

Main Collection

SF 301 .L64 2023 (North Dakota author)

A big challenge for a little brother : a young horse helps a young boy grow up / Sylvan Loegering

A Big Challenge for a Little Brother is the true story of a 14-year old boy suddenly tasked with training an unriden horse when his older brother leaves for the Army. This 2-year odyssey takes them from tentative baby steps to a gratifying conclusion. The book is truly a coming-of-age story for both horse and rider. Along the way the reader gets an inside look at life on a small family farm in the 1950's. This boy/horse/farm story contains the seeds of a real-life series of events that occur later. The last chapter, "A Final Connection", tells an amazing story of coincidence. The story becomes heart-warming and tragic at the same time. It becomes inspirational for all readers. It could have been written for a Hollywood movie but it is fact, not fiction.

Z 688.6 .U6 T45 2021

Telling the technical services story : communicating value / edited by Kimberley A. Edwards and Tricia Mackenzie in collaboration with Core Publishing

This contributed work provides useful tips for telling a compelling story about the value of technical services work. With this collection, you'll learn about specific initiatives to improve communication within departments, across the library, and campus wide.

Large Print

** N 8795.5 .B74 F56 2023b*

The art thief : a true story of love, crime, and a dangerous obsession / Michael Finkel

The true story of the world's most prolific art thief--a spellbinding portrait of obsession and flawed genius, from the bestselling author of *The Stranger in the Woods*. For centuries, works of art have been stolen in countless ways from all over the world, but no one has been quite as successful at it as the master thief Stéphane Breitwieser. Carrying out more than two hundred heists over nearly ten years--in museums and cathedrals all over Europe--Breitwieser, along with his girlfriend who worked as his lookout, stole more than three hundred objects, until it all fell apart in spectacular fashion. In *The Art Thief*, Michael Finkel brings us into Breitwieser's strange and fascinating world. Unlike most thieves, he never stole for money, keeping all his treasures in a single room where he could admire them to his heart's content. Possessed of a remarkable athleticism and an innate ability to assess practically any security system, Breitwieser managed to pull off a breathtaking number of audacious thefts. Yet these strange talents bred a growing disregard for risk and an addict's need to score, leading Breitwieser to ignore his girlfriend's pleas to stop--until one final act of hubris brought everything crashing down. This is a riveting story of art, crime, and an insatiable hunger to possess beauty at any cost.

* PQ 6707 .O54 R4513 2023b

Red queen / Juan Gomez-Jurado ; Translated from the Spanish by Nick Caistor

Scott--the daughter of a British diplomat and a Spanish mother--has a gifted forensic mind, whose ability to reconstruct crimes and solve baffling murders is legendary. But after a personal trauma, she's refused to continue her work or even leave her apartment. Jon Gutierrez, a police officer in Bilbao--disgraced, suspended, and about to face criminal charges--is offered a chance to salvage his career by a secretive organization that works in the shadows to direct criminal investigations of a highly sensitive nature. All he has to do is succeed where many others have failed: Convince a recalcitrant Antonia to come out of her self-imposed retirement, protecting her and helping her investigate a new, terrifying case. The case is a macabre, ritualistic murder--a teen-aged boy from a wealthy family whose body was found without a drop of blood left in it. But the murder is just the start. A high-ranking executive and daughter of one of the richest men in Spain is kidnapped, a crime which is tied to the previous murder. Behind them both is a hidden mastermind with even more sinister plans. And the only person with a chance to see the connections, solve the crimes and successfully match wits with the killer before tragedy strikes again...is Antonia Scott.

* PQ 8098.1 .L54 V5413 2023b

The wind knows my name : a novel / Isabel Allende ; translated from the Spanish by Frances Riddle

Traces the ripple effects of war and immigration on two children--five-year-old Samuel, whose mother puts him on a Kindertransport train out of Nazi-occupied Austria to England in 1938, and seven-year-old Anita, who boards another train eight decades later to the U.S., where she is separated from her mother.

