



# THE BOOK STALL

July/August 2023  
Vol. XXXV, No. 6  
Nancy Dreher, *Editor*



## THE FRONT LINE



Welcome to the Book Stall's July/August newsletter! This is a quiet time at the store, as we all soak up the sun and enjoy the unhurried pace of these precious summer days. Still, we have a few events on the calendar and new titles on the shelves that are sure to delight book lovers of all kinds. And this midsummer newsletter also features our favorite books *so far this year*. My pick was also Susan Davis' favorite, and her delightful review in these pages captures Curtis Sittenfeld's book, *Romantic Comedy*, perfectly.

We're pleased to welcome our great friends at Go Green Reads back to the store. They will be hosting author Laurie Lawlor on July 10 at 6:30 pm. She takes us on a journey restoring prairies, woods, and ponds in a rural Wisconsin village in her new book. Discover the wonders of nature and learn how you and your family can make a difference. And of course, we're all excited for the annual Winnetka Sidewalk Sale on July 14 and 15. Explore discounted books and gifts while enjoying a game of mini golf in the store—fun for the whole family! On July 20, we'll be offering 20% off to all members of the discount club. Stop by to stock up on summer reading! Not a member? It's never too late - you can join that day. The \$15 fee entitles you to 10% off for a full year on all books and gifts, and you will receive our newsletter in the mail every month with reviews and other bookish content. It's our way of saying thank you for your continued support.

Immerse yourself in the world of poetry on July 27 at 6:30 pm. Elizabeth Friedman (*The Lost Positive*) and Jessica Walsh (*Book of Gods and Grudges*) will be in the store to discuss their new books. And we have more poetry on the calendar, this time with local literary group, the Off Campus Writers Workshop (OCWW). On August 23 at 5:30 pm, we're hosting a poetry reading featuring talented writers from the OCWW reading from their anthology, *Meaningful Conflicts*. Indulge in thought-provoking poetry and delicious cookies. And last, but certainly not least, we always look forward to our summer visit with the wonderful Kevin O'Brien! On August 29 at 6:30 pm, he will be in-store for a discussion and signing of his thrilling novel *The Enemy at Home*. Don't miss this opportunity to meet the master of suspense. He also brings candy!

In addition to our events, we have some must-read books perfect for your beach bag or your backyard hammock. First up, Adrienne Brodeur's *Little Monsters*. I loved her memoir, *Wild Game*, and her foray into fiction did not disappoint. *Little Monsters* is a family saga set on Cape Cod. There has been lots of industry buzz about *Do Tell* by Lindsay Lynch (out July 11), a delicious, gossipy page-turner set in the glamorous world of Hollywood. I love mystery writer Laura Lippman and her latest, *Prom Mom* (out July 25), kept me up all night. Set in Baltimore, as her novels are, this is both a gripping thriller and character study of a certain type of well-heeled Peleton-riding professional. And of course, we're all so excited for the newest Ann Patchett. *Tom Lake* (out August 1) is set in a summer stock theater and a cherry orchard in Michigan and follows Lara from Hollywood ingenue to mother of three girls working the family orchard during Covid lockdown. Patchett delivers this luminous story with her usual keen sensibility for family dynamics and the secrets families keep. Julie Schumacher makes me laugh, and I found lots to laugh about in *The English Experience* (out August 15), about a hapless English professor tasked with taking a group of misfit students to London for three weeks. Finally, *Kala* (out July 25) is an Irish thriller by first-time author Colin Walsh that tells the story of a group of friends who meet in their small Irish town after years apart. During their last summer together, one of their friends disappeared without a trace. I don't want to give anything else away, but I will say that I couldn't help but think of Donna Tartt and Tana French. Loved this book! Finally, booksellers and customers all loved Geraldine Brooks' *Horse*, and Kim Wickens' book *Lexington: The Extraordinary Life and Turbulent Times of America's Legendary Racehorse* (out July 11) is the story of the horse upon which that remarkable book is based.

