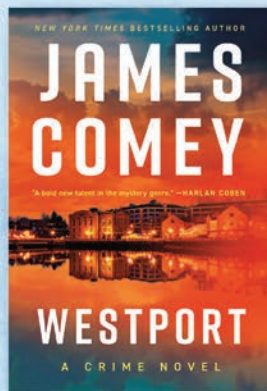
## Such a Bad Influence

Olivia Muenther

For fans of Ashley Winstead, this is a razor-sharp debut about what happens when one of the first child stars of the social media age grows up . . . and goes missing.

**Quirk Books**

**\$24.99** | 9781683694014



## Westport

James Comey

In the newest legal thriller from former FBI director James Comey, a Connecticut hedge fund's attorney is suspected in the murder of a top executive. Don't miss this *CrimeReads* "Most Anticipated" release by "an expert storyteller" (Michael Connelly).

**Penzler Publishers**

**\$30.00** | 9781613165249



## When the Jessamine Grows

Donna Everhart

Amidst the rugged beauty of rural 19th century North Carolina, one woman with the grace to believe in a better future fights to keep her farm running, her family united, and her convictions whole—from the acclaimed author of *The Saints of Swallow Hill*.

Kensington Books

\$17.95 | 9781496740700



## American Flygirl

Susan Tate Ankeny

Don't miss the trailblazing life of the unsung WWII hero Hazel Ying Lee, a daughter of Chinese immigrants who became the first Asian American woman to earn a pilot's license and fly for the US military—despite widespread racism and anti-Asian policies.

Citadel

\$28.00 | 9780806542829



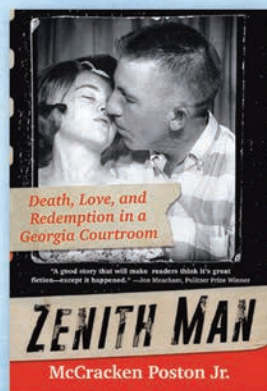
## Death to Beauty

Eugene M. Helveston, M.D.

A fascinating walk through the intricate history of how the world's deadliest toxin starting as a treatment for crossed eyes became a routine tool for the cosmetic industry, *Death to Beauty* will make you rethink success, beauty, and deadly bacteria.

Indiana University Press

\$24.00 | 9780253067807



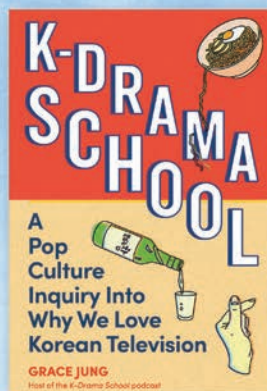
## Zenith Man

McCracken Poston Jr.

In the tradition of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* with echoes of *Rainman* and a captivating smalltown Southern setting, this is the fascinating true story of an idealistic young lawyer determined to free an autistic man accused of murder.

Citadel

\$28.00 | 9780806542799



## K-Drama School

Grace Jung

From *Squid Game* to streaming sensations like *Crash Landing on You*, Korean television has emerged onto the pop culture scene as compelling television—but what makes these shows so irresistible? Comedian Jung gives perspective and a dose of fandom.

Running Press

\$28.00 | 9780762485727



## Decluttered

Jenny Albertini

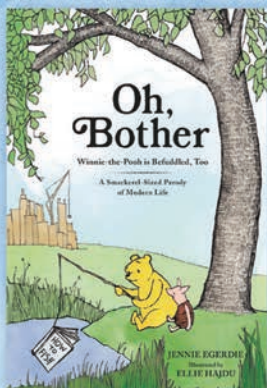
Coming from a public health expert who spent over two decades designing health initiatives around the world, *Decluttered* is a mindful exploration of how and why clutter manifests in our lives—and what we can do about it.

Red Lightning Books

\$28.00

9781684352241





## Oh, Bother

Jennie Egerdrie & Ellie Hajdu

Welcome back to the Hundred Acre Wood as Winnie-the-Pooh and friends acclimate to the joys and worries of the 21st century in this heartfelt parody by the author of *Frog and Toad Are Doing Their Best*.

Running Press

\$18.00 | 9780762486274



## Just Like My Family

Ashley Molesso  
& Chess Needham

Celebrate all types of families in this inclusive picture book from Ash + Chess that breaks down gender stereotypes while offering aspirational messages to young readers and their loving, traditional, and untraditional families.

Running Press Kids

\$18.99 | 9780762484508



## Ice Cream Everywhere

Judy Campbell-Smith  
& Lucy Semple

All over the world, people are eating ice cream. In Italy, gelato is served and in India, it is called kulfi. Enjoy an around-the-world glimpse into how people enjoy this favorite treat!

Sleeping Bear Press

\$18.99 | 9781534113084



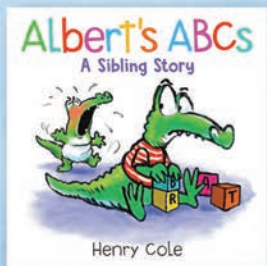
## Magnolia Wu Unfolds It All

Chanel Miller

*New York Times* bestselling author and artist Chanel Miller tells a fun, funny, and poignant story of friendship and community starring Magnolia Wu, a ten-year-old sock detective.

