

OHIO *ana* QUARTERLY

Spring 2023 | VOL. 66 NO. 2

OHIOANA

BOOK

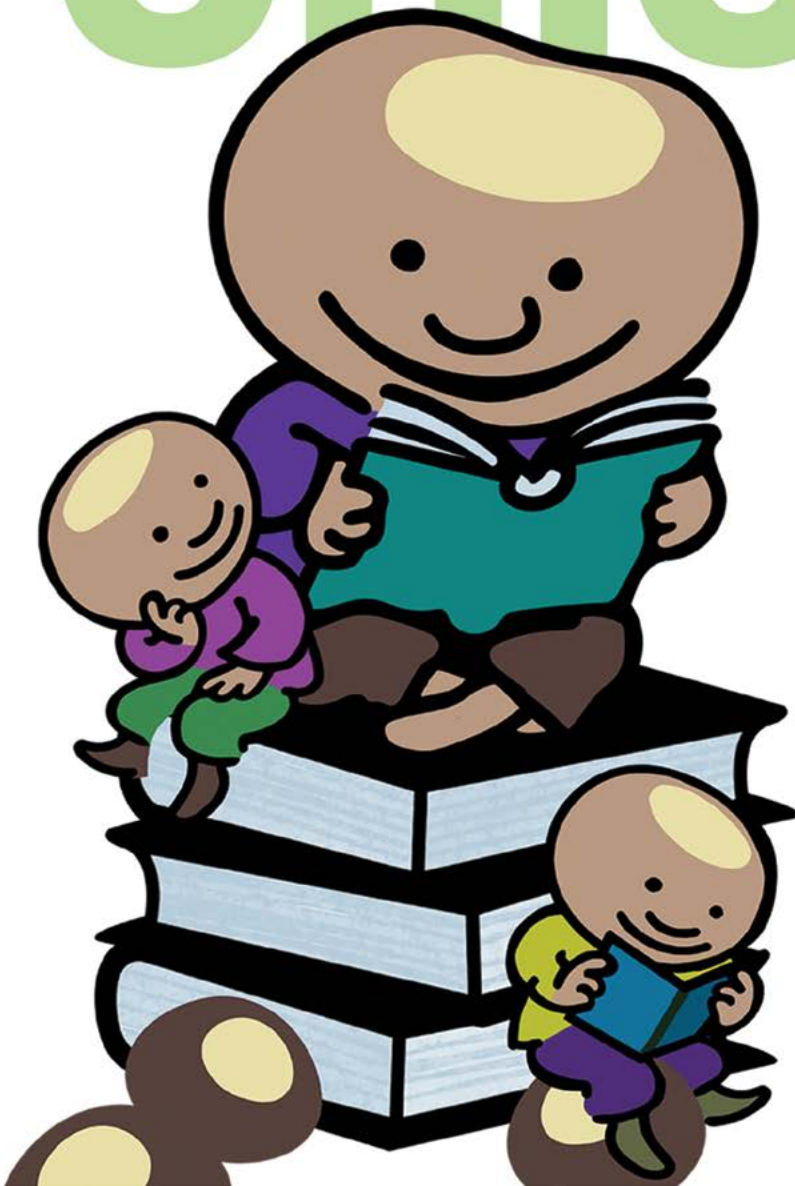
April

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2023

Columbus
Metropolitan
Library's Main
Library

FESTIVAL



Collecting, Preserving, and Celebrating Ohio Literature

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OHIOana QUARTERLY

SPRING 2023

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From the Director



Dear Friends,

“We’re back!”

When I opened the Ohioana Book Awards ceremony with those words last October, the sellout crowd gathered at the Ohio Statehouse roared their approval with cheers and applause. After three years of virtual programs, everyone was ecstatic to come together once again, just as we had so many times before we ever heard the word “COVID.”

If people were happy to attend the awards in person once again, their excitement is even greater for the return of the live Ohioana Book Festival. No Ohioana event has been as eagerly anticipated by readers and writers alike. So, it was a great pleasure when we announced in January that, for the first time since 2019, the festival will be back at Columbus Metropolitan Library’s Main Library on Saturday, April 22. We loved seeing everyone through our computer screens the past three years, but we know it’s not quite the same experience for authors and readers. We’re thrilled for the opportunity to have everyone face to face this year.

Our cover story introduces you to the more than 130 Ohio authors and illustrators who will be taking part in the festival. Among them is Will Hillenbrand, who created the charming “bookeye” readers for this year’s official festival poster. We’re also delighted to share a tasty Akron family recipe from the cookbook of another 2023 festival author, Judy Orr James. And special thanks to cartoonist Tom Batiuk for once again setting his beloved *Crankshaft* comic strip (see back cover) at the festival for the entire week.

In addition to our festival features, you’ll find in this issue reviews of some popular new books, including several by authors who will be appearing at April’s event. You’ll also find a list of titles recently added to our collection, and a list of upcoming literary happenings across the state. As you can see, events with books and authors are back in a big way!

Connecting readers and Ohio writers. No event exemplifies our tagline better than the Ohioana Book Festival. We’re grateful to everyone who joined us as we presented the last three festivals virtually. I know you’re as thrilled as we are that we can finally be together to enjoy the festival live and in person once again. It wouldn’t be possible without you. ***Thank you.***

We’ll see you at the Main Library on April 22!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Weaver'.

David Weaver

ON THE COVER

The official 17th annual Ohioana Book Festival poster art, created by author and illustrator Will Hillenbrand and adapted by Kathryn Powers. Read Kathryn’s interview with Will on page 14.

The 2023 Ohioana Book Festival: Homecoming!

by David Weaver

Well, actually, the Ohioana Book Festival has never been away! Not even a pandemic could stop our annual celebration of books and reading. For three years, thanks to the miracle of technology, we presented the festival online. Fans enjoyed the virtual programming while patiently waiting for the time when they could once again experience the camaraderie of being up close and personal with authors and other readers. I'm happy to tell you that the wait is over!

Join us for the return of the Ohioana Book Festival as a live, IN-PERSON event on Saturday, April 22, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. And, it's free!

More than 130 Ohio authors and illustrators (see the list starting on page 6) will be taking part in the festival, representing every literary genre. Many of your favorites will be returning, and we'll also be welcoming over two-dozen debut authors. Meet them all at the festival!

Adding to the excitement is that 2023 is the 150th anniversary of Columbus Metropolitan Library, whose Main Library became the festival's home in 2019. We are thrilled that the Ohioana Book Festival will be part of this very special celebration with one of America's greatest public library systems.

This year's programming will include all of your pre-pandemic favorites: panel discussions, readings, and conversations; storytimes and activities for kids; and delicious local food trucks. Plus a few fun surprises, too!

The Book Loft of German Village will be back as the festival's onsite bookseller. You can purchase copies of all the books featured at the festival—and get them signed by your favorite author! We know this is something that our festival fans have been especially looking forward to.

We're also delighted that Governor Mike DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine are returning to serve as Honorary Co-Chairs of the 2023 festival, celebrating a connection that began in 1929 when First Lady Martha Kinney Cooper founded the Ohioana Library. Our shared love of championing books and reading across Ohio is now over ninety years strong.

We like to say the Ohioana Book Festival is a book lover's dream. That has never been more true than this year. Thanks to all the authors, sponsors, donors, partners, and volunteers who have played a part. Most of all, thanks to readers like you—you *make it happen!*

For all the latest event updates and information, visit www.ohioana.org. Don't forget to check us out on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, too. We can't wait to see you at this year's festival!

Scenes from the 2019 Ohioana Book Festival: Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine welcomes festival goers at the opening ceremony; crowds mingling with authors; an excited young fan meets Clifford the Big Red Dog. (Photos by Mary Rathke)

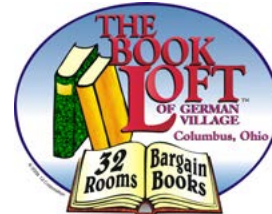


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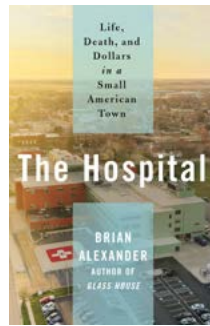
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Festival Authors



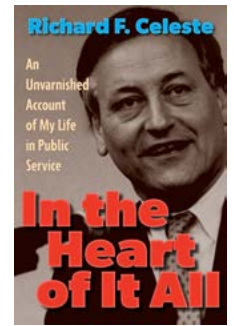
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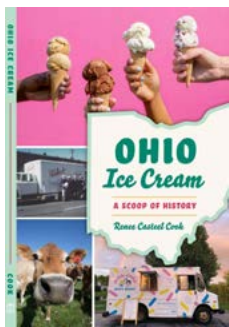
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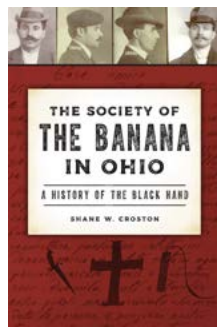
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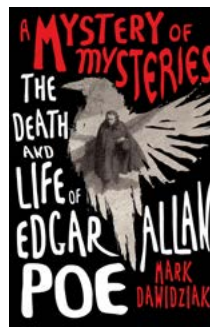
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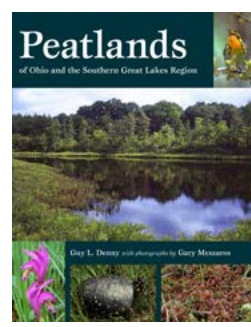
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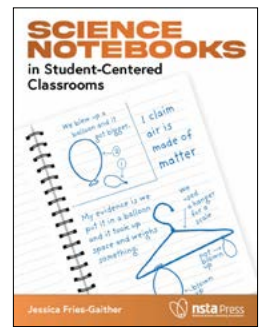
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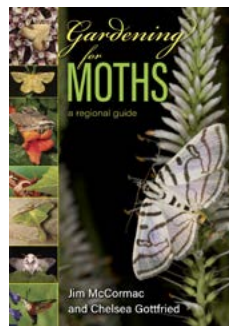
Mark Dawidziak



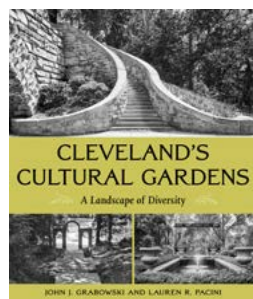
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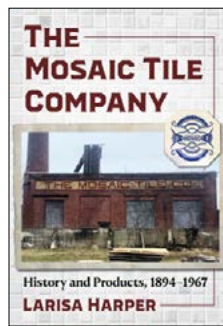
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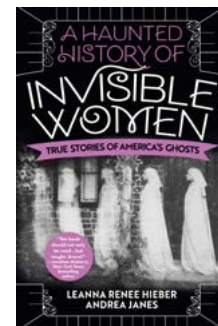
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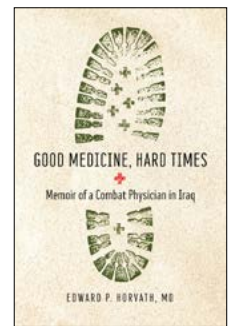
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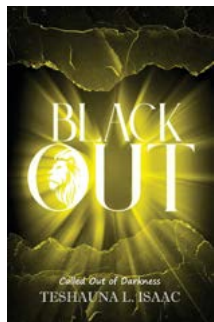
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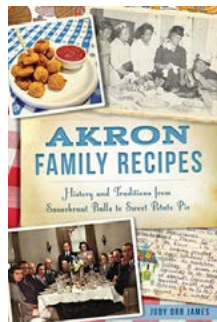
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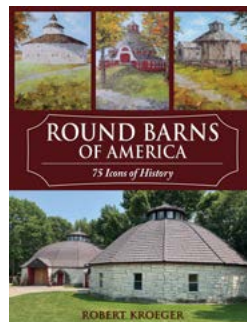
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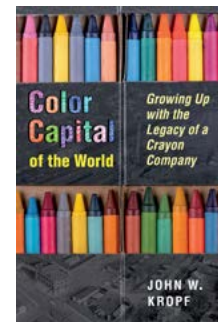
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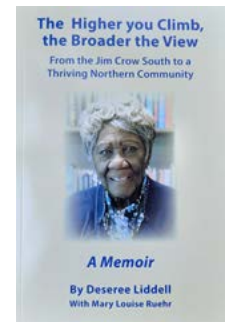
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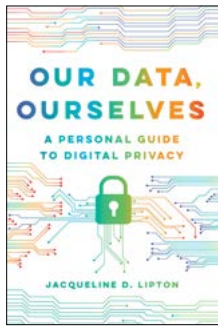
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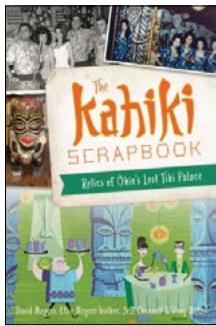
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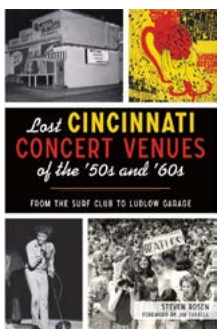
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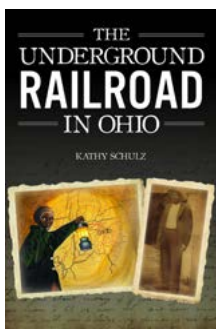
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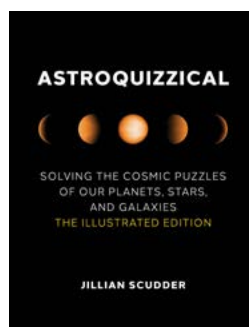
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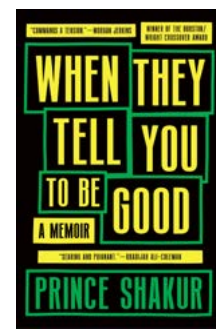
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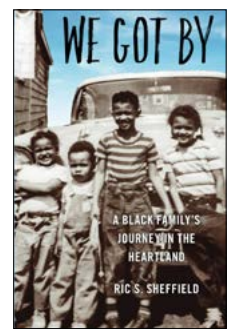
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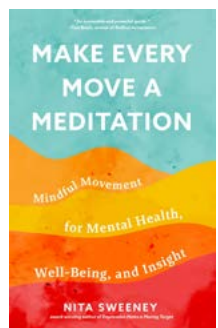
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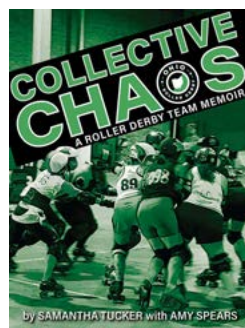
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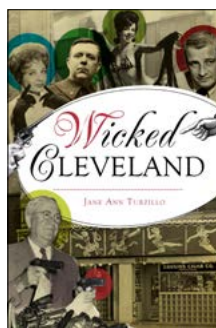
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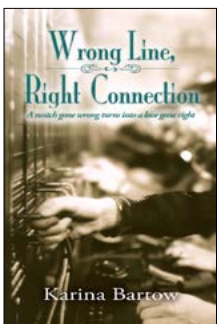
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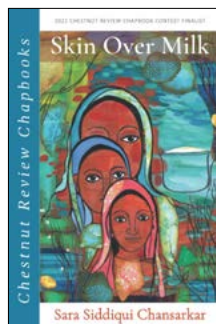
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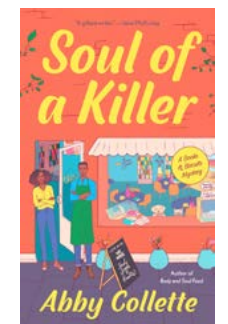
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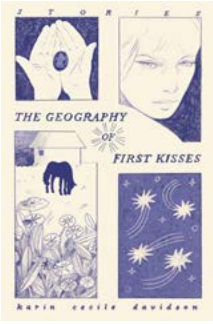


