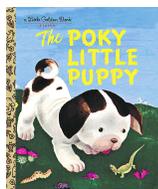


Bookbites

Bookends on Main

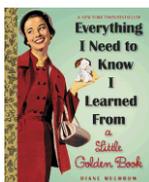
Little Golden Books

Everyone age 75 and under grew up with, and has probably read, a Little Golden Book. The series launched in 1942 for twenty-five cents each. Today the typical price is \$4.99. One of the original twelve titles, *The Poky Little*



Puppy by Janette Lowery, is not only still in print but is the best-selling children's book ever in the United States. Many important childhood les-

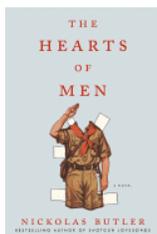
sons are in it—about independence, curiosity, obedience, reward, and punishment. *The Little Red Hen* and *Mother Goose* were also in that original group of twelve. Starting in the 1950s, Golden books reflected popular children's television characters. In 1986 "The one billionth Little Golden Book, *The Poky Little Puppy*, is printed" (says *Publisher's Weekly*). In 2013 the very popular *Everything I Need to*



Know I Learned from a Little Golden Book was launched: "Get dressed first thing. (Sweatpants are bad for morale. Put on something nice.)

....Turn off the TV from time to time and crack open a book Frolic....DaydreamHave some pancakes...." In 2015 *Star Wars*-themed Little Golden Books arrived. This year *Manners* by *Goodnight Moon* author Margaret Wise Brown will be published in the Golden Book series.

Midwest Connections Picks for March

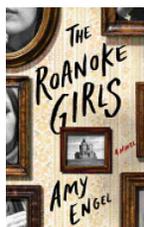


Nicholas Butler's epic novel of intertwining friendships and families set in the Northwoods of Wisconsin at a beloved Boy Scout summer camp, *The Hearts of Men* is a sweeping, panoramic novel about the slippery definitions of good and evil, family and fidelity, the challenges and rewards of lifelong friendships, the bounds of morality and redemption. The backdrop is the beautiful landscape of rural and small-town Wisconsin.



Honest and heartfelt, with echoes of novels by Wally Lamb and John Irving, *Setting Free the Kites* is both a poignant coming-of-age story and a moving family drama that explores the terrible costs of misplaced hopes.

The Roanoke Girls: Vowing to discover the fate of her missing cousin, a woman returns to her family's Kansas estate



where she spent one haunting summer as a teen, and discovered the dark heart of the Roanoke clan that left her no choice but to run.

As it weaves between the summer of Lane's first arrival and the summer of her return, *The Roanoke Girls* shocks and tantalizes, twisting its way through revelation after mesmerizing revelation, exploring the secrets families keep and the fierce and terrible love that both binds them together and rips them apart.

March 2017

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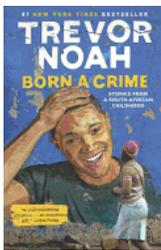
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In March the wind blows down the door and spills my soup upon the floor. It laps it up and roars for more. Blowing once blowing twice blowing chicken soup with rice.



Chicken Soup with Rice by Maurice Sendak

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah – Customer Recommendation



Trevor Noah, the host of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show," was born and raised in South Africa. His mother is Xhosa, his father Swiss-German and under the apartheid laws when Noah was born, that made his parents criminals: the three of them could not walk down the street together. Noah doesn't fit any of the designated classes under apartheid rules, yet he managed to negotiate the mixed-up culture of his homeland with humor and grace. His survival tactic in grade

school and in a jail holding pen are tours de force. An anecdote about names, the use of both an African and European name, is both sad and hilarious.

Noah attributes his success to his mother who herself faced incredible obstacles, having been abandoned as a child. Both mother and son faced dire poverty, hunger, and homelessness. They are both intellectually gifted and have enormous grit. Both are multilingual, Noah a hyper-polyglot—one who knows 5 or more languages. Facility with language and education enable both mother and son to rise above the

challenges of their family background.

Details about his father are sparse, mostly because the man was secretive and maybe not too verbal. Noah's candor about his family and South Africa is marvelous. The book is loaded with engrossing stories about everyday life in a culture little-known to most of us here in west-central Wisconsin.

The customer who recommended *Born a Crime* said it's the first page-turner autobiography she's read. I agree. I read it in two days and give it 5 stars, definitely recommend it as both an autobiography and cultural history.

