



THE BOOK STALL

September 2022
Vol. XXXIII, No. 7
Nancy Dreher, *Editor*



THE FRONT LINE



Once again, summer has passed too quickly. The light has started to change, and the days are getting shorter. Still, I find September exhilarating as it marks the start of the school year—getting kids ready for classes. In my case, Lexy, my youngest, will start her senior year at UCSB, so, sadly, this is really the last back-to-school for me.

But on a happier note, after two years of Covid restrictions, it's business as usual at The Book Stall! The store has been bustling, even during the usually quiet month of August. We have lots of great events on the calendar and so many wonderful books hitting the shelves in the next few months. Robert McDonald, our amazing events coordinator, is constantly adding new authors to the fall line-up. We are scheduling book groups again, largely in the store. Our events are a mix of free and ticketed but we are asking everyone to register on our website for most author appearances and book groups, so we can monitor crowd size, and, if there were to be a cancellation, we can notify attendees.

I'm especially excited to welcome David Maraniss, whose new book *Path Lit by Lightning* about Native American athlete Jim Thorpe has been flying off the shelf. Maraniss tells the compelling story of this remarkable individual who was universally acknowledged to be the best athlete of his time. Imagine if that were the question today: LeBron James? Lionel Messi? Serena Williams? This is a ticketed event on Monday, September 12 at 6:30 pm. Check out our website for details.

On Tuesday, September 20 at 6:30 pm, local author Will Linder will present his fascinating book *A Scientific Revolution: Ten Men and Women Who Reinvented American Medicine*, which was highly praised in a *Wall Street Journal* review. Book Stall favorite Ron Balson will be in the house on Wednesday, September 21, at 6:30 pm to talk about his thrilling new novel, *Affair of Spies* (out September 13), about a spy mission to rescue a German defector and prevent the Nazis from creating an atomic bomb. Travel is back in a big way and travel guru Patricia Schultz will be at the store to discuss her new book *Why We Travel* on Tuesday, September 27 at 6:30 pm. At the end of the month (Wednesday, September 28 at 6:30 pm) we welcome former Senator Russ Feingold along with co-author Peter Prindiville, a fellow at the Stanford Constitutional Law Center, for *The Constitution in Jeopardy: An Unprecedented Effort to Rewrite Our Fundamental Law and What We Can Do About It*.

Fall is a big season for book releases, so our shelves will be crowded with some amazing new titles. Our last newsletter included a list of books we were looking forward to, and we've included a few more in these pages. We are constantly re-stocking Taylor Jenkins Reid, so fans will be excited to know that she has a new book out: *Carrie Soto Is Back*. I loved this book, as did my husband, as it centers on a former tennis star who is attempting a comeback to defend her title. Jenkins writes compellingly of strategy, training, and life on the pro circuit. On a lighter note, I also really enjoyed *Thank You for Listening* by Julia Whelan, about an audio book narrator who is asked to voice a romance—charming and uplifting, as she discovers the life she never thought would be hers. My husband loved *Heat 2* by Michael Mann and Meg Gardiner, a gritty crime thriller that continues the story of the great 1990's film *Heat*. Of course, there are lots of books about the pandemic; it is fast becoming its own genre. I confess, I'm not sure how many of those I will read, but I do know that I will enjoy anything the hilarious Christopher Buckley writes, even if it's about the distinctly unfunny time—so I'm excited to dive into *Has Anyone Seen my Toes*. My younger daughter, Lexy, is recovering from shoulder surgery and found just the distraction she needed with Olesya Salnikova Gilmore's fantastical *The Witch and the Tsar*; the author will be at the store for an open house on Saturday, September 24 at 1 pm.

See you soon in the store!

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

3 pm, Live at the Store

SARAH ARONSON

Brand New Bubbe

LAURA RUBY

Me and Ms. Too

On National Grandparents Day, we welcome these two picture book authors. In Ms. Aronson's book, young Jillian isn't so sure she needs a third grandma, now that a step-dad is joining the family. Ms. Aronson is joined by two-time National Book Award finalist **Laura Ruby**, whose new picture book is about blending a family. See page 6 for details.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

6:30 pm, Live at the Store



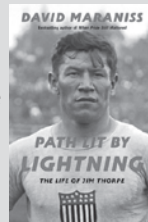
DAVID MARANISS

Path Lit by Lightning:
The Life of Jim Thorpe

Washington Post associate

editor **David Maraniss**

discusses his much-praised biography of Jim Thorpe, who rose



to world fame as a mythic talent who excelled at every sport. He won gold medals in the decathlon and pentathlon at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics, was an All-American football player at the Carlisle Indian School, the star of the first class of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and played major league baseball for the New York Giants. Even in a golden age of sports celebrities, he was one of a kind. Mr. Maraniss appears in conversation with our own **Jon Grand**. See Jon's review of the book on page 2. **This is a ticketed event; tickets include a copy of the book. See our website's "Calendar" for details.**

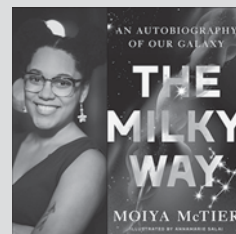
7 pm, a Family Action Network (FAN)
Virtual Event

DR. MOIYA MCTIER

The Milky Way:

An Autobiography of
Our Galaxy

Astrophysicist and folklorist **Dr. Moiya McTier** channels *The Milky Way* in an autobiography of the titular galaxy, detailing what humans have discovered about everything from its formation to its eventual death, and what more there is to learn about this galaxy we call home. Free and open to the public. Reservations required. For more information see familyactionnetwork.net.



