



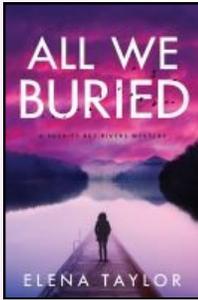
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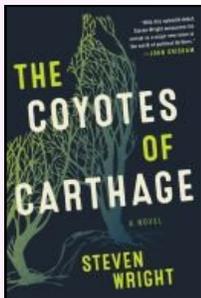
FICTION



ALL WE BURIED BY ELENA TAYLOR

(PICKED BY MG)

Deep in the woods surrounding the Cascade mountain range, a canvas-wrapped body floats in a lake, in Elizabeth "Bet" Rivers' jurisdiction. Bet has been sitting as interim sheriff of Collier after her father's—the previous sheriff's—death six months ago. Everyone knows everyone in a town like Collier. She has made it her duty to protect the people she's come to see as family. And she intends to hold her title in the upcoming election, but she's never worked a murder investigation on her own before and her opponent and deputy, Dale Kovac, isn't going down without a fight. Upon unwrapping the corpse, Bet discovers the woman is from out of town. Without an identification, the case grows that much more puzzling. Determined to prove herself worthy, however, Bet must confront the warped history of Collier. The more she learns, the more she realizes she doesn't know the townspeople of Collier as well as she thought, and nothing can prepare her for what she is about to discover. (304 pgs)



THE COYOTES OF CARTHAGE BY STEVEN WRIGHT

(PICKED BY SMC)

Toussaint Andre Ross has one more shot. Despite being a successful African-American political consultant, his aggressive tactics have tarnished his firm's reputation. Now his boss and mentor Mrs. Fitz, who plucked him from juvenile incarceration and shepherded his career, is exiling him to the boondocks of South Carolina with \$250,000 of dark money to introduce a ballot initiative on behalf of a mining company. The goal: to manipulate the locals into voting in favor of the sale of pristine public land to the highest bidder. Dre arrives in Carthage County with only Mrs. Fitz's well-meaning yet naïve grandson Brendan on his "team." A local is needed as a strawman to collect signatures to act as the initiative's public face. Under Dre's cynical direction, a land grab is disguised as a righteous fight for faith and liberty. As lines are crossed and lives ruined, Dre's increasingly cutthroat campaign threatens the last remnants of his own humanity and the very soul of Carthage County. (320 pgs)



FRANKISSSTEIN BY JEANETTE WINTERSON

(PICKED BY SLS)

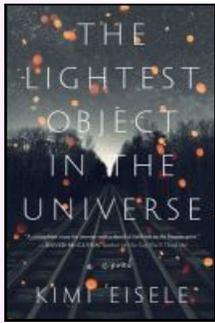
In Brexit Britain, a young transgender doctor called Ry is falling in love – against their better judgement – with Victor Stein, a celebrated professor leading the public debate around AI. Meanwhile, Ron Lord, just divorced and living with Mum again, is set to make his fortune launching a new generation of sex dolls for lonely men everywhere. Across the Atlantic, in Phoenix, Arizona, a cryogenics facility houses dozens of bodies of men and women who are medically and legally dead... but waiting to return to life. But the scene is set in 1816, when nineteen-year-old Mary Shelley writes a story about creating a non-biological life-form. *'Beware, for I am fearless and therefore powerful.'* What will happen when homo sapiens is no longer the smartest being on the planet? Jeanette Winterson shows us how much closer we are to that future than we realize. (352 pgs)



WILDLAND BY REBECCA HODGE

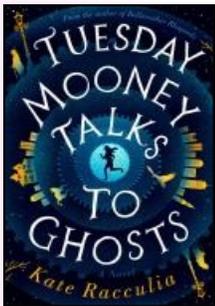
(PICKED BY SLS)