* PR 6052 .A57 A87 2023b

April in Spain : a novel / John Banville

On the idyllic coast of San Sebastian, Spain, Dublin pathologist Quirke is struggling to relax, despite the beaches, cafés and the company of his disarmingly lovely wife. When he glimpses a familiar face in the twilight at Las Acadas bar, it's hard at first to tell whether his imagination is just running away with him. Because this young woman can't be April Latimer. She was murdered by her brother, years ago--the conclusion to an unspeakable scandal that shook one of Ireland's foremost political dynasties. Unable to ignore his instincts, Quirke makes a call back home to Ireland and soon Detective St. John Strafford is dispatched to Spain. But he's not the only one en route. A relentless hit man is on the hunt for his latest prey, and the next victim might be Quirke himself.

* PR 6052 .A57 S66 2023b

Snow / John Banville

Detective Inspector St. John Strafford has been summoned to County Wexford to investigate a murder. A parish priest has been found dead in Ballyglass House, the family seat of the aristocratic, secretive Osborne family. The year is 1957 and the Catholic Church rules Ireland with an iron fist. Strafford--flinty, visibly Protestant and determined to identify the murderer--faces obstruction at every turn, from the heavily accumulating snow to the culture of silence in

the tight-knit community he begins to investigate. As he delves further, he learns the Osbornes are not at all what they seem. And when his own deputy goes missing, Trafford must work to unravel the ever-expanding mystery before the community's secrets, like the snowfall itself, threaten to obliterate everything.

* PR 6101 .G355 T48 2023b

The three of us : a novel / Ore Agbaje-Williams

What if your two favorite people hated each other with a passion? The wife has it all. A big house in a nice neighborhood, a ride-or-die snarky best friend, Temi, with whom to laugh about facile men, and a devoted husband who loves her above all else--even his distate for Temi. On a seemingly normal day, Temi comes over to spend a lazy afternoon with the wife: drinking wine, eating snacks, and laughing caustically about the husband's shortcomings. But when the husband comes home and a series of confessions are made, the wife's two confidantes are suddenly forced to jockey for their positions, throwing everyone's integrity into question--and their long-drawn-out territorial dance, carefully constructed over years, into utter chaos.

* PR 9199.4 .F678 M44 2023b

Meet me at the lake / Carley Fortune

Fern Brookbanks has wasted far too much of her adult life thinking about Will Baxter. She spent just twenty-four hours in her early twenties with the aggravatingly attractive, idealistic artist, a chance encounter that spiraled into a daylong adventure in the city. The timing was wrong, but their connection was undeniable: they shared every secret, every dream, and made a pact to meet one year later. Fern showed up. Will didn't. At thirty-two, Fern's life doesn't look at all how she once imagined it would. Instead of living in the city, Fern's back home, running her mother's lakeside resort--something she vowed never to do. The place is in disarray, her ex-boyfriend's the manager, and Fern doesn't know where to begin. She needs a plan--a lifeline. To her surprise, it comes in the form of Will, who arrives nine years too late, with a suitcase in tow and an offer to help on his lips. Will may be the only person who understands what Fern's going through. But how could she possibly trust this expensive-suit wearing mirage who seems nothing like the young man she met all those years ago. Will is hiding something, and Fern's not sure she wants to know what it is. But ten years ago, Will Baxter rescued Fern. Can she do the same for him?.

* PR 9560.9 .N45 D87 2023b

Dust child : a novel / Quế Mai Phan Nguyễn

In 1969, sisters Trang and Quynh, desperate to help their parents pay off debts, leave their rural village to work at a bar in Sai Gon. Once in the big city, the young girls are thrown headfirst into a world they were not expecting. They learn how to speak English, how to dress seductively, and how to drink and flirt (and more) with American GIs in return for money. As the war moves closer to the city, the once-innocent Trang gets swept up in an irresistible romance with a handsome and kind American helicopter pilot she meets at the bar. Decades later, an American veteran, Dan, returns to Viet Nam with his wife, Linda, in search of a way to heal from his PTSD; instead, secrets he thought he had buried surface and threaten his marriage. At the same time, Phong--the adult son of a Black American soldier and a Vietnamese woman--embarks on a

mission to find both his parents and a way out of Viet Nam. Abandoned in front of an orphanage, Phong grew up being called "the dust of life," "Black American imperialist," and "child of the enemy," and he dreams of a better life in the United States for himself, his wife Binh, and his children.

