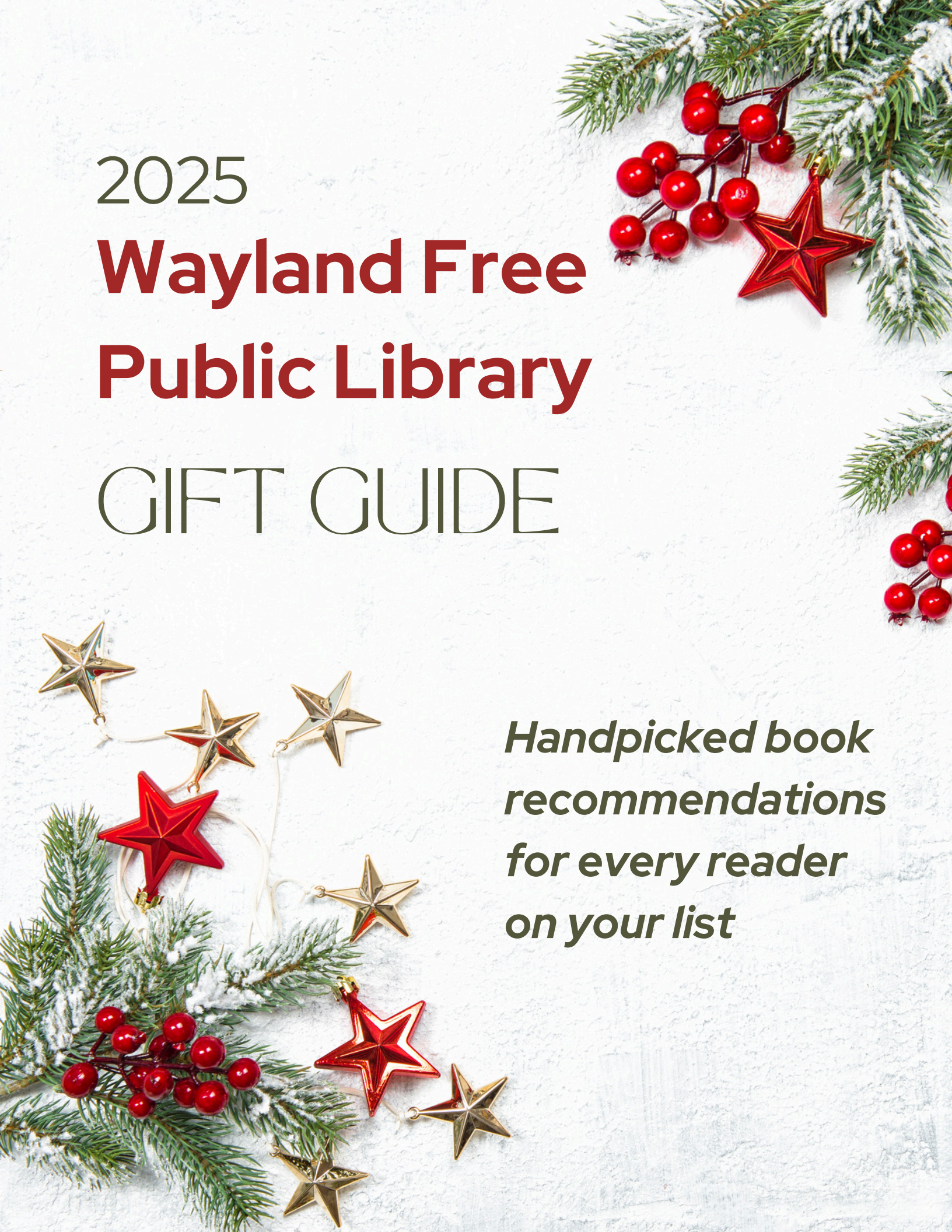


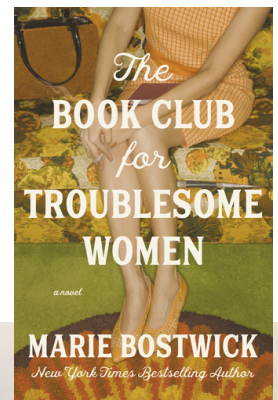
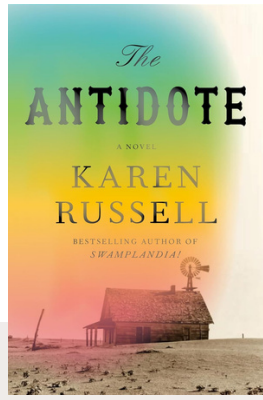
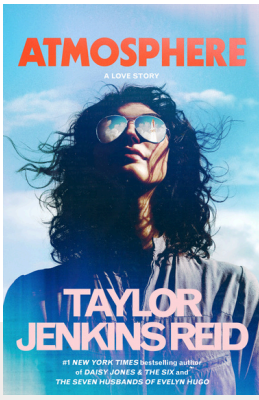
2025

Wayland Free Public Library

GIFT GUIDE

*Handpicked book
recommendations
for every reader
on your list*





For the Armchair Time Traveler

ATMOSPHERE BY TAYLOR JENKINS REID

Set against the backdrop of the 1980s space shuttle program, about the extraordinary lengths we go to live and love beyond our limits.

THE ANTIDOTE BY KAREN RUSSELL

A gripping dust bowl epic about five characters whose fates become entangled after a storm ravages their small Nebraska town.

THE STOLEN QUEEN BY FIONA DAVIS

One of the Egyptian art collection's most valuable artifacts goes missing, and there are signs Hathorkare's legendary curse might be reawakening. Annie and Charlotte team up to search for the missing antiquity, and a desperate hunch leads the unlikely duo to one place Charlotte swore she'd never return: Egypt.

HOMESEEKING BY KARISSA CHEN

From WWII to 2008, the story follows one couple across sixty years as world events pull them together and apart, illuminating the Chinese diaspora and exploring what it means to find home far from your homeland.

THE BOOK CLUB FOR TROUBLESOME WOMEN BY MARIE BOSTWICK

A humorous and nostalgic romp through one pivotal and tumultuous American year—as well as an ode to self-discovery, persistence, and the power of sisterhood.

