



From the Library - De la bibliothèque

The Bookshelf Chronicles Chroniques des étagères

February - février 2026

Featured Book of the Month

Waiting for the Summer Rain



Chris Attack

A novel of the Sixties

Waiting for the Summer Rain: A novel of the Sixties - Chris Attack

1969–1970. Something happening here... It's the Age of Aquarius, and even at Birchgrove Academy—a staid New England prep school—revolution is in the air. Peter Job, the capable and long-suffering assistant headmaster, struggles to keep the school running smoothly. It is an uphill battle. As the year wears on, the Academy's stability—and maybe even its existence—are threatened by the upheavals shaking the wider world.

Father Michael Rose, the Academy's earnest young chaplain, works hard to offer Birchgrove's students "relevant" spiritual guidance. His task is complicated when he finds himself deeply attracted to the spirited art teacher, Ms. Dawson. Is the attraction mutual? Usually it would be easy enough to find out -- but in the claustrophobic Birchgrove community, a misstep could spoil everything, damage his reputation, even ruin his career.

Jeff Marston, a good-natured senior student with a wry sense of humor, hopes simply to make it through the year with a maximum of enjoyment and a minimum of trouble. But when his brother goes missing in Vietnam, he turns to the occult for answers, with unexpected and unwanted results.

A storm is coming.

A haunting—and darkly humorous—literary novel of loss, rebellion, and moral awakening, *Waiting for the Summer Rain* captures the moment when a generation – and a nation —start to come apart.

Local Author

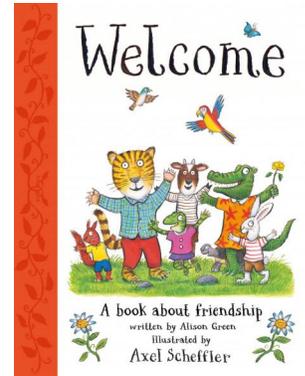




Welcome - Alison Greene

Would you like to come inside this book? You're very welcome. In fact, everyone is welcome here, whether you're big or small, flappy or jumpy, noisy or quiet. With its simple text and endearing animal characters, Welcome shows how everyone can be a good friend, and how we can all help others to feel welcome.

A donation from every copy of Welcome sold goes to Three Peas, a charity which supports refugees who have had to flee their homes.

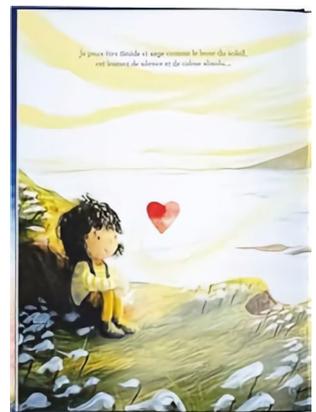


Un monde en moi - Harriet Evans and Hannah Wilson

Une ode à explorer ton monde et tes multiples qualités ! Sais-tu qu'à l'intérieur de toi, tout un monde se déploie ? Que chaque trait de ton caractère, haut en couleurs, se dessine comme un paysage, grandiose et parfois sauvage ? Alors, n'hésite pas, plonge dans cet album animé de superbes pages découpées, et découvre ta véritable nature.

Orris and Timble Lost and Found - Kate DiCamillo

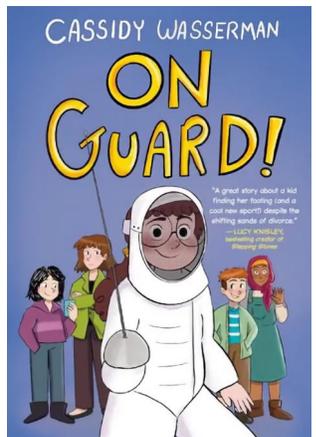
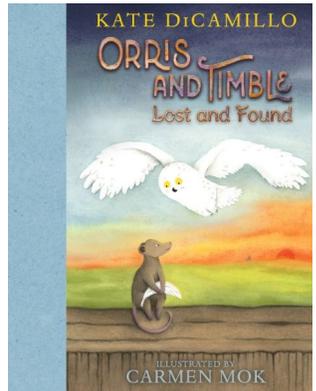
Orris the rat and Timble the owl are unlikely friends. Each night, Timble visits Orris in the barn and listens to his stories. But Timble is growing up, and one evening when the owl doesn't appear as usual Orris wonders if Timble has forgotten him. Is their friendship over? Or could it be that Timble has a tale of his own to share? Illustrated with wistful tenderness, the second title in a projected trilogy to feature this charmingly offbeat pair masterfully explores the stories we tell ourselves, the stories we tell each other, and the binding magic of friendship.