Calendar continues on page 4

THE INSIDE LINE

JON GRAND



Before Evil: Young Lenin, Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, Mao, and Kim by Brandon K. Gauthier (\$21.95 in paperback). The theory of the “bad seed” states that some children are simply born evil. Despite opportunities they may have, and despite a stable, loving home, these children

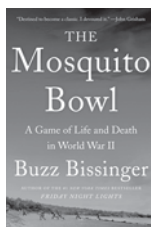


will manifest sociopathic tendencies—including a lack of remorse, a disregard for the rights of others, a lack of empathy, and violence. The idea was popularized through William March’s 1954 novel, *The Bad Seed*. It is tempting to think of Hitler, Stalin, and the other subjects of this book as simply bad seeds. But, according to Gauthier, these men were not born evil. They were not born monsters. They began life as human beings, just like us. What were they like as children, and what events turned them to “the dark side”? Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, Lenin, Mao, and Kim became monstrous despots, and Gauthier makes no attempt to excuse them from their crimes. If these men became evil, what does that say about the potential for any of us, given the same traumas and influences, to become evil? And why, faced with the same traumas and influences, do most of us fail to become similar monsters? Gauthier is by no means an apologist. Rather he reveals how thin the veneer of civilization is, and how easily the bounds and norms that constrain our behavior can be discarded. It is more comforting to view these despots as a breed apart. Seeing them as human forces us to look at ourselves and what evil might lurk within.

Putin by Philip Short (\$40). To many people, the Russian President Vladimir Putin is mad. His ill-advised invasion of Ukraine seems to confirm that assessment. But Putin is not mad. Cut through the myths and legends that surround him, and you’re left with a cold, calculating man who wields immense power. Yet he seems almost shy. He eschews the bombast of his predecessors; his threats are delivered almost conversationally. Yet, he is reported to have killed with his bare hands. Reputed to be the richest man in the world, Putin lives quietly within the confines of the Kremlin. He has the necessary trappings of wealth and power—the yachts, the dachas—but he doesn’t flaunt them. Yet for all that, his brutality is well-documented. And his political sense is acute. He understands the West, perhaps better than we do ourselves, and takes advantage of both our strengths and weaknesses. He has easily limited our ability to respond in Ukraine, through the strategic use of threats both real and implied. There is ample room for speculation as to what he ultimately wants. Philip Short has examined the myths surrounding the man, discarding all but the often-important grain of truth. These myths are part of Putin’s armor and they both explain and protect the man. But as one shines a light under a rock, what emerges from the darkness is often unpleasant.

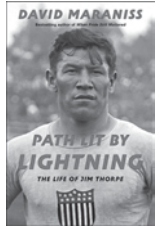


The Mosquito Bowl: A Game of Life and Death in World War II by Buzz Bissinger (\$32.50, due September 13). Fighting in the Pacific during WWII was fierce and bloody. Each island taken in the advance toward Japan came at a terrible price. And in the thick of the fighting were the U.S. Marines. Two regiments, the fourth and the twenty-ninth, training for the planned invasion of Okinawa, were stocked with a combined total of 64 collegiate and NFL football players, and each regiment claimed it could field the better football team. And so, in December of 1944, the Mosquito Bowl was played on a makeshift field on Guadalcanal. Within a few months, 15 of the 64 players would die on Okinawa. The book has been compared to *Boys in the Boat*, but that is

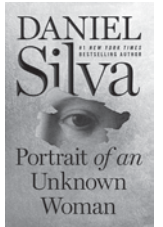


unfair to both. This remarkable story, written by the author of *Friday Night Lights*, stands on its own. It is a story of courage and heroism to be sure. But it is also about the joy of young men playing a game they loved. You will not forget them.

Path Lit by Lightning: The Life of Jim Thorpe by David Maraniss (\$32.50). Jim Thorpe may have been the greatest athlete the world has ever seen. He won gold medals in the pentathlon and decathlon at the 1912 Olympics and played professional football and baseball. He was a native American, living in a society that had little use for Thorpe’s culture but stood ready to exploit his talent. That talent brought him fame, with all its attendant perks and miseries. And when misfortune befell him, when stripped of his Olympic medals because he had once been paid to play on a small team, his “friends” scattered. As with any public figure, myths and legends grew up around him, sometimes aided and abetted by Thorpe himself. As his biographer, Maraniss carefully separates truth from fiction, so his portrait gets as close to Thorpe as possible. Like so many celebrity figures, then and now, Thorpe suffered from bouts of alcoholism. He died in Los Angeles at the age of 65. Forget what you think you know about Jim Thorpe and immerse yourself in this marvelous, joyful—and sometimes tragic—story. **David Maraniss appears at the store at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 12. Jon will interview him. This is a ticketed event; please see our website for details.**



Portrait of an Unknown Woman by Daniel Silva (\$29.99). Summer is almost over, but the softening days of early Fall still beckon us to read outdoors. And what better read than a thriller by a master of the genre. Nor is this mere fluff. Silva does his homework and, as a result, you will learn about art forgeries and forgers and the vulnerability of the art world to them. One of the things I particularly like is that Gabriel Allon, Silva’s protagonist, has been moving through his career in the Israeli secret service with each new book. Unlike James Bond, who seems stuck in time, Allon is aging and is a bit slower in the field. In this latest book, Allon is retiring and taking up new work as a consultant...just like many of Silva’s readers.