When Kat Jamison retreats to the Blue Ridge Mountains, she's counting on peace and solitude to help her make a difficult decision. Her breast cancer has returned, but after the death of her husband, her will to fight is dampened. Now she has a choice to make: face yet another round of chemotherapy or surrender gracefully. Self-reflection quickly proves impossible as her getaway is complicated by a pair of abandoned dogs and two friendly children staying nearby, Lily and Nirav. When lightning ignites a deadly wildfire, Kat's cabin is cut off from the rest of the camp, separating Lily and Nirav from their parents. Left with no choice, Kat, the children, and the dogs must flee on foot through the drought-stricken forest, away from the ravenous flames. As a frantic rescue mission is launched below the fire line, Kat drives the party deeper into the mountains, determined to save four innocent lives. But when the moment comes to save her own, Kat will have to decide just how hard she's willing to fight to survive—and what's worth living for. (336 pgs)



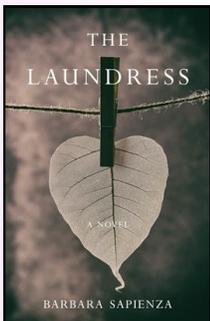
***THE LIGHTEST OBJECT IN THE UNIVERSE* BY KIMI EISELE (PICKED BY BS)**

After a global economic collapse and failure of the electrical grid, amid escalating chaos, Carson, a high school teacher of history who sees history bearing out its lessons all around him, heads west on foot toward Beatrix, a woman he met and fell hard for during a chance visit to his school. Working his way along a cross-country railroad line, he encounters lost souls, clever opportunists, and those who believe they'll be delivered from hardship if they can find their way to the evangelical preacher Jonathan Blue, who is broadcasting on all the airwaves countrywide. Meanwhile, on the other side of the country, Beatrix and her neighbors turn to one another for food, water, and solace, and begin to construct the kind of cooperative community that suggests the end could, in fact, be a promising beginning. With no internet or phone or postal service, can they find their way back to each other, and what will be left of their world when they do? The answers may lie with fifteen-year-old Rosie Santos, who travels reluctantly with her grandmother to Jonathan Blue, finding her voice and making choices that could ultimately decide the fate of the cross-country lovers. (325 pgs)



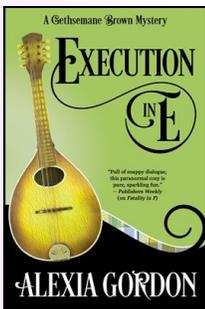
***TUESDAY MOONEY TALKS TO GHOSTS* BY KATE RACCULIA (PICKED BY SM)**

Tuesday Mooney is a loner. She keeps to herself, begrudgingly socializes, and spends much of her time watching old *Twin Peaks* and *X-Files* DVDs. But when Vincent Pryce, Boston's most eccentric billionaire, dies—leaving behind an epic treasure hunt through the city, with clues inspired by his hero, Edgar Allan Poe—Tuesday's adventure finally begins. Puzzle-loving Tuesday searches for clue after clue, joined by a ragtag crew: a wisecracking friend, an adoring teen neighbor, and a handsome, cagey young heir. The hunt tests their mettle, and with other teams from around the city also vying for the promised prize—a share of Pryce's immense wealth—they must move quickly. Pryce's clues can't be cracked with sharp wit alone; the searchers must summon the courage to face painful ghosts from their pasts (some more vivid than others) and discover their most guarded desires and dreams. (359 pgs)



***THE LAUNDRESS* BY BARBARA SAPIENZA (PICKED BY KT)**

Twenty-six-year-old Lavinia is burdened by her unknown heritage—but her uncle Sal, who raised her in San Francisco, has always kept silent, refusing to reveal the devastating secret of her origin. Now, following the death of his wife, he's left for Italy. In the wake of her uncle's departure, Lavinia has quit school. She works as a personal laundress to a diverse cast of San Francisco residents. As time progresses, Lavinia begins to recover memories of her past. Gradually, her gifts of receptivity multiply, and she communes with nature, finding messages from birds and the leaves of her garden's fig tree. And when she recovers Raggedy, a beloved doll that accompanied her from Naples when she was four years old, she experiences a tangible connection to her own mother. Even as Lavinia makes these discoveries, she is busy building new relationships, learning to understand Time and forgiveness with an elderly client; and even getting to know her father, a man who has never been a part of her life. (304 pgs)



