

Bookbites

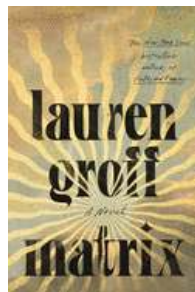
Bookends on Main

Reading Habits

A recent article in *Publisher's Weekly* told me what I had already observed at the bookstore in the past year, namely that people read a lot more. *PW* says the over-all increase was 21%. The biggest increase was for people ages 20-34 and over 65. Men increased their daily reading habit by 30% and people over 75 read more than anyone. The trend continues even as former work habits and leisure activities return, for now at least.

Welcome back students

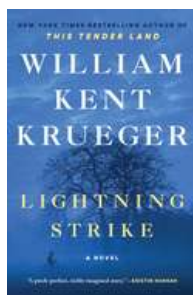
and school as normal. Let's hope the debate about face masks won't ruin the fresh start that the fall always brings, and that everyone will enjoy a healthy, happy 2021-22.



Matrix by Lauren Groff is the top pick in the September Indie Next list. It's a commanding story, set in

the middle ages, about a girl deemed too coarse for the royal court and is sent to England to be a prioress at age 17. Historical fiction, feminine creativity, religious ecstasy, and much more, this novel has too much to summarize in a few sentences.

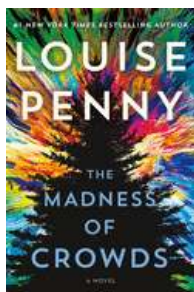
Recently Published



Lightning Strike by Minnesota author William Kent Krueger

is a prequel to his series about Cork O'Connor. When twelve-year-old Cork stumbles upon a body hanging from a tree, it is up to his father, the town sheriff, to find answers. But meanwhile, a determined Cork and

his friends look for answers on their own. This is a father-son story with social commentary about Native American life in the Minnesota north as well as a detective story, a very good read and a September Indie Next selection.



The Madness of Crowds is No. 17 In Louise-Penny's series

about Inspector Gamache. "The series has always excelled when Penny takes time to think through the ramifications of human behavior at its best and its worst, as filtered through Three Pines' idiosyncratic characters. This new novel grapples successfully with the moral weight of its narrative, even if the plotting falters somewhat in the last third. 'All will be well' never sounded so menacing." *Sarah Weinman, New York Times*

2021

September

Save the Date

Friday, Sept. 10
4:00—8:00

Community Cookout
Downtown

Now in paperback:

Alice Hoffman's
Magic Lessons:
Book #1 of the
Practical Magic
Series



The Night She Disappeared, rev. by Heather Obenberger



The Night She Disappeared is another gem of a novel written by Lisa Jewell. Tallulah and Zach are teen parents who

leave their young son at home one evening with Kim (Tallulah's

mother) so they can have a "date night" from which they never return. Most of the people in town assume that the young couple ran off together. Kim knows her daughter would never leave her child and she suspects foul play. With no real leads in the case it soon turns cold. A year later a famed writer who has recently moved to the area knocks on Kim's door with a potential

clue. With all the twists, turns, and suspense that Lisa Jewell is known for this book is one you won't be able to put down.

This novel is one of the Indie Next selections for September.

Young Reader Reviews by Pat Trotter



Unlimited Squirrels: Guess What by Mo Willems. Ages 5-8; grades 1-3

So many squirrels. Each with a different name and role. Zoom squirrel is the focus of this particular book. He is going to the beach in 7 days and literally drives his friends crazy with his anticipation. He has no idea what he

is going to do there, but he can't wait to go. His friends tell him about things he can do at the beach. When he gets there, he

"a fun read" and great "for conversation about emotions and feelings"

finds he doesn't like any of it. He doesn't like the sand. He doesn't like the water. He doesn't like the

sun. But his joy is in the anticipation of counting down days and looking forward to a new adventure. In addition to this story, the book contains research about the word anticipation. There are several jokes. Even a song about "Going to the Beach." This is a fun read for those who enjoy squirrels and offers great opportunities for conversation about emotions and feelings.



