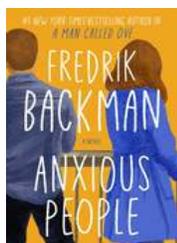


Bookbites

Bookends on Main

Indie Next Top September Recommendation



Frederik Backman has written another remarkable novel, 7 or 8 now. *A Man Called Ove* has an enduring audience and *Anxious People* is in the same vein with many laugh-out-loud moments. The novel starts with a preposterous premise, a bank robbery for an outlandishly small amount from a cashless bank—there are a lot of

them in Sweden. The action quickly moves to a hostage situation, bumbling policeman, and a constant refrain about ridiculous Stockholmers.

Beyond the comedy, Backman spends a lot of time talking about parenting and marriage. It's an ensemble set of characters, eight or ten, and all their back stories allow for plenty of everyday philosophizing. There is much in the book that leads to self-reflection. Our popular

local author Michael Perry has that same knack as well as an ability to make fun of people in a gentle way. There is never anything mean-spirited in these two authors.

Backman says he writes about things in his own life, and when you finish *Anxious People* you will wonder about what those things are. Readers will recognize a few parallels to *A Man Called Ove* in *Anxious People*.

Recently Published



Migrations by Charlotte McConagh is breathtaking. Franny, the main character, is one of the most unusual, psychically damaged heroines in a long line of this type that have captured our imagination in recent years. On one level the novel is science fiction, a not-so distant

future that is nearly devoid of all wildlife, and an epic quest by Franny to follow the migration of the last wild Arctic terns to their Antarctic nesting site.

On another level the story is about the quest of Franny to come to terms with an overwhelming shame. The sources for that shame are doled out bit by bit and in the manner of a good story, and are not fully divulged until the last pages of the novel.

A third level is the quest for warmth of family. That quest is accompanied by daunting imagery of cold, ice, freezing water and an assortment of familial migrations and travel expeditions. The settings include Greenland, Ireland, Scotland, Australia, etc. etc. There is much to fascinate in this story. *Migrations* is a marvelous novel.



2020

September

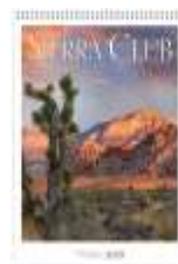
Happy
Autumn

Back to regular
store hours:

M-F 10-5:30

Sat 10-4

Downtown businesses carrying on pretty much as usual. No big events, no Mabel.



Thinking of 2021 being better than 2020? Back to "normal," whatever that is? Order your special 2021 calendars and planners. A few are in stock.



Revised Sidelines



blue and purple in stock, red and natural wood colors to come.

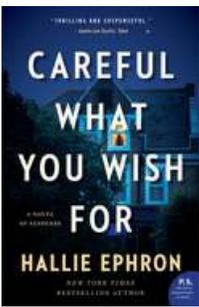
New on the gift shelves are colorful glass bud vases and “Singing” vases.



Thanks to a new distributor, we have revised the music item section including colorful ukuleles: green

Puzzles, tarot cards and books on mindfulness continue to be popular.

What You Wish For, rev. by Heather Obenberger



What You Wish For by best-selling author Katherine Center was an engrossing and ultimately heart-warming read. Samantha Casey is a school librarian who loves her job and has

made a predictable and pretty happy life for herself in a coastal Texas town, but all too soon her predictable world is upended by a tragedy. The principal at her school (who is also her mentor and close friend) dies suddenly and is

replaced by none other than Duncan Carpenter, a fun-loving teacher from her previous place of employment for whom she harbored a secret crush. To

“... an engrossing and ultimately heart-warming read.”

her great dismay she discovers that Duncan’s fun personality has changed and he has become somber and serious.

It appears to her that he is trying to change everything she loves about the school where she works! Samantha sets her mind to finding out what happened to bring about this drastic change in Duncan’s personality and attempts to help him remember the man he was....the man she loves. Will the mystery of what happened to Duncan and the revelation of a secret Samantha has tried to keep from him threaten their budding relationship or make it stronger? Learning the answers to these questions kept me turning the pages well past my bedtime!