For the Hopeless Romantic

A WITCH'S GUIDE TO MAGICAL INNKEEPING BY SANGU MANDANNA

A whimsical and heartwarming novel about a witch who has a second chance to get her magical powers—and her life—back on track.

FLIRTING LESSONS BY JASMINE GUILLORY

Avery Jensen doesn't have a lot of dating experience and she doesn't have a lot of confidence when it comes to romance. Enter Taylor Cameron, Napa Valley's biggest flirt and champion heartbreaker.

THESE SUMMER STORMS BY SARAH MACLEAN

A gripping inheritance drama, wrapped around a swoony summer romance, that offers a nuanced portrait of a family grappling with secrets, privilege, and grief.

SOUNDS LIKE LOVE BY ASHLEY POSTON

A hitmaking songwriter and a bitter musician share a startling and inexplicable connection that they'll do anything to shake.

BACK AFTER THIS BY LINDA HOLMES

A podcast producer agrees to host a new series about modern dating—but will the show jeopardize her chance at finding real love?



For the Sci-Fi / Fantasy Fan

BURY OUR BONES IN THE MIDNIGHT SOIL BY V.E. SCHWAB

A young woman lives an idyllic but cloistered life on her family's estate, until a moment of forbidden intimacy sees her shipped off to London.

ONYX STORM BY REBECCA YARROS

A young woman must journey beyond her home's failing defenses to seek allies and uncover the truth to save her loved ones, even if it means keeping a secret.