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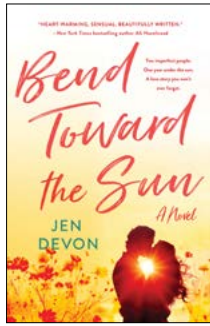


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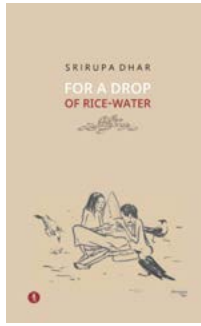
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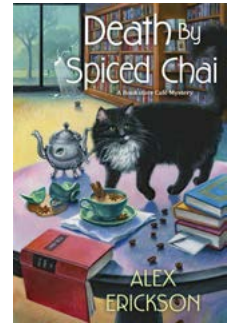
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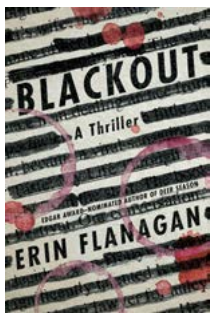
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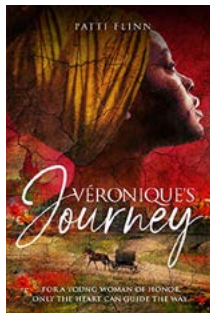
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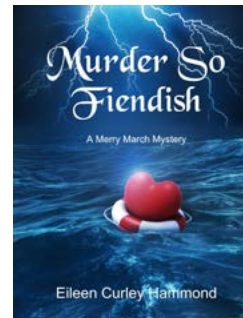
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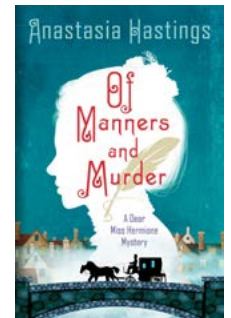
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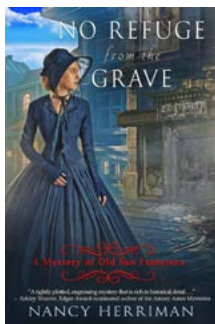
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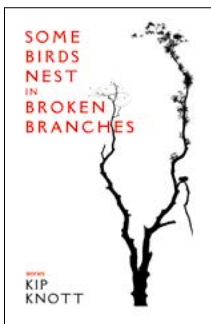
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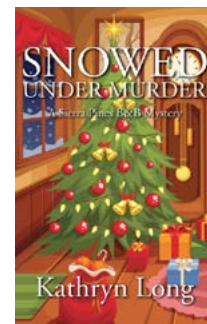
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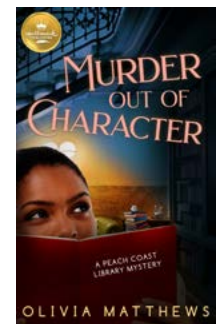
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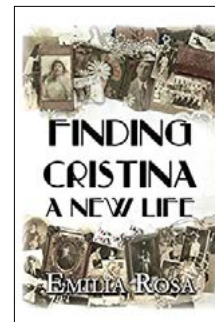
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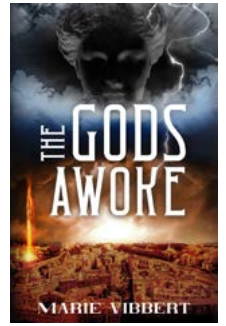
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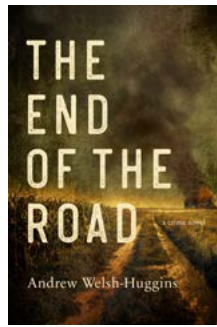
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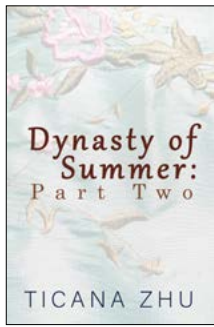
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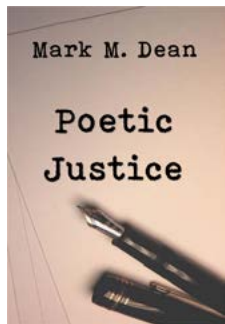
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Ticana Zhu



POETRY



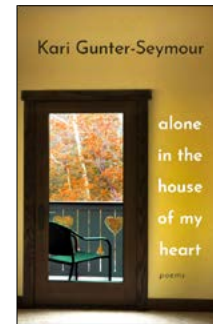
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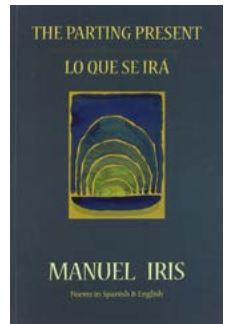
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Adam J. Gellings



Kari Gunter-Seymour



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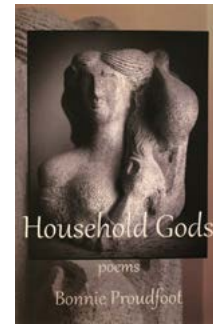
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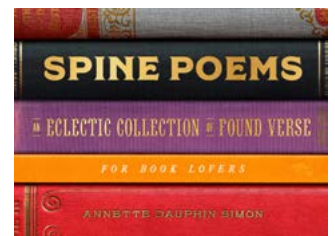
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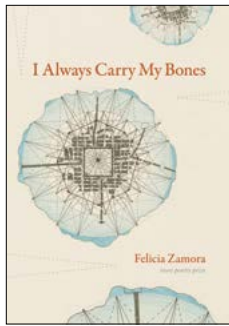


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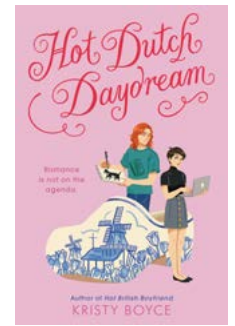
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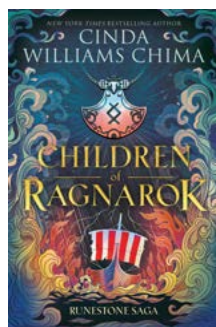
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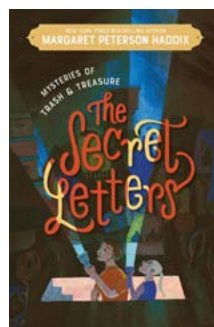
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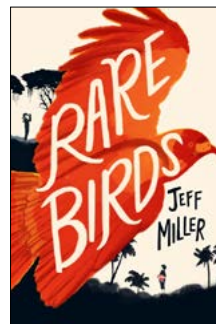
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Terri Libenson



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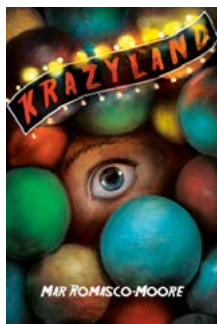
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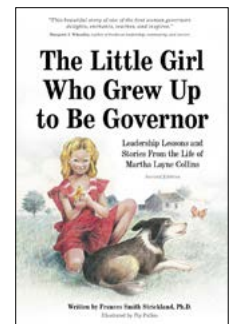
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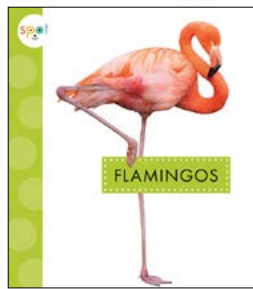
Brianna Wilkoff



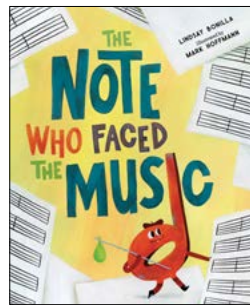
Misty Wilson & David Wilson



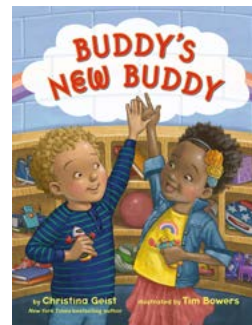
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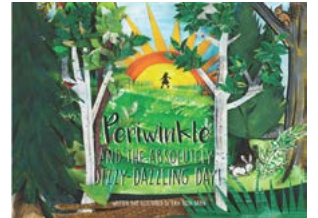
Lisa J. Amstutz



Lindsay Bonilla



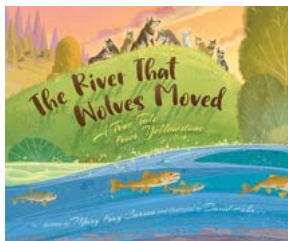
Tim Bowers



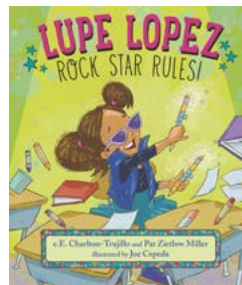
Erin Alon Brain



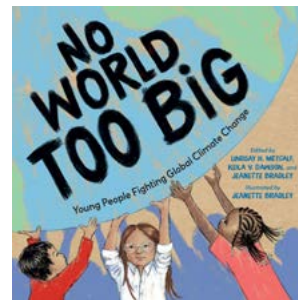
Marcy Campbell



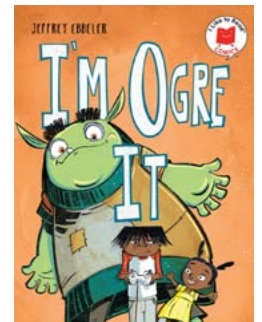
Mary Kay Carson



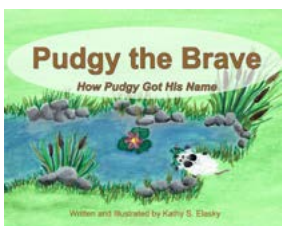
e. E. Charlton-Trujillo



Keila V. Dawson



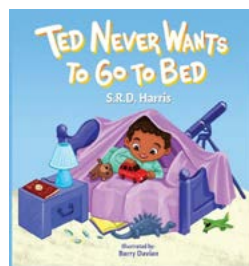
Jeffrey Ebbeler



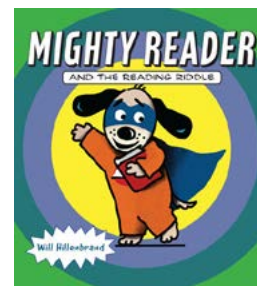
Kathy S. Elasky



Jacob Grant



S. R. D. Harris

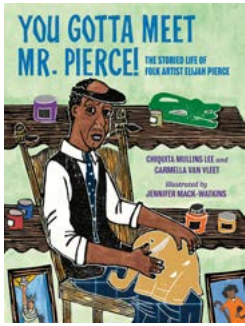


Will Hillenbrand

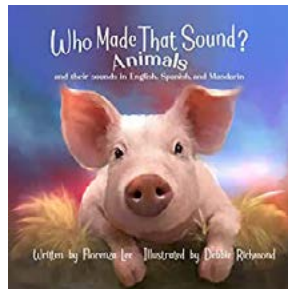


Kate Hoefler

JUVENILE (contd.)



