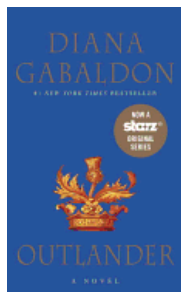


# Bookbites

## Bookends on Main

### Events Coming up in September–October



Our Traveling Book Club meets at the bookstore on Tuesday, September 18 at 6:30 to discuss Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander*.



Sep 7, 2-4  
Jim Lenz returns to talk about his role in and unforeseen

consequences of work resulting in Midwest sand mining. Lenz will donate a copy of his book with the purchase of any other book in the store.



National Voter Registration Day is Sep.

25 and the bookstore will be participating in this effort. The League of Women Voters will have some presence and there will be materials and ac-

cess to a computer for self-registration at [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov).

**The annual Downtown Community Cookout is Sep. 13.** Dustyn Dubuque, our Main Street Director, has got organized another good program of music, food vendors, and games. The Cookout is always popular, a good family event, and tags the end of summer and ushers in usual energy of fall activities.

Sep 2018



#### Inside this issue:

Reviews :  
Small Fry

Louise Penny's latest mystery

Pantsdrunk

Midwest Best-seller List

Autumn Poem

Books for Fall travel & reading

### Midwest Connections Picks for September

**The Distancers:** This moving debut novel is a profoundly American story. Set in a circa-1960s rural South Dakota, the book portrays a loving but struggling young family in turmoil, and two siblings, Rene and Leon, who opt for different but equally extreme means of escaping the burdens of home.

**Leave No Trace:** Ten years ago, a man and his son voyaged into this wilderness and never returned. A decade



later, the son, violent and uncommunicative, emerged. Maya Stark, and assistant language therapist, is charged with making a connection with this boy who refuses to answer any questions about the last ten years of his life.

As she's drawn closer to him, she'll risk everything to reunite him with his father.

#### **The Readymade Thief:**

Lee Cuddy is seventeen years old and on the run. Betrayed by her family, she finds refuge in an abandoned building known as the Crystal Castle, which contains a sinister agenda, one hatched by a society of fanatical men set on decoding a series of powerful secrets hidden in plain sight. And they believe Lee holds the key to it all...

Besides the three adult Midwest Picks for Sept. there is a middle Reader novel:

#### **The Phantom Tower:**

Twin brothers discover their new home is also a portal—for an hour a day—to a parallel dimension in this rollicking middle-grade adventure, perfect for fans of *The Mysterious Benedict Society*.

**The four authors**—three live in the Midwest, one a transplanted Californian, and one is a South Dakota transplant to California. Good writers all.

## Small Fry by Lisa Brennan-Jobs



Lisa Brennan-Jobs is the daughter of Steve Jobs and his high school girl friend Chrisann Brennan. Steve was twenty-three when Lisa was born and Apple computer was in ascendance. He and Chrisann named

Lisa together but he was hardly in her life until she was nine and for years denied being her father. These details and so many more in the book are quite familiar but told from the point of view of Lisa, the story is poignant and often very painful.

Steve Jobs was particularly difficult, often cold, unforgiving, cruel. It's safe to say he was not good at knowing how to love. Chrisann was a loving mother but highly emotional, hapless, barely able to take care of herself and her daughter. At times she lived on welfare. Steve paid child support of \$389 a month when he was worth a few hundred million and he refused to pay Lisa's college tuition for her senior year at Harvard.

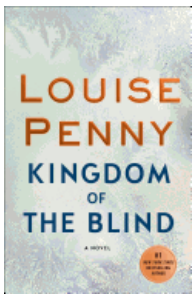
With fairly bad and inconsistent parenting, Lisa might have been one of those children who have to be the adult, but it doesn't seem that she played that role—too much of her par-

ents' genetic heritage in her. Crying and fighting on all sides was frequent.

It wasn't a "poor little rich girl" upbringing. Neither Steve nor Chrisann ever completely abandoned their hippie leanings. Few luxuries were part of either household but toward what end all that self-denial and discomfort?

Altogether, this is a fascinating coming-of-age account— "How could he?" "How could she?" Does Lisa sensationalize for the purpose of writing a good book? She was a Harvard English major, so books are part of her expertise. In any case, I couldn't put the book down. It's well-written.

## Louise Penny's Latest Novel, rev by Pat Trotter



Fans of Louise Penny's Inspector Gamache series always wait with great eagerness for the next book to become available. *Kingdom of the Blind* makes the waiting worth-

while. Once again, Penny draws us into the world of the Surete Quebec, the streets of Montreal, Gamache's family and the little village of Three Pines. Gamache has been suspended

from the position of Superintendent of Surete Quebec, more for political reasons than because of his so-called crime. His son-in-law, Jean-Guy, has been appointed acting Superintendent in his place. Working together, they

Along with that, Penny . . . gives us a surprise ending.

must locate and destroy a new drug before it hits the streets of Montreal because this drug is worse than anything that is currently available. Readers will stay up late as they read through the harrowing experiences of these policeman. Along with that, Penny again shows us how valuable friends and family are, how important a place of peace in one's life is, and gives us a surprise ending.