THE BUFFALO HUNTER HUNTER BY STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES

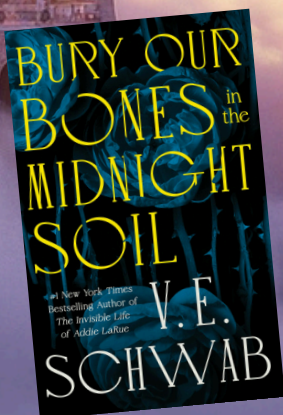
An academic discovers her grandfather's 1912 journal, revealing stories of a vampire haunting the Blackfeet reservation and a historical massacre of 217 people.

WATER MOON BY SAMANTHA SOTTO YAMBAO

A girl inherits her father's pawnshop on the day of his retirement. This is not your normal pawn shop, as it can only be found by the people who need it.

THE AMALFI CURSE BY SARAH PENNER

Powerful witchcraft. A hunt for sunken treasure. Forbidden love on the high seas. Beware the Amalfi Curse.

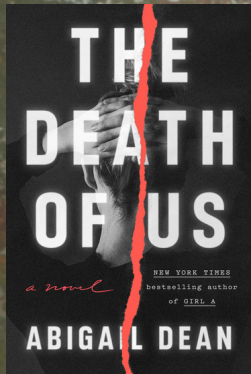




For the Thrill Seeker

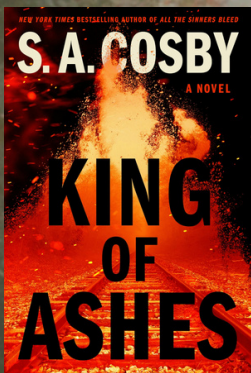
AUDITION BY KATIE KITAMURA

An actress meets a younger man for lunch, leading to two competing narratives that explore the complex roles we play in relationships.



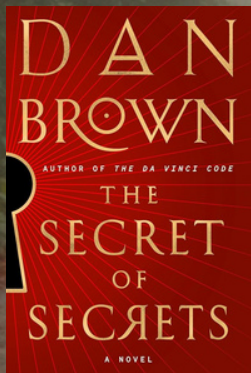
THE DEATH OF US BY ABIGAIL DEAN

A marriage turned inside out by a violent encounter that sets fire to the hairline faults that were there from the start.



KING OF ASHES BY S.A. COSBY

An investment banker returns home to protect his family from a local gang. A ferocious, emotionally-charged, gory, and deeply human story of broken family bonds, revenge, regret, and the cost of survival.



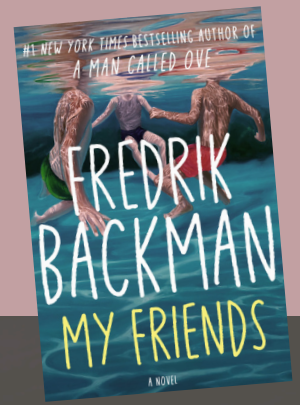
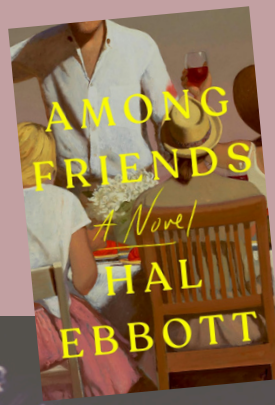
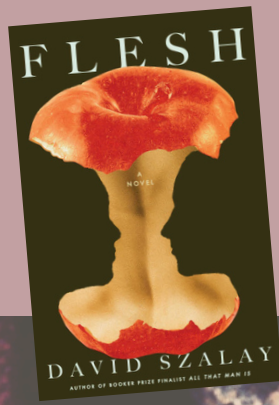
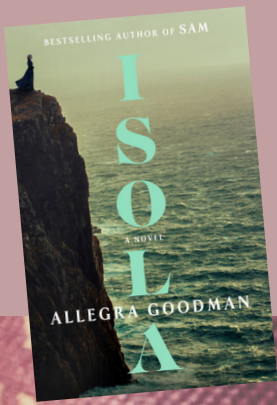
THE SECRET OF SECRETS BY DAN BROWN

Robert Langdon races through Prague's ancient streets to find Katherine Solomon, who is on the verge of publishing an explosive book that contains startling discoveries about the nature of human consciousness and threatens to disrupt centuries of established belief.