On Guard - Cassidy Wasserman

Gracie Collins has just started seventh grade, and it seems like her world is falling apart: Her parents recently announced they're divorcing, and her former best friend, Ava, abruptly ended their friendship. In addition, Gracie's relationship with her self-absorbed mother is poor. Her mom lacks self-awareness and struggles to accept Gracie for who she is. Rather than eat alone in the cafeteria, Gracie finds refuge in the gym, where she watches the school's fencing team practice. Urged by her father to join a club to make friends, Gracie, who reads white, lands on fencing, which leads to new friendships with light-skinned, auburn-haired Asher, who

uses they/them pronouns, and brown-skinned Nia, who wears a hijab. With appeal for fans of Sarah Sax's The Brinkley Yearbooks series and Jessixa Bagley and Aaron Bagley's Duel, this series opener uses Gracie's relationships with her father and with fencing as vehicles for her emotional growth that provide her with tools to build the self-confidence she needs. The mood of the story shifts among feelings of loneliness, anger, and joy. The simple, shaded monochromatic backgrounds have the appearance of sponge painting, spotlighting the characters' expressive facial expressions and body language and mirroring the complexity of Gracie's shifting emotions.



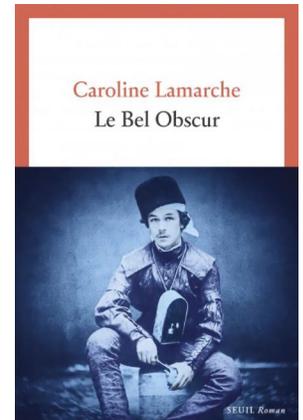


Fiction Romans

Le bel obscur - Auteur: Caroline Lamarche ROM L215

Ce livre tisse un fil entre deux destins séparés par plus d'un siècle. Celui d'Edmond, ancêtre du XIX siècle et celui de Vincent, son mari qui se découvre homosexuel. Un récit intime et courageux qui explore le quotidien de ce couple marié et parents de deux filles. Avec la recherche de cette Edmond, effacé de l'arbre généalogique, cela fait le parallèle entre sa vie et son ancêtre. Un roman mélancolique et mystérieux, typiquement contemporain. Dans la sélection du Goncourt 2026.

Revu par Sylvie Fournier



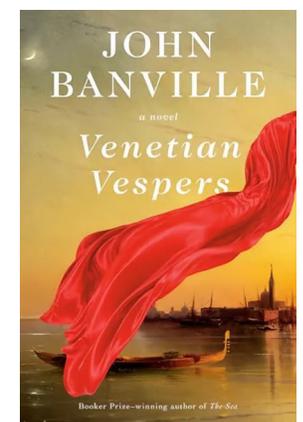
Manon sous le marronnier - Jean-François Beauchemin ROM B372

En plongeant ma cuillère dans le mi-cuit j'ai pensé : je n'ai rien d'un conteur et j'ignore pour l'essentiel comment se construit une histoire, et la façon de créer du suspense. Mais un jour je raconterai les faits entourant ma rencontre et ma vie auprès de cette femme dont je suis depuis ce soir si follement amoureux. Manon sous le marronnier, c'est le titre que je donnerai à ce récit commencé en un sens sous le marronnier du pâturage, et dans lequel il y aura justement beaucoup d'arbres, car Manon est une forêt mixte avec ses feuilles caduques et ses sapins de Douglas, ses ruisselets qui contournent les obstacles, ses pistes de chevreuil, son ombre trouée de lumière, ses espèces menacées, ses zones protégées et ses coupes à blanc. La conclusion je crois sera comparable à la sortie triomphante des pousses de rhubarbe printanières, puisque ce sera la section où les phrases cerneront le mieux Manon, décriront avec le plus de vérité ses mains belles comme une remise pleine d'outils, son cœur avec ses battements comme des pas dans l'allée, son âme comme le prix Goncourt catégorie Récit de voyage, sa vie qui repeint les persiennes avec du bleu de Prusse. Oui, je me disais ces choses. Eh bien ça y est, ce jour est venu. Voici l'histoire.