We look forward to seeing you at our events and helping you discover your next literary adventure! Happy reading!

*Steph*

### TUESDAY, JULY 4

Independence Day

The Book Stall is closed.

*Happy 4th of July!*

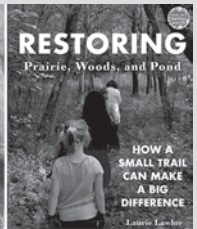
### MONDAY, JULY 10

6:30 pm, Go Green Reads

Live Book Discussion at the Store

LAURIE  
LAWLOR

*Restoring Prairie,  
Woods, and Pond:  
How a Small Trail  
Can Make a Big  
Difference*



In Laurie Lawlor's new book, a small

town with few resources comes together to restore nature and create a valuable resource for the entire community in this inspiring middle grade nonfiction book. Ms. Lawlor is a prolific and celebrated author of children's books. She lives and teaches in the Chicago area. This event is for adults and children. Registration is required. Go to "Events" on our website to sign up.

### TUESDAY, JULY 11

6:30 pm at the Store

LINDA DAVIS  
*Food Fight*

Chicago writer Linda Davis will be in conversation with Alice Moody. In Davis's middle grade novel, Ben Snyder is ready for middle school, but his super picky eating, which has never been a big deal before, is about to take him down. Suddenly everybody's on his case about what he's eating and what he's not—his old friends, his new friends, his weird lab partner, the girl he's crushing on, and a bully—and Ben finds himself in social free fall, sliding toward the bottom of the middle school food chain.



### FRIDAY, JULY 14

9:30 – 5 pm

WINNETKA SIDEWALK SALES

### SATURDAY, JULY 15

10 am - 5 pm

WINNETKA SIDEWALK SALES

We'll be doing our part, with extra-special deals on selected books, greeting cards, games, puzzles, and other merchandise! We'll also be debuting our in-store miniature golf course: **Putt Among the Books**. Our part in the festivities happens rain or shine, so come out and find some super deals and try your luck at our putt-putt golf course!

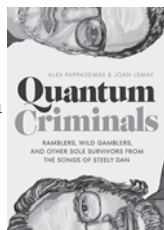
*Calendar continues on flap*

# THE INSIDE LINE

AIMEE ANDERSON



**Quantum Criminals: Ramblers, Wild Gamblers, and Other Sole Survivors from the Songs of Steely Dan** by Alex Pappademas and Joan LeMay (\$35). As a child of the '70s



and '80s, I spent my formative years listening to the mellow, smooth vibe music my parents enjoyed: Fleetwood Mac, Doobie Brothers, The Eagles, and of course, Steely Dan. I loved the music so much I never thought to contemplate the back stories of Kid Charlemagne, Dr. Wu, The Expanding Man, Chino and Daddy Gee, or Rikki. As I've learned over the years, they were inspired by the experiences, imaginations, and delusions of Walter Becker and Donald Fagan, the Bard College students who started writing songs together in the 1960s. *Quantum Criminals* offers up 50 or so brief ruminations of the characters of some of their most cherished songs. For those of us who have been listening to and analyzing Steely Dan songs for almost five decades, the book is a witty and zany exploration of who Fagan and Becker were singing about and why. Pappademas clearly enjoyed writing about this paradoxical group, and LeMay's paintings are full of color and personality that jive perfectly with the narration. This entertaining book is a must-read for any Steely Dan fan.

BETSY BALLYEAT



**Once There Was** by Kiyash Monsef (\$18.99). One was, once wasn't. So begin the stories Marjen's father told her as a little girl. Fables, like the story of the girl who sprung a unicorn from a hunter's snare or the normal boy who rescued a baby shirdal. They were legends that



filled her with curiosity and wonder. Now Marjen is older, her father has died, and she is trying to keep his veterinary practice going. Then one day a visitor tells her that the stories her father told about the animals were real, and he traveled the world to care for them. And now she must step into a secret world where mystical creatures are bought and sold, treasured, and trapped. The layers of complex emotional and identity issues give Marjen great depth—moments when she reflects on her Persian culture that feel natural and raw. With its blend of fantasy and mystery, the story slowly ratchets up the suspense. It also poses intriguing ethical questions about the conservation of endangered species and the devastating effects of human intervention on the natural world. This is a creative and magical story with some reminders of Harry Potter, and it is beautifully written. For me, it is the most intriguing and fun story I have read since the first of the year. For ages 10 and up.