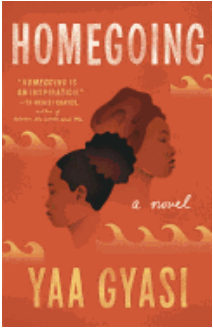
Lost Legends: The Rise of Flynn Rider by Jen Calonita. Ages 8-12; grades 3-7

Twelve-year-old Eugene Fitzherbert lives in a small orphanage in the Dark Kingdom. Eugene's favorite book is

about the adventures of Flynn Rider. He and his friends in the orphanage read the book, left to him by his parents before they died, and act out many of Flynn's adventures. Eugene knows that he will soon be put out of the orphanage and have to find his own way in the world. When a circus comes to town, he and his best friend decide to run away and join the circus. He and Arnie take on new names and

Eugene becomes Flynn Rider. Little do they know what adventures and dangers await them. What really happened to Flynn's parents and will he ever learn his real ancestry? Will the boys be able to overthrow the plot that is being planned for the kingdom? An adventure awaits them that they could not imagine.

Homegoing



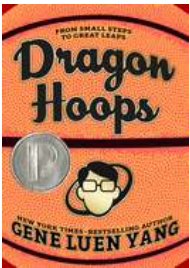
Our book club book this month is Yaa Gyasi's Homegoing. This book has had substantial and continuing success since it first came out in 2016. Its young author was born in Ghana and raised in Hunstville, Alabama, biographical details that influence her subject matter and

perspective. It is a book of epic proportions, a family history covering 7 generations based on two sisters unknown to each other, one who leads a traditional life, the other who marries a white man engaged in the slave trade.

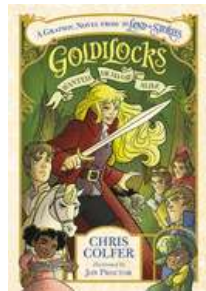
The early stories start with the slave trade, grim and horrifying as we all know, but Gyasi adds less familiar nuances. There are barbaric people, those with misgivings and Africans themselves who were complicit in

the slave trade. Traditional African life is equally nuanced and life in the United States is laden with physical and mental cruelties. The "book leaves the reader with a visceral understanding of both the savage realities of slavery and the emotional damage that is handed down, over the centuries. . . . By its conclusion, the characters' tales of loss and resilience have acquired an inexorable and cumulative emotional weight." ~ *The New York Times*

Graphic Novels



What the older generation of readers called comic books has evolved into a new genre combining the written word with illustrations that present themselves as a new art form. The bookstore is adding more titles in this genre, many appealing to middle readers and others in the young adult category. A few recent titles.:



Non-Book Merchandise



We have a few consignment items of interest: A Gevi air fryer, authentic ethnic outfits, vintage party clothes, a guitar with stand, carrying case, tuner and more.



New are novelty maps of Minnesota and Wisconsin by a former Menomonie resident.



Bookends on Main

214 East Main St.
Menomonie, WI 54751

Phone: 715-233-6252
Fax: 715-233-6252
info@bookendsonmain.com
www.bookendsonmain.com



An Indie Bookstore

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

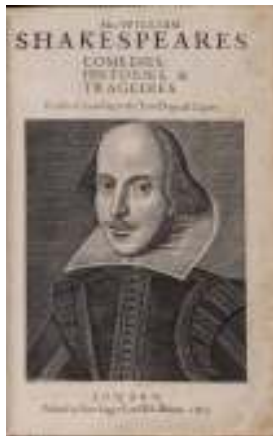
Blood Sweat Tears . . . Live

by Maya Englehorn and Kate Westphal, local authors

fall is soft smiles
grandma's knitted sweater
fall is pressing snooze on you alarm
enjoying the little things.
fall is looking down and smiling at the legs you haven't shaved
fall is way too many chia tea lattes
and long, long hair.
fall is hikes
fall is puppy walks
fall is long walks with your friend
and cozy coffee shops
fall is looking back.
but mostly fall is being present

—appreciating

Shakespeare's Language Is Still with Us



Forwarded by a frequent book buyer: Everyday phrases created by Shakespeare that are still in use. The website

below gives the citation and interesting tidbits:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/everyday-phrases-shakespeare-made-up-2016-3>

One Example is "Puking":
"All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women
merely players:
They have their exits and their
entrances;
And one man in his time
plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At
first the infant,
Mewling and puking in the
nurse's arms. ..."

"Puking" was first recorded in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. It was likely an English imitation

of the German word
"spucken," which means to
spit.
Also: "Knock, knock, who's
there?"
"Love is blind" and so on.