Venetian Vespers by John Banville B219

Evelyn Dolman introduces himself to the readers of Banville's latest, set in the late Victorian era, as "a man of letters," initially hoping for a career that will cement him as "a lord of language," regarded more highly than Tolstoy and Shakespeare. Alas, the Briton has become a mere "Grub Street hack," with one bright spot in his life: He has recently married Laura Rensselaer, the daughter of an American oil magnate who has hired Evelyn to write his biography. After Laura's father dies in a riding accident, Evelyn learns that she was disinherited, and he and his bride go to Venice so that she might recover from her loss. Shortly after arriving at an apartment in the city, Evelyn, at Laura's suggestion, pays a visit to a cafe, where he runs into a man named Freddie, who claims to have been a schoolmate of Evelyn's. Evelyn is skeptical, but his doubts are cast aside when he meets Freddie's beautiful sister, Francesca, with whom he is instantly taken. Evelyn returns to the apartment, drunk, and sexually assaults his wife; the two had seldom been intimate before, and Evelyn regards the attack as an act of revenge. The next morning, Laura is gone, and Evelyn suspects he's either losing his mind or the victim of a mysterious scam: "Everything was a puzzle, everything a trap set to mystify and hinder me." Banville once again proves himself a master of suspense, and he captures a noir version of Venice perfectly. Evelyn is a fascinating character: monstrous, certainly, but is he really being manipulated? Is he manipulating the reader? It's an open question, and a testament to Banville's considerable skill as a storyteller.

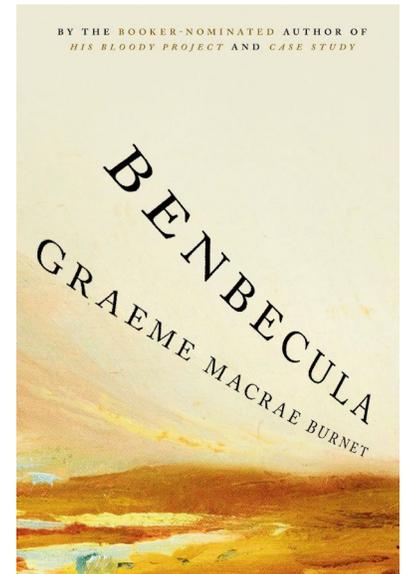


Benbecula by Graeme Macrae Burnet B964

Longlisted for the 2026 Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction • Longlisted for the 2025 Highland Book Prize • A Globe 100 Best Book of 2025. Booker-nominated Graeme Macrae Burnet returns to the historic Scotland of His Bloody Project to tell the multi-layered story of madness and murder in the MacPhee family.

During the summer of 1857 on the distant Scottish Island of Benbecula, Angus MacPhee, returning from a fortnight's work at a house a few miles away, seems to have lost his mind, forcing his family to keep him shackled to his bed. When he is finally allowed to go at large, his erratic behaviour leads to the conviction that he should be committed to an asylum. Five years later, Malcolm MacPhee is living alone in the house where his brother's madness led to horrifying ends. Isolated, ostracised by his small community, Malcolm is haunted, the stench of his brother's crimes lingering as the reek cleaves to the thatch. Is he afflicted by the same madness? And to where has his sister Marion disappeared?

Drawing on letters, asylum records, and witness statements, Graeme Macrae Burnet returns to the historic Scotland of His Bloody Project to construct a beguilingly layered narrative about madness, murder, and the uncertain nature of the self.



The Burning Library by Gilly Macmillan M167

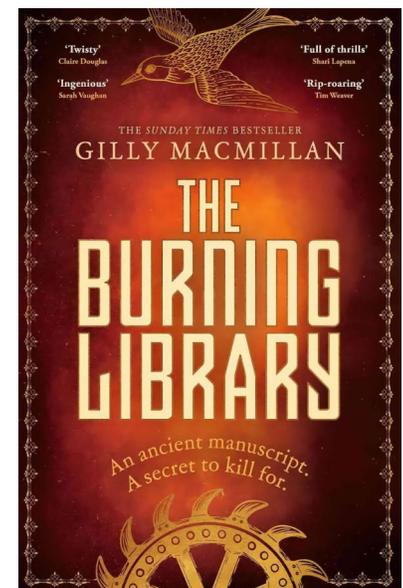
On a frigid, windswept day in Scotland's Western Isles, Eleanor Bruton's body is discovered on the shore. To her family Eleanor was an ordinary middle-aged woman. She did flower arrangements and plumped kneeler cushions at church. Little did they know she was harboring a dark and all-consuming secret. A scrap of fraying embroidery that seems worthless at first glance.

For over a century, two rival organizations of women have gone to deadly lengths to secure the valuable artifact in the hopes of finding the original medieval manuscript from which it was torn. The Order of St. Katherine: devoted to the belief that women must pull strings in the shadows to exercise control. And the Fellowship of the Larks, determined to amass as many overt positions of power for women as possible...so long as their methods of doing so never come to light.