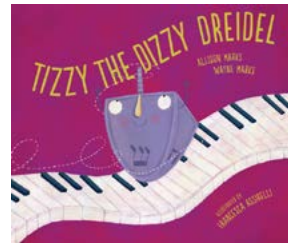
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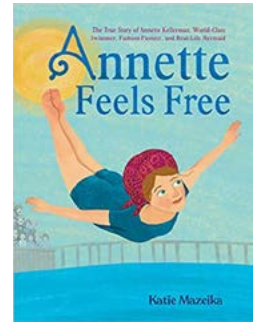
Florenza Lee



Margeaux Lucas & Jean Colebank



Allison Marks & Wayne Marks



Katie Mazeika



Dia Mixon



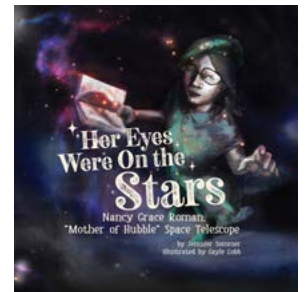
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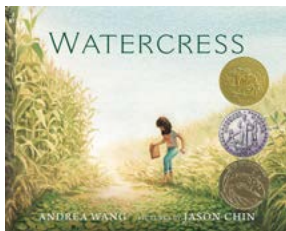
Merrill Rainey



Blythe Russo



Jennifer Sommer



Andrea Wang



Julie Whitney

“Bookeye” reader spot art illustrations created by Will Hillenbrand and adapted by Kathryn Powers.

Chess Pie

A family recipe by Alma Ruth (Wade) Bond

Born on a farm in Kentucky in 1899, Alma Ruth (Wade) Bond came to Akron in the 1920s. Her husband, Derbert, found work at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, joining scores of Southerners who left their homes seeking work in Akron's booming rubber industry.

Alma's chess pie ingredients were staples in every Southerner's pantry. With easy prep and a quick cooking time, dessert is only a few minutes away with this delicious recipe!

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vinegar
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 1 tablespoon cornmeal
- Dash of salt
- 1 prepared unbaked pie crust

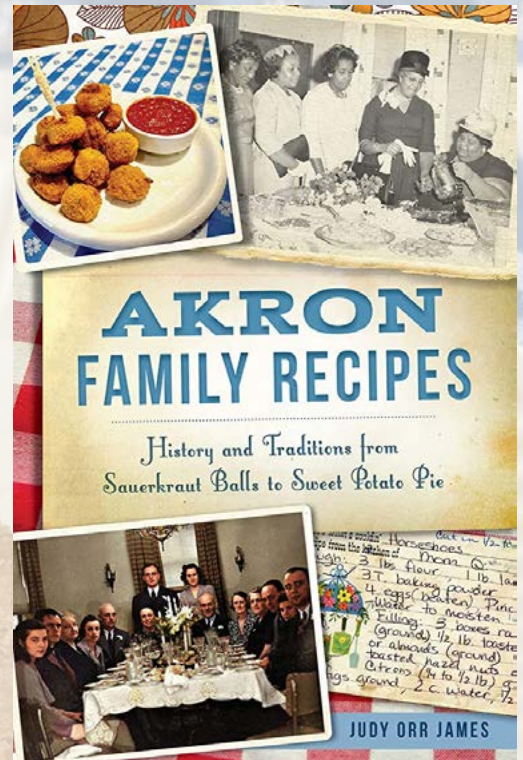
Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a mixing bowl, beat together sugar, eggs, and vanilla. Stir in vinegar, butter, cornmeal, and salt. Mix well. Pour into a prepared pie crust in an 8-inch pie plate.

Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Then reduce heat to 200 degrees and bake until set and golden. Cool completely before serving.

Read Alma's full story in the "Appalachian and Southern" chapter of *Akron Family Recipes*.



From the city's founding in 1825 through the years following World War II, numerous ethnic and cultural groups made Akron home. Featuring more than one hundred recipes, *Akron Family Recipes: History and Traditions from Sauerkraut Balls to Sweet Potato Pie* serves up a history of home cooking in the Rubber City.

A lifetime resident of Akron, Judy Orr James traces her Summit County roots to the early 1800s, when her German immigrant ancestors settled in what is now Coventry Township. Founder of the Akron Recipe Project, her love of local history, family history, and food was the inspiration for this book.

An Interview with Will Hillenbrand

by Kathryn Powers



Will Hillenbrand (Photo by Ian Hillenbrand)

The 2023 Ohioana Book Festival poster was designed by author and illustrator Will Hillenbrand. A native of Cincinnati, Will has published over seventy books. We spoke with Will about his creative process, multi-decade career, and featured festival book.

Q What was your inspiration behind the design of the 2023 Ohioana Book Festival poster art?

A The inspiration was Ohio and our beloved book festival. So, I chose the symbols of a buckeye to personify us, Ohioans, and books to show our deep love, enjoyment, and pleasure of reading, reading, reading. I framed the image with type design that reflects the silly way I haphazardly organize the books on my bookshelves. Beyond the poster art, and just for the pure enjoyment of the buckeye (or “bookeye”) readers, I have created spot art to highlight book topics and genres.

Q What inspired you to become an author and illustrator? Was there a specific book, author, or artist that sparked your passion for children’s literature?

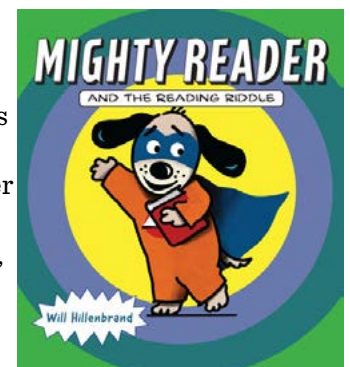
A I became inspired to do what I am doing now without knowing or even being aware of it. I was four years old and in the theater of the lap, my Grandmother Hillenbrand’s lap. She read aloud . . . and the world of the picture book came alive. It was absolute magic! I love having a wide collection of books available as inspiration; this is important as I like to explore new ways of thinking and seeing.

Q Can you tell us about your artistic process? Do you have a favorite medium or tools?

A I love all art-making tools and techniques; I love mark-making. For my book illustration work, I use Adobe Fresco. I prefer this tool—not because it is easier, for that is a common myth. It never makes the art for you. Instead, I utilize it because it makes a first impression image in the published work for the reader. In other methods of reproduction—such as illustrations created with traditional mediums that must be photographed or scanned—readers see a copy (a second impression) in the published book. When printing from a first impression plate, I think the results are spectacular.

Q Can you tell us about the title you’re bringing to the Ohioana Book Festival?

A This year my featured book is *Mighty Reader and the Reading Riddle*, the third book in the series. When Inky can’t find the right book to read, Mighty Reader comes to the rescue! He picks *The Sword and the Bone*, and soon Inky and Mighty Reader are transported to a medieval world filled with castles and creatures of legend. In this world, they must pull a sword from a bone, outsmart a three-headed riddle-speaking dragon, and save Merlin from a dungeon. By the end, Inky has found his new favorite adventure book! Lovable beagle Mighty Reader is a friend to new readers everywhere by pairing bright, comic book-style artwork with classroom-approved reading strategies.



OHIOANA FESTIVAL

April BOOK

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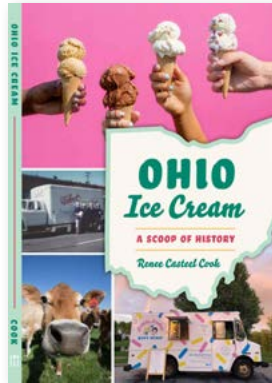


NONFICTION

Cook, Renee Casteel. *Ohio Ice Cream: A Scoop of History.*

Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2022.

This summer, after enjoying a refreshing scoop of ice cream on a hot summer day, you may want to check out Renee Casteel Cook's captivating book, *Ohio Ice Cream: A Scoop of History*, to discover if your treat selection has Ohio connections. From Graeter's in Cincinnati to Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams in Columbus and Handel's in Youngstown, to name just a few, Ohio has a long history with ice cream production. Cook takes readers on a journey from the 1800s to the present day, featuring Ohio's internationally-known ice cream makers and artisans, along with hometown, local hangouts.



Ohio Ice Cream begins by introducing the history of this delicious, frozen dessert and how it came to America. Thomas Jefferson is often credited as the first American to record a recipe for ice cream in his own handwriting. He not only provided this recipe, but also made it popular by serving it during his presidency. With Ohio being credited as the birthplace of many inventions and inventors, Cook suggests that Ohio should be recognized as the home for some of the essentials associated with ice cream, including the ice cream cone, the banana split, and the ice cream truck. I found it fascinating to read about the invention processes of these many products we take for granted.

It was also interesting to learn that many famous ice cream creators started out by making ice cream at home and selling it to their neighborhood. As the treat grew in popularity, expansion was necessary, and storefronts were established. Alice Handel and her beloved ice cream is one of these examples. In 1945, she gathered fruit from her yard to make ice cream for her neighbors. The treat became so popular, she had to relocate twice

to provide storefronts big enough to serve the demand. Today, Alice Handel would find her popular ice cream shops throughout Ohio and eleven other states.

Like Handel's, many ice cream shops and parlors started small before branching out across the state, the US, and even internationally. While Cook delves into the larger Ohio ice cream producers, she does not forget about the family-run local shops that are often open seasonally. These places are important parts of their communities, providing spaces for families and friends to gather.

I was enthralled by the wealth of information provided in *Ohio Ice Cream*. Not only does Cook explain the history of ice cream in Ohio, but she also includes other tidbits to expand interest, plus websites, photos, and descriptions of Ohio's vast variety of ice cream shops, encouraging readers to further explore on their own. I can't wait to take a trip this summer to Aglamesis Brothers' original parlor to enjoy a scoop of "Old World" ice cream in their New Orleans-style shop located in Cincinnati.

If you're an ice cream enthusiast, be sure to get a copy of Renee Casteel Cook's *Ohio Ice Cream: A Scoop of History* to help you decide which stores and parlors to visit around the state, and what famous dishes and signature flavors you should order.

REVIEWED BY CHARLOTTE L. STIVERSON, EDUCATOR, RETIRED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, AND CHILDREN'S AUTHOR

Di Lallo, Raffaele. *Houseplant Warrior: 7 Keys to Unlocking the Mysteries of Houseplant Care.*

New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company, 2022.

Which houseplant is best for my home? How much light and water does it need? How do I know when it needs more light and water, or when I should give it less? All of these questions and more are answered by Raffaele Di Lallo in *Houseplant Warrior: 7 Keys to Unlocking the Mysteries of Houseplant Care*.

This book is a perfect reference source to use when one has a houseplant concern, as well as a fascinating

read from cover to cover.

Throughout *Houseplant Warrior*, Di Lallo both shares his love of houseplants and effectively conveys different techniques to incorporate for growing them. The book is divided into five sections, with each section providing useful tips for any “plant parent.” The themes range from choosing the right plant, to routine caring tips, to troubleshooting plant problems, to propagation, and finally ending with a plant party.



Di Lallo encourages the reader to be observant of the houseplant and its needs. Don't be afraid to check its water level by placing a finger in the soil to see how moist or dry it is. Also, look at its room location to check on the amount of light it is receiving. I now know that some of my plants should be moved to better positions closer to my windows so they receive more sunlight. From the information provided, it was amazing to discover how little light plants actually get when they sit a few feet away from the window.

I especially enjoyed reading the propagation and case studies sections. While I know a few techniques for starting new plants from old ones, Di Lallo offers clear advice and explains the unique ways to propagate different types of plants. The case studies were fun to read and full of interesting topics. Using questions from “plant parents” who describe the ailments of their “sickly” houseplants, Di Lallo provides suggestions and remedies for a variety of botanical health issues.

After reading *Houseplant Warrior: 7 Keys to Unlocking the Mysteries of Houseplant Care*, I am inspired to purchase a few new plants that are listed in the book, as well as check my current houseplants to see if they need anything additional to create their ideal environment. I have several pages marked for reference and will definitely look to this book for future healthy plant ideas. *Houseplant Warrior* is a wonderful reference book for any “plant parent” library.

