

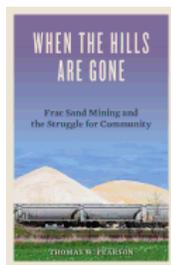
Bookbites

Bookends on Main

Local Author, Local News

January 2018

Happy New Year



When the Hills Are Gone *Frac Sand Mining and the Struggle for Community* by Thomas M. Pearson

professor Thomas Pearson has received very good and deserving attention in the *Dunn County News*. It's a book that has much to offer, both locally and nationally. Pearson is an anthropologist, so his investigation focuses on how frac mining affects both people and the landscape, environment in the broad sense. He is especially

interested in the groups who stood up to the mining folk in the interest of both the quality of life and our natural world. On the other side, he shows how frac mining has impacted the communities where it operates. The book has over 30 pages of notes and acknowledgments, many of interviews with local people and print sources. Maps show the sandstone formations, sand deposits, and mines. A few photographs indicate the "before and after" affect of frac mining. Big glossy color prints would bring home the message more vividly. Also of local

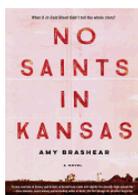
interest, *When the Hills Are Gone* was the biggest-selling book at Bookends on Main in December.

The winner of the bookstore's drawing for a stay in a suite at our new is Cobblestone Inn and Suites is Judy Kahl, pictured here with her daughter. Over 250 people registered. Thanks so much to all our bookstore supporters!



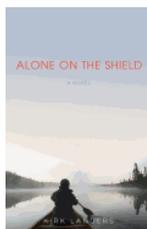
The Cobblestone Inn turned out really well. It enhances the appearance of the Mabel Tainter by balancing its size and blending in with the coloring and details.

Midwest Connections Picks for January



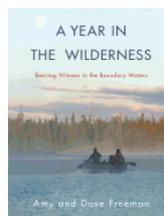
No Saints in Kansas by Amy Brashear. Remember *In Cold Blood*? In Holcomb, Kansas, in

1959 the Clutter family is murdered and Carly Fleming, recently arrived from New York, inserts herself into the investigation, along with New Yorker writer Truman Capote. Brashear reimagines the story in this gripping, well-told YA novel. Wilderness and environmental topics are big this



Alone on the Shield begins with "I hope you get drafted and you go to Vietnam and you get shot

and you die there!" Those words, spoken in the anger of youth, marked the end of a torrid 1960s college romance. Forty years later the couple reconnects and discovers a shared passion: solo canoeing in Ontario's raw Quetico wilderness. This is a good romance for old people to start 2018.



A Year in the Wilderness is a romance of another sort. Dave and Amy Freeman spend a year in the

Boundary Waters and present their beautiful photographs and adventure story replete with loons whistling under a moonrise, mushrooms cooked over a fire, a pine marten stalking a hare through winter's first snowfall. They also have a message about the value of the wilderness and the need to protect it.

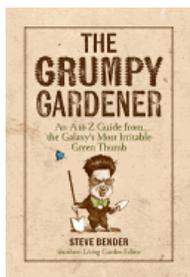


Little i by Michael Hall

When *Little i*'s dot falls off, rolls down a hill, over a cliff, and into the sea, *Little i* sets out to rescue it. This is a charming, suspenseful, and wholly original picture book about the adventure of growing up.

Home and Garden Books

January and February are typically good months for home improvement and gardening books. The post-holiday, winter doldrums, and anticipation of the return of warm weather seem to fuel this annual phenomenon. Gardeners say it's the arrival of seed catalogues that motivates it. In any case, here are a few new books appearing in 2018 as well as favorites from earlier years.



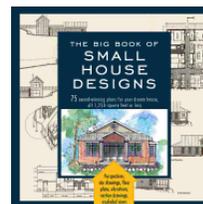
The Grumpy Gardener: An A to Z Guide from

the Galaxy's Most Irritable Green Thumb
"The Grumpy Gardener, a 35-year columnist for *Southern Living*, pairs a keen knowledge and gardening know-how with doses of sarcasm and humor.



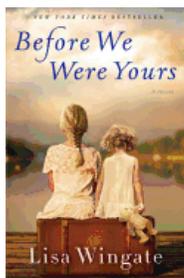
Weedless Gardening: Here's a book that originally came out in 2000 and is currently being re-printed for \$10.95. Following nature's lead of gardening "from the top down"—layering undisturbed soil with organic materials to protect soil, reduce

water needs, and mitigate weed problems by keeping seeds dormant—the author presents a guide that covers both vegetable and flower gardening utilizing this method. Photos & illustrations.



The small-house phenomenon continues its attraction. This *Small House Designs* (2011) has perspectives, site drawings, floor plans, elevations, section drawings, exploded views, and 75 plans.

Family Stories



Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate is a novel based on fact, the Tennessee Children's Home Society scandal of stealing children and selling them to highest-bidder adoptive parents in the 1930s. On one level it is a Dickensian tale of cruelty to children, and on another, it is the story of people being able to achieve normalcy despite immense adversity. We witness this

among people we know and in the books of people who tell their story such as in *Glass Castle* and *Hillbilly Elegy*. Wingate, a journalist and inspirational speaker, has written numerous books.