** PS 3558 .I384355 F58 2023b*

The five-star weekend / Elin Hilderbrand

Hollis Shaw's life seems picture-perfect. She's the star of the popular food blog, Hungry with Hollis, and is married to Matthew, a dreamy heart surgeon. But after she and Matthew get into a heated argument one snowy morning, Matthew leaves for the airport and is killed in a car accident. The cracks in Hollis's perfect life--her strained marriage and her complicated relationship with her daughter, Caroline--grow deeper. When Hollis hears about something called the "Five-Star Weekend"--a woman invites her best friend from her teenage years, her twenties, her thirties, and mid-life--Hollis decides to host her own "Five-Star Weekend" on Nantucket. But her weekend won't be the Hallmark movie one might expect. Hollis's childhood friend, Tatum, invites Hollis's first love, Jack Finigan, to spend time with them, stirring up old feelings. Meanwhile, Tatum is forced to play nice with Dru-ann, Hollis's best friend from UNC Chapel Hill. Dru-ann's career as a prominent Chicago sports agent is on the line after her comments about a client's mental health issues are misconstrued online. Brooke, Hollis' friend from their thirties, has just discovered that her husband is having an inappropriate relationship with a woman at work. Again! She runs into an old "friend," Electra, a troublemaker who had ousted Brooke from the Wellesley mom friend group where Brooke and Hollis met years before. And then there's Gigi, a stranger to everyone (including Hollis) who reached out to Hollis on her blog. Gigi carries an unusual grace and, as it happens, has many secrets. It will be a weekend like no other.

** PS 3558 .U46768 O5 2023b*

On savage ground / Greg Hunt

Mark Lafitte, leader of a bungled mutiny aboard a merchant ship lost in the Gulf of Mexico, is convinced that he is a dead man when he is marooned for his sins on the swampy wilderness shore of the French Louisiana Colony. That prediction nearly comes true multiple times during his years of slavery to an isolated Indian tribe, but somehow he survives. Eventually French traders rescue him and lead him back to a dangerous little settlement along the Mississippi River named New Orleans, which is destined to become the capital of the vast lands that France claims on the new western continent. Lafitte works relentlessly over the years to build a good life for himself and his ever-growing family, and battles alongside his fellow colonials for the survival of his new-world home. But the dark clouds of his past never forsake him, and eventually the time comes when he has no choice but to fight for what he believes in, and for his own life as well.

** PS 3560 .O275 S87 2023b*

The survivor / Iris Johansen

Traveling to Palanan Island in Southeast Asia, archaeologist Riley Smith is aware of the threat from treasure hunters who have no qualms about killing to get what they want. When she

successfully evades them and finds the perfectly preserved body of a female warrior, it is just what she needs to entice Eve Duncan to join her. As they seek answers to the questions the body has raised, their discovery will change history-- if they can escape the island and survive long enough to share it with the world.

** PS 3560 .O415 O54 2023b*

Old cowboys never die / William W. Johnstone and J.A. Johnstone

After thirty hard years of chasing stampedes into storms and pushing herds of half-crazy cows across the plains, longtime buddies and cattle drivers Casey Tubbs and Eli Doolin are ready to hang up their spurs. But when they get to Abilene with their final delivery of two thousand cows, the company lawyer has skipped town with their crew's entire wages. That means there's just one last job Eli and Casey will have to do... Steal it back. Sure, pulling off a robbery is a new challenge for these old boys. But they've learned a lot of tricks over the years --and they're one hell of a team. Between the two of them, they devise a scheme to hold up the lawyer on the noon train and deliver the money to the men who earned it. Except after pulling off the perfect crime--and getting away with it--an honest, peaceful retirement stops sounding so good. Casey and Eli start thinking they may have missed their calling in life. This could be the start of a whole new career . . . as outlaws.