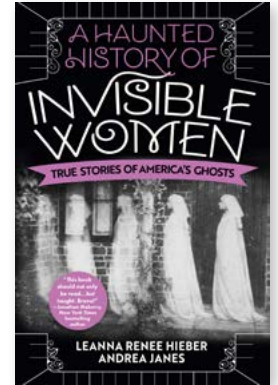
REVIEWED BY CHARLOTTE L. STIVERSON, EDUCATOR, RETIRED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, AND CHILDREN'S AUTHOR

Hieber, Leanna Renee, and Andrea Janes.
A Haunted History of Invisible Women: True Stories of America's Ghosts.

New York, NY: Kensington Books, 2022.

Leanna Renee Hieber has always been haunted.

Hieber, a Butler County native and Miami University alum, was fascinated by the Victorian era and Spiritualism from a young age. She grew up devouring the works of Gothic authors like Edgar Allan Poe and the Brontë sisters. She is an actress who trained with the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company. She has written several plays and novels that all feature the supernatural. If you have attended the Ohioana Book Festival in the last few years, or watched the 2022 virtual festival, you will recognize Hieber from her signature nineteenth-century aesthetic. She wears dark colors, favors Victorian-style dresses and jewelry, and just seems effortlessly cool. She looks exactly how you might imagine an author of gaslamp fantasy would look.



Knowing all of this beforehand, I went into *A Haunted History of Invisible Women* with high expectations. I am happy to say that this Bram Stoker-nominated book does not disappoint.

Hieber alternates the writing of each chapter with Andrea Janes, her fellow tour guide at Boroughs of the Dead, New York's premier ghost tour company. They both realized that the majority of their tour patrons identify as female and began to wonder why. I had never thought about this, but it is true that most ghost fiction and folktales like La Llorona or Bloody Mary are about female entities. Women are also involved in many of the saddest—and most salacious—accounts of real-life hauntings. Nearly all of the Gothic authors I can think of are women, too. Why?

Hieber and Janes investigate this with fascinating results. They organize their chapters by trope with a firmly tongue-in-cheek approach: “Spinster,” “Witch,” “Fallen Woman,” etc. They investigate famous cases like the Winchester Mystery House and Lizzie Borden, as well as the lesser-known (and Ohio-based) hauntings

of Mary “Ma” Greene and Mary Surratt. I was quickly sucked into each story, even ones I had heard before. Their research on each case is meticulous; the book includes a detailed bibliography of historical and contemporary sources.

The authors do not try to sway the reader’s supernatural beliefs. If you don’t think ghosts are real before you start reading this, you won’t be convinced they are when you finish. They merely present the historical facts of each case. They treat each woman’s story with sensitivity and nuance. There is none of the sensationalism that readers often find in examinations of true crimes. There are many personal thoughts and anecdotes presented throughout, which succeed in drawing the reader closer to both the authors and their subjects.

Many of the chapters are frightening and upsetting, but not for the reasons you might think. Throughout history, real accounts of abuse and violence toward women have been warped and twisted into creepy ghost stories for titillation. The truly frightening aspect of so many of these stories is what happened while the women were alive. The alleged abuse suffered by Betsy Bell, who may have possibly manifested the poltergeist known as “The Bell Witch,” is more horrifying to me than any Hollywood ghost film. Even in accounts where there is not a lot of violence, there is at the very least a tale of a woman who was not believed. Religious fervor and madness are blamed for a lot of these hauntings. Gaslighting is a common, frustrating theme.

I was fascinated by every chapter in this book. I, too, feel “haunted” in the sense that Hieber and Janes use the term: I have always been drawn to things that scare me. I enjoy horror movies and novels more than any other type of genre. There is a sense of safety in being scared by fiction that is somehow comforting. A lot of people like monsters because they empathize with them. Ghosts entertain us because they are the unknown and the unknowable. The monsters and ghosts are not what actually scare us; it’s the feelings they evoke. You might think a haunted house story is corny. You’ve probably heard the rhyme little kids chant about Lizzie Borden. But when you hear about what Lizzie’s actual life was like, you feel empathy for her, even if you have not had the same life experiences she did.

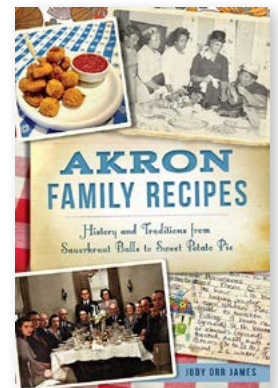
The things which truly frighten us are the things which are *real*. That is why women love horror: it allows us a healthy exploration of our real-life terrors. There is a sisterhood of haunted women throughout history, both actual people and fictional characters. I was thrilled to learn more about them all through the eyes of two women who are members of that sisterhood.

REVIEWED BY COURTNEY BROWN, OHIOANA LIBRARIAN

James, Judy Orr. *Akron Family Recipes: History and Traditions from Sauerkraut Balls to Sweet Potato Pie.*

Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2022.

Judy Orr James’ *Akron Family Recipes: History and Traditions from Sauerkraut Balls to Sweet Potato Pie* reminisces about the ethnic and cultural history of Akron, Ohio, through food, recipes, and personal reflections. While I originally selected this book to discover new recipes, I was immediately fascinated by Akron’s rich and diverse history. Each chapter highlights a cultural



or ethnic group who played a role in the city’s growth and development, focusing on locations of settlement, religious influences, and food contributions. The book features many communities including African American, Jewish, Greek, German, Polish, Appalachian, Southern, Irish, and Italian, to name a few. All chapters finish with personal reflections that emphasize the cultural and culinary connections, along with a recipe. These recipes vary across all food types; whether you are looking for an Irish soda bread recipe to serve on St. Patrick’s Day or chicken paprikash and dumplings to serve for a family gathering, you will find it in *Akron Family Recipes*.

Other than driving through the city on our way to visit my husband’s family in North Jackson, I did not know much about Akron prior to reading this book. I am now eager to explore the city, visit the intriguing sites James features, and attend the different cultural festivals.

James explains how the migration to Akron was greatly influenced by family connections and jobs in the various

thriving factories. In order to be close to work or near friends and family who had arrived earlier, different areas of the city became home to different groups, such as the Irish settling in Hell’s Half Acre and the Hungarians in Goosetown. With this settlement came the need for food, either at home or in local restaurants and bakeries. Several of the places listed, including Nicole’s Southern Kitchen, the New Era Restaurant, Kiflis Bakery & Café, and DeVitis Italian Market, continue to thrive and offer foods and traditions from their homelands—all culinary experiences to add to the Akron trip list.

Along with visiting the local food establishments, a stop at one of the cultural festivals or special events adds a real-life experience to understanding Akron’s history. The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church has a Greek festival in September and Gyro Thursday lunches. The German Family Society provides many opportunities to enjoy German heritage, from Oktoberfest to Fasching (Mardi Gras) and Lenten fish fries. The Akron Irish first celebrated St. Patrick’s Day in 1873. Today, locals and visitors can celebrate St. Patrick’s Day on the Saturday before March 17th, with festivities including a downtown parade. James highlights many other events and festivals, too, giving readers ample opportunities to visit throughout the year.

With so many options, I am excited to visit Akron and check out the different foods, festivals, history, and especially Akron’s official food: sauerkraut balls.

REVIEWED BY CHARLOTTE L. STIVERSON, EDUCATOR, RETIRED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, AND CHILDREN’S AUTHOR

Steinhoff, Dorri. *Red Bird Against the Snow: Restoration of a Modern Landmark.* Cleveland, OH: Parafine Press, 2021.

Anyone who has ever remodeled a home—or, better yet, renovated an abandoned home—will appreciate Dorri Steinhoff’s *Red Bird Against the Snow: Restoration of a Modern Landmark*. Steinhoff takes readers on a journey from the beginning of her house restoration days to her latest jewel, the Gunning House, also known as Glenbrow.



Red Bird Against the Snow begins with an introduction to how Steinhoff and her husband, Joe Kuspan, first became interested in restoring old homes. The couple’s early endeavors included turning a two-family city home into a single-family home, fixing up a cabin in the country, and creating gallery space for a shop. They then moved to the suburbs to enjoy and modify a Noverre Musson–designed home. As their daughters prepared to leave high school, Steinhoff and Kuspan decided it was time to downsize and considered building a house on the lot adjoining their home. However, by coincidence, as they were running errands one day, they discovered the long abandoned Glenbrow—a Columbus, Ohio, landmark. The remarkable house was originally designed and built by three talented architects: Ted van Fossen, who went on to create Rush Creek Village in central Ohio, and Tony Smith and Laurence Cuneo, who were both alumni of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Taliesin Fellowship.

Fascinated by Glenbrow, its history, and its creators, the Steinhoff/Kuspan family decided to take on the project, doing their best to recapture the original glory of the 1940s home, while also making it livable for the twenty-first century.

Steinhoff gives many details about the elaborate, multi-year restoration. Photos are provided to give glimpses into Glenbrow’s early days, as well as the restoration process and finished product. Throughout the book, it is clear how much the author and her family care about Glenbrow, and value its beauty and connection to nature.

Red Bird Against the Snow: Restoration of a Modern Landmark provides information about the architects and artists who left their mark on Glenbrow, while also bringing the house to life with retellings of the restoration work, architecture tours, art performances, and daily life events. I was so fascinated by Steinhoff’s account that I found myself on the internet, searching for even more photos and information about this unique house and its history. Thanks to an impressive amount of persistence, hard work, and compassion, Steinhoff and Kuspan saved a historic landmark and preserved an important piece of Ohio’s heritage.

REVIEWED BY CHARLOTTE L. STIVERSON, EDUCATOR, RETIRED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, AND CHILDREN’S AUTHOR

FICTION

Flower, Amanda. *Honeymoons Can Be Hazardous (An Amish Matchmaker Mystery #4)*.

New York, NY: Kensington Books, 2022.

Amanda Flower has done it again with *Honeymoons Can Be Hazardous*—a zany cozy mystery to fill your afternoon. This time it is marriage, ex-husbands, and the underside of society that intersect in small-town Ohio.

Millie Fisher, the Amish Miss Marple, and her friend Lois Henry begin this tale at the Sunbeam Café. They encounter Gerome (Rocksino-Guy) Moorhead, Lois’ fourth ex-husband, and his new wife, Paige (Honeybee) Delpont Moorhead.

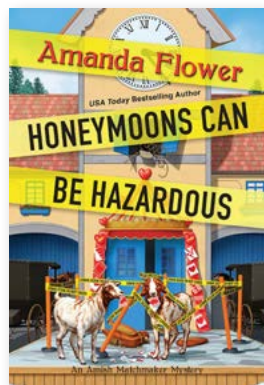
Gerome and Paige have been married only two days when Paige is struck and killed by a cuckoo clock. Yep, you read that correctly. The cuckoo fell out of the clock tower and onto the bride! Millie and Lois witness it. Unfortunately, as the ex-wife of Gerome, Lois becomes the prime suspect in Paige’s murder.

The investigation takes Millie and Lois to various towns in Holmes County. As they find more clues, they discover an ugly underbelly to life in “idyllic” Amish country.

In a wonderful subplot, Millie is called upon to check out a suitable match between two young Amish people in a nearby town. The boy is overeager, and the girl is definitely opposed to the marriage. Matchmaker Millie has her reservations.

In a fun and surprising crossover, be prepared for guest appearances by Jethro the potbellied pig, Bailey of Swissmen Sweets, and other beloved characters from Flower’s Amish Candy Shop Mystery series!

Honeymoons Can Be Hazardous is the fourth book in the Amish Matchmaker Mystery series, but readers won’t be lost if they haven’t read Flower’s prior books. It’s hard to resist reading them all, though—and the Amish Candy Shop Mystery series, too.



Amanda Flower lives in Tallmadge, Ohio, and draws her characters from the rural area she knows and loves.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN, COLUMBUS, OH

Thompson, Carlene. *Such a Winter’s Day*.

Edinburgh, Scotland: Severn House, 2021.

If you love mysteries tied up in families, try this one!

There’s a serial killer loose in Parrish, Ohio (an imaginary town that lies on the Ohio River across from West Virginia), about two and a half hours from Columbus. It’s the perfect chilly—and chilling—setting for Carlene Thompson’s newest mystery thriller, *Such a Winter’s Day*.



Juliet Reid travels from Columbus to Parrish to celebrate her twenty-fifth birthday. When she arrives, she learns her father died by suicide . . . or did he? He was found in her dead brother’s treehouse. Just ten years ago, when Juliet was only fifteen, she discovered her brother’s corpse tied to a tree. The murderer was convicted, but now he’s been released on a technicality. Can the murderer’s release and her father’s “suicide” really be a coincidence?

Alec Wainwright, Juliet’s friend and potential love interest, flies in from New York City. He was orphaned as a teen and lived with the Reid family through high school.

Juliet and Alec join forces to figure out just what’s happening in their sleepy hometown. As more murders stack up, they realize there’s a string of connected crimes stretching back ten years. What’s going on? Thompson will definitely keep you guessing!

