

# Bookbites

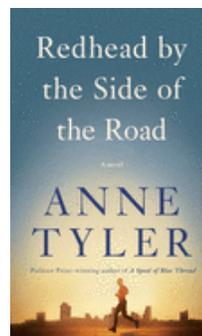
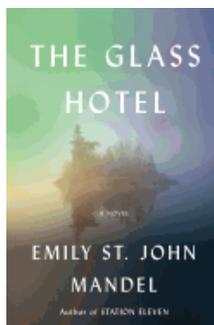
## Bookends on Main

### Mother's Day and Beyond

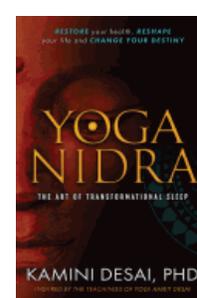
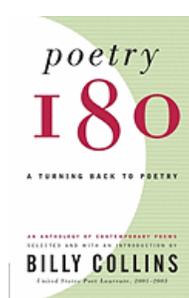
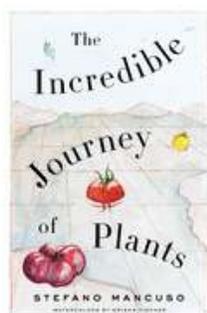
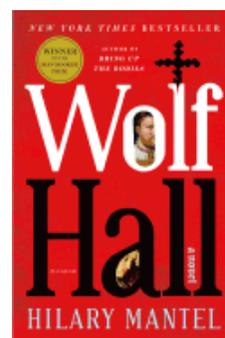
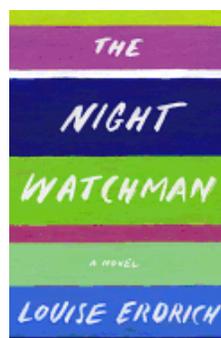
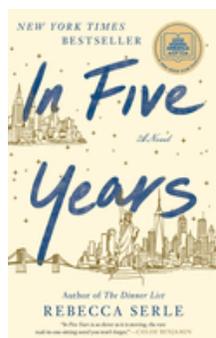
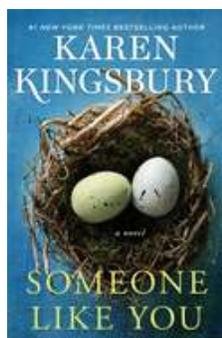
2020

May

Mother's Day can't be cancelled, whether it's virtual or dropping off a present at mom's door. Books can be shipped direct to home, so that is a good option too. Here are a few suggestions. Also see our website [www.bookendsonmain.com](http://www.bookendsonmain.com) for previous



newsletters and book suggestions.



*On a different note, Diane Light won the April drawing for gift basket and gift certificate.*

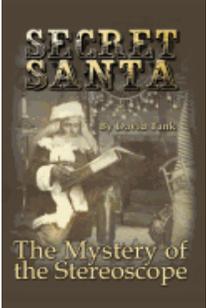
We continue to offer phone and email ordering with curbside, USPS and home delivery. Free gift wrapping.

Besides books, we have a variety of tote bags and jigsaw puzzles which are very popular right now.

Journals and boxes of greeting cards are perennial favorites. See page 3.

## Secret Santa Series by David Tank, Rev. by Pat Trotter

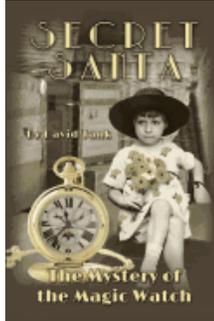
It's not quite Christmas, but local author David Tank has completed the third in his Secret Santa series for middle readers, so the series is ready to go as individual copies or in a boxed set. Despite the Secret Santa title, the books are good for middle readers any time of the year.



Secret Santa series: [Book 1 - The Mystery of the Stereoscope](#) by David Tank

Siblings Sam and Abby, 12 and 7 years old respectively, are given their grandfather's old stereoscope one Christmas. They decide they want to search for the identity of a man in one of the pictures who is dressed like Santa. It all starts when they go to the mall to talk to the Santa there, hide in what looks like an old closet or large box, and find themselves back in 1893. They have some pretty incredible adventures, visiting the grounds of the Chicago World's Fair, meeting Nellie Bly after her trip around the world. The man in the photo is Nick. He welcomes them into his home and they learn some pretty un-

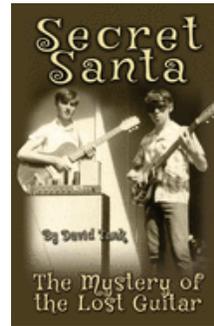
believable things about him. He is the only one who can get them back to their own time. But who is he really? And what do they learn about Santa in the midst of their adventures? A fun, imaginative read that makes the reader want more adventures for Sam and Abby.