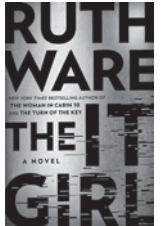


LEAH GORDON



The It Girl by Ruth Ware (\$28.99). Did Hannah get it right, or has the wrong person spent 10 years in prison only to succumb to a heart attack? In *The It Girl*, Hannah finds herself living in a perpetual state of “before and after,” as her life

changes course, following the death of her college roommate, April. Hannah’s testimony sent John Neville to prison, and Hannah left Oxford and ran from the constant barrage of press to Edinburgh. Years later, she is met there by April’s ex-boyfriend, Will, with whom she rekindles the connection they tried to hide during their time together in school. Married and pregnant when the news of Neville’s death is announced, she finds herself questioning everything she thought she saw that night, when a reporter brings new facts to light. Hannah then pushes herself to speak with and visit those closest to her and April before the murder to see if she can fill in the gaps, but finds herself even more confused, as it seems multiple people had a motive to kill April. With one final twist and turn, the reader is taken on an unexpected journey, but the “why” lingers until the very end, when one comment brings it all into focus.



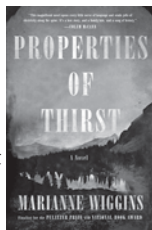
Rough Draft: A Memoir by Katy Tur (\$28). As the daughter of California helicopter reporters who covered everything from the O.J. Simpson chase to the LA riots, Katy Tur absolutely captivates the reader with stories from her childhood. With her first words being "Story! Story!", she was born into a lifelong love affair with the news. Tur shares anecdotes from her jobs as a live reporter for the Weather Channel, an international correspondent for NBC, and her time covering the Trump campaign. Throughout her memoir, Tur also discusses the larger-than-life personality of her father, vulnerably recounting the moments of physical and emotional abuse she and her family endured. She also opens up about how his transition affected all of them, propelling her subsequently into the spotlight, due to the press it received. As Tur talks about returning to NBC post-campaign and the path to anchoring her own show, she also shares how she met her now husband, CBS Mornings anchor Tony Dokoupil. In discussing their marriage, children and creating a makeshift news studio in the basement during the pandemic, Tur rounds out her memoir allowing the reader to feel in the moment with where her life is now.



SHARMAN MCGURN

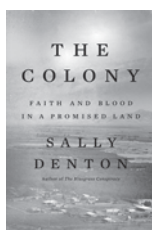


Properties of Thirst by Marianne Wiggins (\$28). Sweeping in scope, cinematic in presentation, with beautifully developed characters and a multi-layered plot, *Properties of Thirst* is sure to be on many "Best of" lists for 2022. The novel begins on December 7, 1941. And what a



beginning! From there the story unfolds nonchronologically, with two defining events propelling much of the action: the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the resulting Japanese-American internment camps, and the Los Angeles Water Corporation's diversion of important alpine snowmelt from its source to the city of Los Angeles. As a young man, patriarch Rocky Rhodes had abandoned his privileged Manhattan upbringing for the West, settling on property in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. Here, with love and for his love, he built a Spanish-style adobe ranch home for his wife and family. But soon, LA Water started its diversion, depriving Rocky's property and the surrounding area of essential water and poisoning the environment. Once-fertile farms die. The larger-than-life Rocky tries to fight the government while raising his twins, reliable Sunny and impulsive Stryker, after the untimely death of his wife. Cas, Rocky's twin, a force of nature in her own right, serves as surrogate mom, educator, and voice of reason. After Pearl Harbor, on now-barren land adjacent to Rocky's property, the War Relocation Authority builds Manzanar, an internment camp designed to hold up to 10,000 Americans of Japanese heritage. Along with the Rhodes, other well-drawn characters play important roles—Chicago-bred U.S. government attorney Schiff, responsible for creating and running Manzanar, foremost among them. Wiggins' descriptions are superb, including those of the majestic geography, making it, too, an important element of the story. In fact, "the landscape still managed to control the plot." There is so much to this wonderful novel! Often quoted throughout the book is, "you can't save what you don't love." I truly loved every page of *Properties of Thirst* and will savor it for a long time to come.

The Colony: Faith and Blood in a Promised Land by Sally Denton (\$27.95). In the fall of 2019, three SUVs carrying women and children were ambushed on a desolate road in northern Mexico. Nine people were killed and five gravely injured by masked gunmen with automatic weapons. The area, including the road on which the women were driving, was controlled by the Sinaloa drug cartel. The victims were members of a polygamous fundamental Mormon sect, whose families had lived in the area



since the late 19th century. In her well-researched true story, Sally Denton shares the history of the Mormons who fled the United States after polygamy was outlawed, to continue practicing their beliefs in Mexico. The patriarchic LeBaron clan was large and prolific, with men having several wives (sometimes their first cousins) and up to 50 or more children. They were industrious and financially successful in their new homeland. In the late 20th century, as the Sinaloa, Juarez, and Jalisco cartels increased their power, the LeBarons and other fundamentalist Mormons learned to live side by side with the *sicarios* and cartel leadership. Add to this strange situation the influence of Keith Raniere, the charismatic crook, founder of the "self-help" cult NXIVM, and the story becomes even more bizarre. This is a tale of truth being stranger than fiction. Denton provides us with the facts as they are known, gray area and all. It is a fascinating read.