The story is intense, but not too graphic in terms of violence. The dialogue can get a little confusing in spots, but it’s an overall riveting read. The crime unfolds as a “locked-room” mystery, culminating in an exciting chase scene. You’ll be on the edge of your seat until the end.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN, COLUMBUS, OH

POETRY

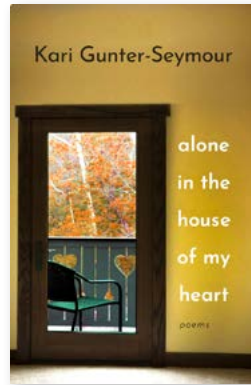
Gunter-Seymour, Kari. *Alone in the House of My Heart*.

Athens, OH: Swallow Press, 2022.

After my first reading of *Alone in the House of My Heart*, I couldn't resist picking it up to read again a few days later. I scribbled many fervent notes describing my connections to the work, filling umpteen pages with reflections. I tried to make sense of all my thoughts, and it felt difficult to gather myself. Then, I stumbled upon an interview with Kari Gunter-Seymour from the *Southern Review of Books*. Gunter-Seymour, the Poet Laureate of Ohio and founder and executive director of the Women of Appalachia Project, explained how she tells her students to write freely and honestly, then return to the work after some time away and "pretend you're not the person who wrote it. That way you can organize it on the page. You can bring order to your chaos." In these words, I found solace.

There are endless hidden gems to find in Gunter-Seymour's poems, with another meaning always waiting to be unearthed. The speaker graciously shows the reader how "to insist / ordinary things be somehow more." The poems also convey a narrative element, leading the reader through various memories and moments.

The ironic thing about this title is that these poems have reminded me that we are rarely alone in our struggles, though it may often feel like it. If you are ready to shed some difficult emotions, then this book is for you. I want to be clear that *Alone in the House of My Heart* is not a sad book; it is cathartic. You will finish this collection of poems with a fuller and stronger heart. You will feel the urge to "lay open your sack of troubles / to the sky." I cried through some of the poems, but they were not sorrowful tears. They were tears of joy at feeling seen, heard, and understood. I felt as if I was reading the untold stories of my family through these poems.



In the *Southern Review of Books* interview, Gunter-Seymour says she believes "poets are truth-sayers," and this role includes talking about bad habits and their generational nature. If we cannot discuss the painful aspects of life with our own communities, then how can anyone find solutions?

Alone in the House of My Heart exemplifies how vulnerability is a gift never to be taken lightly. Shame feeds on silence and enhances isolation. The speaker is aware of this, and she banishes shame with word after courageous word. Gunter-Seymour does not shy away from topics that are taboo. Addiction is a subject often romanticized, pathologized, or avoided altogether, but the speaker considers the issue with a sense of realism and compassion.

It is necessary to bring to light the ways that Appalachia has been abused and let down, but we must also honor the triumphs of heart and spirit that persist in these communities. Gunter-Seymour is familiar with what afflicts the people of Appalachia, and she is on a mission to remind them that they are not alone. If we open our eyes to the present and take delight in the ordinary, we might not be "trapped between memory and the moment" so often. Difficult memories can haunt us as we remember. The speaker demonstrates how to reflect—but not to dwell.

While I have a few favorite poems from this book, I cherish "Oh, You Woman of Appalachia" the most because of its empowering tone. This poem perfectly illustrates how Gunter-Seymour continually uplifts and encourages those around her. Tears came to my eyes as I read, "So when they call you soft, I say / You are not soft. / You are limestone. / You are flint. / You are mountain shine, / feed-sack proud. / You are diamond."

After spending time with these soulful poems, I am wholly inspired by the power of a woman set out to do right by her community. It has been a true honor getting to know the poetic voice of Kari Gunter-Seymour.

<https://southernreviewofbooks.com/2022/09/30/alone-in-the-house-of-my-heart-kari-gunter-seymour-interview/>

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM NORDINE, OHIOANA LIBRARY ASSISTANT

YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE

Slangerup, Erik Jon. *Molly and the Machine*.

New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2022.

Funny and fast-paced, *Molly and the Machine* by Erik Jon Slangerup combines friends, adventures, and a giant, little-brother-eating robot.

After Molly McQuirter’s mom up and leaves for Florida, her TV-obsessed dad becomes a professional couch potato. All machine-savvy Molly wants for summer vacation is some peace and time to concentrate on her inventions. But as always, little bro, Wally, messes it up. He somehow manages to become robot chow!



As annoying as Wally is, Molly can’t lose any more of her family. She embarks on an epic journey to rescue him through the backwoods of Far-Flung Falls, way back in the time of your parents (or even before) in 1983. She pedals into adventure on her custom-made bike, “Pink Lightning.” Its buttons and levers are armed with all kinds of her Gruncle’s (great uncle) defense mechanisms, like the basket attack, oil trail, and the one she’s forbidden to press “unless all else fails.” Her animal friends help, too, like Darryl the dog and Crank the cat.

Molly finds the robot who kidnapped her brother, treating him as her worst enemy. But when she uncovers the mastermind behind the weird science that created a ten-story terror, the journey takes a dramatic turn. One enemy gets himself friends, but the other meets a tragic end. At the conclusion of this amazing novel, Molly and her friends destroy the true enemy and come home heroes.

I immensely enjoyed reading this book and would 100% recommend it to fans of *Max Einstein* by Chris Grabenstein and James Patterson, or to anyone who loves an awesome adventure full of humor, overcoming obstacles, and family. Come along for the ride.

REVIEWED BY LARISA HOEHN, SEVENTH-GRADER. SPECIAL POWER: GETTING LOST IN BOOKS, BUT ALWAYS FINDING HER WAY TO THE NEXT ONE

JUVENILE

Rainey, Merrill. *Oink! I’m a Pig*.

New York, NY: HarperFestival, 2022.

Rainey, Merrill. *Roar! I’m a Dinosaur*.

New York, NY: HarperFestival, 2022.

Have you ever told a rambunctious toddler, “Books are not toys!” and rescued *Goodnight Moon* from their curious (and sometimes destructive) hands or teeth? Then these are the perfect books for you!



Oink! I’m a Pig and *Roar! I’m a Dinosaur* combine storytime and playtime in two delightful, novelty-format board books. Designed with eyehole cut outs and clever illustrations, children can hold the books up and pretend they are dinosaurs or farm animals. Bright, toddler-friendly text accompanies the pictures, with animal noises and action words for interactive play:

“CRUNCH! I’m a T. rex! My teeth are strong!”

“MOO! I’m a cow! I chew all day!”

(Sidenote: if two children are reading these books together, just be wary of sitting the toothy carnivore T. rex too close to the helpless herbivore cow . . .)

Author-illustrator Merrill Rainey and publisher HarperFestival did a fantastic job with the design of these books. The chunky, durable pages will easily hold up to rough play, and the eyeholes are thoughtfully placed away from the book edges, reducing the risk of rips and tears. They are bigger than most board books due to the interactive element, but still a terrific size to take along for car rides or stick in a stroller pocket.

With their unique formats, cute illustrations, and catchy text, *Oink! I’m a Pig* and *Roar! I’m a Dinosaur* are both wonderful additions to little readers’ bookshelves.

REVIEWED BY KATHRYN POWERS, OHIOANA LIBRARY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND SCBWI REGIONAL ADVISOR

Book List

The following books were added to Ohioana's collection between December 2022 and March 2023. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

NONFICTION

Clavreul, Denis. *In the Footsteps of Audubon*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2022.

Over a period of sixteen years, renowned French watercolorist Denis Clavreul followed the cross-country journey traveled by John James Audubon in the 1800s for his masterpiece, *The Birds of America*. *In the Footsteps of Audubon* pairs Clavreul's stunning watercolors with illuminating selections from Audubon's journals and several of his paintings.

Daso, Dik Alan. *Hap Arnold and the Evolution of American Airpower (Smithsonian History of Aviation Series)*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Books, 2022.

Taught to fly by the Wright Brothers, appointed the first and only five-star general of the Air Force, and remembered as the man who won World War II's air war, Henry Harley "Hap" Arnold is an icon in American aviation history. *Hap Arnold and the Evolution of American Airpower* draws on Arnold's personal papers and declassified documents to sketch out the adventurous career, dynamic personality, and bold vision of the "father of the Air Force."

Ervice, Kelcey. *The Keeper: Soccer, Me, and the Law That Changed Women's Lives*. New York, NY: Avery, 2022.

Growing up playing on a top national soccer team in the 1980s, Kelcey Ervice and her teammates didn't understand the change they represented. Title IX was enacted in 1972 with little fanfare, but to seismic effect; between then and now, girls' participation in organized sports has exploded more than 1,000 percent. Braiding together personal narrative, pop culture, literature, and history, Ervice tells the story of how her adolescence was shaped by this boom.

Fearnside, Jeff. *Ships in the Desert*. Santa Fe, NM: Santa Fe Writers Project, 2022.

In this linked essay collection, award-winning author Jeff Fearnside analyzes his four years as an educator on the Great Silk Road, primarily in Kazakhstan. Peeling back the layers of culture, environment, and history, Fearnside creates a compelling narrative about this faraway land.

Grohl, Dave. *The Storyteller: Tales of Life and Music*. New York, NY: Dey Street Books, 2021.

The first autobiography from Nirvana drummer and founder of the Foo Fighters, Dave Grohl, born in Warren, Ohio.

Newman, Paul. *The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man: A Memoir*. Edited by David Rosenthal. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2022.

This raw, candid, unvarnished memoir covers Paul Newman's traumatic childhood, his career, his drinking, his greatest roles, his intimate life with Joanne Woodward, his innermost fears,

and his passions and joys. Featuring thoughts and comments throughout from Joanne Woodward, George Roy Hill, Tom Cruise, Elia Kazan, and many others.

Pyle, Nathan W. *NYC Basic Tips and Etiquette*. New York, NY: William Morrow Paperbacks, 2014.

Living in New York City for five years as a transplant from Ohio, illustrator and T-shirt designer Nathan W. Pyle was fascinated by the unique habits and unspoken customs New Yorkers follow to make life bearable in a city with eight million people (and seemingly twice the number of tourists). In *NYC Basic Tips and Etiquette*, Pyle reveals the secrets and unwritten rules for both residents and visitors of New York.

Stashower, Daniel. *American Demon: Eliot Ness and the Hunt for America's Jack the Ripper*. New York, NY: Minotaur Books, 2022. Boston had its Strangler. California had the Zodiac Killer. And in the depths of the Great Depression, Cleveland had the Mad Butcher of Kingsbury Run. Award-winning author Daniel Stashower shines a fresh light on one of the most notorious puzzles in the annals of crime, and uncovers the gripping story of Eliot Ness' hunt for a sadistic killer.

Thompson, Debra. *The Long Road Home: On Blackness and Belonging*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2022.

Written by a leading scholar on the politics of race, *The Long Road Home* explores what it is to be Black in North America through family

history, memoir, and insight gained from a unique journey across the continent.

Waggoner, Tim. *Writing in the Dark*. Bowie, MD: Guide Dog Books, 2020.

In this comprehensive textbook devoted to the craft of writing horror fiction, award-winning author Tim Waggoner draws on thirty years' experience as a writer and teacher. *Writing in the Dark* offers advice, guidance, and insights on how to compose horror stories and novels that are original, frightening, entertaining, and well-written.

Walters, Ryan S. *The Jazz-Age President: Defending Warren G. Harding*. Washington, DC: Regnery History, 2022.

Frequently the butt of political jokes, historians have labeled Warren G. Harding as the “Worst President Ever.” In *The Jazz-Age President: Defending Warren G. Harding*, historian Ryan S. Walters presents that Harding, a humble man from Marion, Ohio, has been unfairly remembered, instead calling attention to his many accomplishments.

Watson, Blake A. *Buying America from the Indians*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2022. *Buying America from the Indians* offers a comprehensive historical and legal overview of Native land rights, beginning with the European “discovery” of the New World through the US Supreme Court ruling in *Johnson v. McIntosh* that established the basic principles that govern American Indian property rights to this day.

Young, Daniella Mestyaneck, and Brandi Larsen. *Uncultured: A Memoir*. New York, NY: St. Martin's Press, 2022.

This memoir follows Daniella Mestyaneck Young, who was raised in The Children of God religious cult. After suffering a childhood of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, Daniella escapes to Texas at age fifteen. She excels in high school and college, then joins the military after graduation to begin a career as an intelligence officer, where she believes she will finally belong. But Daniella soon learns that her new world—surrounded by men on the sands of Afghanistan—looks remarkably similar to the one she desperately tried to leave behind.

FICTION

Bialosky, Jill. *The Deceptions*. Berkeley, CA: Counterpoint, 2022.

An unnamed narrator seeks answers to the paradoxes of love, desire, and parenthood among the Greek and Roman gods at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She passes her days teaching at a boys' prep school but is haunted by memories of a yearlong friendship with a colleague. As secret betrayals and deceptions come to light and rage threatens to overwhelm her, the pantheon of gods assume remarkably vivid lives of their own, forcing her to choose between reality and myth.

