

Bookbites

Bookends on Main

Plethora of Quality Used & Collectible Books

September 2017

Our local attorney who is engaged in downsizing his large personal collection of literary, scholarly, and historical books has made Bookends on Main his heir, so to speak. Last month we mentioned the large collections of works by and about Marcus Aurelius and John Donne at the bookstore.



This month's acquisitions include books about Robert Oppenheimer and atomic bomb development.



So much for the modern world.

Another collection includes a variety of scholarly and popular books about the Roman



general Hannibal and Roman and Greek history by Polybius, Herodotus, Appian and Dio.



Moving forward about 1800 years, there is another cache of



works by and about the English

poet William Blake.

Many of these books are in mint condition, and all fall into the definition of collectible.

One other acquisition is a 1931 translation of Flaubert's *Salammbô*. It's in excellent condition and has an intriguing signature on the inside title page.



Any calligraphy/handwriting experts who can decipher it? G. Cosmo? G. Po...? HELP!

Inside this issue:

Caroline, Little House Revisited

The Other Alcott

The Last Castle

Wishtree

Moxie

Cookout; Chippewa Bk Festival; Drawing

September 1815 Sheridyn's review selected for NEXT

Midwest Connections Picks for September — note our discount



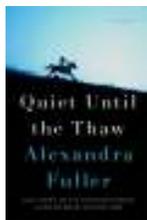
A beautiful, raw and hopeful portrait of a town and its people searching for atonement amid

the bitterness of loss. A hauntingly dark and powerful debut. PS: the last chapter was beautiful, I read it twice. — Shannon Alden, Literati Bookstore (Ann Arbor MI)



Lakota Oglala Sioux Nation, South Dakota. Two Native American cousins,

Rick Overlooking Horse and You Choose Watson, though bound by blood and by land, find themselves at odds as they grapple with the implications of their shared heritage.



When escalating anger towards the injustices, historical and current, inflicted upon the Lakota people by the federal government leads to tribal divisions and infighting, the cousins go in separate directions: Rick chooses the path of peace;

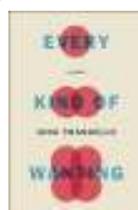
You Choose, violence. This complex family story covers two generation. (The author grew up in South Africa, lives in Wyoming now.)



Don't Call Us Dead opens with a heart-rending sequence that imagines an afterlife for

black men shot by police, a place where suspicion, violence, and grief are forgotten and replaced with the safety, love, and longevity they deserved here on earth. This is

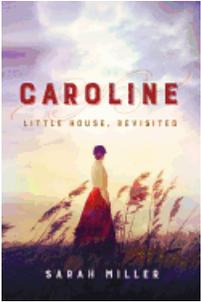
an astonishing collection of poems.



Every Kind of Wanting is a funny, dark, sexy novel about the unforeseen consequences when

three unique families and their bustling efforts to have a "community baby." It tackles issues such as assimilation, the legacy of secrets, the morality of desire, and ultimately who "owns" love.

Caroline: Little House, Revisited by Sarah Miller, rev. by Pat Trotter

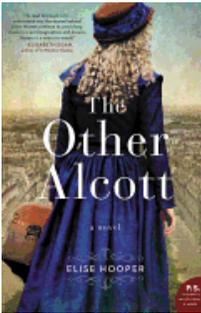


The Little House books by Laura Ingalls Wilder touched our hearts and imaginations as stories of crossing the prairies, living in Indian Territory, etc., were told from the perspective of a young child growing up and experiencing all these adventures. *Caroline* retells the story of the Ingalls family as they

travel from Wisconsin to Kansas, Indian Territory, from the perspective of Laura's mother, Caroline. With great sensitivity and insight, Sarah Miller takes us inside Caroline's heart and mind as she experiences leaving all her extended family and venturing West in a covered wagon with her husband and two small daughters, while expecting her third child. We feel her anxiety as they cross the Mississippi River just a day before the ice begins breaking up. We get to know her as a woman, not

just as Laura's mother, as she says goodbye to family, leaves behind so many precious possessions, learns to cook outside over an open fire, deals with the open plains, including Indians and wolves, prairie fires and storms. A wonderfully written book, *Caroline* is sure to become as well loved as the Little House books.

The Other Alcott by Elise Hooper, rev. by Pat Trotter



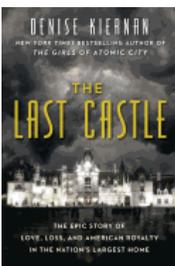
Remember reading *Little Women*? Remember feeling like you knew the four March sisters? Elise Hooper revisits the four sisters in her new book, *The Other Alcott*. A work of historical fiction, she writes specifically about May, the sister after whom Louisa May Alcott patterned Amy in *Little*

Women. We learn that more than anything else, May wants to be an artist. But her family and friends all think she is wasting her time. She should be looking for a husband and planning a home. When Louisa wrote *Little Women*, she portrayed Amy as spoiled,

...a can't-put-it-down book that is destined to take its place alongside *Little Women* as a well-loved, often-read book.

selfish, getting everything she wanted. May struggles with her sister's image of her and wonders if she is really like that. *The Other Alcott* gives us a rich insight into a woman of an earlier century whose hopes and dreams were different than her family's plans for her. May helps us remember that women of all centuries have struggled to be individuals. Extremely well written, a can't-put-it-down book that is destined to take its place alongside *Little Women* as a well-loved, often-read book.

The Last Castle by Denise Kiernan



These days probably the most common knowledge about the Vanderbilts is that Anderson Cooper is Gloria Vanderbilt's son, but a century ago the Vanderbilts were one of the richest and most talked about families in America.