CHARLOTTE ROBERTSON



Life on the Mississippi, an Epic American Adventure by Rinker Buck (\$32.50). The period between the Revolutionary War and the Civil War in America was the heyday of flatboat river travel. Flatboats, simple flat-bottomed craft that could be cobbled together



by anyone who knew how to build a log cabin, were a primary means of westward expansion, but have received much less notice than the covered wagons that plied the Oregon Trail in the early 19th century. (See this author's previous book, *The Oregon Trail*.) The author, Rinker Buck, an adventuresome student of history, geography, human nature, and almost anything else worthy of study, piloted a flatboat from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, down the Monongahela, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers, and chronicles his journey in this very enjoyable book. His flatboat, named *Patience*, sported a large American flag and a revolving cast of crew members, who varied from indispensable to annoying, as they made their way down the country's busiest riverine highway. Along the way, the author delves into the history of the rivers, the towns, and the people who settled and developed the areas, as well as studying navigation and modern river commerce in his daily quest to avoid getting run over by a barge or a tugboat. The story of westward colonization of this country looms large and mythical. This is an engaging adventure story, spun by a master storyteller, but also a reminder that our glorious history is not always as it appears. Fortunately, they made it to New Orleans.

Book Discussion Groups

We charge \$5 for in-store book groups, for which attendees will receive a gift card to be used on any merchandise in the store. **To monitor numbers, we ask for registration on our website.**

Wednesday, September 21 at 9:30 am
Marrying the Ketchups by Jennifer Close
Led by Amy Barrow

Wednesday, October 12 at 9:30 am
Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabriella Zevin
Led by Judy Levin

Wednesday, October 19 at 9:30 am
Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
Led by Roberta Rubin

Monday, November 7 at 6:30 pm
Jackie and Me by Louis Bayard
Led by Alice Moody

Wednesday, November 9 at 9:30 am
Trust by Herman Diaz, Led by Ann Walters

Wednesday, December 7, a virtual book group at 9:30 am
Horse by Geraldine Brooks
Led by Nancy Buehler

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

4:30 pm, In-store Writing Workshop

LINDSAY CURRIE

The Girl in White

Join us at **The Book Stall** for a special writing workshop conducted by our friend **Lindsay Currie**, the author of the new book, a chilling story about a 12-year-old girl who must face down the most notorious ghost in her haunted East Coast town, to stop a centuries-old curse that threatens to destroy everything. Lindsay will talk about and lead exercises in Writing Spooky Stories! This workshop is recommended for writers ages 9 - 12. The cost of the program is \$18.52, which includes a writer's notebook and all other workshop materials, plus a copy of *The Girl in White*. See page 6 for details.

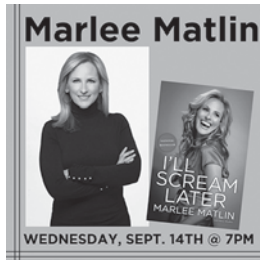
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

7 pm, a Virtual Illinois Libraries Present Program

MARLEE MATLIN

I'll Scream Later

In celebration of Deaf Awareness Month, **Marlee Matlin** joins Illinois Libraries Present to share the highs and lows of her Hollywood career and journeys as an activist. The youngest recipient of the Best Actress Oscar, Matlin's acting career recently achieved another milestone, as her 2021 film "CODA" swept every category it was nominated in at the 2022 Academy Awards. A longtime advocate for deaf rights, Matlin continues to break down barriers for herself and others through her acting, awareness, and writing. Registration is required. See our website's "Calendar" to register.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

12 noon - 4 pm at the store

Angels with Tails

PAWS Chicago Pet Adoption Event

The Book Stall is excited to participate in this event! We'll have cats, dogs, or both at our store and available for adoption. See our website for details.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

"Books Unite Us. Censorship Divides Us" is the theme of the annual country-wide event celebrating the freedom to read. Stop by the store this week to see our store display highlighting banned books.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

3 pm, Ticketed Writing Workshop at the store

DANIEL JOSHUA RUBIN

27 Essential Principles of Story: Master the Secrets of Great Storytelling, from Shakespeare to South Park

In this 75-minute, family friendly, in-person class, **Daniel Joshua Rubin** will help writers build a professional-quality outline for their story. This informal talk is suitable for writers at any level, and the principles can be applied to novels, screenplays, short stories, personal essays, or even songs. An energetic and entertaining speaker, Rubin peppers his talks with pop culture references and is committed to helping writers become more confident, authentic storytellers. The fee includes a copy of *27 Essential Principles of Story*, which you can pick up in the store at or before the workshop. Tickets are available on our website.