KATHLEEN CRAWFORD



**Go as a River** by Shelley Read (\$28). This gorgeous debut novel set in the rugged mountains of Colorado's high country, post WWII, is my favorite book of the first half of 2023. I read this in March, and I loved it so much I chose it as my favorite book of the year right then;



and so far, that choice still stands. Seventeen-year-old Victoria (Torie) Nash runs the household on her family's peach farm since her mother's sudden death. Victoria is lonely amidst her family of troubled men, so she is enthralled when she has a chance encounter with the intriguing Wilson Moon. Wil is a drifter, who has mysteriously left his tribal land in another state and is intent on living life as he chooses. However, the majority of the town's citizens have other ideas about where Wil should live, and it's not with them. Despite others' deep antipathy, Victoria falls

fiercely in love with Wil, and that love becomes the "small fateful twist" that changes the trajectory of Victoria's life. When tragedy strikes, Victoria senses that her relationships with other humans cannot be counted on, so she puts her trust in her close bond with nature. She heads up the mountain alone and takes refuge in a small cabin. Nine months later, desperate circumstances drive her back down the mountain, where she must learn to rely on her inner voice and eventually her closest friends. As she learns the process of trusting herself and others, she sees that the more she lives her life as a river, a lesson that Wil taught her, slowly gathering and flowing with the current, she will be moved along to exactly where she was intended to be. Reads' heartrending, yet uplifting, story is an homage to nature and all its glory. To the mountains, rivers, forests and the delicate bounty that grows in the soil. It is also a lovely tribute to the beauty and intimacy of friendship. A brilliant first novel of strength, growth, friendship, and the people who love and guide us along the way.

SUSAN DAVIS



**Romantic Comedy** by Curtis Sittenfeld (\$28).

Don't fall in love with the talent. This is Sally Mitz's one rule for herself, and as a sketch writer for a late-night television show, *The Night Owls*, she has been very good at sticking to that rule. Well, for the



most part. When the pop star sensation Noah Brewster is set to host the show, Sally feels a bit of a spark and finds herself daydreaming about what might happen if she'd just let her guard down and throw out her rule. But those are just fantasies, and after a week of Noah's presence at the show, Sally finds herself relieved he will be off to bigger things. But then something curious happens. The pandemic sets in. (I know, another pandemic book...but it's not. Not really.) And Sally and Noah strike up a flirty and fun email exchange, setting Sally off into a wild exploration of what she really wants out of love and life. Just when the two are hitting it off, you begin to wonder, will this just be a pandemic-induced love affair, or is there something bigger growing between the two?

CHRISTINE FERDINAND



**Yellowface** by R.F. Kuang (\$30).

When Instagram darling Athena Liu dies suddenly, her fellow novelist and frenemy June Song steals the rough draft of her upcoming novel and publishes it as her own. Under the pen name



Juniper, she achieves success and fame but is haunted by her terrible secret and visions of Athena's ghost. A stylish satire on the glamour and dark side of the publishing industry, *Yellowface* explores ethical questions around cultural appropriation, cancel culture, and the marketing might that launches bestsellers. The story's dark plot twists and unreliable narrator make for an entertaining page turner.

