A Blizzard of Books!

**KELLY RECOMMENDS**

**How to Instant Pot**  
by Daniel Shumski

Maybe you, like me, got one of these Instant Pot things for a present? (Thanks, Dad!) I have a weakness for small appliances... and cookbooks. So I took home ALL the cookbooks for the Instant Pot and tested them out so you don’t have to. This one has turned out to be my favorite. I’m a fan of this author and his publisher anyway, so the fact that it beat out all the rest is no surprise. It beat out the “official” cookbook by a mile for ease of use, deliciousness of recipes, variety, layout, and photography. It’s not particularly “chefy,” but that’s not what I was looking for in a general cookbook for this appliance. For “chefy,” try *Dinner In An Instant* by Melissa Clark. Workman $16.95.

**CARL RECOMMENDS**

**The Line Becomes a River**  
by Francisco Cantú

Francisco Cantú served as a US Border Patrol agent for four years, putting him at odds with his Mexican American mother and heritage. An International Studies major in college, Cantú wanted to truly understand the border conflict between the US and Mexico from the ground. But he begins to realize that government work can have ill effects on the identity of a person, and some of his best learning will occur off the job, rather than by it. Cantú depicts life in the desert with such empathy (for migrants and agents alike) that is truly lacking in much of the political discourse that takes place today in an age of xenophobia and border wall talk. This memoir is so critical at a time like now and should be an essential read for any opinion on immigration policy. HINT: If your Spanish is as poor as mine, use a translating site or app when reading this. Some of the most poignant moments happen in Spanish. Don’t be lazy, it is very worth it! Riverhead $26. Avail. 2/6.

**KATIE RECOMMENDS**

**All That Was**  
by Karen Rivers

A toxic, co-dependent friendship ends when one of the girls is found dead. Now Sloane is left with much more than survivor’s guilt. Her last words with Piper were filled with anger after Sloane kissed Piper’s boyfriend. And there are things about Piper’s death that Sloane might know, but that she’s desperate to avoid remembering. Haunted by the ghost of her friend, afraid to examine the friendship that ended so terribly, Sloane reaches out to the one person who can understand—Soup, Piper’s boyfriend. Guilt, competition, twisted love, *All That Was* is a YA mystery that will have you side-eyeing your bestie. Farrar Straus & Giroux $17.99. Ages 12+.

**Mister Tender’s Girl**  
by Carter Wilson

Murderously, morbidly good! Mister Tender, a charismatic and evil bartender, is the star of Alice’s father’s graphic novels. But after two of his fans nearly kill young Alice, her father stops writing anything to do with Mister Tender. All grown up and a true survivor, Alice discovers that Mister Tender’s fans are as rabid and stabby as ever before, and this time she might not survive the encounter. Reality and fantasy blur and bend in this thriller, and it’s definitely a must read this winter! Sourcebooks Landmark $15.99. Avail. 2/13.

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Look Inside For...

- Reflective Reading .................................................. 2
- Exciting New Fiction ............................................. 3
- Page-Turning Dramas ............................................. 4
- Hot New Picks in YA ............................................. 5
- Tales for Tots ......................................................... 6
- Kids, Tweens, and Teens .......................................... 7
- New in Paperback .................................................. 8
- Exploring the Human Condition .............................. 9
- Understanding Our World .................................... 10
- Katie’s Young Adult Reviews, More Fountain Favorites . 11
- Fountain Events ..................................................... 12
Kelly

Howdy!

I’m writing this on a rainy day in January, a month full of meaning for me. January makes me think about the past more than most months, but also the present and the future. January is the month I started bookselling at Printer’s Ink in Blacksburg way back in 1989. Ten years ago this month, I signed the papers to take over Fountain. My mother died 365 days to the day I took over the shop. It’s a bittersweet time of year for me.

She had been ill for some time, but it was still a shock. I like to think she was hanging in for a year just to make sure I was off to a good start. I don’t remember much of 2009. Between the grief and trying to keep the store open during the recession, it’s a complete blur.

But here we are, a decade in, and January is also the time of year I appreciate y’all and my booksellers, industry colleagues, and the gift of this bookstore the most: we’ve made it through the holidays and are ready for a fresh new year, and this year, in particular, we have a ton to celebrate: Fountain Bookstore turns 40!

Fountain was founded in 1978 by Joyce Clay as a professional and technical bookstore, (yes, those were a thing). Boo Smythe (and her charming husband Jim) bought Fountain from Joyce in 1985, and in January 2000, Boo brought me aboard this tiny ship to expand the events programming and just do a general overhaul. With our fearless crew, I’ve been doing that ever since.

And though I “own” it now, most of you who have attended an event at the shop, spent any time at all with me, or read a few newsletters, understand that I don’t think of myself as an “owner.” Yes, I’m the one who currently cuts the checks, stresses out about money and the happiness of the booksellers and our customers, deals with the accountants and lawyers and the city (don’t get me started). But when a place like Fountain manages to last this long, it belongs to everyone.

So, honoring our legacy, and pushing forward, we are going to be rolling out some big things in 2018. It’s time to grow! Some of the things we’re going to introduce are risky and bold. Growing a bookstore ain’t for the squeamish. It’s going to be scary. It’s going to be fun! Are you ready for the ride? We hope you like the changes and additions. If not, I trust you’ll let me know.

One we’ve already introduced is the “Fountain Friends” program. For every $200 you spend, you get $10 back when you sign up. We don’t charge you for it. There’s no time limit. There’s no stupid thing on your keychain. No emails (unless you want them). We don’t even take your phone number. All those things you hate about loyalty programs: we simply decided not to have them. Just remember it’s a new thing for us too, so sometimes we forget to ask. Remind us.

One of the roles that Fountain plays in our lives, I hope, is being a source of comfort as much as books. I try to impress that on the booksellers regularly and remind myself often. As we jump into these changes and additions, know that the mission of being a place of comfort will always stay the same.