When Dr. Anya Brown garners international attention for her translation of the cryptic Folio 9, she is handpicked by Diana Cornish, a professor and high-ranking member of the Fellowship, to join the exclusive Institute of Manuscript Studies in St. Andrews. Unbeknownst to Anya, she's been recruited at great personal danger to translate ancient texts that the Fellowship believes critical to their mission.

Meanwhile at Scotland Yard, Detective Constable Clio Spicer begins a private investigation into the death of Eleanor Bruton.

As all the women grow further entangled in this ancient web, circumstances spin wildly out of control and their lives may be in grave danger.



Some bright nowhere by Ann Packer P119

Don't expect a have-a-good-cry-and-catharsis tale from Packer, who excels in diamond-hard dissections of tangled personal relations. She embeds the narrative in the perceptions of Eliot, who is blindsided when his wife, Claire, tells him that she wants her two best friends to take care of her in these final months, "instead of you." It seems an unbelievably cruel demand; Eliot has been her caretaker through nearly nine grim years. He agrees, confident that "Holly and Michelle would need him for the bad moments... Claire would need him. She couldn't see it now." This thought should be a clue that there's more going on here than a dying woman's caprice, and the hints pile up from there in stray comments by friends, the couple's adult children, and Eliot's own recollections of past moments of tension in what was unquestionably a loving marriage. A retired management consultant, he wants to manage situations and avoid conflict: "You're like... amenable," says son Josh. "Except when you're not." Packer mercilessly prods Eliot toward enlightenment about his character and Claire's feelings. Readers are likely to share his frustration with his wife's attitude, which can be summarized as, "If you don't get it, I can't explain it," until they realize she's just too sick to deal with other people's issues. Nothing is simple in a Packer novel: Emotional and power dynamics among Eliot, Holly, and Michelle shift on a near-daily basis, while Claire at the center keeps insisting that her decision has nothing to do with her love for her husband, and Josh and sister Abby referee from the sidelines. The final pages are as deliberately unresolved as the rest of the novel. Packer's unsparing gaze would be hard to take if her characters weren't so believably, messily, hurtfully human.

Les femmes d'Endell Street - Ilaria Tuti ROM T966

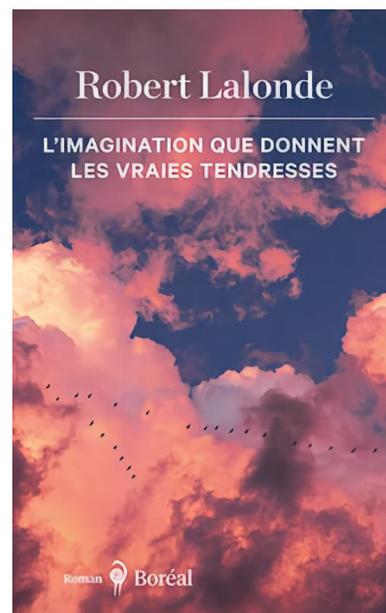
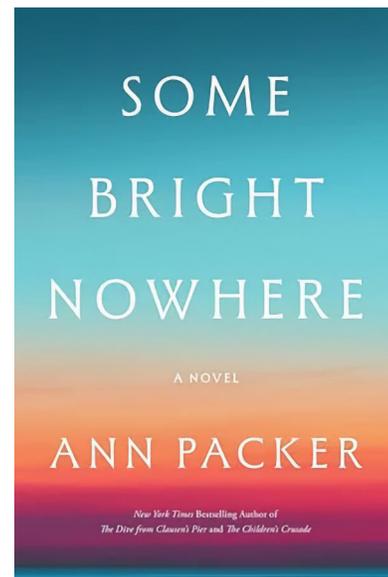
« Ilaria Tuti nous offre une histoire extraordinaire. » Il Piccolo 1914. Alors que la guerre fait rage en Europe, un groupe de doctresses anglaises ouvre en France le premier hôpital entièrement géré par des femmes. Parmi elles, Cate Hill, chirurgienne italo-anglaise et mère célibataire, qui n'a pas hésité à laisser sa fille à Londres pour venir au secours des soldats blessés sur le front occidental. Dans l'enfer des tranchées, le capitaine Alexander Seymour s'est donné une mission : sauver ses hommes et les ramener à la maison. Mais, au milieu des bombes, des exécutions, de la faim et du froid, rien ne semble plus impossible. Après une bataille dévastatrice sur la côte française, le capitaine blessé croise le chemin de Cate. Si en apparence tout les oppose, l'expérience de la guerre et leur désir d'émancipation ne tardent pas à les rapprocher... Inspirée par l'histoire vraie des premières lady doctors, Ilaria Tuti signe ici un magnifique roman où l'engagement et l'abnégation font naître espoir et liberté. Traduit de l'italien par Johan-Frédéric Hel Guedj