LEAH GORDON



**Commitment** by Mona Simpson (\$30). After reading several different styles of fiction so far this year, the deeply emotional novel

*Commitment* has proven to be my favorite for the first half of the year. As much as I enjoyed books like *Birnam Wood*, *Foster Dade* and *Small*



*Mercies*, there's something so very special about the characters in this novel. A tender current runs through this family-based piece of fiction, the storyline anchored by the 'commitment' of matriarch Diane Aziz to a state hospital. Her three children are forced to confront a reality that they had



sensed was coming in different ways, the eldest having just been dropped off at college in Berkeley, leaving his younger siblings behind in the care of a family friend. Author Simpson sweeps the reader into the niches of Walter, Lina, and Donnie's lives, giving them each a clear voice as our hearts fill with empathy for them as they grow older, with each passing year hoping their mother will recover and resume her old life. With each success and failure, the siblings hold tight to the expectations their mother had for them while trying to grow into the adults they want to be. Walter embraces the passion he finds in architecture and forgoes school right before graduation to embark on an opportunity he can't pass by, while his sister Lina throws her future to chance and chooses a shopgirl role before finding her way to art school in New York. The youngest of the three, Donnie, becomes the one we root for as he finds himself pulled in the wrong direction. In *Commitment*, the themes of love and patience hum through the text, not only regarding the siblings, but also with respect to those in their community of caretakers inside and outside of the state hospital. This novel is a deep cut of emotion around family, as the trajectory of each individual becomes personal to the reader. A perfect choice of middle/heavy fiction writing similar to Franzen's *Crossroads* and Shapiro's *Signal Fires*.

## JON GRAND



Both Ned Blackhawk's *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History* (\$35) and Pekka Hämäläinen's *The Epic Contest for North America* (\$40) dispel many of the accepted "wisdoms" about the relationship

between native peoples and "whites." For too many years, the history of Native Americans has been a footnote in our taught history. Under increasing pressure from whites, native people have seen massive losses to disease, treaties broken, promises not kept, and old traditions scorned or worse. Yet the American Indian has not disappeared. If history is to give us an accurate picture, it must include all strands of the story, otherwise the picture we see is distorted. These two authors restore the native experience and contributions to their rightful and important place in American history.

## NICOLE HANSEN



*Good Night, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea (\$29). This epic WWII tale gripped me from its opening sentence. This story of the Clubmobile Corps, a little-known unit of the Red Cross affectionately known as the 'Donut Dollies', is filled with history, bravery, and loss. Taking

inspiration from his mother's experience serving in WWII, Urrea offers a glimpse into the oft-overlooked contributions of American women serving overseas. The Clubmobile Unit was tasked with serving coffee, donuts, and a side of home to weary GIs. With little training, these brave women were thrust onto the front lines, their friendly faces and kind words sometimes providing the last comfort to young soldiers. Through Irene Woodward and Dorothy Dunford, Urrea chronicles the hardships of war and the toll it exacts. Both women are running from something—an abusive fiancée (Irene) and a failed midwestern farm (Dorothy)—and the two are determined to take control of their lives and contribute to something more meaningful. With wit and spunk, this unlikely pair forms a deep bond of friendship while discovering who they are and what they are capable of. I grew fond of these women and found myself thinking of them long after finishing this beautifully written tale of war, sacrifice, resilience, and friendship.

## ELIZABETH HUBBARD

*I Will Find You* by Harlan Coben (\$30) This newest thriller is a



stand-alone that will keep you on the edge of your seat! It opens with the attention-grabbing sentence, "I am serving the fifth year of a life sentence for murdering my own child. Spoiler alert: I didn't do it." If that doesn't make you want to set aside everything to read this book, I don't

know what would. David Burroughs was a devoted father until one fateful night when he woke to find that his son had been murdered down the hall as he slept. Left to serve a life sentence in prison for the crime, David has lost his will to live. Until one day when his former sister-in-law visits with a photograph that changes everything. Coben is a master of fast-paced crime fiction, and in this one, he does the impossible, he makes you laugh a little, fall in love with a convicted killer, and keep you riveted right to the very end. Try not to hold your breath through this fast-paced read!