Secret Santa series: [Book 2 - The Mystery of the Magic Watch](#)

Sam and Abby are at it again, only this time they return to the year 1922 in New York City. Panic ensues as Abby gets separated from Sam and Nick and they set out to find her. More adventures await these young time travelers, including meeting Harry Houdini in person. Will Nick and Sam be able to find Abby in the Big Apple? How many time traveling devices does Nick have? Will the burglar actually get away with stealing one of them, even though he doesn't know what it is? Once again, David Tank draws his readers into the mystery with adventure, suspense, and Santa. Is he really real? Is he really still alive and working after all these years? Engaging stories; but they

also help young readers know that they can figure out how to help themselves and not panic in difficult situations.



Secret Santa series: [Book 3 - The Mystery of the Lost Guitar](#)

Siblings Sam and Abby have gone back in time a couple of times already. But Sam's friend, Justin, doesn't believe them. They decide to take him along with them to go see their inventor friend, Rick. They set the time machine a bit wrong and end up in 1968, in the middle of a "Battle of the Bands" in what was their home town at that time. Their grandpa had lost his guitar at this same Battle of the Bands long ago. What happens when they actually see the thief steal his guitar? And who is this new, young, rock group called the J5s that are so good? And why won't their parents believe them when they receive Christmas gifts from Santa himself? David Tank concludes his series with Sam and Abby with a real adventure for them and their parents and grandpa. Again, young readers will wish for more stories about Sam, Abby, and Nick.

## The German Heiress, rev. by Martha Wallen



There have been a lot of World War II novels published lately. I wanted to read Anika Scott's [The German Heiress](#), because it was about people on the other side. One

of the most memorable characters is a boy for whom ideology blocks out

reality and evidence. The heroine has to follow both her conscience

**"... people you love can do terrible things."**

and the demands of her family. What I learned from this novel is

that people you love can do terrible things. Even in wartime, your innate sense of right and wrong can lead you to the best possible results. It may be helpful to know that the story takes place in 1946, when the work of reconciliation was already going on. Even if you see morality as black and white, you realize that people are often in a gray zone.

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An Indie Bookstore

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

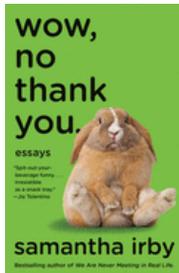
*A traditional, schmaltze poem for Mother's Day:*

**M – O – T – H – E – R**

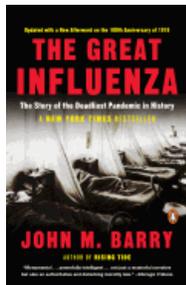
“M” is for the million things she gave me,  
“O” means only that she’s growing old,  
“T” is for the tears she shed to save me,  
“H” is for her heart of purest gold;  
“E” is for her eyes, with love-light shining,  
“R” means right, and right she’ll always be,  
Put them all together, they spell  
“**MOTHER,**”  
A word that means the world to me.

-Howard Johnson

## Getting Weary of Being Safer at Home? . . . Or . . . Better Safe than Sorry?



**Wow, No Thank You,** Samantha Irby  
(humor, we need that)



**The Great Influenza,** John M. Barry

**Born a Crime,** Trevor Noah

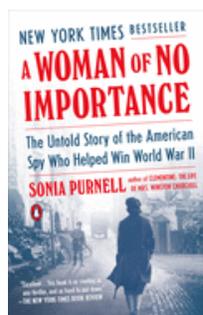
**These Truths: A History of the United States,** Jill Lepore

**Figuring,** Maria Popova

**Braiding Sweetgrass,** Robin Wall Kimmerer (a great favorite at the bookstore)

**Say Nothing,** Patrick Radden Keefe

**Midnight in Chernobyl,** Adam Higginbotham



**A Woman of No Importance,** Sonia Purnell



**Pleasure Activism,** Adrienne Maree Brown (Ed.)