Muse by Jessie Burton



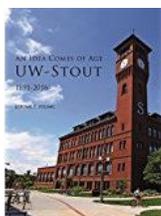
Muse is one of those complicated, multi-layered novels with two time-frames and sets of characters that overlap. In 1967 London, Odelle, a young Caribbean woman gets a job in an art gallery that leads back to the 1936 story of Olive Schloss, the daughter of an art dealer and an English heiress, in Spain. Odelle discovers a painting rumored to be the work of Isaac Robles, a young, talented artist whose mysterious death has confounded the art world for decades. Olive is a talented, if clandestine artist. The Spanish Civil War disrupts life and decades-old secrets challenge the art world. Drawn into a web

of secrets and deceptions, Odelle does not know what to believe or who she can trust.

Burton's previous novel, *The Miniaturist*, also developed interconnections between art and life. Engaging the services of a miniaturist to furnish a cabinet-sized replica of her new home, 18-year-old Nella Oortman, the wife of an illustrious merchant trader, soon discovers that the artist's tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in eerie and unexpected ways.



An Idea Comes of Age by Jerry Poling



This history of UW-Stout, 1891-2016, is a big book in several ways. It's coffee-table sized and heavy because of the glossy paper it's printed on, but it's also big in covering 125 years of UW-Stout history. No matter how long or closely you might have been connected to UW-Stout, you are sure to find details and whole stories you didn't know. For this reader, it started with the biography of James Huff Stout. He kept a room at

the hotel in Dunnville (long gone due to changing times, fire, and local politics), and he had a faithless first wife (one can easily imagine that life on the Chippewa might have driven her back to St. Louis). The several hundred pages after that teasing information are in line with the proper history of a premier university growing out of a manual training institute. Polling gives insight into evolving educational theories and practices that molded the university from James Stout to Charles Sorensen, leading to the current Chancellor Bob Meyer. Some read-

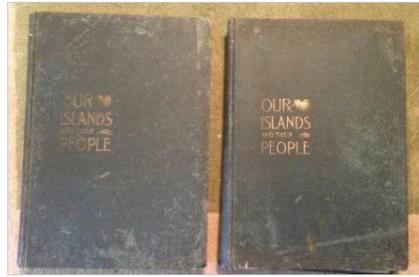
ers may ask how some stories got in and others left out and why so few women are acknowledged. Historians have to make choices, of course, to deal with both space and the purpose of the narrative. Five stars for this local history book.



Knapp, Stout and Co. also gave us Evergreen Cemetery. The Knapps and Tainters stare at one another for all eternity atop the hill left of the entrance. Captain Wilson has an enormous monument to himself down below and on his right is a small flat marker for James Huff Stout. Philanthropy and self-recognition have a variety of pairings.

Rare, Collectible, Vintage Books

Over the years the bookstore has developed a collection of rare, collectible, and vintage books in various conditions. Some of these are cheap vintage romances—century-old pulp fiction—and some are young reader series like The Happy Hollisters and the original Tarzan books. We had two copies of an 1899 2-volume set called *Our Islands and Their People*, and to our amazement sold both online in the past few weeks. Someone must be working on a project about islands or maybe watching a few of them being swallowed by rising seas. We are always a little sorry to sell irre-



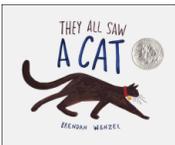
placeable books. We also have a very well-kept leather-bound set of 1888 Encyclopedia Britannica supplements and a crudely-leather-bound 1857 copy of John Wesley's writings.

Are these books valuable? Some are,

some aren't. Being old in itself isn't necessarily a virtue. A book like *Huckleberry Finn* or *Tarzan* re-printed over and over again would be valuable if in mint condition and autographed by the author; otherwise, not so much. Encyclopedias, those heavy volumes families invested in as a benefit to their children's education etc., are now nearly worthless, thanks to the internet and Wikipedia.

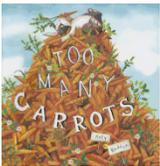
However, inexpensive, vintage copies of classics in paperback or hard bound are always popular.

New Kids' Books



They All Saw a Cat by Brendan Wenzel

This book can be touted as a toddler's introduction to point of view. Cat takes a walk and is seen by a fox, a mouse, a goldfish, etc. and what they all see is quite different. It's a good life lesson.



Too Many Carrots, by Katy Hudson, is a delightful story about hoarding and sharing,

very nicely illustrated with realistic images in bright colors .