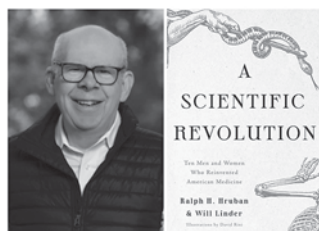
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

6:30 pm, Live event at the store

WILL LINDER

A Scientific Revolution: Ten Men and Women Who Reinvented American Medicine

Evanston-based writer and editor **Will Linder** speaks about his book, co-written with **Dr. Ralph H. Hruban**. The transformation of



American medicine into the science-driven discipline we know today is largely attributable to a single institution, Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and to the women and men who breathed life into it. Their stories form the center of *A Scientific Revolution*, an uplifting collection of biographical vignettes by Dr. Hruban, Director of the Sol Goldman Pancreatic Cancer Research Center at Johns Hopkins, and Linder, both Hopkins alumni. *This in-person event is free and open to the public.*

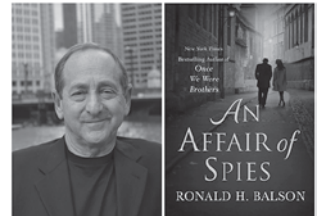
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

6:30 pm, Live at the Store

RONALD H. BALSON

An Affair of Spies

Chicago attorney, professor, and best-selling author **Ronald Balson** speaks about his thrilling new novel, a tale of a spy mission to rescue a German defector and prevent the Nazis from creating an atomic bomb. Mr. Balson appears in conversation with Jon Grand. **Free and open to the public, but registration is required, see our website for details.**



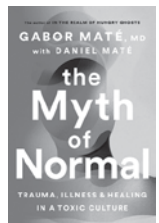
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7 pm, a Live FAN Event

GABOR MATÉ

The Myth of Normal: Trauma, Illness, and Healing in a Toxic Culture

Renowned physician **Gabor Maté** has come to recognize the prevailing understanding of "normal" as false, neglecting the roles that



trauma and stress, and the pressures of modern-day living, exert on our bodies and our minds at the expense of good health. In his book, written with his son **Daniel Maté**, he brings his perspective to the great untangling of common myths about what makes us sick, connects the dots between the maladies of individuals and the declining soundness of society—and offers a compassionate guide for health and healing. This book will be published on Tuesday, September 13. For more information, go to familyactionnetwork.net.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

1 - 3 pm, Author Open House at the store

OLESYA SALNIKOVA GILMORE

The Witch and the Tsar

We welcome Highland Park

author **Olesya Salnikova Gilmore** for an open house celebrating her debut novel, *The Witch and the Tsar*. The maligned and immortal legendary witch, known as Baba Yaga, will risk it all to save her country and her



people from Tsar Ivan the Terrible and the dangerous gods who seek to drive the twisted hearts of men. Booklist says, the book is "a rich and well-woven story centered on subverted folklore played out against the backdrop of historical events. *The Witch and the Tsar* is not to be missed."

You can pre-order *The Witch and the Tsar* on our website, and we'll get you a signed copy! Place your signing request ("To Alicia" for example) in the "order comments" field on your order form. (Your copy will be signed whether or not you can attend the open house!) Don't live in the area? We are happy to ship your copy to you.



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

4 pm and 7 pm, Arlington Heights Memorial Library
500 N. Dunton Ave.

DYLAN THURAS
Two Atlas Obscura Events

The 4 pm event will focus on the new kids book release of the paperback edition of the *New York Times* bestselling *The Atlas Obscura Explorer's Guide for the World's Most Adventurous Kid* by Dylan Thuras and Rosemary Mosco. The book is aimed at kids ages 8-12. At the 7 pm event, co-author Thuras presents *Gastro Obscura: A Food Adventurer's Guide*, a breathtaking guide that takes a whirlwind tour of more than 500 unexpected dishes.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

6:30 pm, A Live Event at the Store

PATRICIA SCHULTZ

Why We Travel: 100 Reasons to See the World

We're delighted to welcome Patricia Schultz, the renowned travel writer and author of *1,000 Places to See Before You Die*. Her new book is a rallying cry to get off the couch and out into the world. It's filled with personal stories and anecdotes, quotes that inspire, and reasons to motivate—plus images so lush readers can't wait to be there. **This event is free, but registration is required. See our website for details.**



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

6:30 pm, a Live Event at the Store

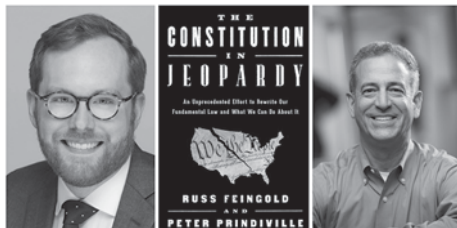
RUSS FEINGOLD and PETER PRINDIVILLE

The Constitution in Jeopardy:

An Unprecedented Effort to Rewrite Our Fundamental Law

In their new book, former U.S. Senator **Russ Feingold** and **Peter Prindiville**, a fellow at the Stanford Constitutional Law Center and an attorney based in Washington, D.C., examine a

hushed effort to radically change our Constitution, offering a warning and a way forward. **This event is free, but registration is requested. See our website for details.**



Highlights coming in October!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:30 pm, a Live Event at the Store

SCOTT TUROW

Suspect

Scott Turow returns with a riveting legal thriller in which a reckless private detective is embroiled in a fraught police scandal. He will be interviewed by our own Jon Grand. **This event is free, but registration is required. See our website for details.**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

5:30 pm, A Ticketed Live Event at the Store

VERONICA ROTH

Poster Girl

Veronica Roth tells the story of a woman's desperate search for a missing girl after the collapse of an oppressive dystopian regime—and the dark secrets about her family and community she uncovers along the way. **This is a ticketed event. Registration is required. See our website for details.**

New Books Out This Fall

Fiction

The Farrows by Namwali Serpell (September 27, \$27) At a beach in the Baltimore suburbs, a sister watches her brother disappear into the waves. The book chronicles the overpowering "aura of life" of the presumably drowned boy as he swims through the consciousnesses of those who mourn him.