DON'T LET HIM IN BY LISA JEWELL

He's the perfect man. It's a perfect lie. Three women are connected by one man in this kaleidoscopic thriller.



For the Lover of Literary Fiction

ISOLA BY ALLEGRA GOODMAN

A young woman and her lover are marooned on an island in this epic saga of love, faith, and defiance.

FLESH BY DAVID SZALAY

A shy Hungarian teenager's life is altered by traumatic events, leading to decades of alienation and estrangement as he navigates through modern Europe.

AMONG FRIENDS BY HAL EBBOTT

A group of close friends navigates their relationships as secrets emerge and loyalties are tested, exploring the fragile nature of trust and connection.

THE SLIP BY LUCAS SCHAEFER

A haymaker of an American novel about a missing teenage boy, cases of fluid and mistaken identity, and the transformative power of boxing.

MY FRIENDS BY FREDRIK BACKMAN

Four teenagers find solace in each other's company, and their friendship blossoms into a powerful bond that changes a stranger's life twenty-five years later.

For the Cosmopolitan

THE DIRECTOR BY DANIEL KEHLMANN

A visionary novel inspired by the life of film director G.W. Pabst, who fled to Hollywood to resist the Nazis only to return to his homeland to create propaganda films for the German Reich.

WE DO NOT PART BY HAN KANG

A woman braves a snowstorm to save her friend's pet bird, but what she discovers at her friend's house is a chilling secret that blurs the lines between dream and reality.

DEATH TAKES ME BY CRISTINA RIVERA GARZA

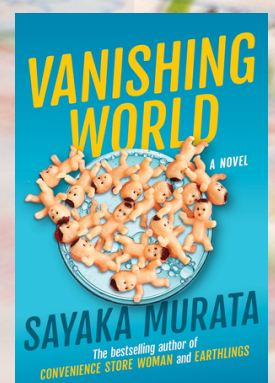
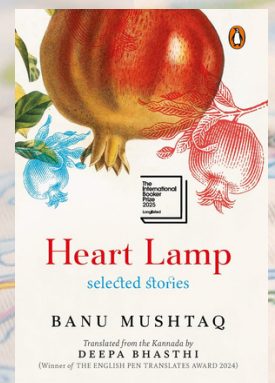
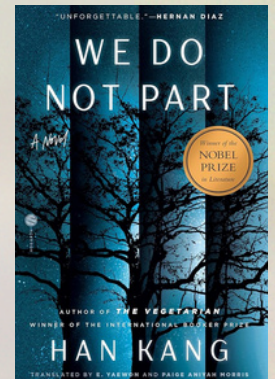
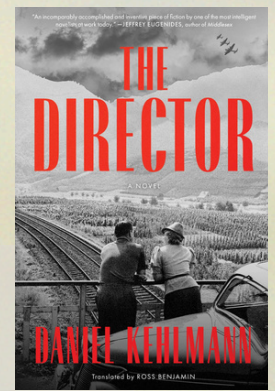
A dreamlike, genre-defying novel about a professor and detective seeking justice in a world suffused with gendered violence.

HEART LAMP BY BANU MUSHTAQ

The collection of short stories exquisitely capture the everyday lives of women and girls in Muslim communities in southern India.

VANISHING WORLD BY SAYAKA MURATA

A surprising and highly imaginative story set in a version of Japan where sex between married couples has vanished and all children are born by artificial insemination.



For the Deep Thinker

A MARRIAGE AT SEA: A TRUE STORY OF LOVE, OBSESSION, AND SHIPWRECK BY SOPHIE ELMHIRST

An electrifying true story of a young couple shipwrecked in a mind-blowing tale of obsession, survival, and partnership stretched to its limits.