## CAITLIN MARZ



*Chain-Gang All-Stars* by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah (\$27). In his review of this novel for *The New York Times Book Review*, Giri Nathan declares, "You cannot applaud his debut novel, *Chain-Gang All-Stars*, without getting blood on your hands." It's an incisive truth that

speaks to the importance and the brilliance of this too-easy-to-imagine dystopian satire. Anchored by footnotes citing real world statistics, policy, and landmark cases, Adjei-Brenyah floodlights the brutality and racism of the American carceral system. The all-stars are prisoners who have "opted" (under torture or extreme duress) into the Criminal Action Penal Entertainment (CAPE) program for a "chance" to fight (to the death) for their "freedom." The death matches are marketed as hard action-sports and broadcast live to millions. The accompanying, invasive, reality TV-style coverage of their personal lives, and preparations has proven irresistible to fans. As a reader, I was not immune. Adjei-Brenyah's characters navigate their world with breathtaking humanity—good, bad, and irredeemably ugly. It was difficult not to get caught up in the action, uncomfortable to witness myself from the sidelines, and impossible not to carry this heightened state of awareness back into my own life. I'm grateful for it.

## ROBERT McDONALD



*The Celebrants* by Steven Rowley (\$28). My favorite book so far in 2023 is Steven Rowley's novel, a "Big Chill" for a new generation. After one of their number dies an early death, five remaining college friends make a vow to assemble for a "living funeral" where they can

hear their own eulogies before they die—a pact any of them can invoke when they need it. It's a novel that celebrates deep friendship, rituals, reinvention, and daily life, with all the wit, charm, and heart that readers have come to expect from Rowley.

## SHARMAN MCGURN



*Birnam Wood* by Eleanor Catton (\$28). Does the end justify the means? This is among the questions asked by Catton in her brilliant novel, the title taken from a line in *Macbeth*. Set in New Zealand in 2017, the story follows a group of Millennials, committed environmentalists intent on doing their part to save the planet through organic gardening. Their gardens often are planted secretly on land that the collective, Birnam Wood, is not entitled to. The action moves quickly when the group's leader,



Mira Bunting, discovers an isolated tract perfect for their efforts. The property's owner is about to sell to American billionaire Robert Lemoine, whose stated goal is to build a bunker for himself in the event of an apocalypse. But Lemoine has another reason for coveting the land: the illegal extraction of rare-earth metals, an environmental nightmare. Coincidentally, much of Lemoine's wealth has come from his ownership of a manufacturer of surveillance drones. Lemoine discovers the collective and charms Mira, offering to provide investing to the group. Idealistic former member Tony Gallo, an aspiring journalist, smells a skunk and investigates. The novel is well-written, often humorous, and thought-provoking. I found myself enthralled. A morality tale for our time, *Birnam Wood* is a tragedy worthy of Shakespeare.

#### KATHY RILEY



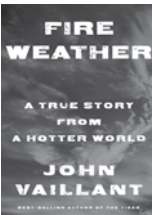
**Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom** by Ilyon Woo (\$29.99). My favorite book for the first half of 2023 is the captivating story of the enslaved couple, Ellen and William Craft, who in December 1848, devise a plan to escape from their owners in Macon,



Georgia by disguising themselves as a young, wealthy plantation owner and his slave. Ellen, who is very light-skinned, takes on the clothing and manners of a Southern gentleman, with William accompanying her as a dutiful servant. This 1,000-mile journey to Philadelphia, which is a free state, involves a clever outfit, the importance of the timing to leave, and a strong faith. Although as a reader you know they succeed, the descriptions of the challenges and narrow escapes along the way are harrowing. Once in the North, they join the New England lecture circuit with many known abolitionists, such as Fredrick Douglass, William Wells Brown, and Robert Purvis. After the passage of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act, Ellen and William are truly not free to live fully until they flee the United States for England. Abroad, they receive an education and are willing to begin a family where their children cannot be taken from them. Woo has done meticulous research, including interviews with the Crafts' descendants. It is a historically accurate biography that reads like fiction. Follow Ellen and William's love story as they pursue their lifelong dream of family, freedom, education, activism, and faith in *Master Slave Husband Wife*.