Cheers,

Kelly

Reflective Reading

KELLY RECOMMENDS:

This is How it Always Is by Laurie Frankel

So glad this is out in paperback! This was one of my favorite books of 2017. It really stuck with me. Rosie and Penn have four sons, the youngest of which is Claude. Claude says when he grows up he wants to be a girl. In the pages that follow, we witness a very normal family make decisions and keep secrets that we know will eventually lead to an explosion. This book made me think a lot. There is nothing simple about this book, yet it didn’t feel like an “issues” book. It felt like one family’s story. I finished it over a year ago and I still think about this family and worry about their welfare like they are real people. In a way, I suppose, they are. Flatiron $16.99.

A Short History of Richmond by Jack Trammell and Guy Terrell

I have been asking authors for over 10 years to write a short history of Richmond. I’m, like, PLEASE! I NEED THIS BOOK! I COULD SELL SO MANY! In late December 2016, I wearily made the same request of Guy and Jack, even though they were at the shop promoting a political book. I had just been asking everyone at that point, even novelists. To my utter shock they said, “Okay?” I said, “Great! I need it for next Christmas!” Boy did they deliver! I love this book! It’s exactly what I wanted! You will want one too. Don’t worry, I’ve put them back to work for another book you didn’t know you wanted for next year! History $21.99.

CARL RECOMMENDS:

I Am, I Am, I Am by Maggie O’Farrell

We’re all aware of the old adages on living life to the fullest, but this memoir is proof that they hold up. Depicting her life through a series of Near-Death Experiences (17 in fact!), O’Farrell reminds us how fleeting life can be—all it takes is a step in the wrong direction, a late morning, cloudy judgment, poor health, some bad luck. I realized I’ve been in situations that could have ended up worse (though not nearly as numerous or intense as hers!). Brilliantly written, I promise you will appreciate life more after reading this book. Knopf $25.95. Avail. 2/6

Freshwater by Akwaeke Emezi

In one of the most original stories I’ve ever read, Akwaeke Emezi explores the fractured self—mental illness—through the lens of several gods that live within Ada. Born in Nigeria, a troubled childhood leads to troubled adulthood when she departs for America to go to college. As she grows, different gods take turns “protecting her,” using her body to fulfill their own (often selfish) needs. Ada’s struggle is to find and maintain a sense of her human self among all these different characters living within her. Refreshing and new, this is one of the most unique takes on mental illness I’ve ever come across and really raises the bar for contemporary fiction. Grove $24. Avail. 2/13
Exciting New Fiction

The Take
by Christopher Reich
Simon Riske is a freelance industrial spy who, despite his job title, lives a mostly quiet life in central London. He has maintained his quiet life by avoiding big, messy jobs—until now. Gangster Tino Coluzzi has orchestrated the greatest heist in the history of Paris: a visiting Saudi prince had a briefcase stolen with millions in cash, along with a letter that could upend the balance of power in the Western world. The Russians have already killed in an attempt to get it back by the time the CIA comes knocking at Simon’s door. Mulholland $28.

The Woman in the Window
by A.J. Finn
For readers of Gillian Flynn and Tana French comes one of the decade’s most anticipated debuts: a twisty, powerful Hitchcockian thriller. Anna Fox lives as a recluse in her New York City home, unable to venture outside. She spends her day drinking wine, watching old movies…and spying on her neighbors. But when Anna sees something she shouldn’t, her world’s shocking secrets are laid bare. What is real? Who is in danger? Who is in control? In this diabolical thriller, no one—and nothing—is what it seems. William Morrow $26.99.

Grist Mill Road
by Christopher Yates
The anticipated new novel from the author whose debut was named a Book of the Year by NPR. Grist Mill Road is a dark, twisted, and expertly plotted tale. The year is 1982; the setting, an Edenic hamlet north of New York City. There, among the rock cliffs and glacial ponds of timeworn mountains, three friends—Patrick, Matthew, and Hannah—are bound together by a terrible crime. Twenty-six years later, living lives their younger selves never could have predicted, the three meet again—with even more devastating results. Picador $26.

The Largesse of the Sea Maiden
by Denis Johnson
The Largesse of the Sea Maiden is the long-awaited story collection from National Book Award winner and two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist Denis Johnson. Written in the luminous prose that made him one of the most beloved writers of his generation, this collection finds Johnson in new territory, contemplating the ghosts of the past and the elusive ways the mysteries of the universe assert themselves. Finished shortly before Johnson’s death, this collection is the last word from a writer whose work will live on for years. Random House $27.

Elysium Fire
by Alastair Reynolds
The king of modern space opera presents a tale of murderers, secret cultists, tampered memories, and unthink-able power. Ten thousand city-state habitats called the Glitter Band orbit the planet Yellowstone, forming a democratic human paradise. But across the habitats, people are dying, victims of a neural implant malfunction; these “melters” leave no clues behind as to the cause of their deaths. As panic rises, a charismatic figure is convincing habitats to break away from the Glitter Band and form their own colonies. Orbit $15.99.

The Philosopher’s Flight
by Tom Miller
A thrilling debut from a doctor turned novelist, this historical fantasy is set in a WWI-era America where magic and science have blended into a single art. Eighteen-year-old Robert Weekes is a practitioner of empirical philosophy—an arcane, female-dominated branch of science used to summon wind, shape smoke, heal the injured, and even fly. When his abilities are put to the test, Robert wins a scholarship to study at Radcliffe College, an all-women’s school. And then he falls for political radical Danielle Hardin. Simon & Schuster $26. Avail. 2/13

Force of Nature
by Jane Harper
Five colleagues are forced to go on a corporate retreat in the wilderness. But one of the women doesn’t come out of the woods. And each of her companions tells a slightly different story about what happened. Federal Police Agent Aaron Falk has a keen interest in the missing hiker. In an investigation that takes him deep into isolated forest, Falk discovers lurking secrets, and a tangled web of personal and professional friendship, suspicion, and betrayal among the hikers. But did that lead to murder? Flatiron $25.99. Avail. 2/6