DAUGHTERS OF THE BAMBOO GROVE: FROM CHINA TO AMERICA, A TRUE STORY OF ABDUCTION, ADOPTION, AND SEPARATED TWINS BY BARBARA DEMICK

The heartrending story of twin sisters torn apart by China's one-child policy and the rise of international adoption.

THE SERVICEBERRY: ABUNDANCE AND RECIPROCITY IN THE NATURAL WORLD BY ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

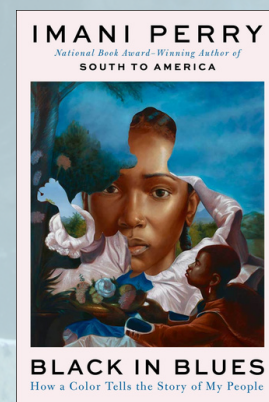
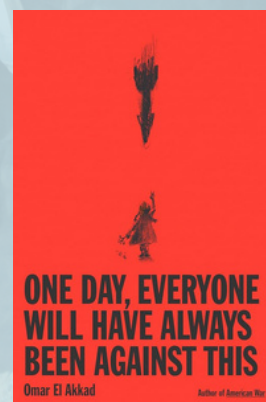
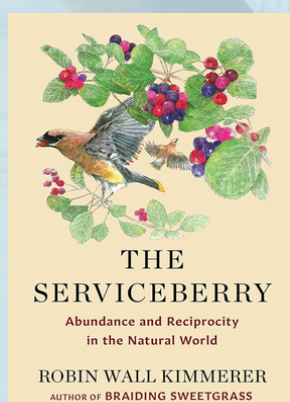
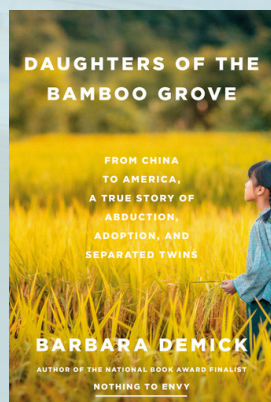
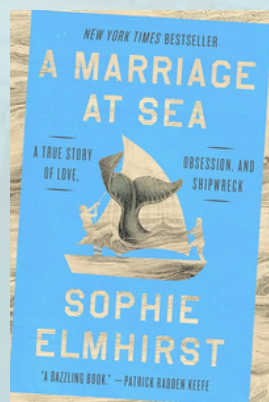
A bold and inspiring vision for how to orient our lives around gratitude, reciprocity, and community, based on the lessons of the natural world.

ONE DAY, EVERYONE WILL HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AGAINST THIS BY OMAR EL AKKAD

From award-winning novelist and journalist Omar El Akkad comes a powerful reckoning with what it means to live in the West today.

BLACK IN BLUES: HOW A COLOR TELLS THE STORY OF MY PEOPLE BY IMANI PERRY

A surprising and beautiful meditation on the color blue-and its fascinating role in Black history and culture.





FAT + FLOUR

THE ART OF A SIMPLE BAKE
Nicole Rucker

For the Foodie

FAT + FLOUR: THE ART OF A SIMPLE BAKE

BY NICOLE RUCKER

A celebration of delights that abound when these two simple ingredients come together.

WHAT CAN I BRING?: RECIPES TO HELP YOU LIVE YOUR GUEST LIFE

BY CASEY ELSASS
“What can I bring?” is such a stressful question, but Casey Elsass gives 75 favorite recipes that solve the problem deliciously, with ease.

SESAME: GLOBAL RECIPES + STORIES OF AN ANCIENT SEED

BY RACHEL SIMONS
A clear, approachable guide to the world of sesame, from halva, tahini, and sesame oil, to gomasio and furikake, with 80+ vegetarian-forward recipes.

GOOD THINGS: RECIPES AND RITUALS TO SHARE WITH PEOPLE YOU LOVE

BY SAMIN NOSRAT
A soul-nourishing cookbook featuring 125 recipes that bring joy and a sense of communion.