***EXECUTION IN E* BY ALEXIA GORDON (PICKED BY SP)**

When an influencer-turned-bridezilla shows up at the lighthouse to capture Insta-perfect wedding photos designed to entice sponsors to fund her lavish wedding, Gethsemane has her hands full trying to keep Eamon from blasting the entire wedding party over the edge of the cliff. Wedding bells become funeral bells when members of the bride's entourage start turning up dead. Frankie's girlfriend, Verna, is pegged as maid-of-honor on the suspect list when the Garda discover the not-so-dearly departed groom was her ex and Gethsemane catches her standing over a body. Gethsemane uncovers devilish dealings as she fights to clear Verna, for Frankie's sake. Will she find the killer in time to save Frankie from another heartbreak? Or will the photos in her social media feed be post-mortem? (262 pgs)

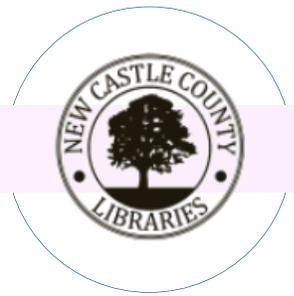


***84K* BY CLAIRE NORTH (PICKED BY LG)**

What if your life were defined by a number? What if any crime could be committed without punishment, so long as you could afford to pay the fee assigned to that crime? Theo works in the Criminal Audit Office. He assesses each crime that crosses his desk and makes sure the correct debt to society is paid in full. But when Theo's ex-lover Dani is killed, it's different. This is one death he can't let become merely an entry on a balance sheet. Because when the richest in the world are getting away with murder, sometimes the numbers just don't add up. (480 pgs)

STAFF PICKS

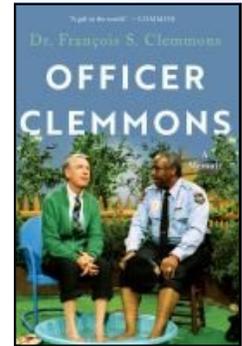
JUNE 2020



NON-FICTION

OFFICER CLEMMONS BY FRANÇOIS CLEMMONS (PICKED BY SMC & MG)

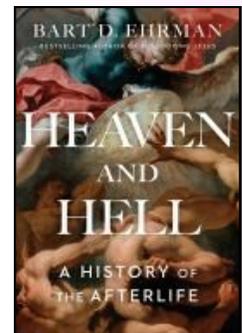
When he created the role of Officer Clemmons on the award-winning television series *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, François Clemmons made history as the first African American actor to have a recurring role on a children's program. A new world opened for Clemmons—but one that also required him to make painful personal choices and sacrifices. *Officer Clemmons* details Clemmons's incredible life story, beginning with his early years in Alabama and Ohio, through his studies as a music major at Oberlin College, where Clemmons began to embrace his homosexuality, to a chance encounter with Fred Rogers that changed the whole course of both men's lives, leading to a deep, spiritual friendship and mentorship spanning nearly forty years. Grammy Award-winner Clemmons has performed for audiences around the world and remains a beloved figure. *Officer Clemmons* chronicles a historical and enlightening life and career of a man who has brought joy to millions of adults and children. (288 pgs)



HEAVEN AND HELL BY BART EHRMAN

(PICKED BY SLH)

