

Bookbites

Bookends on Main

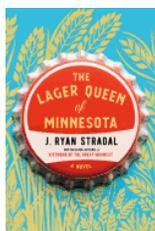
Downtown August News and Offers

Continuing our marathon of activities downtown this year, there is the annual summer musical revue at the Mabel Tainter, Aug. 9-11. The revue showcases our amazing local talent with favorite songs from Broadway musicals. Lucy Weidenr and Seth Berrier do the directing.

Then on August 17, the downtown eateries have organized A Taste of Menomonie complete with pub crawl, raffle and

punch cards, noon to 5 P.M. This promises to be a good Dog Days of Summer celebration.

Lager Queen August Offer:



\$2.00 off this book with a receipt for \$10 or more from one of our local breweries Aug. 1-31: Raw Deal, Zy-murgy, Nonic, Lucette. Cheers!

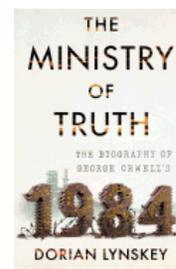
Lager Queen: A novel of family, Midwestern values, hard work, fate and the secrets of making a world-class beer.



August 2019

Just in time for Fall

The Ministry of Truth: The Biography of George Orwell's 1984



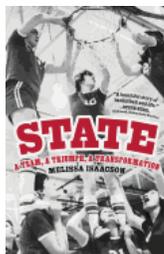
Midwest Connections Picks for August



The Lager Queen of Minnesota by J. Ryan Stradal

“Warm, whimsical, incredibly well-written and infused with Stradal’s signature sympathy for his characters—those everyday heroes we all know and love. . . a thorough delight, from beginning to end.” — Nickolas Butler

A novel of family, Midwestern values, hard work, fate and the secrets of making a world-class beer. Wonderful reviews of this book are piling up.



“In *State*, Melissa Isaacson perfectly captures the birth of Title IX and a time when high

school girls were starting to gain equality in sports and in the classroom, showing us how opportunities on the court can light a path for girls to become their authentic selves in all aspects of their lives.” — Billie Jean King, founder of the Billie Jean King Leadership Initiative

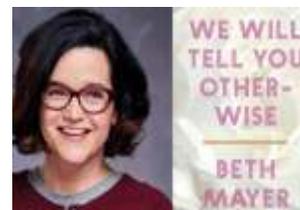


The Curse of the Werpenguin by Allan Woodrow

“Young Franksten meets The Princess

Bride in the most hysterically hilarious book I’ve read in years.” —Chris Grabenstein

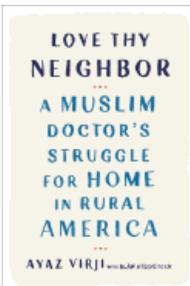
When a mysterious baron sends for orphan Bolt Wattle, the boy hopes to find his parents, but instead gets turned into a werpenguin and has three days to reverse the curse, return to human form, and stop the Baron from taking over the country of Brugaria with his army of mind-controlled penguins.



“The stories in Beth Mayer’s *We Will Tell You Otherwise* are indelible treasures, full of poignancy and pathos.” John Jodzio

Mayer’s powerful collection of short stories is keenly observed, funny, and occasionally heart-breaking. This commanding debut offers startling encounters with human nature, compassion, and hope.

Love Thy Neighbor: A Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America, rev. by Martha Wallen



Love Thy Neighbor: A Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America combines Dr. Ayaz Virgi's personal life story with material he developed as a traveling lecturer.

Originally recruited by a Lutheran pastoral intern to counter religious tensions in Dawson, Minnesota, Dr. Virgi explains his perspective on women's equality, his life purpose of doing good works, and terrorism as a perversion of Islam. Dr. Virgi felt the increased prejudice against Muslims after 9/11 and was emotionally devastated by the 2016

elections because of the idea of a Muslim registry.

I bought this book, because I have a childhood friend who lives in Dawson and has been Dr. Virgi's patient. The friends Dr. Virgi has made in Dawson and whom he talks about in his book are people I think I know or at least know a lot about.