Conway, Martha. *The Physician's Daughter*. London, UK: Zaffre Books, 2022.

It is 1865, the American Civil War has just ended, and eighteen-year-old Vita Tenney is determined to pursue her dream of becoming a country doctor like her father. But

when her father tells her she must get married instead, Vita explores every means of escape—and finds one in war veteran Jacob Culhane. Damaged by what he's seen in battle and with all his family gone, Jacob is seeking investors for a fledgling business. When Jacob and Vita meet, they hatch a plan that should satisfy their desires.

Cross, Tracy. *Rootwork (Conjure #1)*. Los Angeles, CA: Dark Hart Books, 2022.

Set in a small Louisiana parish deep in the segregated South, *Rootwork* follows school-age sisters Betty, Ann, and Pee Wee during one life-changing summer. When the sisters are sent to stay with Theodora, their hoodoo-practicing aunt, she teaches the girls the secrets of her craft, like how to make “hot foot powder” and whip up “goofer dust” to get back at an enemy. The girls delight in their harmless hoodoo adventures until a tragic event involving the town's racist sheriff changes their lives forever.

Dike, Marissa. *Liam's Town*. Toronto, Canada: Ukiyoto Publishing, 2022.

Seventeen-year-old Liam lives in a town where nothing ever changes. Every day he wakes up, goes to work in his grandfather's shop, and spends time with his friends. But one day a terrible storm hits, bringing a stranger to town who threatens everything—and everyone—that Liam has grown to love. As the illusion of his life unravels, Liam begins to realize that the home where he once felt safe is hiding a terrible secret. Faced with a choice, he must decide: does he want to remain in blissful ignorance, or does he want to learn the grave truth hiding beneath the surface?

Ellis, Grace. *Flung Out of Space: Inspired by the Indecent Adventures of Patricia Highsmith*. Illus. by Hannah Templer. New York, NY: Harry N. Abrams, 2022. *Flung Out of Space* is both a love letter to the essential lesbian novel, *The Price of Salt*, and an examination of its notorious author, Patricia Highsmith. Veteran comics creators Grace Ellis and Hannah Templer have teamed up to tell this story through Highsmith's eyes—reimagining the events that inspired her to write the story that would become a foundational piece of queer literature.

Goble, Steve. *Wayward Son: An Ed Runyon Mystery*. Sarasota, FL: Oceanview Publishing, 2022. Ed Runyon finds a new focus when he is hired to find Jimmy Zachman, a runaway chess aficionado who is keeping secrets from his homophobic, religious parents. Finding kids is the reason he became a PI, so Ed is determined to succeed and put the demons and other problems behind him. But Jimmy made a bad move and ran into far more trouble than he was already in. The hunt for Jimmy leads Ed to a deadly and desperate confrontation.

Gray, Shelley Shepard, Charlotte Hubbard, and Rosalind Lauer. *An Amish Christmas Star*. New York, NY: Kensington Books, 2022. Filled with faith, family, and a whole lot of heart, *New York Times*–bestselling author Shelley Shepard Gray joins Charlotte Hubbard and Rosalind Lauer for three all-new holiday stories celebrating the spirit of the season, the warmth of simple Amish traditions, and the joys of coming home for Christmas.

Gray, Shelley Shepard. *Amish Jane Doe*. Toronto, Canada: Harlequin, 2022. Escaping his Amish community as a teen was about survival, but leaving meant breaking LizBeth Troyer's heart. Now, Detective Jackson Lapp is working a cold case—and the clue to a murdered Amish girl's identity leads him back to his hometown. Can Jackson and LizBeth rebuild their broken trust and work together to catch a killer before another young Amish woman is murdered?

Gray, Shelley Shepard. *Edgewater Road (Rumors in Ross County #1)*. New York, NY: Blackstone Publishing, 2022. When Jennifer Smiley inherits her grandmother's farmhouse in seemingly quiet Ross County, Ohio, she moves in looking for a fresh start. But she soon discovers her grandmother may have been hiding a dark past. The first in a new series from *New York Times*–bestselling author Shelley Shepard Gray, *Edgewater Road* invites readers into a world of family mysteries and small-town secrets.

Gray, Shelley Shepard. *Happily Ever Amish (The Amish of Apple Creek)*. New York, NY: Kensington Books, 2022. Addie Byler is Apple Creek's resident wallflower and singleton. When she receives a note from a secret admirer, she's sure it's a prank. But as more notes arrive, Addie finds the courage to write back and takes a chance on love. This heartwarming new series from *New York Times*–bestselling author Shelley Shepard Gray combines a close Amish community with favorite romance tropes.

Hemley, Robin. *Oblivion: An After Autobiography*. Boston, MA: Gold Wake Press Collective, 2022. Where do writers go when they die? The forgotten ones, at least, go to The Cafe of Minor Authors where they drink endless cups of cappuccino, self-obsess, and nurse their shattered dreams. Some authors, it's rumored, can escape Oblivion if they try hard enough to write something the universe can't ignore, even after death. This is the story of one ambitious writer stuck in Oblivion who not only risks upturning his own fate, but also the fate of his literary hero, and that of his great grandmother, Hanna, an aspiring actor in the Yiddish theater in 1911 Prague.

Herchenroether, Sara. *The Night Flowers*. Portland, OR: Tin House, 2023. In 1983, deep in New Mexico's Gila National Forest, the bodies of a young woman and two children were found. Who were they, and how did they get there? Thirty years later, two women find themselves drawn to the cold case. Librarian Laura MacDonald begins her own investigation as a way to distract herself from breast cancer treatments. Jean Martinez is a veteran detective determined to keep working cold cases for the Sierra County police force as her family begs her to retire. With only fragments from dusty case files and a witness who doesn't want to remember, this unlikely duo is determined—no matter the cost—to uncover the truth.

Hess, Victor. *Jesse's Dream: Searching for Family*. Xenia, OH: Victor Hess, 2022. For over four years, Jesse's father's addiction to alcohol and gambling

has deprived Jesse and his mom of basic necessities. Forced to grow up too soon, Jesse takes responsibility for his family, but it causes him to neglect school so much that he is in danger of repeating the sixth grade. When the community church welcomes a new pastor and his wife, Jesse is offered an unexpected path. Will he be brave enough to take it? *Jesse's Dream* is the third and final book in Victor Hess' Searching for Family series.

Huber, Anna Lee. *A Certain Darkness (Verity Kent #6)*. New York, NY: Kensington Books, 2022. In March 1920, former British Intelligence agent Verity Kent and her husband, Sidney, are given seemingly separate cases. When they discover their cases are intertwined, Verity and Sidney make a startling revelation: the Great War may be over, but there are still many dangerous battles left to fight.

Hurley, Kameron. *Future Artifacts: Stories*. Lexington, KY: Apex Book Company, 2022. Kameron Hurley, award-winning author and expert in the future of war and resistance movements, has created eighteen exhilarating tales giving glimpses into the warfare of tomorrow.

Kiste, Gwendolyn. *Reluctant Immortals*. New York, NY: Gallery/Saga Press, 2022. From Bram Stoker Award-winning author Gwendolyn Kiste comes a novel inspired by the untold stories of forgotten women in classic literature. From Lucy Westenra, a victim of Stoker's *Dracula*, to Bertha Mason, Mr. Rochester's attic-bound wife in Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, the women band together to combat the toxic men bent on destroying

their lives, set against the backdrop of the Summer of Love, Haight-Ashbury, 1967.

Lang, Ruth Emmie. *The Wilderwomen*. New York, NY: St. Martin's Press, 2022. Five years ago, Nora Wilder disappeared. With her psychic abilities, Nora's oldest daughter, Zadie, should have seen it coming. But somehow, Zadie wasn't able to prevent their mother from vanishing. Zadie's estranged younger sister, Finn, can't see into the future, but she has her own talent: she remembers not only her own memories, but also the "echoes" of memories other people leave behind. When Finn is seized by a powerful "echo," and wakes up alone in an aviary with no idea of how she got there, she realizes the memory belongs to her mother. Can Finn convince her sister that not only is their mother still out there, but that she wants to be found?

Matulich, Josef. *The Silk Empress*. Worthington, OH: Dalmatian Alley Books, 2022. The boy called "Pig" grew up reading stories of airships and adventurers in penny dreadfuls. Now, at age twelve, he finds himself orphaned and apprenticed to Feng Po McLaren, a semi-reformed air-pirate, first mate of the airship *Wu Zetian* along the High Silk Road between China and Europe. While facing pirates, rebels, five unusual women of dangerous abilities, and a clockwork dragon might seem like the adventure Pig always wanted, it was all so much easier in his books . . .

Miller, Patricia. *Mysterious Tales of the Unexplained: Volume 2*. St. Petersburg, FL: Booklocker.com, 2022.

Ghostly dreams, hidden tunnels, haunted hallways, devious secrets, and a seemingly unbreakable Chinese puzzle box make up the four mysteries in this collection, *Mysterious Tales of the Unexplained: Volume 2*.

Okorafor, Nnedi, and John Jennings. *After the Rain*. Illus. by David Brame. New York, NY: Harry N. Abrams, 2021. *After the Rain* is a graphic novel adaptation of Nnedi Okorafor's short story, "On the Road." When Chioma, a Nigerian-American woman, answers a knock at her door, she is horrified to see a boy with a severe head wound standing at her doorstep. He reaches for her, and his touch burns like fire. Something is very wrong. Haunted and hunted, Chioma must embrace her heritage in order to survive in this graphic novel collaboration by John Jennings and David Brame.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *The Book of Phoenix*. New York, NY: DAW, 2016. A prequel to the highly acclaimed, World Fantasy Award-winning novel, *Who Fears Death*, *The Book of Phoenix* features the rise of another of Nnedi Okorafor's powerful, memorable, superhuman women.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *The Complete Binti Trilogy*. New York, NY: DAW, 2019. Collected for the first time in an omnibus edition, the Hugo and Nebula Award-winning Binti trilogy is the story of one extraordinary girl's sci-fi journey from her home to distant Oomza University.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Kabu Kabu*. Gaithersburg, MD: Prime Books, 2013. This short story collection includes

notable previously published material, a new novella co-written with *New York Times*-bestselling author Alan Dean Foster, six additional original stories, and a foreword by Whoopi Goldberg.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Lagoon*. New York, NY: Saga Press, 2016.

It's up to a famous rapper, a biologist, and a rogue soldier to handle humanity's first contact with an alien ambassador—and prevent mass extinction—in this novel that blends magical realism with high-stakes action.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Noor*. New York, NY: DAW, 2021.

From Africanfuturist luminary Okorafor comes a science fiction novel of intense action and thoughtful rumination on biotechnology, destiny, and humanity in a near-future Nigeria.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Remote Control*. New York, NY: Tor Books, 2021.

An alien artifact turns a young girl into Death's adopted daughter in *Remote Control*, a thrilling sci-fi tale of community and female empowerment.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Who Fears Death*. New York, NY: DAW, 2014.

In post-apocalyptic Africa, Onyesonwu manifests remarkable and unique magic, but is a half-breed rejected by her community. Desperate to elude her would-be murderer and to understand her own nature, she embarks on a journey in which she grapples with tradition, history, true love, and the spiritual mysteries of her culture, and ultimately learns why she was given the name she bears: Who Fears Death.

Pepper, David. *A Simple Choice*. New York, NY: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2022.

When one of the nation's most prestigious senators jumps from a cliff in Maine, it is no surprise that the political elite and the media flock to the story, determined to uncover what happened—and whether foul play was involved. Palmer Knight, a fast-rising TV news correspondent, is sent to cover the mysterious death, and finds himself embroiled in a plot that goes far beyond the Senate and onto the global stage.

Pepper, David. *The Voter File*. New York, NY: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2020.

The most important tool in any election is the voter file: a database that keeps track of all voters in a district and shapes a campaign's game plan for victory. If one person were to gain control of an entire party's voter file, they could manipulate the outcome of America's elections. When investigative reporter Jack Sharpe discovers this has happened—and that the person behind the hack is determined to turn American politics upside down—he is forced to question the country he loves and a president he admired.

Pratt, Gregor. *Dragon's Eye: Who's Watching You?* Sarasota, FL: St. Armands Press, 2022.

When his wife and the mother of his children goes missing, Jack Gamble doesn't know what to think. Could Maddy really have fallen for one of her students and run off? That's what the police believe. But soon a mystery begins to unravel—one of hidden evidence, international relations, and an overreaching, totalitarian government.

Pyle, Nathan W. *Strange Planet*. New York, NY: Morrow Gift, 2019.

Straight from the mind of #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author Nathan W. Pyle, *Strange Planet* is an adorable and profound universe in pink, blue, green, and purple, based on the phenomenally popular Instagram comic. This book offers a sweet and hilarious look at a distant world not all that unlike our own.

Pyle, Nathan W. *Stranger Planet*. New York, NY: Morrow Gift, 2020.