L'imagination que donnent les vraies tendresse - Robert Lalonde ROM L212

Les écrivains que nous aimons ne comptent-ils pas parmi nos amis les plus chers ? Ne nous adressons-nous pas à eux dans le secret de notre âme ? Qui n'a pas rêvé qu'un jour ceux-ci lui répondent ?

Robert Lalonde est depuis toujours un fervent lecteur des lettres de Gustave Flaubert. Dans ce roman à la prémisse audacieuse, Lalonde revendique « l'imagination que donnent les vraies tendresses » – la formule est de Flaubert – pour engager une correspondance outre-tombe avec l'ermite de Croisset. Séparés par la mort, unis dans l'obsession des mots, les deux compères échangent des propos d'atelier. S'ils vilipendent de concert leur époque, Lalonde réussit quand même à étonner son vieil ami en décrivant certaines innovations qui caractérisent son monde à lui, notamment une façon d'aimer, inconnue au XIXe siècle, qui accorde aux deux sexes une parfaite égalité.

Ce roman est un hommage passionné à un écrivain immense. Il est également un livre de sagesse qui nous permet de prendre un recul salutaire par rapport à notre présent trop souvent désenchanté.

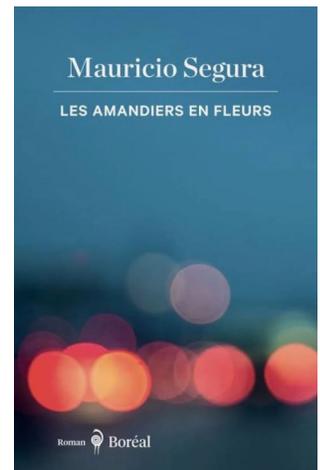


Les amandiers en fleurs - Mauricio Segura ROM S456

Un romancier et essayiste montréalais, chilien d'origine, débarque à Santiago pour participer à un colloque universitaire sur Camus. Il y retrouve Laura, son amie d'enfance, sa petite sœur d'adoption, qui a grandi à Montréal à ses côtés, mais qui est rentrée au Chili à l'adolescence.

Au cours d'une nuit d'errance dans un Santiago encore une fois ravagé par l'agitation sociale, ils se remémorent leur enfance. Ils s'affrontent. Tandis qu'elle cherche obsessionnellement à élucider les circonstances de la mort de sa mère, Monica, passionnée assassinée par les militaires, il l'incite à dépasser ces conflits qui appartiennent à la génération de leurs parents. De son côté, elle lui reproche d'aborder les faits historiques en romancier, c'est-à-dire en poétisant la souffrance, et surtout d'idéaliser la figure de Monica, à laquelle il a consacré un long article élogieux.

Mais voilà qu'un témoin sort de l'ombre. La Chimenea était une amie intime et une camarade de lutte de Monica. Au crépuscule de sa vie, elle nous raconte les débuts de son engagement en politique, quand, en 1949, à vingt ans à peine, elle a servi d'interprète à Camus au cours de son voyage au Chili. Et si c'était elle qui détenait la clé des énigmes? Celle de la mort de Monica, mais aussi celle qui explique que des êtres choisiront le chemin de la dictature et de la répression, tandis que d'autres choisiront celui de la révolution?

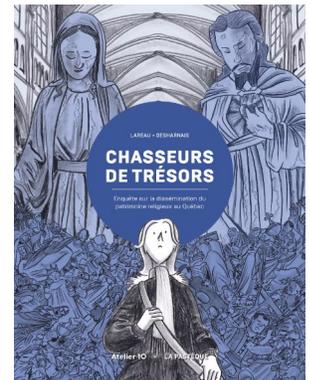


Non-Fiction Documentaires

Chasseurs de trésors - Isabelle Lareau BD 726 L321

Depuis plus d'un demi-siècle, la pratique du catholicisme est en chute libre au Québec, entraînant avec elle la fermeture de nombreuses églises—vendues, transformées ou démolies. Mais qu'advient-il des statues, crucifix, calices, tabernacles et autres objets religieux? Leur valeur rituelle disparue, ces artéfacts conservent une dimension artistique et patrimoniale majeure. Et pourtant, en dépit de quelques efforts isolés, rien ne semble fait pour empêcher leur dissémination.