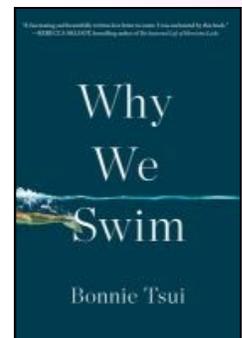
Bart Ehrman recounts the long history of the afterlife, ranging from The Epic of Gilgamesh up to the writings of Augustine, focusing especially on the teachings of Jesus and his early followers. He discusses ancient guided tours of heaven and hell, in which a living person observes the sublime blessings of heaven for those who are saved and the horrifying torments of hell for the damned. Some of these accounts take the form of near death experiences, the oldest on record, with intriguing similarities to those reported today. One of Ehrman's startling conclusions is that there never was a single Greek, Jewish, or Christian understanding of the afterlife, but numerous competing views. They were intimately connected with the social, cultural, and historical worlds out of which they emerged. Only later, in the early Christian centuries, did they develop into the notions of eternal bliss or damnation widely accepted today. (352 pgs)



WHY WE SWIM BY BONNIE TSUI

(PICKED BY SLS)

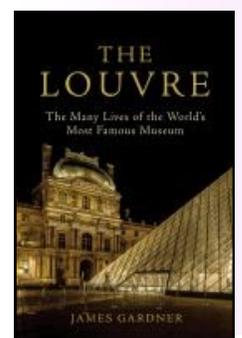
We swim in freezing Arctic waters and piranha-infested rivers to test our limits. We swim for pleasure, for exercise, for healing. But humans, unlike other animals that are drawn to water, are not natural-born swimmers. We must be taught. Our evolutionary ancestors learned for survival; now, in the twenty-first century, swimming is one of the most popular activities in the world. *Why We Swim* is propelled by stories of Olympic champions, a Baghdad swim club that meets in Saddam Hussein's palace pool, modern-day Japanese samurai swimmers, and even an Icelandic fisherman who improbably survives a wintry six-hour swim after a shipwreck. *New York Times* contributor Bonnie Tsui, a swimmer herself, dives into the deep, from the San Francisco Bay to the South China Sea, investigating what about water—despite its dangers—seduces us and why we come back to it again and again. (288 pgs)

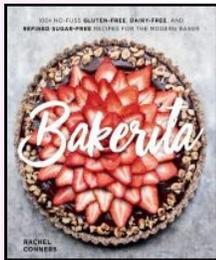


THE LOUVRE BY JAMES GARDNER

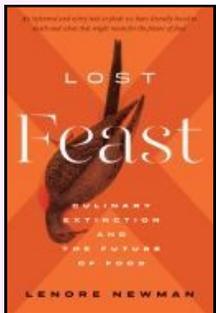
(PICKED BY SM)

Some nine million people from all over the world flock to the Louvre each year to enjoy its incomparable art collection. Yet few of them are aware of its history. More than 7,000 years ago, men and women camped on a spot called Le Louvre for reasons unknown; a clay quarry and a vineyard supported a society there in the first centuries AD. A thousand years later, King Philippe Auguste of France constructed a fortress in 1191, just outside the walls of a city far smaller than the Paris we know today. It became a royal residence under Charles V two centuries later, and then the monarchy's principal residence under Francois I in 1546. It remained so until 1682 when Louis XIV moved his entire court to Versailles. Thereafter the fortunes of the Louvre languished until the tumultuous days of the French Revolution when, during the Reign of Terror in 1793, it first opened its doors to display the nation's treasures. Ever since the Louvre has been a witness to French history, and expanded to become home to a legendary collection. (416 pgs)

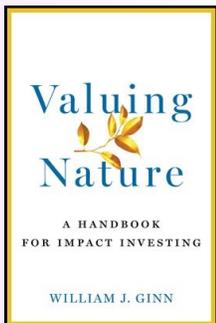


**BAKERITA RACHEL CONNERS****(PICKED BY SLS)**

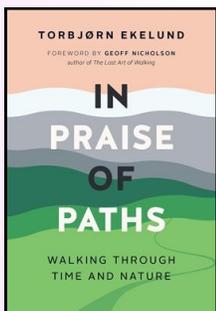
Rachel Connors began her blog as a hobby to share baking recipes with friends, but when she started to focus more on gluten-free, paleo, and vegan recipes to make things she could share with her sister, who was following a strict diet due to health concerns, Rachel quickly realized she was onto something. *Bakerita* surged in popularity. Interest in gluten-free, grain-free, dairy-free, and refined sugar-free foods continues to grow in popularity, yet there are remarkably few books available focused just on desserts, and even fewer with recipes that even beginner bakers can make at home. That's where *Bakerita* comes in, offering recipes for everything from breakfast treats, pies and tarts, cakes and updated all-time favorites like chocolate chip cookies, all made without any hard-to-find ingredients. (288 pgs)