DINNER: 120 VEGAN AND VEGETARIAN RECIPES FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE DAY

BY MEERA SODHA

Drawing on a wide range of Asian cuisines, *Dinner* offers up 100 vegan and vegetarian recipes, all created to answer the question: “What’s for dinner?” in an exciting and delicious way.



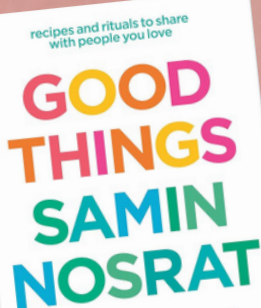
WHAT CAN I BRING?

Recipes to Help You Live Your Guest Life
CASEY ELSASS



SESAME

GLOBAL RECIPES + STORIES OF AN ANCIENT SEED
RACHEL SIMONS



recipes and rituals to share with people you love

GOOD THINGS

SAMIN NOSRAT

author of *Salt Fat Acid Heat*

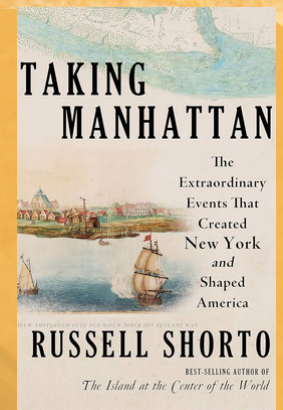
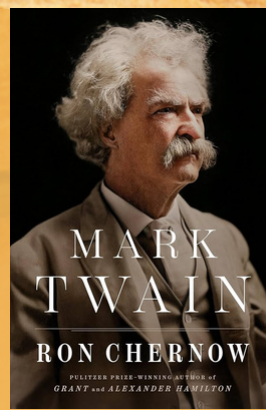
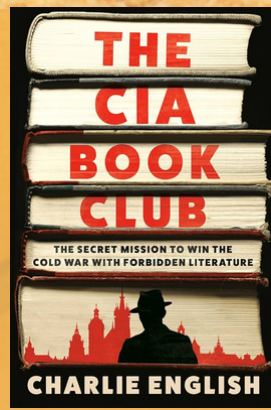
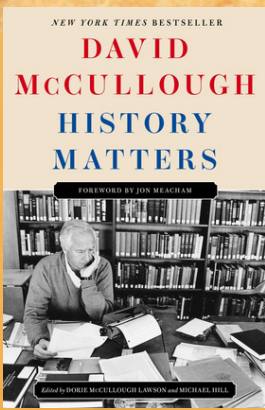


FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *EAST AND MADE IN INDIA*

Dinner

Meera Sodha

120 Vegan and Vegetarian Recipes for the Most Important Meal of the Day



For the History Buff

HISTORY MATTERS BY DAVID MCCULLOUGH

McCullough affirms the value of history, how we can be guided by its lessons, and the enduring legacy of American ideals.

THE CIA BOOK CLUB: THE SECRET MISSION TO WIN THE COLD WAR WITH FORBIDDEN LITERATURE BY CHARLIE ENGLISH

The astonishing story of the ten million books that were smuggled across the Iron Curtain during the Cold War, and the power of the printed word as a means of resistance and liberation.

MARK TWAIN: A BIOGRAPHY BY RON CHERNOW

Chernow illuminates the full, fascinating, and complex life of the writer long celebrated as the father of American literature, Mark Twain.

PROPAGANDA GIRLS: THE SECRET WAR OF THE WOMEN IN THE OSS BY LISA ROGAK

The incredible untold story of four women who spun the web of deception that helped win World War II.

TAKING MANHATTAN: THE EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS THAT CREATED NEW YORK AND SHAPED AMERICA BY RUSSELL SHORTO

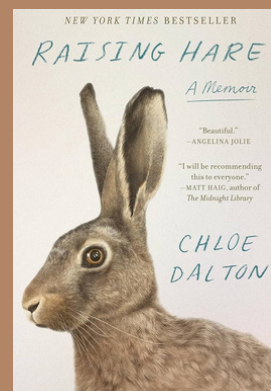
Taking Manhattan tells the riveting story of the birth of New York City as a center of capitalism and pluralism, a foundation from which America would rise.