Fools and Mortals
by Bernard Cornwell
Bernard Cornwell’s enthralling standalone novel tells the story of the first production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream as related by William Shakespeare’s estranged younger brother. Richard Shakespeare dreams of a glittering career in a London playhouse, a world dominated by William. As William’s star rises, Richard’s onetime gratitude is souring. When a priceless manuscript goes missing, suspicion falls upon Richard, entangling him in duplicity and betrayal. And to avoid the gallows, he must play the part of a lifetime. Harper $27.99.
Only Killers and Thieves
by Paul Howarth
Thirsting for vengeance, two distraught brothers ride across the colonial Australian outback in pursuit of their former Aboriginal stockman they believe has wronged them. Their harsh and horrifying journey will torment one brother for the rest of his life—and will hold enduring consequences for a young country struggling to come into its own. Recreating a period of Australian and British history as evocative as the American frontier era, this debut novel is an unforgettable story of family, guilt, empire, and race. Harper $26.99. Avail. 2/6

Eternal Life
by Dara Horn
Rachel has a problem: she can’t die. Her recent troubles—widowhood, a failing business, an unemployed adult son—are only the latest in a litany spanning dozens of countries, scores of marriages, and hundreds of children. In the 2,000 years since she made a bargain to save the life of her first son, she’s tried everything to free herself, and only one other person in the world understands: a man who has been stalking her through the centuries, convinced they belong together. Gripping, hilarious, and profoundly moving. W.W. Norton $25.95.

Red Clocks
by Leni Zumas
In this ferociously imaginative novel, abortion is once again illegal in America, in-vitro fertilization is banned, and the Personhood Amendment grants rights of life, liberty, and property to every embryo. In a small Oregon fishing town, five very different women navigate these new barriers alongside age-old questions surrounding motherhood, identity, and freedom. In the vein of Margaret Atwood, Leni Zumas fearlessly explores the contours of female experience, evoking *The Handmaid’s Tale* for a new millennium. Little, Brown $26.

The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore
by Kim Fu
A group of young girls descend on Camp Forevermore, a sleepaway camp in the Pacific Northwest. Filled with excitement, they set off on an overnight kayaking trip to a nearby island. But before the night is over, they find themselves stranded, with no adults to help them survive or guide them home. In diamond sharp prose, *The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore* traces these girls through and beyond this fateful trip, exploring the ways in which the same experience is refracted through different people. Houghton Mifflin $23. Avail. 2/13

March is a tomboy with tousled hair, a mischievous smile, mud on her shoes, and a laugh in her voice.

— Hal Borland
The Belles
by Dhonielle Clayton
Camellia Beauregard is a Belle, revered in Orleans, for Belles control Beauty. In Orleans, people are born gray and damned, and only with the help of a Belle can they be made beautiful. But when Camellia and her Belle sisters are summoned to the royal court, Camellia learns that her powers are greater and more dangerous than she imagined. And when the queen asks Camellia to risk her life and help the ailing princess by using Belle powers in unintended ways, she faces an impossible decision. Freeform $17.99. Avail. 2/6

This is Not a Love Letter
by Kim Purcell
Chris is about to head off to college on a scholarship. But he disappeared while going for a run in the same place where boys beat him up three weeks ago. Chris is one of the only black kids in a depressed paper mill town, and Jessie is terrified of what might have happened. The police think he’s run away. And angry townspeople smear Chris’s character and threaten Jessie for suggesting otherwise. Every Friday since they started dating, Chris has written Jessie a love letter. Now Jessie is writing Chris a letter of her own. Disney-Hyperion $17.99.

Before I Let Go
by Marieke Nijkamp
Best friends Corey and Kyra were inseparable in their snow-covered town of Lost Creek, Alaska. When Corey moves away, she makes Kyra promise to wait for her. But days before Corey is to return for a visit, Kyra dies. Corey is devastated—and confused. The community speaks in hushed tones, saying her death was meant to be. Corey knows something is wrong; Lost is keeping chilling secrets. But piecing together the truth about what happened to her friend may prove as difficult as lighting the sky in an Alaskan winter. Sourcebooks Fire $17.99.

Ink
by Alice Broadway
There are no secrets in Saintstone. From the second you’re born, every achievement, failing, and significant moment are immortalized on your skin. There are honorable marks showing trustworthiness and shameful tattoos that announce you as a traitor. After her father dies, Leora is comforted that his skin tells a wonderful story, until she glimpses a symbol of the worst crime a person can commit. Leora knows it must be a mistake, but soon the secret gets out, jeopardizing her father’s legacy and Leora’s life. Scholastic $17.99.

The Cruel Prince
by Holly Black
Jude was seven years old when her parents were murdered and she and her sisters were stolen away to live in the treacherous High Court of Faerie. Ten years later, Jude wants nothing more than to belong there, despite her mortality. But many of the fey despise humans—especially Prince Cardan. In her efforts to win a place at the Court, she becomes embroiled in palace intrigues and deceptions. But as civil war threatens the Courts of Faerie, Jude must risk her life in an alliance to save Faerie itself. Little Brown BYR $18.99.

The Hazel Wood
by Melissa Albert
Seventeen-year-old Alice and her mother have spent most of Alice’s life on the road, always a step ahead of uncanny bad luck. But when Alice’s grandmother, the author of a cult-classic book of dark fairy tales, dies alone on her estate, the Hazel Wood, Alice learns how bad her luck can really get. Her mother is stolen away by a figure who claims to come from the cruel supernatural world where her grandmother’s stories are set. Alice’s only lead is the message her mother left: “Stay away from the Hazel Wood.” Flatiron $16.99.