** PS 3561 .O55 A697 2023b*

After death / Dean Koontz

Michael Mace, head of security at a top-secret research facility, opens his eyes in a makeshift morgue twenty-four hours following an event in which everyone perished--including him and his best friend, Shelby Shrewsberry. Having awakened with an extraordinary ability unlike anything he--or anyone else--has ever imagined, Michael is capable of being as elusive as a ghost. He sets out to honor his late friend by helping Nina Dozier and her son, John, whom Shelby greatly admired. Although what Michael does for Nina is life changing, his actions also evoke the wrath of John's father, a member of one of the most violent street gangs in Los Angeles. But an even greater threat is descending: the Internal Security Agency's most vicious assassin, Durand Calaphas. Calaphas will stop at nothing to get his man. If Michael dies twice, he will not live a third time. From the tarnished glamour of Beverly Hills to the streets of South Central to a walled estate in Rancho Santa Fe, only Michael can protect Nina and John--and ensure that light survives in a rapidly darkening world.

** PS 3566 .A822 C773 2023b*

Cross down / James Patterson and Brendan DuBois

For the first time, John Sampson is on his own. The brilliant crime-solving duo of Washington, DC's, Metro PD and the FBI has a proven MO: Detective Alex Cross makes his own rules. Detective John Sampson enforces them. When military-style attacks erupt, brutally sidelining Cross, Sampson is sent reeling. The patterns are too random-Sampson's friend, his partner, his brother-have told him. Don't trust anyone. As a shadow force advances on the nation's capital, Sampson alone must protect the Cross family, his own young daughter, and every American, including the president.

* PS 3566 .A822 O27 2023b

Obsessed / James Patterson and James O. Born

Aboard a police boat on the Hudson River, Detective Michael Bennett casts a wary eye into the cold, rough water. NYPD is searching for a murder victim--a young college student. They find her tossed in the dark waves, dressed for a night out in a sparkly black gown. The gruesome sight fills Bennett with the dread only a father could fathom. As the obsessive killer extends his spree, a pattern emerges. One that Bennett's eldest daughter fits to a disturbing degree. Now NYPD's top detective must lure the murderer into the light of day before the next deadly strike lands closer to home than Bennett could ever bear--as a parent, or as a protector.

* PS 3566 .A822 P7723 2023b

Private Moscow / James Patterson & Adam Hamdy

Private investigative agency founder Jack Morgan stands inside the New York Stock Exchange with his former US Marine comrade, whose company is being launched onto the market, eagerly awaiting the opening bell. Before the bell rings, a bullet rips through the air and finds its mark. The victim's wife hires Jack to find the killer. As the head of Private, Jack has at his disposal the world's largest investigation agency. What he discovers shakes him to his core: another murder in Moscow that appears to be linked. Heading to Russia, Jack begins to uncover a conspiracy that could have global consequences. With powerful forces plotting against him, will Jack Morgan make it out alive?

* PS 3568 .E476345 B66 2023b

The bone hacker / Kathy Reichs

Young men-tourists-have been disappearing on the islands of Turks and Caicos for years. Seven years ago, the first victim was found in a strange location with both hands cut off; the other visitors vanished without a trace. But, recently, tantalizing leads have emerged and only Tempe can unravel them. Maddeningly, the victims seem to have nothing in common-other than the strange locations where their bodies are eventually found, and the fact that the young men all seem to be the least likely to be involved in foul play. Do these attacks have something to do with the islands' seething culture of gang violence? Tempe isn't so sure. And then she turns up disturbing clues that what's at stake may actually have global significance. It isn't long before the sound of a ticking clock grows menacingly loud, and then Temper herself becomes a target.

* PS 3569 .M5376 S55 2023b

Silver alert : a novel / Lee Smith

Herb has a secret: he's not quite the man he once was. And when his children learn of this, they decide it is time to move him and his wife, Susan, who is slipping into early Alzheimer's herself out of their Key West home and into assisted living. But curmudgeonly Herb--annoyed with his kids and unsettled by the ever-changing world--is not going quietly. He has one trusted friend, a young woman named Renee who has been helping to care for Susan. But Renee, too, is guarding secrets of her own, trying to start over after a truncated childhood where she had to abandon her dreams and her talents, and disappointed by a boyfriend who refuses to commit. Together, Herb and Renee--who is really Dee Dee--take off on one last joyride up the Florida

Keys, setting off a Silver Alert, and, ultimately, setting up a moment where Dee Dee can come into her own. What life do we deserve? And how do we make it our own?