For the Curious-Minded

RAISING HARE: A MEMOIR

BY CHLOE DALTON

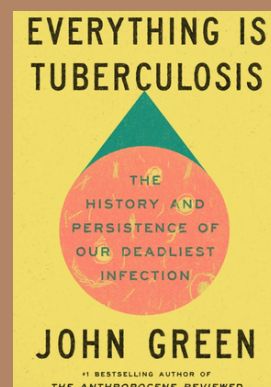
A moving and fascinating meditation on freedom, trust, loss, and our relationship with the natural world, explored through the story of one woman's unlikely friendship with a wild hare.



EVERYTHING IS TUBERCULOSIS: THE HISTORY AND PERSISTENCE OF OUR DEADLIEST INFECTION

BY JOHN GREEN

Green tells a deeply human story illuminating the fight against the world's deadliest infectious disease.



ON MUSCLE: THE STUFF THAT MOVES US AND WHY IT MATTERS BY BONNIE TSUI

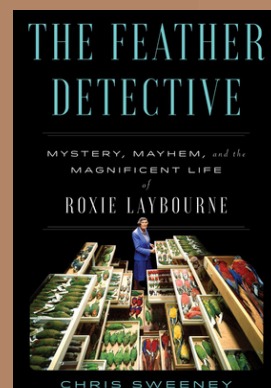
A mind-expanding exploration of muscle that will change the way you think about what moves us through the world.



THE FEATHER DETECTIVE: MYSTERY, MAYHEM, AND THE MAGNIFICENT LIFE OF ROXIE LAYBOURNE

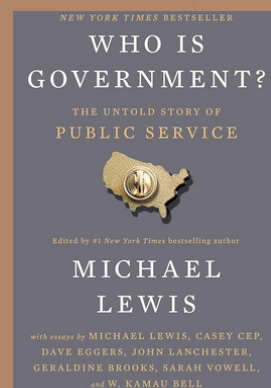
BY CHRIS SWEENEY

The fascinating and remarkable true story of the world's first forensic ornithologist: Roxie Laybourne, who broke down barriers for women, solved murders, and investigated deadly airplane crashes with nothing more than a microscope and a few fragments of feathers.



WHO IS GOVERNMENT?: THE UNTOLD STORY OF PUBLIC SERVICE BY MICHAEL LEWIS

Who works for the government and why does their work matter? An urgent and absorbing civics lesson from an all-star team of writers and storytellers.



For Those Who Like to Keep Up

CARELESS PEOPLE: A CAUTIONARY TALE OF POWER, GREED, AND LOST IDEALISM BY SARAH WYNN-WILLIAMS

An explosive insider account charting one woman's career at the heart of one of the most influential companies on the planet.

ABUNDANCE BY EZRA KLEIN AND DEREK THOMPSON

A once-in-a-generation, paradigm-shifting call to renew a politics of plenty, face up to the failures of liberal governance, and abandon the chosen scarcities that have deformed American life.

IS A RIVER ALIVE? BY ROBERT MACFARLANE

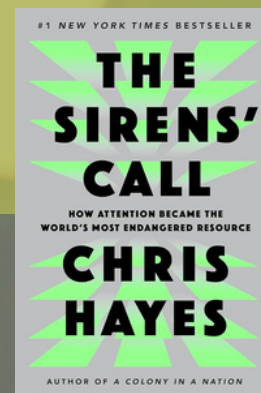
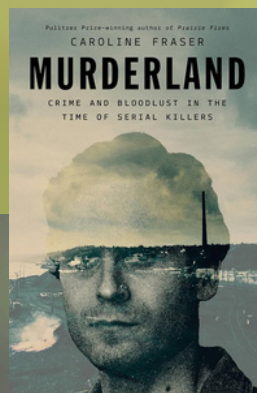
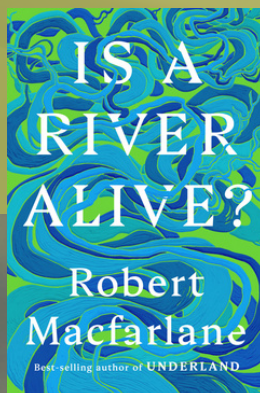
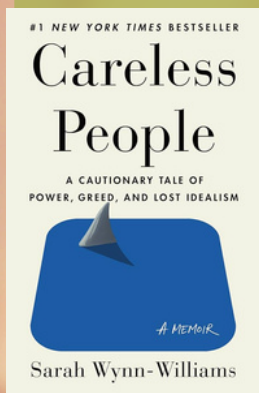
A joyful, mind-expanding exploration of an ancient, urgent idea: that rivers are living beings who should be recognized as such in imagination and law.