Broken Beautiful Hearts
by Kami Garcia
When star soccer player Peyton Rios receives an offer from her first-choice college, senior year starts off well. But when Peyton uncovers her boyfriend’s dark secret, she confronts him—and finds herself falling down a flight of stairs. Peyton’s knee is shattered. Was she pushed, or did she fall? Peyton knows the truth, even if no one believes her. With her future on the line, Peyton goes to stay with her uncle in Tennessee to recover. Dating is the last thing on her mind—until she meets sweet, sexy Owen Law, who’s hiding his own secrets. Imprint $18.99. Avail. 2/6

Meet Cute
by Various Authors
Whether or not you believe in fate or luck, every romance has to start somewhere. Meet Cute is an anthology of short stories featuring tales of “how they first met” from today’s most popular YA authors. Among the many stories are Nina LaCour’s piece about two girls meeting via a cranky customer service Tweet, Sara Shepard’s tale about a magazine intern and a rock star, Katie Cotugno’s story of two teens hiding out from the police at a house party, and Meredith Russo’s feature of a riveting transgender heroine. Houghton Mifflin BYR $17.99.
Be Kind
by Pat Zietlow Miller, illus. by Jen Hill
When Tanisha spills juice all over her dress, her classmate contemplates how to make her feel better and what it means to be kind. From asking the new girl to play to standing up for someone being bullied, this moving story explores what a child can do to be kind, and how every act can make a difference—or at least help a friend. With a gentle text from Pat Zietlow Miller, and irresistible art from Jen Hill, Be Kind is an unforgettable story about how two simple words can change the world. Roaring Brook $17.99. Ages 3-6. Avail. 2/6

Elmore
by Holly Hobbie
The creator of the Toot & Puddle series brings us Elmore—the warmhearted porcupine sure to steal the hearts of a new generation of Holly Hobbie fans! Elmore is a porcupine desperate to make friends. But it is hard to seek closeness with others when you’re covered with spikes that shoot off your back every so often. Elmore suffers rejection and heartbreak, but the goodness of his forest community ultimately shines through as the animals find a way to connect with this prickly bundle of love. Random House BYR $17.99. Ages 4-7.

Love
by Matt de la Peña illus. by Loren Long
“In the beginning there is light and two wide-eyed figures standing near the foot of your bed and the sound of their voices is love.” In this heartfelt celebration, Newbery Medal-winning author Matt de la Peña and illustrator Loren Long depict the ways we experience this universal bond, which carries us from the day we are born throughout the years of our childhood and beyond. With soothing, lyrical text, this tender tale is a needed comfort and a new classic that will resonate with readers of every age. G.P. Putnam’s Sons BYR $17.99. Ages 4-7.

Valensteins
by Ethan Long
Something strange is in the air. The members of Fright Club are always ready to scare, but tonight Fran K. Stein has something else on his mind. He’s busy making something, and the other monsters want to know what it is. Could it be a mask with fangs? A big pink nose? Or maybe a paper butt? No… it’s a Valentine! That means one thing... EEEEEK!! Is Fran in love? What could be scarier than falling in love?! In this hilariously spooky story by Ethan Long, even the scariest of monsters have true feelings. Bloomsbury USA Children’s $16.99. Ages 4-7.

Mighty Tug
by Alyssa Satin Capucilli illus. by David Mottram
Mighty Tug may be the smallest boat in the busy harbor, but he is also the mightiest in this timeless picture book from the author of the Katy Duck and Biscuit series. Around the gleaming channel, where the water’s deep and wide, tall ships stretch their sails and the ever so brave mighty tug leads the way across the waves. To the rescue in the busy, busy harbor, little tug saves the day every time. Mighty Tug is the smallest, strongest, and bravest boat of all. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman $17.99. Ages 4-8.

Dino Duckling
by Alison Murray
In this fun and endearing celebration of differences, Dino Duckling is different from all the other baby ducks, even as an egg. And when he’s born, no one seems to notice that he’s actually a dinosaur! Mama Duck knows there is room for difference in a loving family, but there’s one big problem: How will Dino Duckling fly south for the winter without any wings? Alison Murray’s heartwarming reinvention of “The Ugly Duckling” is perfect for anyone who has ever wondered how to fit in. Little Brown BYR $17.99. Ages 4-8.

The Big Umbrella
by Amy June Bates and Juniper Bates
By the door there is an umbrella. It is big. It is so big that when it starts to rain there is room for everyone underneath. It doesn’t matter if you are tall. Or plaid. Or hairy. It doesn’t matter how many legs you have. There will always be room under the umbrella. Lush illustrations and lyrical text subtly address themes of inclusion and tolerance in this sweet story that illustrator Amy June Bates co-wrote with her daughter, Juniper, while walking to school together in the rain. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman $16.99. Ages 4-8. Avail. 2/6

I am a Warrior Goddess
by Jennifer Adams
You don’t have to be a grown-up to be a hero, and I Am a Warrior Goddess shows how in the empowering tale of a little girl with big aspirations. Through the clever play between illustration and text, young readers learn how each day is full of opportunities to make a positive impact with ordinary actions. As our heroine connects with the earth, takes care of her body, and finds strength in kindness, she discovers her inner warrior goddess and inspires young girls everywhere to do the same. Sounds True $17.95. Ages 5-8. Avail. 2/6
Kids, Tweens, and Teens

**Fairy Mom and Me**
**by Sophie Kinsella**
Fans of Sophie Kinsella’s humor will love her first illustrated series for young readers! Ella Brook can’t wait to grow up—one day she will become a fairy and have her own wings and a teacher on Fairy Tube, just like her mom! Until then, Ella has to learn by watching her mom in action. But sometimes spells go wrong, and Ella’s mom can never seem to remember the right magic codes on her Computawand. A lot of the time, it’s up to Ella to come to the rescue. Does she have what it takes to be a fairy one day? Delacorte $14.99. Ages 7-10.

**Whiskerella**
**by Ursula Vernon**
In this funny, feminist twist on the Cinderella fairy tale, Princess Harriet Hamsterbone doesn’t enjoy fancy dresses or extravagant parties. Cliff-diving, fractions, and whacking people with swords are more her thing. So when she’s forced to attend a ball, Harriet is less than thrilled—until a bewitchingly beautiful stranger arrives. Who is she? And where did she come from? The mystery leads to a not-so-wicked stepsister, an incontinent lizard, and a fairy’s spell that’s really more of a curse. Dial $12.99. Ages 8-11.