** PS 3569 .T33828 P28 2023b*

Palazzo : a novel / Danielle Steel

After her parents perish in a tragic accident, Cosima Saverio assumes leadership of her family's haute couture Italian leather brand. While navigating the challenges of running a company at twenty-three, Cosima must also maintain the four-hundred-year-old family palazzo in Venice and care for her younger siblings: Allegra, who survived the tragedy that killed their parents with scars and a spinal injury, and Luca, who has a penchant for wild parties, pretty women, and poker tables. Cosima navigates her personal and professional challenges with a wisdom beyond her years, but her success has come at a cost: Her needs are always secondary. She's married to the business, and her free time is given to those who rely on her ... until she meets Olivier Bayard, the founder of France's most successful ready-to-wear handbag company. A brief conversation on her palazzo's terrace turns into a tour of the Saverio workshop, and, fifteen years after her parents' deaths, Cosima has found a confidant. Now the business is financially stable and generating enough income for the Saverios to live comfortably. Then Luca loses a hefty sum at the casino, and his debt must be repaid with money or his life. Cosima, forced to bail him out, is given an impossible choice: List the palazzo, sell a third of the family business, or let Luca fend for himself. But is there another way to save everything she has fought for before it goes up in flames?

** PS 3601 .C475 F36 2023b*

Family lore : a novel / Elizabeth Acevedo

Sisters Matilde, Pastora, Camila, and Flor thought they knew each other well, until Flor--inspired by a documentary her daughter Ona made her watch--decides she wants a living wake, a party to bring her family and community together and celebrate the long life she's led, while she's still around to enjoy it. She's not ill, as far as anybody knows, but Flor does have a gift: she can predict, to the day, when someone will die. Has she foreseen her own death, or someone else's, or does she have other motives? She refuses to say. But Flor isn't the only person with secrets. Matilde has tried for decades to cover the extent of her husband's infidelity, but she now must confront the true state of her marriage. Pastora is typically the most reserved sister, but Flor's wake motivates this driven woman to attempt to solve her sibling's problems. And the next generation, cousins Ona and Yadi, face tumult of their own: Yadi, reuniting with her first love, who was imprisoned when they were both still kids; and Ona, married for years and attempting to conceive. Ona must decide whether it's worth it to keep trying-in having a child, and in the anthropology research that's begun to feel lackluster.

** PS 3601 .R5847 R394 2023b*

Rawhide Jake : lone star fame / JD Arnold

After the split with Wes Wilson at the end of Book One, Rawhide Jake works undercover at the huge Flying XC Ranch where he tracks down and arrests five rustlers. His reputation as a dangerous man grows throughout the region. On the spring roundup, the dust of the herd fills his nostrils, but he saves the life of the cow boss. Jake falls for a married woman and later, upon

the death of her husband, marries her. He and Wes hook up again, take down a four-man rustling crew where Jake is almost killed, start-up a fencing company employing Chinese laborers, and thwart an eight hundred head theft that leaves both of them wounded. Jake and the Chinese crew battle a range fire and defend against a pair of murdering drifters. He kills a wanted murderer, is himself accused of murder, and jailed. He is released, but the insult prompts him to leave Texas for Arizona.

** PS 3602 .A5855 C88 2023b*

Cutting teeth / Chandler Baker

Darby, Mary Beth, and Rhea are on personal quests to reclaim aspects of their identities subsumed by motherhood--their careers, their sex lives, their bodies. Their children, though, disrupt their plans when an unsettling medical condition begins to go around the Little Academy preschool: the kids are craving blood. Then a young teacher is found dead, and the only potential witnesses are ten adorable four-year-olds. Soon it becomes clear that the children are not just witnesses, but also suspects... and so are their mothers. As the police begin to look more closely, the children's ability to bleed their parents dry becomes deadly serious.