George Vanderbilt, a grandson of the self-made mega-millionaire, inherited \$15 million and did something astonishing with his fortune: He bought 125,000 acres and built Biltmore House, at 250-room chateau-style mansion, as well as a village, cottage industries, managed forest and various training

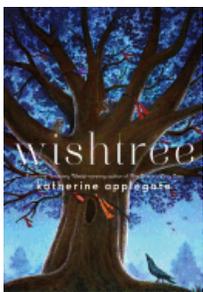
schools around Asheville, North Carolina. Kiernan tells this story in detail and follows through on the legacy of George Vanderbilt up to the present. His grandsons still own Biltmore House which was turned into a tourist attraction rather than a family home in the 1930s, and most of the acreage sold off as family finances and the depression took its toll.

The longest part of the history Kiernan covered in *The Last Castle* is that of the end of the Gilded Age, the vast wealth and ostentatious spending of "the Four Hundred," the handful of super-rich with fabulous homes on Fifth Avenue, luxurious "cottages" in Newport, Bar Harbor and elsewhere. These

were the Trump Tower and Mar-a-Lago residences of their day when real estate trumped the lives of those who created them.

Tied into *The Last Castle* also is the story of famous architects and financiers, educators, artists and writers. In the latter category, Thomas Wolfe, Asheville's most famous writer (*You Can't Go Home Again*) is duly noted as well as Vanderbilt friends Edith Wharton (*Age of Innocence*), Henry James and F. Scott Fitzgerald. *The Last Castle* is a fascinating and well-told tale of American cultural history.

Wishtree by Katherine Applegate, rev. by Pat Trotter



Wishtree is the story of an ancient oak tree named Red in a neighborhood where Samar lives. Every year on the first of May, people come from all over the neighborhood to tie pieces of paper, ribbons, strips of fabric to Red; each representing an individual's dream or wish. Samar

wishes for a friend and spends much time sitting under Red and talking to the tree. Because her family is different than everyone else in the neighborhood, Samar and her family are ostracized. With the help of Red, some of the animals that make their home in Red, Samar, and a brave neighbor who challenges the prejudices, the neighborhood is transformed into a friendly neighborhood, where

people begin to appreciate people for their uniqueness and individuality. Sensitively written, funny, touching, *Wishtree* is a book that middle readers will not only enjoy tremendously, but will also learn that every individual is worth knowing, just for themselves.

The target audience for this book is ages 8-12.

Moxie, rev. by Zoe Riordan, age 13



I can't ever imagine writing a review as good as that book was. *Moxie* is an inspiring, funny and relatable novel. Jennifer Mathieu's book is an amazing pro-feminism book that will inspire anyone who reads it

(everyone should read it). This book deserves 10/5 stars.

Sent from my obviously very sophisticated self.

"... an amazing pro-feminism book that will inspire anyone..."



Book blurb for this Y/A novel: Punk rock zines inspire a feminist revolution at a small town Texan high school in the new novel from the author of "The

Truth about Alice."

Downtown Cookout



The annual community cookout is Thursday, September 14, 4-8 P.M. The event features many local food vendor, a beer garden, games for kids, live music, and a 50/50 Raffle. The Cookout grows in popularity every year and the mid-September date should improve the possibility of good weather.



Matthew Desmond, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his book *Evicted* is the featured speak at the Chippewa Valley Book Festival on Thursday, October 19. Some of the featured regional writers will be at our local library. This

Chippewa Valley Book Festival

book festival is an annual week-long event.

Register for our "I found love in my BOOKSHOP" gift certificate with every purchase. Drawing on September 15. Read our Bulletin board "I love" notes.



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An Indie Bookstore

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

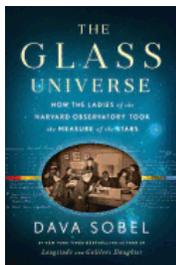
September 1815, by William Wordsworth



WHILE not a leaf seems faded; while the fields,
With ripening harvest prodigally fair,
In brightest sunshine bask; this nipping air,
Sent from some distant clime where Winter wields
His icy scimitar, a foretaste yields
Of bitter change, and bids the flowers beware;
And whispers to the silent birds, 'Prepare
Against the threatening foe your trustiest shields.'
For me, who under kindlier laws belong
To Nature's tuneful quire, this rustling dry
Through leaves yet green, and yon crystalline sky,
Announce a season potent to renew,
'Mid frost and snow, the instinctive joys of song,
And nobler cares than listless summer knew.



Kudos for Sheridyn



Dear Sheridyn,

We are delighted to tell you your quote for The Glass Universe has been chosen for use in our Winter 2017-2018 Reading Group List.

The printed flyer will appear in the October Red Box mailing and the full announcement will appear in the October 11th issue of *Bookselling This Week*.

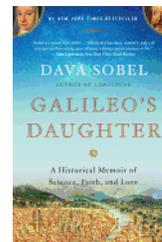
Thank you for taking the time to nominate to Indie Next. We look forward to hearing from you and your colleagues in the future!

Best,

Jessica Stauffer
Program and Development Coordinator
American Booksellers Association

The Glass Universe by Dava Sobel follows in the wake of recent books about re-discovered women of science and industry whose work has made significant contributions to knowledge. *The Glass Universe* will appear in paperback at the end of October.

The book tells the little-known true story of the unexpected and remarkable contributions to astronomy made by a group of women working in the Harvard College Observatory from the late 1800s through the mid-1900s.



Dava Sobel has previously published *Galileo's daughter* (2011) based on the quite remarkable correspondence between Galileo and

his brilliant daughter Maria Celeste, a cloistered nun. This book tells a fascinating family story as well gives an account of the schism between science and religion that continues until this day.

The story of Galileo's observations is awe-inspiring and the personal story about the difficulty of obtaining and preparing food by the cloistered nuns is both heartbreaking and memorable.