**The Royal Rabbits of London**
**by Santa Montefiore and Simon Sebag Montefiore**
*Mrs. Frisky and the Rats of NIMH* meets *Warriors* in this charming novel that proves that even the smallest rabbit can be the biggest hero. Shylo has always been the runt of the litter, the weakest and quietest of his family. But when Shylo stumbles across a band of ratzis and overhears their evil plan to take a photo of the Queen in her nightie, it’s up to this unlikely hero to travel to London and inform the Royal Rabbits of London! But can a rabbit as shy as Shylo convince them that the Queen is in danger? Aladdin Paperbacks $16.99. Ages 8-11.

**The Terrible Two Go Wild**
**by Mac Barnett and John Jory**
Everyone’s favorite pranksters are at it again! School’s out, and Miles and Niles are running wild in the woods: climbing trees, exploring caves, and yes, pranking. But these lazy days of mischief darken when bully Josh Barkin and his cadets from a nearby kids’ boot camp discover the merrymakers and vow to destroy them. Are our heroes’ sharp minds any match for these hooligans’ hard fists? The latest installment of the witty, illustrated series proves once again that pranks can be tools of justice—plus, they’re funny. Amulet $13.99. Ages 8-12.

**Dragon Bones**
**by Lisa McMann**
Ten years after Alex and Aaron Stowe brought peace to Quill and Artime, their younger twin sisters journey beyond Artimé in this sequel to *The Unwanteds*. One of these sisters, Thisbe, is trapped in the catacombs, where the ancient dragon rulers are buried. Along with fellow prisoners, Thisbe’s job is to transport dragon bones to a room where others extract their magical properties. When it appears no one is coming to rescue her, Thisbe must train in secret, learning to control her magic and use it to escape. Aladdin Paperbacks $18.99. Ages 8-12. Avail. 2/6

**The Ambrose Deception**
**by Emily Ecton**
Melissa is a nobody. Wilf is a slacker. Bondi is a show-off. At least that’s what their middle school teachers think. To everyone’s surprise, they are chosen to compete for a ten thousand-dollar scholarship, solving clues that lead them to locations around Chicago. It doesn’t take long before they wonder whether the competition is a sham. And it’s only by joining forces that the trio is able to uncover the truth behind the Ambrose Deception—a truth that involves a lot more than a scholarship. Disney-Hyperion $16.99. Ages 9-12. Avail. 2/13

**The Journey of Little Charlie**
**by Christopher Paul Curtis**
Twelve-year-old Charlie is down on his luck: His sharecropper father just died and Cap’n Buck—the most fearsome man in Possum Moan, South Carolina—has come to collect a debt. Fearing for his life, Charlie strikes a deal and agrees to track down folks accused of stealing from the cap’n and his boss. It’s not too bad of a bargain... until Charlie discovers the fugitives’ true identities. Torn between his conscience and his survival instinct, Charlie must now figure out his next move before Cap’n Buck catches on. Scholastic $16.99. Ages 9-12.

**Unearthed**
**by Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner**
When Earth intercepts a message from a long-extinct alien race, it seems like the solution humanity has been waiting for. The Undying’s technology has the potential to undo environmental damage, and their message leads to the planet Gaia. Jules and Amelia smuggle themselves onto the alien planet’s surface, desperate to uncover its riches. But the more they learn about the Undying, the more Jules and Mia feel their presence is part of a design that could be the end of the human race. Disney-Hyperion $17.99. Ages 13-17.
The Refugees
by Viet Thanh Nguyen
Published in hardcover to astounding acclaim, The Refugees is the remarkable debut collection of short stories by Viet Thanh Nguyen, winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for The Sympathizer. In these powerful stories, written over a period of twenty years and set in both Vietnam and America, Nguyen gives voice to the hopes and expectations of people making life-changing decisions to leave one country for another, and the rifts in identity, loyalties, romantic relationships, and family that accompany relocation. Grove Press $16.

The Underground Railroad
by Colson Whitehead
Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner! Cora is a slave on a Georgia plantation. Life is hell for all the slaves, but especially for Cora; an outcast even among her fellow Africans, she is coming into womanhood where even greater pain awaits. When Caesar, an arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they take a terrifying risk and escape. Like the protagonist of Gulliver’s Travels, Cora encounters different worlds at each stage of her journey—hers is an odyssey through time as well as space. Anchor $16.95.

Beartown
by Fredrik Backman
People say Beartown is finished. A tiny community nestled deep in the forest, it is slowly losing ground to the encroaching trees. But the old ice rink, built generations ago, gives the residents hope. Their junior ice hockey team has made it to the national semi-finals, and all the town’s hopes and dreams now rest on the shoulders of a handful of teenage boys. The pressure is high, and the semi-final match is the catalyst for a violent act that will leave a young girl traumatized and a town in turmoil. Washington Square Press $17. Avail. 2/6

The 15:17 to Paris
by Anthony Sadler, Alek Skarlatos, Spencer Stone, and Jeffrey Stern
On August 21, 2015, Ayoub El-Khazzani boarded train #9364 in Brussels, armed with an AK-47, a pistol, a box cutter, and enough ammunition to obliterate every passenger. Another major ISIS attack was about to begin. But Khazzani wasn’t expecting Anthony Sadler, Alek Skarlatos, and Spencer Stone. The 15:17 to Paris is an amazing true story of friendship and bravery, of near tragedy averted by three men who found the unity and strength at the moment when they, and 500 other travelers, needed it most. PublicAffairs $15.99.