**LOST FEAST BY LENORE NEWMAN****(PICKED BY BS)**

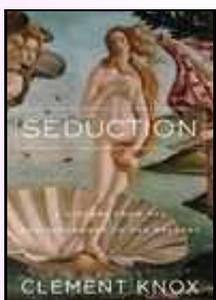
When we humans love foods, we love them a lot. In fact, we have often eaten them into extinction, whether it is the megafauna of the Paleolithic world or the passenger pigeon of the last century. In *Lost Feast*, food expert Lenore Newman sets out to look at the history of the foods we have loved to death and what that means for the culinary paths we choose for the future. Whether it's chasing down the luscious butter of local Icelandic cattle or looking at the impacts of modern industrialized agriculture on the range of food varieties we can put in our shopping carts, Newman's bright, intelligent gaze finds insight and humor at every turn. Bracketing the chapters that look at the history of our relationship to specific foods, Lenore enlists her ecologist friend and fellow cook, Dan, in a series of "extinction dinners" designed to recreate meals of the past or to illustrate how we might be eating in the future. (304 pgs)

**VALUING NATURE BY WILLIAM GINN****(PICKED BY KT)**

As the world faces unprecedented challenges such as climate change and biodiversity loss, the resources needed far outstrip the capabilities of nonprofits and even governments. Yet there are seeds of hope. Impact investing is rapidly becoming an essential tool in tackling these major problems. *Valuing Nature* presents a new set of nature-based investment areas to help conservationists and investors work together. NatureVest founder William Ginn outlines the emerging private sector investing opportunities in natural assets such as green infrastructure, forests, soils, and fisheries. The first part of *Valuing Nature* examines the scope of nature-based impact investing while also presenting a practical overview of its limitations and the challenges facing the private sector. The second part of the book offers tools for investors and organizations to consider as they develop their own projects and tips on how nonprofits can successfully navigate this new space. Case studies from around the world demonstrate how we can use private capital to achieve more sustainable uses of our natural resources without the unintended consequences plaguing so many of our current efforts. (204 pgs)

**IN PRAISE OF PATHS BY TORBJØRN EKELUND****(PICKED BY SMC)**

Torbjørn Ekelund started to walk—everywhere—after an epilepsy diagnosis affected his ability to drive. The more he ventured out, the more he came to love the act of walking, and an interest in paths emerged. Ekelund interweaves the literature and history of paths with his own stories from the trail. As he walks with shoes on and barefoot, through forest creeks and across urban streets, he contemplates the early tracks made by ancient snails and traces the wanderings of Romantic poets, amongst other musings. If we still “understand ourselves in relation to the landscape,” Ekelund asks, then what do we lose in an era of car travel and navigation apps? And what will we gain from taking to paths once again? (240 pgs)

**SEDUCTION BY CLEMENT KNOX****(PICKED BY SLH)**

If sex has generally been a private matter, seduction has always been of intense public interest. Whether the stuff of front-page tabloid news, the scandal of nineteenth-century American courts, or the stuff of literature across the eras, we are fascinated by stories of seduction and sex. In the first history of its kind, Clement Knox explores seduction in all its historical and cultural incarnations. Moving from the Garden of Eden to the speakeasies of the Jazz Age, this is an exploration of timeless themes of power, desire, and free will. In a big-thinking cultural history told through an extraordinary range of stories and sources, Knox explores how our ideas about desire and pursuit have developed in step with the modern world. (496 pgs)