The Want Monsters and How They Stopped Ruling My World by Chelo Manchego: Oskar, the "ginormous" monster in this book, urges a little boy to overeat, play video games too long, and try to get too much attention, but the little

boy learns how to tame his monster. "Oskar had a tantrum, but I kept minding my day until I forgot this want."

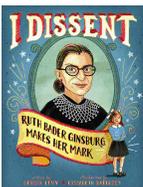


And don't forget our local author Nancy Bjornson's latest middle-reader book *The Saurois Bones*, an adventure story set in a national park and featuring dinosaur bones.

Bestseller lists

Link to the latest Midwest Indie Best-sellers lists.

http://www.midwestbooksellers.org/uploads/4/4/1/7/44171411/midwest_bsl_2_19_2017.pdf



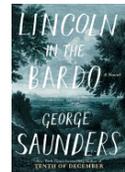
At the top of the Children's Illustrated list is *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark*. Orwell's 1984 tops the mass market list, *A Man Called*

Ove and *Hidden Figures* top the fiction and non-fiction paperback lists and *Lincoln in the Bardo* and *Hillbilly Elegy* top the fiction and non-fiction hard-cover lists.

Hidden Figures is now also available in a young reader edition.

Lincoln in the Bardo is an unusual book. Based on the historical fact of President Lincoln's intense grief over the death of his eleven-year-old son Willie, George

Saunders spins a "story of familial love and loss that breaks free of its realistic, historical framework into a supernatural realm ... Willie Lincoln finds himself in a strange purgatory where ghosts mingle, gripe, commiserate, quarrel, and enact bizarre acts of penance. Within this transitional state-called, in the Tibetan tradition, the bardo—a monumental struggle erupts over young Willie's soul." (cover blurb)



Bookends on Main

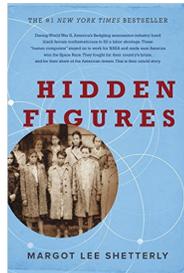
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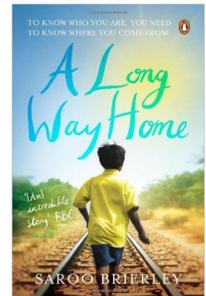
An Indie Bookstore

New & Used Books, Toys, Gifts,
Greeting Cards, Guitars &
Guitar Strings, Journals, Etc.



That time of year—19 movies nominated for Oscars are based on books/plays. Best known:

1. *Hidden Figures*
2. *Fences*
3. *A Man Called Ove* (foreign film category)
4. *Jungle Book*
5. *A Long Way Home* (*Lion*)
6. *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue* (*Moonlight*)
7. *Sully* (*Highest Duty*)
8. *Elle* (*Oh*)



Evergreen Cemetery –Volunteer Possibilities; Downtown News



A note from Gary Cowles, president of the Evergreen Cemetery Board of Directors:

You could become a Friend of the Evergreen Cemetery. We have a group of people who aren't [Evergreen] association members but are interested in the welfare of the cemetery. They are ready to volunteer when big projects come along, such as cleanups after big storms, spring cleanups before Memorial Day, and fall cleanups before winter sets in. If you have an interest in the cemetery, either the beautiful grounds or its intriguing history, we would love to have you join us. If you have an interest, come to the annual meeting Monday, April 24, 2017, 7:00 P.M., at the Menomonie Senior Center or you can contact

the coordinator of our friends. That person is Ron Fry, our former Board of Directors President. You may reach him by e-mail at fryr@uwstout.edu.

You can also visit the cemetery website, at i9708.wixsite.com/evergreen-cemetery, to learn more about the cemetery and to download a walking tour which will guide you through the grounds to learn more about its history and some of the people who are buried there.

Evergreen Cemetery is a public cemetery, not associated with a church.



For our 2017 events, Main Street of Menomonie has received a lot of encouragement from consultants and Wisconsin Main Street program staffers to organize

our events as a **Third Thursday** concept.

Evidence shows that by having downtown events that take place on a reoccurring day and time (like the third Thursday of the month), a community responds much more favorably to adopting a pattern of evening shopping if there hasn't been a recent widespread tradition of that in a downtown neighborhood. This is a strategic way to make it more economically viable for downtown Menomonie businesses to stay open later (if they wish to do so) as it may expand the potential customer base to include not only downtown hotel guests, but also those from the community and surrounding region. It takes time for a community to adjust to the transition of downtown businesses expanding their hours and we want to start this spring to help accelerate positive economic results for those who may wish to remain open later to engage potential customers staying in the downtown hotel. (Darrek Orwig, Main Street Executive Director)