Lincoln in the Bardo
by George Saunders
While the U.S. Civil War is less than one year old, President Lincoln’s eleven-year-old son, Willie, becomes ill and dies. A grief-stricken Lincoln returns to the crypt several times to hold his boy’s body. From that seed of historical truth, George Saunders spins a story that breaks out into a supernatural realm. Willie Lincoln finds himself in a purgatory where ghosts mingle, grieve, commiserate, and enact bizarre acts of penance. Within this transitional state—the bardo—a struggle erupts over Willie’s soul. Random House Trade $17. Avail. 2/6

The Late Show
by Michael Connelly
Renee Ballard works the midnight shift, beginning many investigations but finishing few, as each morning she turns everything over to daytime units. It’s a frustrating job that’s been given to her as punishment after filing a sexual harassment complaint against a supervisor. But when Ballard catches two assignments she doesn’t want to part with, she works both cases by day while maintaining her shift by night. As the investigations intertwine, Ballard is forced to face her own demons and confront unimaginable danger. Grand Central $15.99.

Winter
by Marissa Meyer
Princess Winter despises her stepmother, and knows Queen Levana won’t approve of her feelings for her childhood friend—the handsome palace guard, Jacin. But Winter isn’t as weak as Levana believes her to be; together with her allies, Winter might even be able to launch a revolution and win a war that’s been raging too long. Can Cinder, Scarlet, Cress, and Winter defeat Levana and find their happily ever afters? Fans will not want to miss this thrilling conclusion to Marissa Meyer’s bestselling Lunar Chronicles series. Square Fish $12.99.
**Exploring the Human Condition**

**When They Call You a Terrorist**
by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and asha bandele
From one of the co-founders of the Black Lives Matter movement, *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir* reminds us that protest in the interest of the most vulnerable comes from love. Leaders of the Black Lives Matter movement have been called terrorists, a threat to America. But in truth, they are loving women seeking justice for those victimized by the powerful. In this empowering account, Patrisse Cullors and asha bandele seek to change the culture that declares innocent black life expendable. St. Martin’s $24.99.

**Wallis in Love**
by Andrew Morton
For fans of the Netflix series *The Crown* comes a captivating biography of Wallis Simpson, the notorious woman for whom Edward VIII gave up the throne. In *Wallis in Love: The Untold Life of the Duchess of Windsor, the Woman Who Changed the Monarchy*, Andrew Morton offers a fresh portrait of Wallis Simpson. During her climb up the social ladder, we gain insights into the personality and motivations of a complex, domineering woman striving to determine her own fate in a harsh, turbulent world. Grand Central $28. Avail. 2/13

**Feel Free**
by Zadie Smith
Since she burst spectacularly into view with her debut novel almost two decades ago, Zadie Smith has established herself not just as one of the world’s preeminent fiction writers, but also a brilliant essayist. *Feel Free: Essays* is comprised of new work as well as classic essays and is arranged into five sections: In the World, In the Audience, In the Gallery, On the Bookshelf, and Feel Free. Equally at home in the world of good books and bad politics, she is by turns wry, heartfelt, indignant, and incisive—and always perfect company. Penguin $29. Avail. 2/6

**Jefferson’s Daughters**
by Catherine Kerrison
Thomas Jefferson had three daughters: Martha and Maria by his wife, Martha Jefferson, and Harriet by his slave Sally Hemings. In *Jefferson’s Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black, in a Young America*, Catherine Kerrison recounts their journeys—and how their struggle to define themselves reflects both the possibilities and the limitations that resulted from the American Revolution. Their stories shed new light on the American human rights movement—and on the legacy of this controversial Founding Father. Ballantine Books $28.

**The Road Not Taken**
by Max Boot
In this epic biography of Edward Lansdale (1908–1987), historian Max Boot demonstrates how Lansdale pioneered a “hearts and mind” diplomacy, first in the Philippines, then in Vietnam. It was a visionary policy that, as Boot reveals, was crushed by America’s giant military bureaucracy, who favored troop build-ups and napalm bombs over winning the trust of the people. *The Road Not Taken: Edward Lansdale and the American Tragedy in Vietnam* suggests that Vietnam could have been different had we only listened. Liveright $35.

**Winter**
by Karl Ove Knausgaard
In *Winter*, we rejoin Karl Ove Knausgaard as he waits for the birth of his daughter. In preparation for her arrival, he takes stock of the world, seeing it as if for the first time. He writes about the moon, water, messiness, owls, birthdays—to name just a handful of his subjects. New life is on the horizon, but the earth is also in hibernation, waiting for the warmer weather to return, and so a contradictory melancholy infects his gaze. Startling and compassionate, Knausgaard shows the world as it really is: at once mundane and sublime. Penguin $27.

**The Monk of Mokha**
by Dave Eggers
A heart-pounding true story of a young man—a Muslim and a U.S. citizen—Mokhtar Alkhanshali, who was brought up by Yemeni immigrants in San Francisco. At twenty-four he becomes interested in coffee and its history in Yemen. He sets out to learn about coffee cultivation, roasting, and importing, traveling to Yemen and eager to help Yemeni farmers bring their coffee back to its former glory. He is on the verge of success when civil war engulfs Yemen in 2015. The U.S. embassy closes, and Mokhtar is trapped. Knopf $28.95.
Understanding Our World

Smoketown
by Mark Whitaker
The other great Renaissance of black culture burst forth in Pittsburgh from the 1920s through the 1950s. Smoketown: The Untold Story of the Other Great Black Renaissance explores this unsung community, depicting how Southern migrants were drawn to this steel-making city; how they were shaped by its schools and a spirit of commerce; and how their world was eventually destroyed by industrial decline. Whitaker embarks on a rousing, revelatory journey—and offers a timely reminder that Black History is not all bleak. Simon & Schuster $30.

The Deepest Well
by Nadine Burke Harris
When Dr. Nadine Burke Harris met a boy who had stopped growing after a sexual trauma, she was galvanized to dig into the connections between toxic stress and the lifelong illnesses she was tracking. This led to an astonishing breakthrough: childhood stress changes our neural systems and lasts a lifetime. For anyone who has faced a difficult childhood, or who cares about the children who do, the interventions outlined in The Deepest Well: Healing the Long-Term Effects of Childhood Adversity will represent hope for change. Houghton Mifflin $27.