Qui veillera à sauvegarder ce pan essentiel de notre histoire avant qu'il ne s'efface pour de bon? Sans nostalgie ni complaisance, la journaliste Isabelle Lareau interroge membres du clergé, collectionneurs privés et revendeurs en tous genres sur les traces de ce legs complexe. Une enquête magnifiée par le dessin fidèle et détaillé de Francis Desharnais, qui rend justice à la richesse de ces trésors ignorés du plus grand nombre.

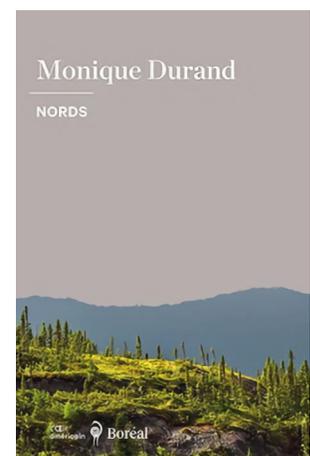


Nords - Monique Durand 910.4 D949

Il est des géographies qui moulent nos êtres et nous sont correspondance intime. Et des routes courant dans certains paysages qui ouvrent des routes en soi. C'est au Nord que j'ai trouvé ma géographie profonde, celle qui m'entraîne dans une sorte d'état indéfinissable qui ressemble à la joie.

De la mythique route 389, qui relie la Côte-Nord du Québec à la mer du Labrador, jusqu'à la Sibérie orientale, en passant par les îles de l'Atlantique Nord et les alpages de la Haute-Savoie, Monique Durand, grande voyageuse, traque le Nord comme on poursuit une idée.

Le froid, le silence et la lumière sont ses compagnons de route. Mais son parcours est tout sauf solitaire, et bien plus que des espaces désolés, les Nords de Monique Durand constituent le rude et sublime habitat des êtres qu'elle nous fait rencontrer, Innus des confins du Labrador et Yakoutes de Sibérie, trappeurs nord-côtiers et descendants de Vikings des îles Féroé, sans oublier cet Estonien qui, avec ses « Frères de la Forêt », nous entraîne sur les traces de la résistance à l'Union soviétique. Car c'est aussi l'histoire de tous ces territoires qu'elle fait vibrer et résonner dans une prose somptueusement vivante où souffle la poésie de la liberté.



The art of uncertainty by DJ Spiegelhalter 519.2 S755

Spiegelhalter, professor of statistics at Cambridge University and bestselling author of *The Art of Statistics*, emphasizes that he will deliver facts about uncertainty, avoiding matters of debate such as the best Beatle song, what to wear this evening, or the existence of God. Statistics, rules, and even equations come thick and fast, but few readers will miss his warning: Never trust words to express uncertainty. Many times this century, governments have raised the terrorism threat level, warning that an attack is “likely.” The number of attacks that followed—zero. Few agree on the meaning of “unlikely, possible, likely, probable, rare, and so on,” but a number is straightforward. Having set the scene and perhaps delivered more information than readers want to know, Spiegelhalter provides his expert opinion on simple subjects that turn out to be not so simple. Coincidences turn out to be common. Another long chapter discusses luck, which one expert called “the operation of chance, taken personally.” Still another points out that most people who die in car accidents are wearing seat belts, yet belts remain lifesaving. This is proved by Bayes’ theorem, which demonstrates how additional facts can make sense of nonsense. Random numbers are essential in many fields outside of statistics, but they’re extremely difficult to achieve; most readers can’t produce them. He concludes with a long discussion of making decisions and managing risks—perhaps his most practical chapters. Readers should not expect strategy for winning at Las Vegas or the office election pool. Spiegelhalter admits frankly that many concepts are tough going, and readers whose mathematics classes include a taste of statistics will have an easier time.

A satisfying look at the nature of uncertainty.