Philomel Books

\$17.99 | 9780593624524



## Albert's ABCs

Henry Cole

Over the course of a day, big brother Albert manages his interactions with his little brother Baxter and the feelings that result. *New York Times* bestselling creator Henry Cole offers plenty of kid appeal in this relatable romp through the alphabet.

Peachtree

\$18.99 | 9781682636534



## Mexikid

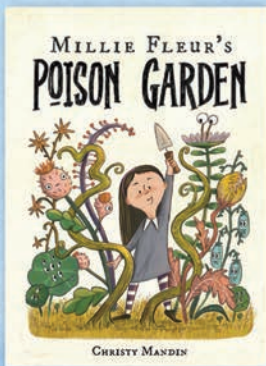
Pedro Martín

This Newbery Honor Award winner is an unforgettable graphic memoir about a Mexican American boy's family and their adventure-filled road trip to bring their abuelito back from Mexico.

Penguin Young Readers

\$24.99 | 9780593462287





### Millie Fleur's Poison Garden

Christy Mandin

In Garden Glen every garden looks the same. That is . . . until Millie Fleur La Fae comes to town and plants her marvelously strange garden. *Millie Fleur's Poison Garden* is a reminder to embrace everything that makes us wonderfully weird.

Scholastic

\$18.99 | 9781339023274



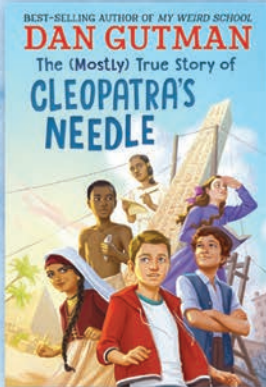
### Unico: Awakening

Osamu Tezuka, Samuel Sattin & Gurihiru

A dynamic reimagining of Osamu Tezuka's classic *UNICO* manga for a new generation of readers, this tells the incredible story of a young unicorn who, after enraging the evil goddess Venus, is banished from the heavens and forgets all he once was.

Graphix

\$12.99 | 9781339036335



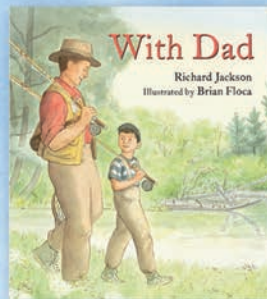
### The (Mostly) True Story of Cleopatra's Needle

Dan Gutman

Cleopatra's Needle, a monolith weighing over 200 tons from 1461 BCE, stands in Central Park. But how did it get there? In this historical fiction adventure story, five kids recount how something that seemed impossible succeeded against all odds.

Holiday House

\$18.99 | 9780823454846



### With Dad

Richard Jackson & Brian Floca

A boy with a father in the military reflects on cherished memories of a camping trip with Dad in this warm, reassuring picture book written by acclaimed author Richard Jackson and illustrated by Caldecott Medalist Brian Floca.

Holiday House /  
Neal Porter Books

\$18.99 | 9780823444953



### Kid Olympians

Robin Stevenson  
& Allison Steinfeld

Discover the childhood stories of 16 athletes who captured the world's attention at the Summer Olympics and Paralympics. Featuring kid-friendly text and illustrations, you'll be inspired to dream bigger, faster, and higher than ever before!

Quirk Books

\$14.99 | 9781683693710

### ON THE COVER



### My Book and Me

Linda Sue Park  
& Chris Raschka

Meet all the children who love books in this lyrical tribute to the joys of books and reading by Linda Sue Park and featuring the jubilant illustrations of celebrated artist Chris Raschka.

Red Comet Press

\$18.99 | 9781636550947



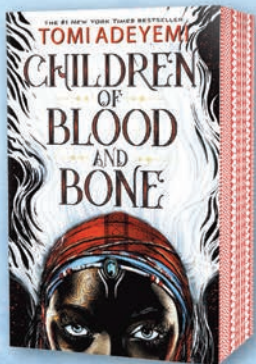
## The Absinthe Underground

Jamie Pacton

Jamie Pacton, author of *The Vermilion Emporium*, dazzles in this whimsical and daring romantic fantasy. Fans of Fae lore, slow-burn sapphic pining, and decadently magical worlds will find *The Absinthe Underground* as ensorcelling as a fairy delight.

Peachtree Teen

\$19.99 | 9781682634929



## Children of Blood and Bone

Tomi Adeyemi

Don't miss the first book in the worldwide fantasy phenomenon by #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Tomi Adeyemi—now available in a deluxe paperback edition with gorgeous spray-painted and stenciled edges.

Square Fish

\$14.99 | 9781250294623



## Dead Girls Talking

Megan Cooley Peterson

The town of Wolf Ridge calls him The Smiley Face Killer. Bettina calls him her father. This knife-sharp thriller cuts deep, with a wicked sense of humor, a wire-taut atmosphere, and a deadly serious approach to issues of justice and female anger.

Holiday House

\$19.99 | 9780823457014



## I Wish You Would

Eva Des Lauriers

Seven secrets on the loose for anyone to find. Seven private confessions that could lead to love . . . or disaster. *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* meets *You've Reached Sam* in this heartfelt and romantic young adult novel.

Henry Holt and Co. (BYR)

\$19.99 | 9781250910554