Dawson, an isolated town of only 1500 people, is fortunate to have good medical facilities and providers. Dr. Virgi moved to Dawson not because he had no other options, but because he wanted to give more personal care to his patients than is the norm in large city hospitals. He came to America as a

toddler, and he speaks for the many immigrant doctors who serve in rural communities where they need to feel welcomed as human beings, not just doctors.

Note: Martha passed along this book to a patient of Dr. Virgi. He was both moved and educated by it, then asked the doctor to autograph the book for him. He said he hadn't realized the special difficulties the doctor had establishing himself in Dawson. It's one small example of how listening to "the Other" leads to understanding and a feeling of kinship with others who have a different background or ethnicity from our own. We need more of

Timefulness by Marcia Bjornerud

Marcia, i.e. Professor Bjornerud, gave us a really interesting presentation last Saturday. She read portions of her opening and closing chapters that give background on her research on a small Arctic island in Norway.

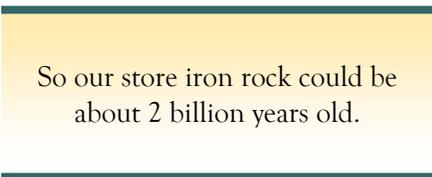


Her re-visit there some 25 years later showed the same remnants from previous visitors there,

including whalers from a couple centuries ago, and also the visual evidence of the

hugely receded glacier.

Her book explains how geologists read climate data from ice cores, fossils and other natural resources. One point she made is that cooling takes a very long time to de-



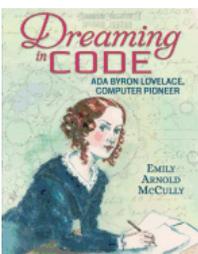
velop but that heating happens rapidly. It sounds scary, and news about Europe's recent heat wave causing an enormous melt-

ing of the Greenland glacier seems to give evidence of that.

The rock id part of the afternoon has a wonderful bookstore connection. Harriett left a collection of rocks from Lake Superior. The red one Bjornerud identified with delight as formed during the era when the earth's atmosphere had no oxygen, all of it being dissolved in the oceans and iron being in a liquid state. When photosynthesis got the upper hand, iron solidified. So our store ironrock could be about 2 billion years old.

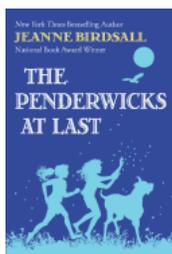


New Children's and Middle Reader Books



Ada Lovelace was the daughter of the poet Lord Byron.

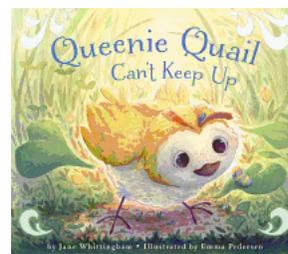
Penderwick series.



5th in the



Thank you sun, bees, sheep, etc, all that nature gives us . . . A fox and a sloth, a



celebration of friendship and the ways we are all different . . . Slow down to notice the world and step up to impact it . . .

Kids's books with good messages.

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

Link to Latest Midwest Bestsellers List

<http://www.midwestbooksellers.org/bestsellers.html>

#1 in each category:

Where the Crawdads Sing

Educated

Overstory

The Mueller Report

Good Omens

The Pigeon Has to Go to School

Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid:

Rowley Jefferson's Journal

Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas

The Little Old Lady in Lavender Silk by Dorothy Parker

I was seventy-seven, come August,
I shall shortly be losing my bloom;
I've experienced zephyr and raw gust
And (symbolical) flood and simoom.

When you come to this time of abatement,
To this passing from Summer to Fall,
It is manners to issue a statement
As to what you got out of it all.

So I'll say, though reflection unnerves me
And pronouncements I dodge as I can,
That I think (if my memory serves me)
There was nothing more fun than a man!

In my youth, when the crescent was too wan
To embarrass with beams from above,
By the aid of some local Don Juan
I fell into the habit of love.

And I learned how to kiss and be merry- an
Education left better unsung.
My neglect of the waters Pierian
Was a scandal, when Grandma was young.

Though the shabby unbalanced the splendid,
And the bitter outmeasured the sweet,
I should certainly do as I then did,
Were I given the chance to repeat.

For contrition is hollow and wraithful,
And regret is no part of my plan,
And I think (if my memory's faithful)
There was nothing more fun than a man!