Dead People Suck
by Laurie Kilmartin
Death is not for the faint of heart, and sometimes the best way to cope is through humor. No one knows this better than comedian Laurie Kilmartin. She made headlines by live-tweeting her father’s time in hospice and her grieving process after he passed, and channeled her experience into a comedy special, 45 Jokes About My Dead Dad. Dead People Suck: A Guide for Survivors of the Newly Departed is her hilarious guide to surviving (sometimes) death, dying, and grief without losing your mind. Rodale $21.99. Avail. 2/13

That’s What She Said
by Joanne Lipman
There will be no man shaming in That’s What She Said: What Men Need to Know (and Women Need to Tell Them) about Working Together. Filled with illuminating anecdotes, data from the most recent studies, and stories from Joanne Lipman’s own journey to the top of a male-dominated industry, this book shows how we can win by reaching across the gender divide and why empowering women as true equals is an essential goal for women and men—and offers a roadmap for getting there. William Morrow $28.99. Avail. 2/13

Pipe Dreams
by Erin Banco
Iraq is the owner of the world’s fifth largest oil reserves. When the U.S. invaded in 2003, the Bush Administration promised that oil revenue would be used to rebuild the country. But fifteen years later, the Iraqi economy has flatlined and is dependent on international aid, and millions of people are internally displaced. Pipe Dreams: The Plundering of Iraq’s Oil Wealth is a cautionary tale that reveals how the dream of an oil-financed democracy in Iraqi Kurdistan now looks like an unrealistic fantasy. Columbia Global Reports $14.99.

When
by Daniel Pink
Our lives are a never-ending stream of “when” decisions: when to start a business, schedule a class, get serious about a person. Yet we make those decisions based on intuition and guesswork. Timing, it’s often assumed, is an art. In When: The Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing, Pink shows that timing is really a science. Drawing on research from psychology, biology, and economics, Pink provides a fascinating narrative packed with stories and takeaways that give readers insights into how we can live richer, more engaged lives. Riverhead $28.

Clean Protein
by Kathy Freston and Bruce Friedrich
Food and wellness experts Kathy Freston and Bruce Friedrich have spent years researching the future of protein. They’ve now distilled what they’ve learned into a strength-building plan poised to reshape your body and change your world. Complete with delicious recipes and a detailed guide to food planning, Clean Protein: The Revolution That Will Reshape Your Body, Boost Your Energy—And Save Our Planet explains everything you need to know in order to get lean, gain energy, and stay mentally sharp. Hachette Books $27.
To Right the Wrongs  
by Sheryl Scarborough

Erin Blake and her sleuth sidekicks are back with a new mystery! Erin is today’s answer to Nancy Drew meeting the CSI world we live in. After successfully solving her mother’s murder, Erin is ready to help boyfriend Journey free his wrongly imprisoned father—with the help of her FBI uncle and her best friends, even if it means breaking the rules (and her promise to stop meddling). Despite the subject matter of murder and mystery, these books tend to feel light and breezy, and completely riveting! Tom Doherty $17.99. Ages 12+. Avail. 2/27

People Like Us  
by Dana Mele

From page one, this book draws the reader. Prep schools, a dead body, main characters with secrets, grumpy detectives, unrequited love, and emailed blackmail from the aforementioned dead body—and that’s all just in the first few chapters. Kay might be a scholarship student, but she’s also a queen bee, desperate for a soccer scholarship and even more desperate to keep her secrets. As she uncovers the mysteries of a dead girl, she also unveils secrets of the people she thought she knew best, people just like us. A thrilling page turner! G.P. Putnam’s Sons BYR $17.99. Ages 12+. Avail. 2/27

Genesis  
by Brendan Reichs

Like the first book in the series, Nemesis, Genesis will leave you breathless! Noah and Min are still dealing with the jaw dropping revelations of their current reality, but they have bigger obstacles to deal with now—it’s full on Lord of the Flies meets Thunderdome survival as they and their classmates fight to make it to the next round. This series reads like an energy drink fueled all night gaming session, so get ready for binge-reading action and adventure! G.P. Putnam’s Sons BYR $18.99. Ages 12+. Avail. 3/6

KELLY:

Behind Her Eyes  
by Sarah Pinborough

This was a big staff favorite last year. Nearly the whole staff read it! Great to be able to sell it in paperback this season. David and Adele seem like a perfect couple but when Louise, David’s secretary, starts looking at their relationship harder, secrets begin to emerge. Everything you want in a thriller with a twist at the end—you’ll get the hashtag associated with the release #WTFThatEnding! Oh. And it doesn’t have “Girl” in the title. Bonus! Flatiron $15.99.

DIANE:

Just Like Jackie  
by Lindsey Stoddard

Robbie punches a boy in the face at school when he makes fun of her for not having a mother. Her Grandpa takes care of her and he doesn’t like to talk about the past, even though Robbie wishes he would tell her about the rest of their family. They also look very different and she wonders why. It becomes more and more clear that Grandpa’s memory is going and Robbie is worried if people find out, they will take him away. She has to learn to keep her anger under control to try to keep their little family together. This beautiful story of accepting differences and different kinds of families will warm your heart. HarperCollins $16.99.

KATIE:

The Last Black Unicorn  
by Tiffany Haddish

Hilarious, honest and heartbreaking! Comedian, actor and all around badass human Tiffany Haddish brings the laughter and the unflinching truth of her life to readers. I binge listened to the audiobook (which Haddish narrates), and I could have listened to hours more! Gallery $26.