Strong as a girl by Kate Rope 649.133 R784

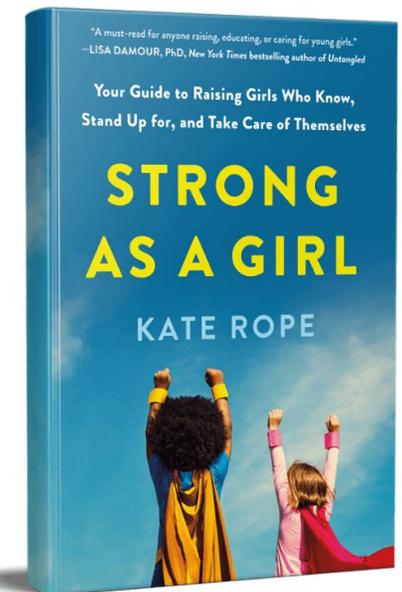
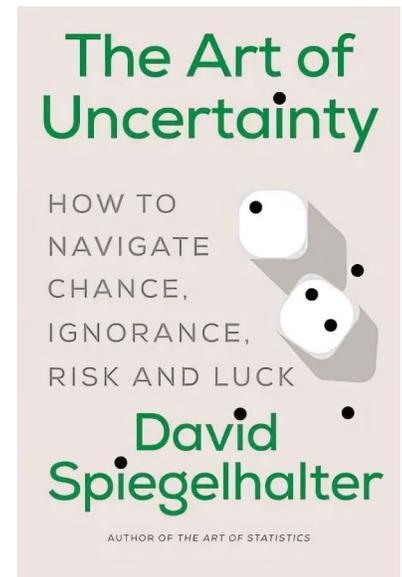
a new, non-judgmental guide to tackling the most important topics in the modern lives of elementary-age girls. *Strong as a Girl* is a compassionate, expertly-sourced guide for parents and caregivers on how to build a strong foundation in the early years and to truly see and support your girl for who she is and wants to be. *Strong as a Girl* features the voices of girls of all different identities, backgrounds, and life experiences alongside insight from experts in areas such as child development, puberty and sex ed, mental health, educational achievement, sexual abuse and assault prevention, body image, eating disorders, and self-compassion (for girls and the people raising them). Whatever your challenges or hopes for your girl, you will find ideas and solutions in actionable steps, simple activities, and easy-to-implement scripts and conversation starters.

Rope keeps the to-dos to a minimum, focuses on the most impactful things you can do, offers extensive compassion for the inevitable mistakes we all make, and includes resources for caregivers. *Strong as a Girl* is an easy-to-read, one-stop-shop that empowers parents and caregivers to set their girls on the road to a strong future, so that they—and their girls—will feel confident entering the more turbulent waters of middle school, the teen years and beyond.



Indienne de ville - Isabelle Picard 921 P586

Isabelle Picard est née et a grandi au sein de la communauté wendat de Wendake. Par la suite, elle a vécu plusieurs années avec les Mohawks de Kanasatake. Entrelaçant habilement récit et essai, elle raconte ici son histoire. Des moments de vie drôles, tristes ou remplis d'espoir qui l'ont fait grandir, avancer, réagir. De la petite enfance à aujourd'hui, on découvre un être profondément ancré dans sa communauté, qui se questionne, remet les choses en perspective et souhaite plus que tout bâtir des ponts entre les cultures.

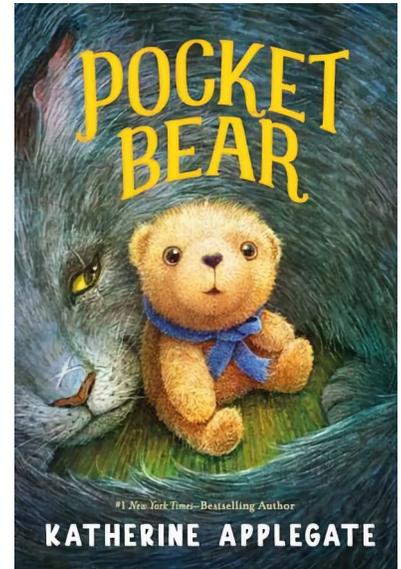




YA & Middle School Ado et pré-ado)