** PS 3602 .A9357 N6 2023b*

No two persons / Erica Bauermeister

Alice has always wanted to be a writer. Her talent is innate, but her stories remain safe and detached, until a devastating event breaks her heart open, and she creates a stunning debut novel. Her words, in turn, find their way to readers, from a teenager hiding her homelessness, to a free diver pushing himself beyond endurance, an artist furious at the world around her, a bookseller in search of love, a widower rent by grief. Each one is drawn into Alice's novel; each one discovers something different that alters their perspective, and presents new pathways forward for their lives. Together, their stories reveal how books can affect us in the most beautiful and unexpected of ways--and how we are all more closely connected to one another than we might think

** PS 3603 .E67 H45 2023b*

Hello stranger / Katherine Center

Sadie Montgomery never saw what was coming . . . Literally! One minute she's celebrating the biggest achievement of her life--placing as a finalist in the North American Portrait Society competition--the next she's lying in a hospital bed diagnosed with a "probably temporary" condition known as face blindness. She can see, but every face she looks at is now a jumbled puzzle of disconnected features. Imagine trying to read a book upside down and in another language. This is Sadie's new reality. But, as she struggles to cope, hang on to her artistic dream, work through major family issues, and take care of her beloved dog, Peanut, she falls in love--not with one man but two. The timing couldn't be worse. Making judgment calls on anything right now is a nightmare. If only her life were a little more in focus, Sadie might be able to have it all.

* PS 3603 .L455445 C83 2023b

The Cuban heiress / Chanel Cleeton

In 1934, a luxury cruise becomes a fight for survival as two women's pasts collide on a round-trip voyage from New York to Havana in New York Times bestselling author Chanel Cleeton's page-turning new novel inspired by the true story of the SS Morro Castle. New York heiress Catherine Dohan seemingly has it all. There's only one problem. It's a lie. As soon as the Morro Castle leaves port, Catherine's past returns with a vengeance and threatens her life. Joining forces with a charismatic jewel thief, Catherine must discover who wants her dead-and why. Elena Palacio is a dead woman. Or so everyone thinks. After a devastating betrayal left her penniless and on the run, Elena's journey on the Morro Castle is her last hope. Steeped in secrecy and a burning desire for revenge, her return to Havana is a chance to right the wrong that has been done to her-and her prey is on the ship. As danger swirls aboard the Morro Castle and their fates intertwine, Elena and Catherine must risk everything to see justice served once and for all.

* PS 3603 .O225554 L55 2023b

A likeable woman / May Cobb

She's back in her affluent hometown for the first time in years and determined to unravel the secrets of her mother's death hidden in the unpublished memoir she left behind--even if it kills her... After her troublemaker mother's mysterious death, Kira fled her wealthy Texas town and never looked back. Now, decades later, Kira is invited to an old frenemy's vow renewal party. Though she is reluctant to go, there are things calling her back... like chilled wine and days spent by the pool... like her sexy childhood crush, Jack. But, more importantly, it's the urgent texts from her grandmother who says she has something to give Kira. Something about her mother's death, something that looks an awful lot like murder. When her grandmother gives Kira a memoir that her mother had been working on before she died, she is pulled into the past and all of the sizzling secrets that come along with it. With few allies left in her gossipy, country club town, Kira turns to Jack for help. As she gets closer to what--and who--might have brought about her mother's end, it becomes clear that someone wants the past to stay buried. And Kira might be next.

* PS 3606 .R4454 R57 2023b

Robert Ludlum's The Bourne defiance / Brian Freeman

Treadstone agents are being hunted down and murdered - and Jason Bourne may be next. Someone high up in the US government is erasing all evidence of Defiance, a controversial mission from Bourne's past - and that evidence includes Bourne himself. Staying one step ahead of killers who have already taken out agents in the US and the Caribbean, Bourne follows a global trail that eventually leads to one of the government's darkest secrets. But exposing the truth about Defiance will also bring Bourne face to face with his arch-enemy, the Russian assassin known as Lennon. For Lennon has been at the heart of Defiance since the very beginning. Now Bourne must face him down the barrel of a gun once more in a final explosive confrontation.