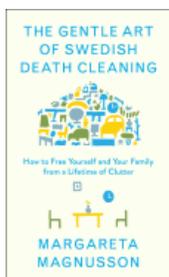
...the mother who "goes into town for a few errands" and never returns.

Closer to home – southern Wisconsin – is a heart-rending story about a family of

seven, aged 3 to 15, and the mother who "goes into town for a few errands" and never returns. Rose, the oldest, keeps the family in contact even after they are dispersed. Rose herself becomes a nurse, has a family of her own and after fifty-nine years learns what happened to her mother. *Buy the Little Ones a Dolly* by Rose Bingham is a self-published book illustrated with many pages of family photos. Rose took a writing class in retirement and produced this book.



Cleaning Books



The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning: How to Free Yourself and Your Family from a Lifetime of Clutter

The huge success of Marie Kondo's art of tidying up books, Japanese style, appears to have inspired Scandinavians to join in. First came the popular Danish *Hygge* books, mostly about coziness and nostalgia-laced life-

style. Now comes this "Death Cleaning" book with a title that doesn't translate well. "Death cleaning isn't about getting rid of all your stuff, but rather streamlining your life so you're only holding onto what makes you happy . . . it's about so much more than dusting and sorting." *Elle Decor* review.

Perhaps a spate of books about active hoarding will be in the next wave of self-help books.

Bestseller List

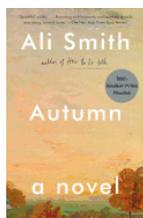
The latest Midwest Bestseller List link: http://www.midwestbooksellers.org/uploads/4/4/1/7/44171411/midwest_bsl_12_17_2017.pdf

Top fiction:

Little Fires Everywhere, Celeste Ng
A Gentleman in Moscow, Amor Towles
Uncommon Type, Tom Hanks
Artemis, Andy Weir
Lincoln in the Bardo, Saunders

Now in paperback

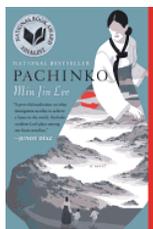
Autumn, Man Booker Prize Finalist, Ali Smith



A List of Cages, Robin Roe

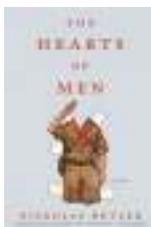


I'll Take You There, Wally Lamb



Pachinko, National Book Award Finalist, Min Jin Lee

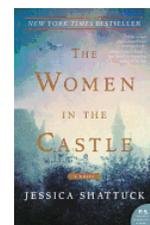
The Hearts of Men by Nicholas Butler



I Will Send Rain, Rae Meadows (Midwest Connections Pick)



Mississippi Blood, Greg Iles



The Women in the Castle, Jessica Shattuck

INDIE NEXT Reading Group Suggestions

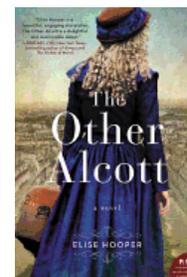
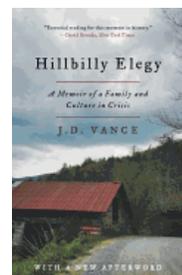
Indie Next Reading Group Suggestions – follow this link—
<https://www.indiebound.org/reading-group-indie-next-list>

Many of the titles listed are in stock in the bookstore and have been quite popular locally, including

- *The Other Einstein*

- *History of Wolves*
- *Hillbilly Elegy*, paperback in May 2018
- *The Other Alcott*

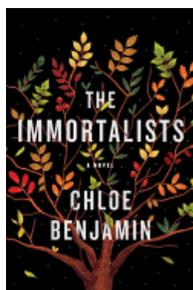
Oprah can be thanked for breathing new life into the popularity of the book club, starting in 1996.



Featured Book – January Indie Next

The Immortalists
by Chloe Benjamin

Just published, this book promises to be hugely popular. The premise for the story is a fortune teller telling four siblings their date of death.



The novel follows the four for four decades, seeing how the prediction affects their choices, their behavior, and their relationships with each other. It's a provocative story line and certainly raises the first question that pops into mind—would I want to know the date of my death?

The book has received an enormous number of pre-publication rave reviews and is probably a great choice for a book club.

The book is also one of the February Midwest Connections Picks. The author currently lives in Madison and has won an Edna Ferber Fiction award for an earlier novel.

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Greeting Cards, Guitars &
Guitar Strings, Journals, Etc.

January poems, one by children's author Maurice Sendak (*Where the Wild Things Are*), the other by novelist John Updike.

In January it's so nice,
While slipping on the sliding ice,
To sip hot chicken soup with rice.
Sipping once, sipping twice,
Sipping chicken soup with rice.

—Maurice Sendak

The days are short,
The sun a spark,
Hung thin between
The dark and dark.

Fat snowy footsteps
Track the floor.
Milk bottles burst
Outside the door.

The river is
A frozen place
Held still beneath
The trees of lace.

The sky is low.
The wind is gray.
The radiator
Purrs all day.

— John Updike

Book Sale

See our Top Shelf
30% off books — mostly
new hard cover history,
fiction, science fiction.



Selected titles
change daily.



Emoji magnets
available!

Happy New Year!