Pocket Bear by Katherine Applegate

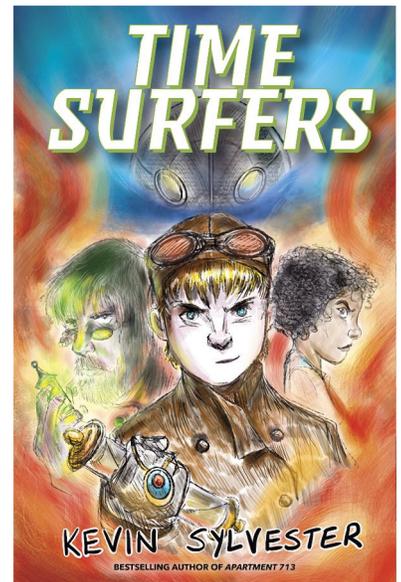
Zephyrina brings toys back to the apartment she shares with Elizaveta and her daughter, Dasha, refugees from war-torn Ukraine. Dasha reconditions Zephyrina's rescues and sets them outside for three days, just in case they have owners who want to reclaim them. Afterward, they join the other toys in the parlor—the Second Chances Home for the Tossed and Treasured. Dasha and Elizaveta don't know that the toys are sentient. At midnight they abandon their rigid daytime postures to cavort and play, overseen by their leader, Pocket, a tiny mascot bear made to comfort soldiers during World War I. One night, Zephyrina brings back a dirty old bear, and Pocket is astounded. The new arrival, Berwon, might come from a lost shipment of the first-ever stuffed bears, sent from Germany to the U.S. in 1903—and if so, he's worth a fortune. In the ensuing antics, the unpleasant villain Picky Vicky covets Berwon, and a kind museum curator does, too, but for different reasons. Applegate's writing is exquisitely nuanced; she couches profound themes in accessible language that depicts relatable situations. Gentle, generous Elizaveta and Dasha poignantly underscore the human impact of wars. Santos's enchanting, delicate, black-and-white illustrations bring the timeless feeling of a classic to this hopeful, humanizing story of the distressed looking out for each other.



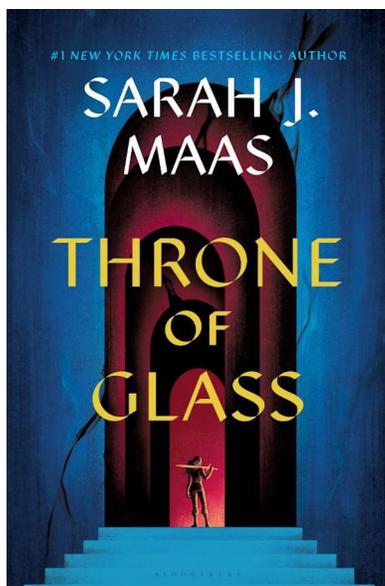
Time Surfers by Kevin Sylvester

Caleb and his dad are part of a group of time bandits just barely under the control of the Grand Council, the semi-totalitarian organization that rules the Earth at a moment in the distant future. Time travel exists, but it is a difficult, dangerous, and potentially fatal endeavour that only thrill-seekers like Caleb and his fellow surfers pursue. The Council commissions these surfers to retrieve artifacts that have been lost during historical disasters: the book opens with Caleb stealing priceless paintings from the RMS Lusitania, the British passenger ship sunk by a German U-boat in 1915.

The surfers must observe some Council-set rules: they cannot bring back items not specifically approved by the Council. (They do so anyway, selling these items on the black market.) And they cannot bring back people – victims of historical disasters must be allowed to die, since they're technically already dead, and bringing them to the future could cause a world-ending time-rift.



This rule gets violated when Caleb allows Sara, a girl whose parents work at the doomed Library of Alexandria, to stow away aboard his ship. For the rest of the book, Caleb and his fellow surfers struggle to keep Sara's presence a secret, and when she's discovered, Caleb and his father execute a daring prison-break to free her because the Council plans to wipe her from existence.



Throne of Glass *series* by Sarah J Maas

When magic has gone from the world, and a vicious king rules from his throne of glass, an assassin comes to the castle. She does not come to kill, but to win her freedom. If she can defeat twenty-three killers, thieves, and warriors in a competition to find the greatest assassin in the land, she will become the king's champion and earn her freedom. Her name is Celaena Sardothien – beautiful, deadly, and destined for greatness.



Videos

Misericordia

Returning to Saint-Martial for his late boss's funeral, Jérémie's stay with widow Martine becomes entangled in a disappearance, a threatening neighbor, and an abbot's shady intentions.



Vermiglio

1944, Vermiglio, a remote mountain village. The arrival of Pietro, a deserter, into the family of the local teacher, and his love for the teacher's eldest daughter, will change the course of everyone's life.



The Handmaid's Tale- Season 6

Set in a dystopian future, a woman is forced to live as a concubine under a fundamentalist theocratic dictatorship.



The Naked Gun

Following in his father's footsteps, a detective works to solve a murder case and save his police department from closure.



Freakier Friday

22 years after Tess and Anna endured an identity crisis, Anna now has a daughter and a soon-to-be stepdaughter. As they navigate the challenges that come when two families merge, Tess and Anna discover that lightning might strike twice.



The Fantastic Four- First Steps

Forced to balance their roles as heroes with the strength of their family bond, the Fantastic Four must defend Earth from a ravenous space god called Galactus and his enigmatic herald, the Silver Surfer.