* PS 3607 .I2253 C37 2023b

The carnivale of curiosities / Amiee Gibbs

In Victorian London, where traveling sideshows are the very pinnacle of entertainment, there is no more coveted ticket than Ashe and Pretorius' Carnivale of Curiosities. Each performance is a limited engagement, and London's elite boldly dare the dangerous streets of Southwark to witness the Carnivale's astounding assemblage of marvels. For a select few, however, the real show begins behind the curtain. Rumors abound that the show's proprietor, Aurelius Ashe, is more than an average magician. It's said that for the right price, he can make any wish come true. No one knows the truth of this claim better than Lucien the Lucifer, the Carnivale's star attraction. Born with the ability to create fire, he's dazzled spectators since he was a boy. When Odilon Rose, one of the most notorious men in London, comes calling with a proposition regarding his young and beautiful charge, Charlotte, Ashe is tempted to refuse. After revealing, however, that Rose holds a secret that threatens the security of the troupe's most vulnerable members, Ashe has no choice but to sign an insidious contract. The stakes grow higher as Lucien finds himself drawn to Charlotte and her to him, an attraction that spurs a perilous course of events.

* PS 3607 .O524 F57 2023b

Immortal longings / Chloe Gong

Every year, thousands in the kingdom of Talin will flock to its capital twin cities, San-Er, where the palace hosts a set of games. For those confident enough in their ability to jump between bodies, competitors across San-Er fight to the death to win unimaginable riches. Princess Calla Tuoleimi lurks in hiding. Five years ago, a massacre killed her parents and left the palace of Er empty...and she was the one who did it. Before King Kasa's forces in San can catch her, she plans to finish the job and bring down the monarchy. Her reclusive uncle always greets the victor of the games, so if she wins, she gets her opportunity at last to kill him. Enter Anton Makusa, an exiled aristocrat. His childhood love has lain in a coma since they were both ousted from the palace, and he's deep in debt trying to keep her alive. Thankfully, he's one of the best jumpers in the kingdom, flitting from body to body at will. His last chance at saving her is entering the games and winning. Calla finds both an unexpected alliance with Anton and help from King Kasa's adopted son, August, who wants to mend Talin's ills. But the three of them have very different goals, even as Calla and Anton's partnership spirals into something all-consuming. Before the games close, Calla must decide what she's playing for--her lover or her kingdom.

* PS 3608 .E3823 G36 2023b

Games and rituals : stories / Katherine Heiny

The games and rituals performed by Katherine Heiny's characters range from mischievous to tender: In "Bridesmaid, Revisited," Marlee, suffering from a laundry and life crisis, wears a massive bridesmaid's dress to work. In "Twist and Shout," Erica's elderly father mistakes his four-thousand-dollar hearing aid for a cashew and eats it. In "Turn Back, Turn Back," a bedtime story coupled with a receipt for a Starbucks babyccino reveal a struggling actor's deception. And in "561," Charlene pays the true price of infidelity and is forced to help her husband's ex-wife move out of the family home. ("It's like you're North Korea and South Korea . . . But would

North Korea help South Korea move?") From one of our most celebrated writers, our bard of waking up in the wrong bed, wearing the wrong shoes, late for the wrong job, but loved by the right people, Heiny has delivered a work of glorious humor and immense kindness.

* PS 3608 .O4794 T48 2023b

This bird has flown : a novel / Susanna Hoffs

Jane Start is thirty-three, broke, and recently single. Ten years prior, she had a hit song--written by world-famous superstar Jonesy--but Jane hasn't had a breakout since. Now she's living out of four garbage bags at her parents' house, reduced to performing to Karaoke tracks in Las Vegas. Rock bottom. But when her longtime manager Pippa sends Jane to London to regroup, she's seated next to an intriguing stranger on the flight--the other Tom Hardy, an elegantly handsome Oxford professor of literature. Jane is instantly smitten by Tom, and soon, truly inspired. But it's not Jane's past alone that haunts her second chance at stardom, and at love. Is Tom all that he seems? And can Jane emerge from the shadow of Jonesy's earlier hit, and into the light of her own?