**CHARLOTTE ROBERTSON**  
**Fire Weather: A True Story from A Hotter World** by John Vaillant (\$32.50). This minutely-researched book tells the story of the devastating wildfire that engulfed Fort McMurray, Alberta in May of 2016 and burned for over a year, finally



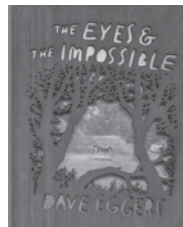
being extinguished in August 2017. Besides being a fascinating account of a natural disaster, it is an indictment of North American climate policy, both corporate and governmental, in the 21st century. Fort McMurray is the center of the oil sands area of western Canada, where bitumen mining, "a kind of degenerate cousin to crude oil, more commonly known as tar or asphalt," is the only industry. Having demonstrated how "combustion" in its various guises has become the fulcrum of our modern existence, Vaillant describes the inception and evolution of the Fort Mac fire in excruciating detail. As the fire's swiftness and fury were beyond comprehension, officials initially advised the citizens to "go about your day and remain prepared." Amazingly, there were no fatalities. The parallels the author draws between a fire's search for oxygen and humans' hunger for resources of all kinds on our planet are startling and impossible to ignore. This book is highly recommended for all who hope to continue living on our beautiful, combustible, earth.

#### AMY TROGDON

**The Eyes & the Impossible** by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Shawn Harris (\$18.99 hardcover; \$28 hardcover wood-bound cover.) Johannes is a very fast dog who is the keeper of the park in which



he lives. All the animals depend on him for safety and guidance. Johannes looks to the wise old bison. Together, they maintain the equilibrium of the park. This is a big-hearted story, often funny, often wise, and always about friendship and trust. The



special edition with a woodcut cover is lovely, as are the illustrations by Shawn Harris. A treasure! Ages 6-100.

#### MIKE WYSOCK



Set against the backdrop of the underground metal scene of the late 80s and early 90s, John Wray's novel, *Gone to the Wolves* (\$28), explores friendship, love, and the magnetic allure of a subculture defined by music. Kip, Kira, and Leslie—each escaping a tumultu-

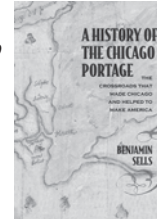


ous family life—forge tight bonds over a shared love of a musical genre intent in on challenging mainstream tastes. These outcasts, in search of style, community, escape, and emotional release, move from rural Florida to LA to Norway, growing both closer together and further apart as they fall into a deeper infatuation with one another and the dangerous philosophies underlying their chosen musical scene. Wray effortlessly captures the spirit of late adolescence, where the will for self-actualization walks a razor's edge between destruction and beauty, much like the jagged rhythms and dissonant melodies of the heavy metal music at the heart of this novel.

#### JACOB ZAWA



**A History of the Chicago Portage: The Crossroads That Made Chicago and Helped Make America** by Benjamin Sells (\$21.95 in paperback). For readers who have ever wondered about the why and how of where Chicago has grown to be, *A History of the Chicago Portage* is



a great place to start. Sells takes us through Chicagoland's early history, starting with its glacial beginnings, and moves on through the trade routes of Native Americans and the explorations of Frenchmen Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet; Jean Baptiste Point du Sable; the Treaty of Greenville; Fort Dearborns I & II—and on into the present day. The argument that a seven-mile-long stretch of land (in an area known as Mud Lake) between the Chicago River and the Des Plaines River not only led to the development of the city of Chicago itself, but also, therefore, to a particular development of the West. Full of fascinating historical figures and happenings, *A History of the Chicago Portage* has lent a new dynamic to my experience of the city in which I was born and in which I continue to live.