Women in the Castle  
by Jessica Shattuck

For fans of The Nightingale! This is a fascinating and unique look at three very different women in post War Germany. Marianne, Nazi resistor and war widow, is determined to keep her promise to look after the widows and families of her fellow resisters who were executed when their plot against Hitler failed. She takes in first beautiful and lost Benita and her young son Martin, then quiet and strong Ania and her two little boys. The women forge a new life together, their pasts and secrets revealed in flashbacks. The Women in the Castle takes an honest look at the Germans who got swept up in Hitler’s rhetoric and those who fought to take him down. William Morrow & Co. $26.99.
BOOK CLUB TONIC NIGHT
Giveaways & Tips from the Fountain Booksellers
Tuesday, February 6, 6:30 pm
Does your book club need a pick-me-up? Are you interested in maybe joining a book club? Do you just like free books? Like, completely free?
Join Kelly Justice, owner of Fountain, and Bookseller Katie, our book clubs coordinator, for a lively night of talking about talking about books! And we’ll be giving books away as well as showcasing our picks for great discussions for the year!

MURDER AT THE LIBRARY EVENT
Two Night Mystery Event with Multiple Authors
Friday & Saturday, February 9-10, 7-10 pm
Location: Clover Hill Library, 6701 Deer Run Dr., Midlothian
Clover Hill Library and Sisters in Crime Virginia bring you an exclusive murder mystery theater event! Enjoy wine, beer, and desserts while you take on the role of detective. The Sisters in Crime authors attending the event are: Rosemary Shomaker, Heather Weidner, Maggie King, Frances Aylor, LynDee Walker, Mary Miley, Fiona Quinn, and Tina Glasneck. There will be books available by the authors for purchase and signing. Tickets are available on our website; must be 21 and up.

WomanKind 2018
Location: St. James Episcopal Church, 1205 West Franklin St.
We are proud to once again be the bookseller for WomanKind Richmond. WomanKind was founded by women to give women a safe space to explore topics of faith in a supportive, encouraging environment. To preserve the special experience of WomanKind, the events on February 23 & 24 are open to women only. Keynotes include The Reverend Neichelle R. Guidry, author of Curating a World and Sara Miles, author of Take This Bread. Purchase tickets on our website.

MURDER AT THE LIBRARY EVENT
Two Night Mystery Event with Multiple Authors
Friday & Saturday, February 9-10, 7-10 pm
Location: Clover Hill Library, 6701 Deer Run Dr., Midlothian
Clover Hill Library and Sisters in Crime Virginia bring you an exclusive murder mystery theater event! Enjoy wine, beer, and desserts while you take on the role of detective. The Sisters in Crime authors attending the event are: Rosemary Shomaker, Heather Weidner, Maggie King, Frances Aylor, LynDee Walker, Mary Miley, Fiona Quinn, and Tina Glasneck. There will be books available by the authors for purchase and signing. Tickets are available on our website; must be 21 and up.

WOMANKIND 2018
Location: St. James Episcopal Church, 1205 West Franklin St.
We are proud to once again be the bookseller for WomanKind Richmond. WomanKind was founded by women to give women a safe space to explore topics of faith in a supportive, encouraging environment. To preserve the special experience of WomanKind, the events on February 23 & 24 are open to women only. Keynotes include The Reverend Neichelle R. Guidry, author of Curating a World and Sara Miles, author of Take This Bread. Purchase tickets on our website.

MEGAN MIRANDA & KAREN McMANUS
Young Adult Fiction Night
Thursday, March 8, 6:30 pm
Bookseller Katie hosts this evening of fun and games (yes, real games) with two rock star young adult fiction authors! Karen McManus’s debut novel One of Us Is Lying is a NYT bestseller. To learn more about her, go to her website, karenmcmanus.com, or follow @writerkmc on Twitter. Megan Miranda is the NYT bestselling author of All the Missing Girls. She has also written several books for young adults. The Perfect Stranger is her second novel of psychological suspense. Find her online at meganmiranda.com or follow @MeganLMiranda.

JABBIES™ with: CRAIG BURKE
Vice President of Berkley
Monday, March 19, 6:30 pm
In response to your requests to learn more about the industry of publishing as well as individual authors, we present JABBIES™: Judge-A-Book-By-Its-Spine. Our guest is Craig Burke, Vice President of Berkley, an imprint of Penguin Random House. He oversees publicity campaigns for the entire Berkley list and has worked with many bestselling authors, including Nora Roberts, J.R. Ward, Charlaine Harris, and Karen White, and has been lead publicist on numerous #1 bestsellers including The Kite Runner and The Help. Plus he’s awesome and charming and one of the sharpest people we have ever met in publishing!

MACKENZI LEE
Bygone Badass Broods
Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 pm
Get ready for a raucous night of fun at Fountain! We welcome the bestselling author and Twitter phenom, Mackenzi Lee! Expect an interactive evening with our author guest, your booksellers, and each other as we talk about and have fun with history. Mackenzi Lee is the New York Times bestselling author of the historical fantasy novels This Monstrous Thing and The Gentleman’s Guide to Vice and Virtue, as well as the forthcoming The Lady’s Guide to Petticoats and Piracy (2018) and Semper Augustus (2019).

JON PINEDA
Let’s No One Get Hurt
Thursday, March 22, 6:30 pm
Jon Pineda is a favorite guest at Fountain, and this novel is positioned to be his breakout book! Jon is a poet, memoirist, and novelist living in Virginia. His work has appeared in Poetry Northwest, Literary Review, and elsewhere. His memoir, Sleep in Me, was critically acclaimed, and his novel Apology won the 2013 Milkweed National Fiction Prize. The author of three poetry collections, he teaches in the MFA program at Queens University of Charlotte and is a member of the creative writing faculty of University of Mary Washington.

JONATHAN MILES
Anatomy of a Miracle
Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 pm
I love everything about this book. When I read the preview copy this summer, this is what I wrote to the publisher: This is an extraordinary tale of a paralyzed veteran who is gifted (or cursed) with a miracle, the storm that surrounds him in the aftermath, and the meaning of faith. This book has ruined me. It was so good I don’t want to read anything else. Please join us for an evening of celebration of a truly great novel. And, I’m proud to call Jonny a friend. I hope you’ll join us. It would mean a lot and you won’t regret it. –Kelly

Be sure to check in at www.fountainbookstore.com to keep up to date with our super awesome store events!