The sequel to *Strange Planet*, the #1 *New York Times*-bestselling phenomenon, featuring more hilarious and poignant adventures from the fascinating inhabitants of Nathan W. Pyle's colorful world. This second volume explores four major topics: traditions, nature, emotions, and knowledge.

Shelley, James. *The Deep Translucent Pond*. New York, NY: Adelaide Books, 2021.

In *The Deep Translucent Pond*, an attorney and a nurse are winners of poetry fellowships which allow them rare access to a once famous, now reclusive poet known as the Black Magus. But at their first meeting, the Black Magus "hijacks" the fellowship, proclaiming it the final piece of his secretive ten-year project known as the *Triangulum*, which will bring about the re-enchantment of the world.

Sickels, Carter. *The Evening Hour*. New York, NY: Bloomsbury USA, 2012.

Most of the wealth in Dove Creek, West Virginia, is in the coal seams that have provided generations with a way of life. Twenty-seven-year-old Cole Freeman has kept himself out of the mines by becoming an aide in a nursing home, with a side job

reselling the prescription drugs his older patients give him. Although Cole has often dreamed of leaving Dove Creek, he has a sense of duty to the land, especially after the death of his grandfather. He spends all his time with his elderly patients, avoiding both his dreams and the mining corporation angling to buy the Freeman family's property. Only when a disaster befalls the mountains is Cole forced to confront his fears and take decisive action—if not to save the world, to at least save himself.

Warrell, Laura. *Sweet, Soft, Plenty Rhythm*. New York, NY: Pantheon, 2022.

Circus Palmer, a forty-year-old Boston-based trumpet player and ladies' man, lives for his music and refuses to be tied down. Before a gig in Miami, he learns that the woman who is secretly closest to his heart, the free-spirited drummer Maggie, is pregnant by him. Instead of facing the necessary conversation, Circus flees, setting off a chain of interlocking revelations from the various women in his life. Delivering an orchestration of diverse female voices, Warrell spins a story of passion and risk, fathers and daughters, wives and single women, and, ultimately, hope and reconciliation.

Winfrey, Kerry. *Just Another Love Song*. New York, NY: Berkley, 2022. Two high school sweethearts get a second chance at their perfect ending in this charming new romance by Kerry Winfrey, author of *Very Sincerely Yours*.

POETRY

Abbott, Steve, ed. *Common Threads 2022*. Toledo, OH: Ohio Poetry Association, 2022.

Published annually and edited by Steve Abbott, *Common Threads* is an Ohio Poetry Association members-only journal and is one of the privileges of membership. The journal features poetry of OPA members and contest winners, such as those who win the Ides of March and Ohio High School Poetry contests.

Baker, David. *Whale Fall: Poems*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company, 2022.

The eleventh collection from acclaimed poet David Baker, *Whale Fall* is about time, measured in the wingbeats of a hummingbird or the epochs of geological change, and about place, whether a backyard in Ohio or the slopes of a melting glacier.

Bilotserkivets, Natalka. *Eccentric Days of Hope and Sorrow*.

Translated by Ali Kinsella and Dzvinya Orłowsky. Sandpoint, ID: Lost Horse Press, 2021. *Eccentric Days of Hope and Sorrow* brings together a selection of Natalka Bilotserkivets' poetry from the last four decades. Having established an English-language following largely on the merits of a single poem, Bilotserkivets' larger body of work continues to be relatively unknown. She was an active participant in "Ukraine's Renaissance" of the late-Soviet and early-independence period. Now, nearly thirty years on, much has changed in her birth land, but the lyricism and urgency in Bilotserkivets' poetry remains; her

voice still speaks about movement and endeavors to shed light on missing history.

Borders, James. *Resurrecting Onions*. Rancho Cucamonga, CA: Kung Fu Treachery Press, 2022. *Resurrecting Onions* is a journey through darkness and a secrecy of shadows that falls beyond the abyss of expectations.

Cole, Emily Rose. *Thunderhead*. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 2022.

In this collection, Emily Rose Cole unearths the fragility and resilience of daughterhood through imagery that evokes new senses of the body: swallowing keys, rain lashing eyelids, unzipping of flesh. Grieving self-portraits of historical and mythological women are woven with recollections of struggling bodies and haunting spells to overcome them.

Devi, Ananda. *When the Night Agrees to Speak to Me*. Translated by Kazim Ali. Wilmington, NC: Phoneme Media, 2022.

A poetic, autobiographical collection from famed Mauritian writer Ananda Devi, engaging with loneliness, desire, violence, and aging.

Freeman, Siaara. *Urbanshee*. Minneapolis, MN: Button Poetry, 2022.

Urbanshee is Siaara Freeman's retelling of fairy tales and mythological stories through a modern and urban lens. This collection discusses the weight of being Black in America, Freeman's relationships to lovers and family, and how the place where you grew up can become part of your identity.

Jastrun, Mieczyslaw. *Memorials: A Selection*. Translated by Jeff Friedman and Dzvinia Orłowsky. New Orleans, LA: Diálogos, 2014. A lyric poet and essayist, Jastrun survived the terrible years of the Nazi occupation and the Stalinist period in Poland. During his lifetime, he published a dozen volumes of poetry including *A Human Matter*, *A Meeting in Time*, and *Protected Hour*. Translated to English, *Memorials* introduces a powerful selection of poems by one of the most well-respected Polish poets of the twentieth century.

Kendrick, Stephanie. *In Any of These Towns*. Russell, KY: Sheila-Na-Gig Editions, 2022. *In Any of These Towns* explores the quirky underbelly of small-town America. The poems in this collection navigate the hardships that many river, coal, and factory towns face as industry has packed up and moved on. Characters based on real people appear throughout to inject color and humanity into the darkness.

Oliver, Carolyn. *Inside the Storm I Want to Touch the Tremble*. Salt Lake City, UT: The University of Utah Press, 2022. The poems in this debut collection hum with fear and desire, bewildering loss, and love's lush possibilities. Oliver's gathering of speakers includes lovers and saints, painters and dead poets, a hawk and a mother.

Orłowsky, Dzvinia. *Bad Harvest*. Pittsburgh, PA: Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2018. Dzvinia Orłowsky's sixth collection of poetry sings its stories with lyric, grace, comic intuition, and tragic force. The poet leads readers over

the remains of drought and along empty riverbeds that run parallel to failure and death, but then twists to capture a more elusive truth.

Orłowsky, Dzvinia. *Convertible Night, Flurry of Stones*. Pittsburgh, PA: Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2008.

The tenacious, feisty speaker in this collection refuses the typecast as another breast cancer statistic, another bumper sticker pink bow. Dzvinia Orłowsky's voice joins those whose lives have been—and continue to be—altered by this disease.

Orłowsky, Dzvinia. *Silvertone*. Pittsburgh, PA: Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2013.

The poems in *Silvertone* both celebrate and question the psychological existence we give to the objects that define our lives: the silver spoon from which the speaker sips the sacred borscht during each Epiphany, which she later catches her mother pouring down the drain after guests have left; the acoustic guitar on which the speaker's father strums his minor-keyed songs from Ukraine; or the granite bust of a national poet that fails to inspire.

Russell, Sandra. *Some of Us Are Ghosts*. Buchtel, OH: Monday Creek Publishing, 2022.

One October night, Sandra Russell was driving on a country road. Just as she crested a big hill, she saw below what looked like a specter in white. As the car slowed, she realized it was just a neighbor in a long nightgown, picking up her mail from across the road. Suddenly the poem came to her. With the help of a blue crayon and paper napkins, Sandra wrote *Some of Us Are Ghosts*.

Wagner, Sara Moore. *Hillbilly Madonna*. Tampa, FL: Driftwood Press, 2022.

Sara Moore Wagner's *Hillbilly Madonna* is a harrowing and ultimately hopeful lens into rural life and the opioid crisis. Rendered with crucial honesty, these poems center on the experiences of women in Appalachia, revealing their often-overlooked stories and perspectives.

Wagner, Sara Moore. *Swan Wife*. San Diego, CA: Cider Press Review, 2022.

A lyric collection of poems about the radical transformation that can happen in the first year of marriage. It hinges on an obsession with tropes and stereotypes about what a wife is or should be, and the narrative arc is loosely based on fairy tales in which a swan or crane or seal has its animal skin stolen and is wed.

MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *The Mysteries of Trash and Treasure: The Secret Letters*. New York, NY: Katherine Tegen Books, 2022.

In *The Secret Letters*, Colin and Nevaeh find vintage letters that lead to interlocking mysteries from the 1970s and 1980s. While learning about "women's lib," the ERA, and other social issues from that era, Colin and Nevaeh realize how echoes from the past affect their present lives.

McGinnis, Mindy. *The Last Laugh (Initial Insult #2)*. New York, NY: Katherine Tegen Books, 2022.

In the dark sequel to *The Initial Insult*, award-winning author Mindy McGinnis concludes this

suspenseful YA duology as long-held family secrets finally come to light, changing Amontillado forevermore.

McGinnis, Mindy. *A Long Stretch of Bad Days*. New York, NY: Katherine Tegen Books, 2023.

A lifetime of hard work has put Lydia Chass on track to attend a prestigious journalism program and leave small-town Henley behind—until a school error leaves her a credit short of graduating. To earn that credit, Lydia concocts a plan to transform her listener-friendly local history podcast into a truth-telling exposé. Bristol Jamison—Lydia’s total opposite—has a bad reputation and a foul mouth, but she also needs one more credit to graduate. An unexpected partnership forms as the two join forces to investigate the Long Stretch of Bad Days: a week when Henley was hit by a tornado and a flash food, as well as its first—and only—unsolved murder.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Akata Warrior (The Nsibidi Scripts #2)*. New York, NY: Viking Books for Young Readers, 2017.

A year ago, Sunny Nwazue, an American-born Nigerian girl, was inducted into the secret Leopard Society. Now, Sunny is studying with her mentor Sugar Cream and struggling to unlock the secrets in her strange Nsibidi book. But Sunny knows it’s only a matter of time before she must confront her destiny. With the support of her Leopard Society friends, Orlu, Chichi, and Sasha, and of her spirit face, Anyanwu, she will travel through worlds both visible and invisible to the mysterious town of Osi, where she will fight a climactic battle to save humanity.

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Akata Witch (The Nsibidi Scripts #1)*. New York, NY: Viking Books for Young Readers, 2011.

Twelve-year-old Sunny lives in Nigeria, but she was born American. Her features are African, but she’s albino. She’s a terrific athlete, but she can’t go out into the sun to play soccer. Sunny doesn’t seem to fit in anywhere, but then she discovers something amazing—she is a “free agent” with latent magical power. Soon she’s part of a quartet of magic students, studying the visible and invisible, learning to change reality. But will it be enough to help them when they are asked to catch a career criminal who knows magic, too?

Okorafor, Nnedi. *Akata Woman (The Nsibidi Scripts #3)*. New York, NY: Viking Books for Young Readers, 2022.

From the moment Sunny Nwazue discovered she had mystical energy flowing in her blood, she sought to understand and control her powers. Now, those hard lessons and abilities are put to the test in a quest so dangerous and fantastical, it would be madness to go . . . but the world could be destroyed if she refuses. With the help of her friends, Sunny embarks on a mission to find a precious object hidden deep in an otherworldly realm. Defeating the guardians of the prize will take more from Sunny than she has to give, and triumph will mean she will be forever changed.

Pancholy, Maulik. *Nikhil Out Loud*. New York, NY: Balzer + Bray, 2022. From Maulik Pancholy, the actor and Stonewall Honor-winning author of *The Best at It*, comes a new middle grade novel about a gay Indian American boy who learns the power of using his voice.

Parry, Rosanne. *A Whale of the Wild*. Illus. by Lindsay Moore. New York, NY: Greenwillow Books, 2022. A young orca whale must lead her brother on a tumultuous journey to be reunited with their pod. This animal adventure novel explores family bonds, survival, global warming, and a changing seascape.

Springstubb, Tricia. *Looking for True*. New York, NY: Margaret Ferguson Books, 2022.

When two unlikely friends bond over their shared compassion for a bereft but lovable dog, they learn what it truly means to find a sense of belonging and identity.

Stine, Megan. *Where is the North Pole?* Illus. by Robert Squier. New York, NY: Penguin Workshop, 2022. It might seem lonely at the top of the world, but the North Pole is teeming with life! Polar bears, walruses, and arctic seals make their home on sea ice that can be nine feet thick, while the Inuit and other indigenous peoples continue their traditions and means for survival in this harsh climate. Along with the early twentieth-century story of Robert Peary’s egomaniacal quest to reach the exact spot of the North Pole, this is an exciting new addition to the *Where Is?* series.

Stine, R. L. *Goosebumps: Slappy, Beware!* New York, NY: Scholastic, 2022.

This is Slappy’s world—you only scream in it! Slappy the ventriloquist’s dummy has only one mission in his tiny, deranged mind: do evil every day, all day. His creator, powerful sorcerer Darkwell the Magician, has warned him that should he fail to cause chaos before the sun sets each day, he will sleep FOREVER. Normally, this is a piece

of poisonous cake for Slappy—but he may have met his match in the Carlton family. Each attempt at evil ends in disaster, and the dummy starts to panic. Will Slappy’s scariest day yet bring an end to his reign of terror?