#### Our Young Readers Review

**Starlings** by Amanda Linsmeier (\$18.99). Looking for a thrilling summer read? This book is definitely the one for you. In this attention-grabbing thriller, you'll find elements of folklore writing and mysteries. When Kit's dad dies, her grandmother, Agatha Starling, whom she never knew existed, contacts her. She asks her to come visit her in Rosemont, a tiny rural town in Wisconsin with a mysterious past. In Rosemont, everybody knows everybody, and everybody knows Kit's family a little too well. But things in Rosemont turn dark very quickly. Kit's mother, "the last sane person left in her family," goes missing and Kit realizes that suddenly she bears the burden of saving everyone she loves. This book is a great read for people who like *One of Us is Lying*, *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*, *The Black Queen*, *Girls I've Been*, and other captivating murder mysteries. You won't want to put *Starlings* down. You'll love every second of Kit's journey to find out what's really going on in sleepy old Rosemont. And if murder mysteries aren't your thing, they will be after you read this book. No matter your age, no matter your reading level, you'll love this book.—June



## THURSDAY, JULY 20

9:30 am – 6:30 pm at the Store

### ANNUAL SUMMER SALE FOR DISCOUNT CLUB MEMBERS

All Book Stall Discount Club members receive **20% off on July 20!** The fine print: Your membership must be up to date for the discount to apply. *The finer print:* You can renew your membership on July 20 and still receive that 20% discount for the day! Discount Club members pay \$15 a year for a family membership, with all family members getting a 10% discount on all purchases. In addition, you'll get our monthly print newsletter mailed to your home, so you can stay up to date on author event news and staff book reviews. You also get the satisfaction of supporting a local independent business!

Out of town on July 20? No worries, you can order online at [www.thebookstall.com](http://www.thebookstall.com). Make sure you add a note: "discount club member" in the "order comments" section as you make your purchase on the 20. We'll add the extra discount as we process your order.

## SATURDAY, JULY 22

10:30 am – 11:30 am

### A Special Storytime at the Store LORI DEGMAN

#### *Travel Guide for Monsters Part Deux: A Canadian Adventure*

Buckle up for another cross-country trip with your favorite monster—from British Columbia to Newfoundland and all of Canada in between! It is full of essential tips to help you both enjoy the sights of Canada and avoid monster-related trouble! Written in verse and accompanied by hilariously adorable illustrations, this book is the one item you can't leave home without. Especially since the book's backmatter is a map of all the best sightseeing spots in Canada. Ages 5 – 8. Leah's baking cookies for the attendees!



## WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

6:30 pm at the store

### ANDREW S. COHEN

#### *The Murder Mystery Race*

Young **Andrew Cohen** (13 years old!) signs his young adult novel about 11-year-old Andrew Mikaelson, who lives in Wayveryln, New Jersey. But when a brutal serial killer, known as "The Knife Thrower," begins killing residents, the town of Wayveryln is rocked. Andrew and 15 other adolescents have been selected to participate in the annual Murder Mystery Race that can occur anywhere around the world. The competitors must go on a cruise that the Knife Thrower is on. The first person to capture the Knife Thrower receives the coveted award of one million dollars.



## THURSDAY, JULY 27

6:30 am, Poetry Reading at the Store

### ELIZABETH STRAUSS FRIEDMAN

#### *The Lost Positive*

### JESSICA L. WALSH

#### *Book of Gods & Grudges*

Elizabeth Strauss Friedman's poetry has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and her work has appeared in *Pleiades*, *Rust + Moth*, *The Rumpus*, and elsewhere. Elizabeth earned her MA in Comparative Literature from Northwestern University, and taught English at the college level for 10 years. In her book, **Jessica Walsh**, a Professor of English at Harper College, tells a tale of generational trauma and transcendence.



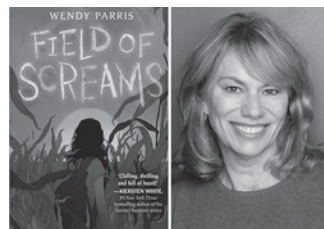
## THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

6:30 pm, Book Release Party at the Store

### WENDY PARRIS

#### *Field of Screams*

Wilmette author **Wendy Parris** presents her middle-grade novel, a supernatural mystery about 12-year-old Rebecca, who has always wanted to hunt ghosts . . . until she meets one. Rebecca wasn't happy about being dragged to Iowa to spend the summer with family she barely knows. But when she tracks a ghostly presence to an abandoned farmhouse, she starts to think the summer won't be a total lost cause! Ages 8 – 12.