The Hero of This Book by Elizabeth McCracken (October 4, \$26.99) The latest from McCracken, this story follows an unnamed narrator as she wanders the streets of London and grieves her mother—a novel about memory, memoir, and a remarkable parent-child relationship.

Nights of Plague by Orhan Pamuk, translated by Ekin Oklap (October 4, \$34) Pamuk charts the early stages of a pandemic, transforming his book into a literary historical thriller, as community leaders scramble to understand the plague.

The Singularities by John Banville (October 25, \$30) With sparkling intelligence and wit, Banville revisits some of his career's most memorable figures, in a novel as mischievous as it is brilliantly conceived. This will surely be one of his most admired works.

The Twist of a Knife by Anthony Horowitz (November 15, \$29.99). With a cast of characters that all have a motive, this novel has distinct echoes of Agatha Christie, which will delight all Horowitz and new readers alike.

Nonfiction

The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man: A Memoir by Paul Newman, edited by David Rosenthal (Oct 18, \$32) The unvarnished memoir of an American icon, the greatest movie star of the past 75 years.

Elizabeth Taylor: The Grit & Glamour of an Icon by Kate Andersen Brower (December 6, \$32.50) In the first-ever authorized biography of the Hollywood icon, Brower reveals the world through Elizabeth's eyes.

Cooking

Ottolenghi Test Kitchen: Extra Good Things by Noor Murad and Yotam Ottolenghi (October 18, \$32) The Ottolenghi team returns with maximalist recipes that prove the little things—be it a dash of sauce, sprinkle of chiles, or pinch of herbs—make all the difference.

History/General Nonfiction

The Grimkes: The Legacy of Slavery in an American Family by Kerri K. Greenidge (November 8, \$32.50) A landmark biography of the most important multiracial American family of the 19th century. It suggests that just as the Hemingses and Jeffersons personified the racial myths of the founding generation, the Grimkes embodied the legacy—both traumatic and generative—of those myths, which reverberate to this day.

The Story of Russia by Orlando Figes (September 20, \$29.99) A brilliant account of the national mythologies and imperial ideologies that have shaped Russia's past and politics—essential reading for understanding the country today.

The Evolution of Charles Darwin: The Epic Voyage of the Beagle That Forever Changed Our View of Life on Earth by Diana Preston (October 4, \$30.) An accessible account of how Darwin developed his theory of natural selection, as well as the story of the *Beagle's* voyage.

Prisoners of the Castle: An Epic Story of Survival and Escape from Colditz, the Nazis' Fortress Prison by Ben Macintyre (September 13, \$28.99) In this gripping narrative, Macintyre tells the true story of one of history's most notorious prisons—and the remarkable cast of POWs who tried relentlessly to escape their captors.

Sports

The Grandest Stage: A History of the World Series by Tyler Kepner (October 11, \$30) The ultimate history of the World Series—a vivid portrait of baseball at its finest and most intense, filled with humor, lore, analysis, and fascinating behind-the-scenes stories from 117 years of the Fall Classic.

the children's line...



Hello children's book enthusiasts,

September is here, and with it a new school year and some exciting events for the young people in your life. On **Sunday, September 11, from 3 – 4 pm**, come and celebrate Grandparents Day with The Book Stall. We'll be celebrating families in all shapes and sizes as we welcome

KARI PATCH

Laura Ruby to the store. **Sarah Aronson** will be debuting her new



picture book, **Brand-New Bubbe**. Over shared bowls of soup, Jillian realizes she just might have room in her heart for her new stepdad's mother and her third grandmother, Bubbe. In **Me and Ms. Too**, another heartwarming picture book about blended families, **Laura Ruby** shares the story of Molly and her discovery that change might be a good thing as she begins to welcome Ms. Too into her family.



Later that same week, on **Tuesday, September 13, from 4:30-5:30 pm**, join author **Lindsay Currie** for a special writing workshop for 9-12-year-olds. Ms. Currie is the acclaimed author of several ghost stories for middle grade readers, including the new book, **The Girl in White**.