## Pantsdrunk: Kalsarikanni: The Finnish Path to Relaxation



Let these reviews guide your reading:

First there was *hygge*, a Danish word associated with coziness and contentment. Then there was *lagom*, a Swedish word meaning "just right." Now we have *kalsarikanni*, a Finnish word that means drinking at home without pants on. Literally.—*The Columbian*

If there were ever a book desperately needed during a particular cultural moment, it is *Pantsdrunk*.—*BookPage*

If collective cozing is not your speed, there's a new Scandinavian lifestyle trend in town that may be. Rather than focus on the aesthetic presentation of well-being, *Pantsdrunk* involves drinking at home in your underwear. Actually, that's all it is.—*Glamour*

A funny parody of popular "happiness" books, *Pantsdrunk* introduces readers to a made-up Finnish concept of achieving

well-being through drinking in one's underwear while surrounding yourself with personal comforts.—*PureWow*

This new Scandi lifestyle trend involves drinking wine alone in your underwear and bingeing on Netflix ~ and its name is pretty fitting.—*Business Insider*

You might have found *hygge* too smug. You might have been confused by *lagom*. You probably never bothered clicking on the thing about *famntag natur*. But give *pantsdrunk* a go. Scandi living might be for you after all.—*Telegraph (UK)*

# Latest Midwest Top 10 Bestseller List

## Fiction

### 1. Desolation Mountain

William Kent Krueger, Atria, \$26, 9781501147463

### 2. There There

Tommy Orange, Knopf, \$25.95, 9780525520375

### 3. Warlight

Michael Ondaatje, Knopf, \$26.95, 9780525521198

### 4. The Shakespeare Requirement

Julie Schumacher, Doubleday, \$25.95, 9780385542340

### 5. A Gentleman in Moscow

Amor Towles, Viking, \$27, 9780670026197

### 6. Clock Dance

Anne Tyler, Knopf, \$26.95, 9780525521228

### 7. An American Marriage

Tayari Jones, Algonquin, \$26.95, 9781616208776

### 8. Cherry

Nico Walker, Knopf, \$26.95, 9780525520139

### 9. Vox

Christina Dalcher, Berkley, \$26, 9780440000785

### 10. My Year of Rest and Relaxation

Ottessa Moshfegh, Penguin Press, \$26, 9780525522119

## NON-FICTION

### 1. Educated

Tara Westover, Random House, \$28, 9780399590504

### 2. The Chapo Guide to Revolution: A Manifesto ...

Chapo Trap House, et al., Touchstone, \$25, 9781501187285

### 3. Girl, Wash Your Face

Rachel Hollis, Thomas Nelson, \$22.99, 9781400201655

### 4. Calypso

David Sedaris, Little Brown, \$28,

9780316392389

### 5. How to Change Your Mind

Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, \$28, 9781594204227

### 6. The Soul of America

Jon Meacham, Random House, \$30, 9780399589812

### 7. Indianapolis

Lynn Vincent, Sara Vladic, S&S, \$28, 9781501135941

### 8. House of Trump, House of Putin

Craig Unger, Dutton, \$30, 9781524743505

### 9. Summer

Karl Ove Knausgaard, Penguin Press, \$30, 9780399563393

### 10. Astrophysics for People in a Hurry

Neil deGrasse Tyson, Norton, \$18.95, 9780393609394

## TRADE PAPERBACK FICTION

### 1. Crazy Rich Asians

Kevin Kwan, Anchor, \$16, 9780525563761

### 2. Less

Andrew Sean Greer, Back Bay, \$15.99, 9780316316132

### 3. Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine

Gail Honeyman, Penguin, \$16, 9780735220690

### 4. China Rich Girlfriend

Kevin Kwan, Anchor, \$16, 9780804172066

### 5. Hope Never Dies

Andrew Shaffer, Quirk Books, \$14.99, 9781683690399

### 6. The Sun and Her Flowers

Rupi Kaur, Andrews McMeel, \$16.99, 9781449486792

### 7. Milk and Honey

Rupi Kaur, Andrews McMeel, \$14.99, 9781449474256

### 8. Sing, Unburied, Sing

Jesmyn Ward, Scribner, \$17,

9781501126079

### 9. Magpie Murders

Anthony Horowitz, Harper Perennial, \$16.99, 9780062645234

### 10. Pachinko

Min Jin Lee, Grand Central, \$15.99, 9781455563920

## TRADE PAPERBACK NONFICTION

### 1. Killers of the Flower Moon

David Grann, Vintage, \$16.95, 9780307742483

### 2. Sapiens

Yuval Noah Harari, Harper Perennial, \$22.99, 9780062316110

### 3. Kitchen Confidential

Anthony Bourdain, Ecco, \$16.99, 9780060899226

### 4. The Death and Life of the Great Lakes

Dan Egan, Norton, \$17.95, 9780393355550

### 5. Braiding Sweetgrass

Robin Wall Kimmerer, Milkweed Editions, \$18, 9781571313560

### 6. The Radium Girls

Kate Moore, Sourcebooks, \$17.99, 9781492650959

### 7. White Fragility

Robin Diangelo, Beacon Press, \$16, 9780807047415

### 8. My Own Words

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, S&S, \$18, 9781501145254

### 9. The Finnish Way: Finding Courage, Wellness, ...

Katja Pantzar, TarcherPerigee, \$16, 9780143132998

### 10. Hillbilly Elegy

J.D. Vance, Harper, \$16.99, 9780062300553

## Link to entire list:

[http://www.midwestbooksellers.org/uploads/4/4/1/7/44171411/midwest\\_bsl\\_8.29.2018.pdf](http://www.midwestbooksellers.org/uploads/4/4/1/7/44171411/midwest_bsl_8.29.2018.pdf)

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## The pennycandystore beyond the EL by Lawrence Feringhetti

The pennycandystore beyond the EL  
is where i first  
fell in love  
with unreality  
Jellybeans glowed in the semi-gloom  
of that september afternoon  
A cat upon the counter moved among  
the licorice sticks  
and tootsie rolls  
and Oh Boy Gum



Outside the leaves were falling as they died

A wind had blown away the sun

A girl ran in  
Her hair was rainy  
Her breasts were breathless in the little room

Outside the leaves were falling  
and they cried  
Too soon! too soon!

## Fall Travel, Fall Reading