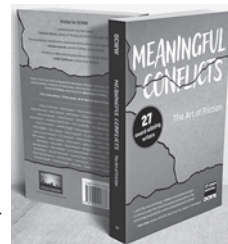


## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

5:30 – 7 pm

### *Meaningful Conflicts: The Art of Friction*

We host **The Off Campus Writers' Workshop** for an in-store discussion and poetry reading with poets featured in their new anthology, *Meaningful Conflicts*, a front-row seat to impossible decisions, therapy sessions, crises of faith, secret powers, moments of weakness, and surprising discoveries that embody the art of friction. Featuring the work of over 27 award-winning writers, *Meaningful Conflicts* takes readers on a multi-genre ride through a universe of discord and disputes. In times of conflict, we write. OCWW is a member-managed non-profit organization that has helped thousands of aspiring writers learn the art and craft of creative writing.



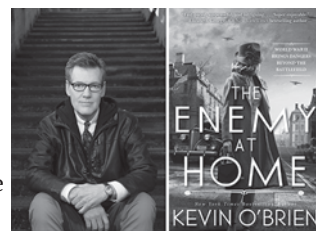
## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

6:30 pm at the Store

### KEVIN O'BRIEN

#### *The Enemy at Home*

As WWII rages overseas, a serial killer preys on women working in Seattle's factories. At the Boeing B-17 plant, Nora learns to wield a heavy riveting gun amid the deafening noise of the assembly line—a real-life counterpart to "Rosie the Riveter" in the recruitment posters. Yet while the country desperately needs their help, not everyone is happy about "all these women" taking over men's jobs. Kevin is a long-time friend of the store, and we always look forward to his events.





811 Elm Street • Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Monday- Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday 11 am - 5 pm

Telephone: (847) 446-8979

www.thebookstall.com

email: books@thebookstall.com

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT 930  
CAROLSTREAM, IL



## JULY

Tues.	July 4	Independence Day. The Book Stall is closed.
Mon.	July 10	6:30 pm, Go Green Reads Live Book Discussion at the Store <b>LAURIE LAWLOR</b> <i>Restoring Prairie, Woods, and Pond</i>
Tues.	July 11	6:30 pm at the Store <b>LINDA DAVIS</b> , in conversation with <b>ALICE MOODY</b> <i>Food Fight</i>
Fri.	July 14	9:30 – 5 pm <b>WINNETKA SIDEWALK SALES</b> Putt Among The Books
Sat.	July 15	10 am - 5 pm <b>WINNETKA SIDEWALK SALE</b> Putt Among The Books
Thurs.	July 20	9:30 am – 6:30 pm at the Store <b>ANNUAL SUMMER SALE FOR</b> <b>DISCOUNT CLUB MEMBERS</b>
Sat.	July 22	10:30 am – 11:30 am A Special Storytime at the Store <b>LORI DEGMAN</b> <i>Travel Guide for Monsters Part Deux</i>
Wed.	July 26	6:30 pm at the store <b>ANDREW S. COHEN</b> <i>The Murder Mystery Race</i>
Thurs.	July 27	6:30 pm Poetry Reading at the Store <b>ELIZABETH STRAUSS FRIEDMAN</b> <i>The Lost Positive</i> <b>JESSICA L. WALSH</b> <i>Book of Gods &amp; Grudges</i>

## AUGUST

Thurs.	Aug. 3	6:30 pm, Book Release Party at the Store <b>WENDY PARRIS</b> <i>Field of Screams</i>
Wed.	Aug. 23	5:30 – 7 pm <b>The Off Campus Writers' Workshop</b> <i>Meaningful Conflicts: The Art of Friction</i>
Wed.	Aug 30	6:30 pm at the Store <b>KEVIN O'BRIEN</b> <i>The Enemy at Home</i>