Lindsay will talk about and lead exercises in **Writing Spooky Stories!** The cost of the program is \$18.52, which includes a writer's notebook and all other workshop materials, plus a copy of **The Girl in White**. We've hosted Ms. Currie for writing workshops before, and it is always a fantastic time. Sign up now, as space is limited! Call the store at (847) 446-8880 or use the link on our website's event page for easy sign up. Payment is not due until arrival the day of the event. *Two children may attend for the \$18.52 fee.*



At the end of the month, we're partnering with our friends at **Arlington Heights Memorial Library** to host **Dylan Thuras** from **Atlas Obscura**! On **Monday, September 26, from 4-5 pm** at the library, join Mr. Thuras, the cofounder and creative director

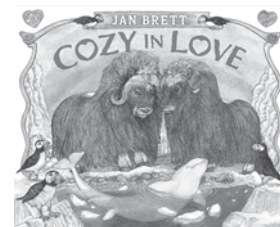


of **Atlas Obscura**, and coauthor of multiple *New York Times* bestselling titles, as we celebrate the release of the paperback edition of **The Atlas Obscura Explorer's Guide for the World's Most Adventurous Kid**. A passport to the world's strangest, most mesmerizing, mysterious wonders, **The Atlas Obscura Explorer's Guide for the World's Most Adventurous Kid** spans 100 real destinations in 47 countries on every continent, all shown in stunning, full-color illustrations. This event is recommended for the 8-12-year-old adventurer in your life! This event is free and open to the public, but registration via Arlington Heights Memorial Library is required.

Beyond events, there is another exciting opportunity this month for picture book fans! It may seem early in the year to be thinking of holiday gifts, but how could we pass up the opportunity of working with **Jan Brett** to provide personalized copies of her next book, **Cozy in Love** (out November 8) for Book Stall customers? Find the link to pre-order **Cozy in Love** on our website. Be sure to include a name for personalization! Orders



must be in by September 30, or while supplies last, to guarantee a signed/personalized copy of the book. This lovable companion to Jan Brett's instant *New York Times* bestselling



winter classic, **Cozy**, shows that kindness and cleverness can capture a heart.

We'll see you in the store! *Kari P.*

AMY TROGDON



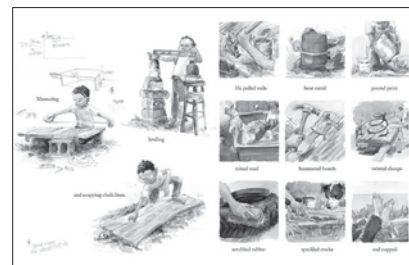
Picture Books

Sal Boat: A Boat by Sal by Thyra Heder (\$18.99). Sal loves the feel of water running under his feet. With odds and ends from his mother's garage and junk from dumpsters in town, he begins to build a boat. He also begins to

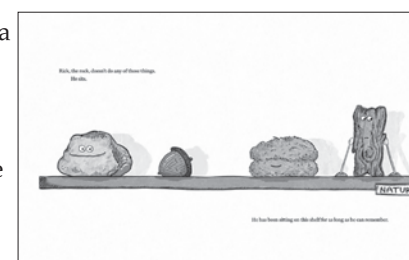


get a lot of advice and some criticism from

people living in the harbor town. Sal remains determined to finish his project. When he runs into trouble, the same people who had little faith in his efforts, rally around him and come to help. Sal's boat is the inventive structure that calls all readers who dream of adventure. Whimsical seaside illustrations add to the charm of this picture book. *Ages 4 - 8*

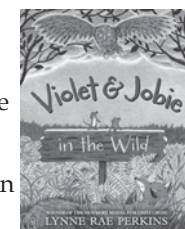


Rick the Rock of Room 214 by Julie Falatko, illustrations by Ruth Chan (\$18.99). Rick is a lumpy gray rock with googly eyes, a happy smile, and a gold star sitting on the Nature Finds shelf for "as long as he can remember." The students of Room 214 seem to have all the fun, singing, drawing, and reading. During geology class, Ricky learns that rocks hold up the earth! He hitches a ride in a backpack and lands in a field of gray rocks. "When do we explode out of volcanoes?," Ricky asks. But the rocks have already done that years ago and are happy to sit quietly. Rick returns to the shelf with a new knowledge of how he inspires the children. He realizes adventure is up to you and what you do with it. Inspiring and funny! *Ages 4 - 8*



Middle Grade Fiction

Violet & Jobie in the Wild by Lynne Ray Perkins (\$16.99, out September 13). Violet and Jobie are indoor mice, living in a warm human house where their biggest threats are two house cats and "the cheese game—the spring-loaded contraption from which they grab snacks!" Violet and Jobie are captured one day and left in a state park. Life in the wild is scary, and the



unknown even scarier. Frightening, often funny adventures, await them. Violet and Jobie do not ever feel safe until they meet Zolian, (oldest mouse ever). His best advice is D.E.F. (don't exit the foliage), which proves to be the wisest life-saving guidance they receive. The two friends begin to follow separate paths with their newfound self-confidence. Black and white drawings throughout also add detail to this story of family bonds, friendship and exploring new places. *Ages 8 - 12*

Attack of the Black Rectangles by Amy Sarig King (\$18.99, out September 6). Everyone in town is scared of Ms. Laura Samuel Set. She is the town watchdog—always on the prowl for distasteful words or people who use them. She is also Mac's 6th grade teacher. Mac lives with his loving mom and grandfather. His dad shows up now and then for dinner, telling him radical misinformation about the world. When his book club begins reading Jane Yolen's *The Devil's Arithmetic*, they find certain words blacked out—in other words, censored. They are angry that anyone would have the power to choose what they read. Their response to this censorship eventually involves the whole town.



This is a great book for grades 5 and up. It deals with coming-of-age issues, as well as truth and the importance of standing up for what you believe. Based on a true story. It's highly recommended! *Ages 10 and up*

BETSY BALYEAT



Well, That Was Unexpected by Jesse Q. Sutanto (\$18.99). After Sharlot Citra's mother catches Sharlot in a compromising position with her boyfriend, she finds herself whisked away from LA to her mother's native Indonesia, a place Sharlot knows nothing about.