The Clockwork Crow, rev. by Pat Trotter



The Clockwork Crow by Catherine Fisher Pub Sept 2020 Middle Reader Seren is an orphan. She has been sent for by her god-

father who lives in Wales. Seren dreams of living in a house with a real family; but, when she arrives at the house, she discovers noone is there but the housekeeper and handyman. What is she supposed to do? Where are the family? And why can’t she explore the attic? Seren finds herself in a very strange situation, and no one is explaining anything to her. And what is she supposed to do with the crazy clock-

work bird that the stranger at the train station left in her care? And where is Tomos, the boy who is supposed to be there but has disappeared. Seren is faced with a mystery and she is determined to find the answers. She has always wanted adventure and mystery, but she will soon find out this mystery is far beyond her imagination.

New in the Bookstore

Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder

French Like Moi

Nothing to See Here

Mexican Gothic

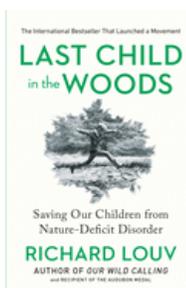
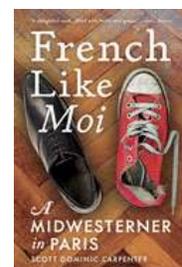
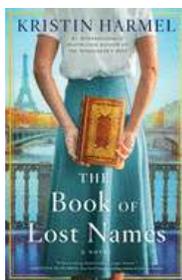
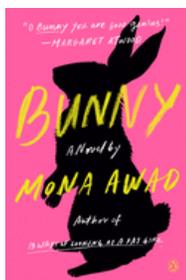
The Book of Lost Names

The Reckless Oath We Made

All the Devils Are Here by Louise Penny

*Bunny A Novel

*Luster A Novel



Some of What a Lot of Menomonie Readers Read This Summer

White Fragility

How to Be an Antiracist

Midnight Sun

Roadside Americans

Last Book on the Left

Island of Sea Women

The Overstory

Untamed

Beach Read

Jane Austen Society

Where the Crawdads Sing (Two years bestseller, 12000 HC on order)

Redhead by the Side of the Road by Anne Tyler

Too Much and Never Enough by Mary Trump

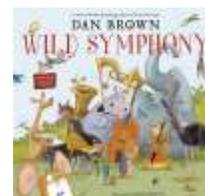
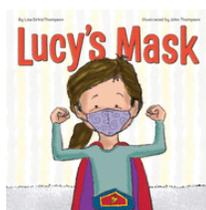
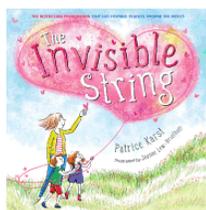
The Room Where It Happened by John Bolton

The New Jim Crow

Rise of the Warrior Cop

Becoming (Two years bestseller, 5000 HC on order)

New Children's Books, *Customer Recommendations



*Lucy's Mask

Invisible String

Madeline Finn and the Library Dog

Lone Wolf, Soaked

***The Invisible String connects people who love each other no matter where they are and means that they are never alone.**

Dan Brown (*Da Vinci Code*) has written an entertaining children's picture book about Maestro Mouse and his musical friends.

Bookends on Main

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An Indie Bookstore

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

\$25 Gift Certificate Winner

Lynn Collins won the August raffle gift certificate. Thanks to all who participated – there were a lot of entries.

September Special

15% discount on books
in the Science-Nature
section.



September, The First Day Of School

Howard Nemerov

I
My child and I hold hands on the way to school,
And when I leave him at the first-grade door
He cries a little but is brave; he does
Let go. My selfish tears remind me how
I cried before that door a life ago.
I may have had a hard time letting go.

Each fall the children must endure together
What every child also endures alone:
Learning the alphabet, the integers,
Three dozen bits and pieces of a stuff
So arbitrary, so peremptory,
That worlds invisible and visible

Bow down before it, as in Joseph's dream
The sheaves bowed down and then the stars bowed
down
Before the dreaming of a little boy.
That dream got him such hatred of his brothers
As cost the greater part of life to mend,
And yet great kindness came of it in the end.

II
A school is where they grind the grain of thought,
And grind the children who must mind the thought.
It may be those two grindings are but one,
As from the alphabet come Shakespeare's Plays,
As from the integers comes Euler's Law,
As from the whole, inseparably, the lives,

The shrunken lives that have not been set free
By law or by poetic phantasy.
But may they be. My child has disappeared
Behind the schoolroom door. And should I live
To see his coming forth, a life away,
I know my hope, but do not know its form

Nor hope to know it. May the fathers he finds
Among his teachers have a care of him
More than his father could. How that will look
I do not know, I do not need to know.
Even our tears belong to ritual.
But may great kindness come of it in the end.