Stine, R. L. *Haunting with the Stars (Goosebumps Slappyworld #17)*. New York, NY: Scholastic, 2022. Space-obsessed Murphy Shannon is pumped that his sixth grade class is visiting the Rayburne Observatory. Except, being a know-it-all means he’s totally bored with the lectures on the field trip. When classmates Orly and Cleo say they should explore on their own, Murphy sneaks out with them. But when they come face-to-face with the strange Dr. Rayburne and his experiments, they realize they’re in way over their heads. An adventure in space may be in store for them, if they can survive.

Stine, R. L. *Slappy in Dreamland (Goosebumps Slappyworld #16)*. New York, NY: Scholastic, 2022. Richard Hsieh’s dad studies dreams. One day, they decide to hook Richard’s new Slappy doll up to the dream machine as a joke. All of a sudden, Richard starts having nightmares of Slappy coming to life and wreaking havoc. But they’re only dreams, right? Except, when his cousin Willow comes to visit, she also dreams of Slappy. It’s impossible! But when Slappy threatens to invade more kids’ dreams, they’ll have to figure out how to defeat him before he becomes a dream master.

Stine, R. L. *Stinetingers: All New Stories by the Master of Scary Tales (Stinetingers #1)*. New York, NY: Feiwel and Friends, 2022.

From *New York Times*–bestselling author R. L. Stine, the master of horror for young readers, comes ten new stories that are sure to leave you shivering.

Warga, Jasmine. *A Rover’s Story*. Illus. by Matt Rockefeller. New York, NY: Balzer + Bray, 2022. Meet Resilience, a Mars rover determined to live up to his name. Res was built to explore Mars. He was not built to have human emotions. But as he learns new things from the NASA scientists who assemble him, he begins to develop humanlike feelings. Maybe there’s a problem with his programming. When launch day comes, Res blasts off to Mars, but he quickly discovers the planet is a dangerous place filled with dust storms and giant cliffs. The mission tests him in ways that go beyond space exploration. As millions of people back on Earth follow his progress, will Res have the determination, courage, and resilience to succeed . . . and survive?

JUVENILE

Awan, Jashar. *Strum and Drum: A Merry Little Quest*. Toronto, Canada: Tundra Books, 2022. A pair of Christmas tree ornaments set out on the adventure of a lifetime in this picture book about the inner lives of holiday decorations.

Barretta, Gene. *Starring Steven Spielberg: The Making of a Young Filmmaker*. Illus. by Craig Orback. New York, NY: Christy Ottaviano Books, 2022. Steven Spielberg is the legendary director and producer behind many of the most popular films of all time.

Now, young readers can learn how it all began with this exclusive look into his childhood and life.

Coates, Doug. *Bobby Button Goes to School*. Illus. by Sangi Parvin. Walterboro, SC: Martina Publishing, 2022. Follow Bobby Button, his best friend, Brian, and all his other button friends as they embark on a school adventure.

Colebank, Jean. *Sit Down, Little Prince! A Math Story about Carl Friedrich Gauss*. Illus. by Margeaux Lucas. Dobbs Ferry, NY: Saddle Point Publishing, 2019. A boy must prove he is a genius with numbers before he can study to become the famous mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauss. Follow along as his curiosity with numbers is finally noticed by Schoolmaster Buttner in this fictional account of real-life events.

Corey, Shana. *My Little Golden Book About Ruth Bader Ginsburg*. Illus. by Margeaux Lucas. New York, NY: Golden Books, 2020. From a young age, Ruth Bader Ginsburg knew that she wanted to fight for girls and women to have equal rights. She studied and worked very hard, becoming the second woman—and the first Jewish woman—to be a United States Supreme Court Justice. This Little Golden Book is a compelling introduction to an inspiring woman, written for the youngest readers.

Daywalt, Drew. *The Crayons Trick or Treat*. Illus. by Oliver Jeffers. New York, NY: Philomel Books, 2022. The Crayons want to go trick-or-treating, but they’re not sure what

to say! In this humorous, Halloween story, Purple Crayon teaches the rest of the crayon box the magic words to say when they ring their neighbors' doorbells. (Hint: It's NOT "Boo!")

Daywalt, Drew. ***Green is for Christmas***. Illus. by Oliver Jeffers. New York, NY: Philomel Books, 2022.

When Green Crayon claims that green is the only color for Christmas, the other crayons let him know that Christmas needs them, too. There would be no candy canes or Santa without Red, no snow without White, no bells or stars without Silver, and no cookies or reindeer without Tan! The crayons agree that they all need to come together to make Christmas special.

Keller, Shana. ***The Peach Pit Parade: A World War I Story***. Illus. by Margeaux Lucas. Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear Press, 2022.

When Polly's father goes overseas to fight in World War I, her whole world changes. Though the war is in Europe, its effects are felt on American soil. There are food, fuel, and other supply shortages everywhere. When the government puts out a notice requesting peach pits to be used in gas mask filters, Polly knows how she can help.

Metcalf, Lindsay H., Keila V. Dawson, and Jeanette Bradley, eds. ***No World Too Big: Young People Fighting Global Climate Change***. Illus. by Jeanette Bradley. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2023.

Climate change impacts everyone, but the future belongs to young people. Fourteen poems by Vanessa Brantley-Newton, David Bowles, Rajani LaRocca, Renée LaTulippe, Heidi E. Y. Stemple, and others

honor activists from all over the world and the United States. Additional text goes into detail about each activist's life and how readers can get involved.

Moore, Lindsay. ***Sea Bear: A Journey for Survival***. New York, NY: Greenwillow Books, 2019. Lindsay Moore's remarkable and beautifully illustrated picture book follows a lone polar bear as she makes her way across sea ice in the Arctic.

Moore, Lindsay. ***Yoshi and the Ocean: A Sea Turtle's Incredible Journey Home***. New York, NY: Greenwillow Books, 2022. Lindsay Moore chronicles the remarkable true story of Yoshi, a loggerhead sea turtle who traveled an astounding 25,000 miles after being released from the aquarium that rehabilitated her. *Yoshi and the Ocean* is a picture book about patience, perseverance, the ocean, and finding your way home.

Pyle, Nathan W. ***Strange Planet: The Sneaking, Hiding, Vibrating Creature***. New York, NY: HarperCollins, 2021.

When the nearest star rises, Lifegiver has an exciting quest planned for Offspring! Follow along as they observe a strange creature that sneaks, hides, and vibrates around their house. Hilarity ensues as the blue beings try to mimic this talented creature. As always, Nathan W. Pyle draws humor from his unique perspective on human activity, delivering a colorful picture book that young and old beings alike will enjoy reading together.

Snider, Brandon T. ***The New Switcheroo (Rube Goldberg and His Amazing Machines #2)***. Illus. by Ed Steckley. New York, NY: Harry N. Abrams, 2022.

After unintentionally unmasking a criminal mastermind at his school's Contraption Convention, Rube Goldberg—and his inventions—are the talk of the sixth grade. Rube and his two best friends, Boob and Pearl, are busy planning Pearl's campaign for class president. It seems like Pearl's path to victory is set, until a new mystery strikes the town. Rube is eager to bring Zach into the fold, but Boob and Pearl can't help but wonder if Rube's mysterious new friend is hiding something. Will Rube get his mojo back in time to unravel the mystery and save Pearl's campaign?

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Columbus Metropolitan Library's
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Join us for the triumphant live, in-person return of the Ohioana Book Festival. The event features a book fair, book signings, panel discussions and readings with your favorite Ohio authors, children's activities, food trucks, and more. Free – no ticket and no advance registration required. For more information, visit www.ohioana.org.

Author Event: Julia Keller

April 25, 2023
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Gramercy Books Bexley
2424 E. Main St., Bexley, Ohio

Join Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Julia Keller to learn about *Quitting: A Life Strategy*, her lively and inspiring exploration of how quitting is, counterintuitively, the key to success. To register, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/julia-keller-shares-important-life-strategy-in-new-book-quitting-tickets-515068041377.

22nd Thurber Prize for American Humor

April 28, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Southern Theatre
21 E. Main St., Columbus, Ohio

The Southern Theatre will come alive in a red carpet extravaganza as Thurber House presents an all-new show celebrating the finalists and winner of this coveted national humor writing award. For tickets and information, visit www.thurberprize.org.

James Wright Poetry Festival 2023

April 29, 2023
9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Martins Ferry Public Library
20 S. Fifth St., Martins Ferry, Ohio

After two decades since its last gathering, the James Wright Poetry Festival returns to Martins Ferry, Ohio. Poets and poetry enthusiasts will gather for this day-long event to celebrate the spoken word and the work of poet and Ohio native James Wright. For more information, visit www.ohiopoetryassn.org/james-wright-festival-2023.

Author Event: Natalie D. Richards

May 8, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Joseph Beth Booksellers
2692 Madison Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio

The last show has ended, but the nightmare is just beginning in *Four Found Dead*, author Natalie D. Richards' ninth young adult thriller. Join Natalie in conversation with David Bell for a discussion and book signing. For more information, visit www.josephbeth.com/event/natalie-d-richards-conversation-david-bell-discussing-and-signing-four-found-dead.

Ohioana Book Club

June 21, 2023
10:00 a.m. – noon
Ohioana Library
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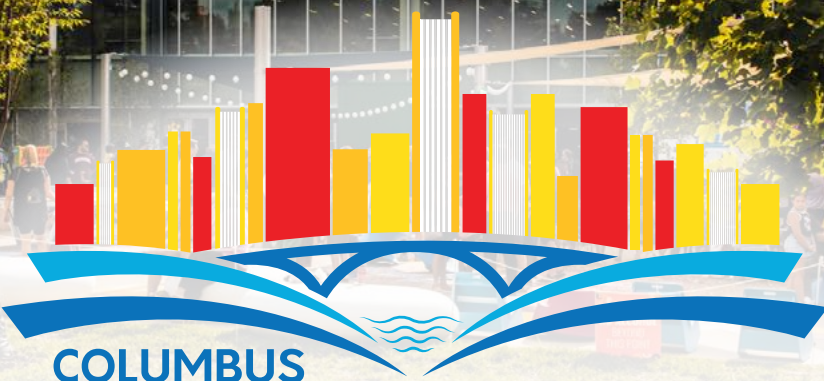
The book for June is *Because I Could Not Stop for Death*, the first title in a new series by Amanda Flower. Free. If you would like to attend, please email us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

Columbus Book Festival

July 15 and 16, 2023
Columbus Metropolitan Library's
Main Library, Columbus, Ohio

This two-day event featuring national and local authors, exhibitors, entertainment, food vendors, and more will showcase Columbus Metropolitan Library's historic Main Library, the adjacent Kaufman Plaza, and Topiary Garden Park. Presented in celebration of Columbus Metropolitan Library's 150th anniversary. For more information, visit www.columbusbookfestival.org.

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Watch for more details coming soon!



columbusbookfestival.org

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The Ohioana Library wouldn't be the unique organization it is without our many generous supporters. Listed below are those who have given from December 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023. Special thanks to Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio General Assembly for the state's ongoing support.

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Why I Support Ohioana

I support the Ohioana Library enthusiastically because of a shared love of books and Ohio. The Ohioana Library not only celebrates Ohio literature, but collects and preserves it for all time, making it accessible to all of us.

My passion for the Ohioana Library stems originally from the annual Ohioana Book Festival. I have such wonderful memories of attending several book festivals with my young daughter: visiting with favorite Ohio authors, getting inspiration from the panels, and coming home with books to devour. The Ohioana Book Festival always means interesting conversations with friends, engaging programming that sparks new ideas, and witnessing children fall in love with a new book.

This is the 17th year for the festival, but Ohioana also looks for new ways to celebrate Ohio books and authors. The Ohio Literary Trail is one such program, launched in 2020. The Trail marries Ohio authors, like Toni Morrison, and books with Ohio ties, like *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Harriet Beecher Stowe), with literary destinations and historic markers across the state. As we get closer to the nation's semiquincentennial in 2026, Ohio has much to offer in showcasing how Ohio and Ohioans have contributed to the national narrative these past 250 years. I expect Ohio literature and the Ohioana Library will have a significant role to play in highlighting these important stories for everyone, not just Ohioans.

Ohioana's programming truly embodies its tagline: "Connecting readers and Ohio writers." Indeed. Thanks for joining me in supporting the Ohioana Library!



Todd Kleismit (Photo by Chris Hurtubise)

Todd Kleismit joined the Ohioana Library board of trustees in 2021. He serves as the executive director of the Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial, which is charged with preparing Ohio to participate in the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026.

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Photo: Ian Crumpler

Art Spot is a series of temporary public art installations featuring 14 artists at 13 storefront window locations in and around downtown Columbus. The artwork, viewable 24/7, explores issues of climate change, conservation and the role of art in science communication.



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April 22 for the
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Crankshaft returns to the Ohioana Book Festival! See "From the Director" on page 3.