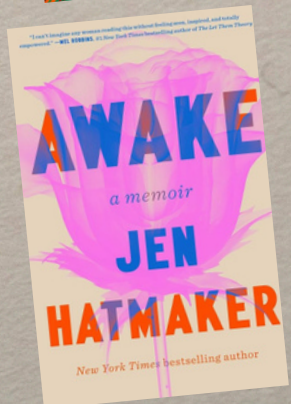
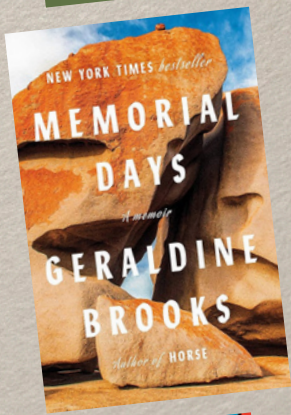
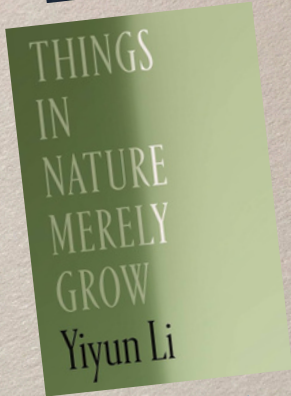
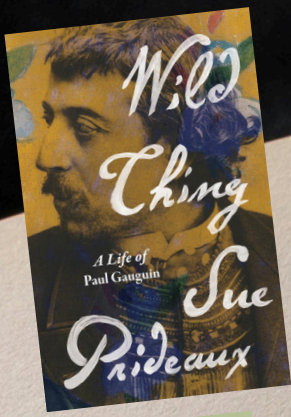
MURDERLAND: CRIME AND BLOODLUST IN THE TIME OF SERIAL KILLERS BY CAROLINE FRASER

A gripping investigation of how a new strain of psychopath emerged out of a toxic landscape of deadly industrial violence.

THE SIRENS' CALL: HOW ATTENTION BECAME THE WORLD'S MOST ENDANGERED RESOURCE BY CHRIS HAYES

A powerful wide-angle reckoning with how the assault from attention capitalism on our minds and our hearts has reordered our politics and the very fabric of our society.





For the Biography (and Memoir) Lover

WILD THING: A LIFE OF PAUL GAUGUIN BY SUE PRIDEAUX

An original and revealing portrait of the misunderstood French Post-Impressionist artist.

THINGS IN NATURE MERELY GROW BY YIYUN LI

A tale of Li's remarkable, defiant work of radical acceptance as she considers the loss of her son James.

MEMORIAL DAYS BY GERALDINE BROOKS

A heartrending and beautiful memoir of sudden loss and a journey towards peace.

ALL THE WAY TO THE RIVER: LOVE, LOSS, AND LIBERATION BY ELIZABETH GILBERT

Gilbert chronicles her transformative love story with Rayya Elias, exploring their journey through addiction, heartbreak, and ultimate liberation.

AWAKE BY JEN HATMAKER

A brutally honest, funny, and revealing memoir about the traumatic end of her twenty-six-year-long marriage, and the beginning of a different kind of love story.