Sharlot has apparently become too loose, too American, too everything. A summer getting back to their roots is what they both need. Or so her mother thinks. George Clooney Tanuwijaya's family—one of the wealthiest in Indonesia—has a reputation to uphold. George is spending too much time playing video games. His father knows exactly what he needs; a normal relationship, with a human being. Sharlot's mother and George's father each do what "any good parent would do"—strike up a conversation on a social media app, pretending to be their children. When Sharlot and George find out, they are horrified. This "love connection" is terrible! Nothing could possibly make them fall for each other. But as the layers peel back, the truth becomes more complicated. As unlikely as it may seem, did their parents manage to make a true match after all? *Ages 12 up*

The Lightcasters by Janelle McCurdy (\$17.99, out September 20). Twelve-year-old Mia McKenna has grown up in the darkness. It is all she has known, and she finds comfort in it. Like nearly all cities in the kingdom of Lunis, her home was plunged into a forever night years ago by the shadow of the Reaper King—a figure now only known in nightmares, a cautionary tale warning children to stay safe inside the city walls. But that all changes when a mysterious cult storms Nubris, capturing everyone with the ability to protect it, including her parents, the rest of the Umbria tamers, and their mystical powerful creatures made of shadow and starlight. Now Mia and her brother are the city's only hope of survival, and Mia must learn to harness her umbre-taming abilities to stand any chance of rescuing her parents and saving her city. If she can't, she will lose her soul and her family to the darkness forever. This is the first book in a series.



Students Have Headed Back to School

There are several titles this year to help the youngest students and readers find their footing in a new environment. Here are a few of our favorites:



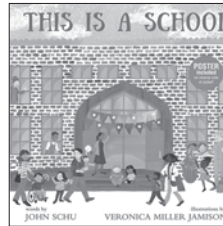
The Little Bear

by Nicola Killen (\$16.99).
See Amy T's review in the August newsletter



Is This Your Class Pet?

by Troy Cummings (\$17.99)



This Is a School

by John Schu, illustrated
by Veronica Miller Jamison (\$17.99)



KINDERgarten:

Where Kindness Matters Every Day
by Vera Ahijya, illustrated
by Joey Chou (\$17.99)



School Is Wherever I Am

by Ellie Peterson (\$18.99)



One Boy Watching

by Grant Snider (\$17.99)





811 Elm Street • Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Monday- Thursday: 9:30 am - 6:30 pm

Friday: 9:30 am - 5pm

Saturday: 10 am - 5pm

Sunday: 11 am - 5 pm

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October Highlights

Tuesday, October 11 at 6:30 pm

SCOTT TUROW, *Suspect*

Sunday, October 16 at 5:30 pm

VERONICA ROTH, *Poster Girl*

Both in-store events are ticketed. See our website "Calendar" for details.

Wednesday, October 19 at 7 pm

Music Box Theatre


3733 N. Southport Ave.

Chicago, IL 60613

RALPH MACCHIO, *Waxing On: The Karate Kid and Me*

This is a ticketed event. See our website "Calendar" for details.

Our 2023 planners and calendars have arrived! We are carrying Letts of London, Quo Vadis, Gallery Leather, as well as others. We have a nice selection of wall calendars and page-a-days also. Supplies are limited, so we are suggesting that you shop early!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>September</i>				1	2	3
						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Labor Day The Book Stall is closed.					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3 pm, Live at the Store SARAH ARONSON <i>Brand New Bubbe</i> LAURA RUBY <i>Me and Ms. Too</i>	6:30 pm, Live at the Store DAVID MARANISS <i>Path Lit by Lightning</i> 7 pm, a Family Action Network (FAN) Virtual Event DR. MOIYA McTIER <i>The Milky Way</i>	4:30 pm, In-store Writing Workshop LINDSAY CURRIE <i>The Girl in White</i>	7 pm, a Virtual Illinois Libraries Present Program MARLEE MATLIN <i>I'll Scream Later</i>			12 noon – 4 pm at the store Angels with Tails PAWS Chicago Pet Adoption Event
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 "Books Unite Us. Censorship Divides Us" is the theme of the annual country-wide event celebrating the freedom to read						
3 pm, Ticketed Writing Workshop at the store DANIEL JOSHUA RUBIN <i>27 Essential Principles of Story</i>		6:30 pm, Live event at the store WILL LINDER <i>A Scientific Revolution</i>	6:30 pm, Live at the Store RONALD H. BALSON <i>An Affair of Spies</i>	7 pm, a Live FAN Event GABOR MATÉ <i>The Myth of Normal</i>		1 – 3 pm, Author Open House at the store OLESYA SALNIKOVA GILMORE <i>The Witch and the Tsar</i>
25	26	27	28	29	30	October 1
	4 pm and 7 pm, Arlington Heights Memorial Library DYLAN THURAS Two Atlas Obscura events	6:30 pm, A Live Event at the Store PATRICIA SCHULTZ <i>Why We Travel: 100 Reasons to See the World</i>	6:30 pm, a Live Event at the Store RUSS FEINGOLD and PETER PRINDIVILLE <i>The Constitution in Jeopardy</i>			