

Bookbites

Bookends on Main

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The Mabel Tainter is marking its return to programming with an artisan's event and free concert staged outdoors on third street, Sat, May 22.

Mother's Day Favorites

Boxed cards

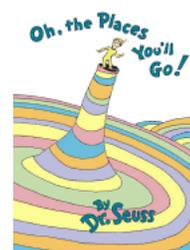
Novels

Day Trips by Theme

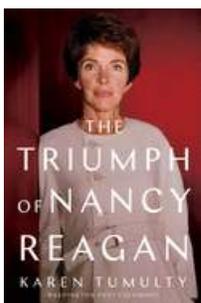


May 2021

Graduation Favorites

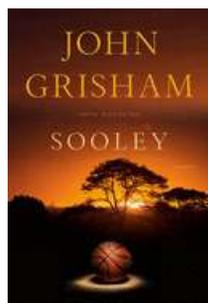


Recently Published, Locally Popular



Triumph of Nancy Reagan is presented as the definitive biography of a fiercely vigilant and politically astute First Lady who shaped one of the most consequential presidencies of the 20th century

Grisham's latest, *Sooley*, is an



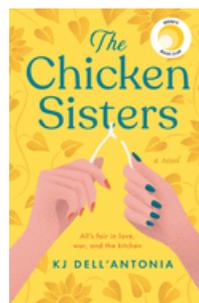
immigrant story about a Sudanese basketball star in North Carolina.

The People We Meet on Vacation: What happens when best friends with nothing in common come together, fall apart, and fall in love? The Vacationers meets *When Harry Met*



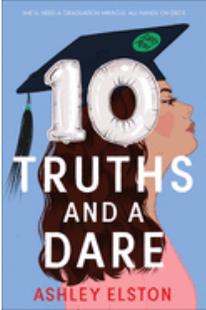
Sally – a delightful paperback beach read.

Chicken Sisters: Fannie Flagg meets Elin Hilderbrand in this deliciously charming debut novel about fried chicken, family feuds, the foibles of the human heart – and a family-owned business.



Kristin Hannah's *Four Winds* revisits the Dust Bowl droughts, the Great Depression, migrant farming in California, and a devastating flood. Popular locally since January.

Pat Trotter's Young Reader Reviews



10 Truths and a Dare by Ashley Elston, ages 12-18

Olivia is so ready for high school graduation. She is the salutatorian for her class. And she has been waiting

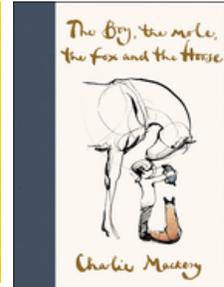
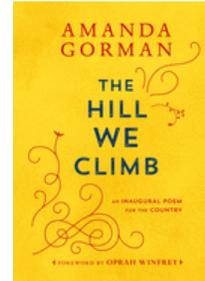
for this day for years. However, her vice principal has thrown a monkey wrench into things as he has informed her that she is missing proof of an off-campus class that she needs for graduation. She only has a short time to accomplish this

but she can't contact the teacher from the class who was supposed to have turned in all the paperwork. So, while her friends are all going to each other's graduation parties and preparing for the big day, Olivia is running around frantically trying to get the one form she needs. How will Olivia cope with this glitch in her schedule? And who is this cute boy who keeps popping up all over wherever she is? How will this affect her relationship with her best friend? And will her mother ever stop texting her every little detail and question? Dedicated to the

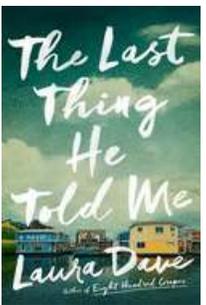
classes of 2020 and 2021, this book is a good read for young adults on the pinnacle of independence and entry into the adult world.

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Popular for all ages:



## *The Last Thing He Told Me*, rev. by Heather Obenberger



The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave is an engrossing novel that explores how well we really know the people we love. Hannah is recently married to

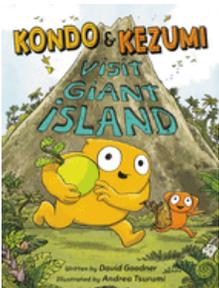
Owen and struggling to connect

with her teenage step-daughter Bailey. Bailey resents Hannah for coming between her and her father. One day Owen does not come home from work and Hannah

“...a suspenseful novel with a great mystery at its center...”

receives a note from him that says only two words, “Protect her”. Hannah and Bailey set out to find Owen and uncover some shocking truths about his past and learn the extent of the danger Bailey could face if others find her. This is a suspenseful novel with a great mystery at its center and an ending that will pull at your heartstrings.

## Pat Trotter Young Reader Review



Kondo & Kezumi by David Goodner

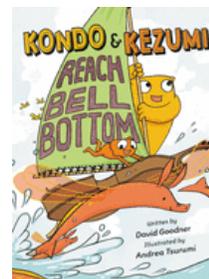
Fantasy, adventure, and friendship in this series of three books for ages 6-10

Kondo and Kezumi are best friends. They live on an is-



land. And everything always seem to be the same. When they find a map in a bottle, they decide to go exploring and find the other

islands pictured on the map. Their explorations test their friendship, give them a few scares, and help them realize how important home



really is. This would be wonderful, read-aloud books to the youngest children in a family or library setting. Engaging and well

written.

## Bookends on Main

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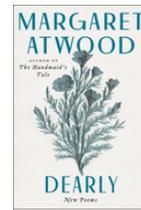


An Indie Bookstore

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

### Siren Brooding on Her Eggs

From Margaret Atwood's new collection, *Dearlly*



Such curious humans, wondering  
what song we sang  
to lure so many sailors  
to their deaths, granted.  
  
but what sort? Of death,  
I mean. Sharp birdclaws  
in the groin, a rending pain, fanged  
teeth in the neck? Or a last breath  
exhaled in bliss, like that  
of male praying mantises?

I sit here on my frowsy nest  
of neckties, quarterly  
reports and jockey shorts  
mixed in among the bones and pens,  
and fluff my breasts and feathers. Lullaby,

my mini-myths, my hungry egglets,  
dreaming in your glowing shells  
of our failsafe girly secret.  
Mama's right nearby  
and Daddy must have loved you:  
he gave you all his protein!  
  
Hatchling's here. Be strong!  
Soon I'll hear a tap-tap-tap, Ahoy!  
and out you'll break, my babies,  
down-covered, rose-toned, lovely  
as a pirouette, a lipstick pour,  
a candied violet,  
flapping your dainty feathery wings  
and ravenous with song.

## Bookstore's Future

Recently, an Eau Claire English major graduating this spring has talked to me about starting a bookstore in Stevens Point. I gave her a lot of practical information and advice about finances, inventory and bookseller contacts. I'm so impressed with the initiative and entrepreneurship of this 22-year old.

"Is the bookstore for sale?" people ask from time to time. "Yes" is the answer. There have been many inquiries, some quite serious and one failed offer.

I've imagined that the next

owner of this bookstore will be someone like Harriett Christy and me, retirees enjoying a retirement occupation, but the Eau Claire English grad shows another possibility. Wouldn't it be lovely to have a completely fresh approach and new generation of bookseller in downtown Menomonie?

"Why am I still doing this?" I sometimes ask myself...I still can, and I still get a lot of satisfaction in keeping the bookstore viable. Harriett and her family started this bookstore in 2003, so it's 18



years in this location in downtown Menomonie. I think it has the most longevity of all the bookstores that have opened and closed in the 53 years I have lived in Menomonie. Correct me if I am wrong.

Anyone considering taking over as local bookseller can contact me for details.

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