* PS 3610 .A4457 W65 2023b

The woman in the castello / Kelsey James

Rome, 1965: Aspiring actress Silvia Whitford arrives at Rome's famed Cinecittà Studios from Los Angeles, ready for her big break and a taste of la dolce vita. Instead, she learns that the movie in which she was cast has been canceled. Desperate for money, Silvia has only one choice: seek out the Italian aunt she has never met. Gabriella Conti lives in a crumbling castello on the edge of a volcanic lake. Silvia's mother refuses to explain the rift that drove the sisters apart, but Silvia is fascinated by Gabriella, a once-famous actress who still radiates charisma. And the eerie castle inspires Silvia's second chance when it becomes the location for a new horror movie, aptly named *The Revenge of the Lake Witch*--and she lands a starring role. Silvia immerses herself in the part of an ingenue tormented by the ghost of her beautiful, seductive ancestor. But when Gabriella abruptly vanishes, the movie's make-believe terrors seep into reality. No one else on set seems to share Silvia's suspicions. Yet as she delves into Gabriella's disappearance, she triggers a chain of events that illuminate dark secrets in the past--and a growing menace in the present ...

* PS 3611 .I8777 D44 2023b

The deep sky / Yume Kitase

It is the eve of Earth's environmental collapse. A ship carries eighty elite graduates of a competitive program, who will give birth to a generation of children in deep space. But a bomb kills three of the crew and knocks *The Phoenix* off course. Asuka, the only surviving witness, is an immediate suspect. Asuka already felt like an impostor before the explosion. She was chosen to represent Japan, a country she only partly knows as a half-Japanese girl raised in America. But *The Phoenix* is all she has left. With the crew turning on each other, Asuka is determined to find the culprit before they all lose faith in the mission - or worse, the bomber strikes again.

* PS 3612 .E3527 C76 2023b

A crown of ivy and glass / Claire Legrand

Every year on St. Walpurga's Eve, Caldella's Witch Queen lures a boy back to her palace. An innocent life to be sacrificed on the full moon to keep the island city from sinking. Lina Kirk is convinced her brother is going to be taken this year. To save him, she enlists the help of the mysterious Thomas Lin, the boy she secretly loves, and the only person to ever escape from the palace. Working together they save her brother, but they draw the queen's attention, and Thomas is then chosen as the sacrifice. Queen Eva casted away her heart when her sister died to save the boy she loved. Now as queen, she won't make the same mistake. With the tide rising higher than ever before and the islanders whispering that Eva's magic is failing, she's willing to sacrifice anyone if it means saving herself and her city. When Lina offers herself in exchange for Thomas's freedom, the two girls await the full moon together. Against their will, they find themselves falling for each other. As water floods Caldella's streets and the dark tide demands its sacrifice, they must choose whom to save.

* PS 3613 .A453 H37 2023b

The happiness plan / Susan Mallery

Heather is happy...ish. She has a successful business, a cute but contemptuous cat, and best friends Daphne and Tori who know where she's broken and love her anyway. So why does she feel crushed when her ex gets serious about someone new? No problem, she has a plan. More connections will hold her together while her world falls apart, so she finally reaches out to the stranger who might be her dad. Daphne isn't having an emotional affair, despite what her husband believes. He started the rift in their marriage when he said they weren't ready for a baby. They used to be the closest couple she knew. Can they find their way back to one another before it's too late? When Tori forms an inconvenient crush on Daphne's brother-in-law, she suppresses her feelings. Until her apartment floods, and she moves in with the dog-loving doctor. If things go wrong, she could lose her friends...but if they go right, she could lose her heart.

* PS 3613 .E314 S57 2023b

Sisters of the lost nation / Nick Medina

Anna Horn is always looking over her shoulder. For the bullies who torment her, for the entitled visitors at the reservation's casino...and for the nameless, disembodied entity that stalks her every step-an ancient tribal myth come-to-life, one that's intent on devouring her whole. With strange and sinister happenings occurring around the casino, Anna starts to suspect that not all the horrors on the reservation are old. As girls begin to go missing and the tribe scrambles to find answers, Anna struggles with her place on the rez, desperately searching for the key she's sure lies in the legends of her tribe's past. When Anna's own little sister also disappears, she'll do anything to bring Grace home. But the demons plaguing the reservation-both ancient and new-are strong, and sometimes, it's the stories that never get told that are the most important.

* PS 3616 .E358 G66 2023b

Gone tonight / Sarah Pekkanen

Catherine Sterling thinks she knows her mother. Ruth Sterling is quiet, hardworking, and lives for her daughter. All her life, it's been just the two of them against the world. But now, Catherine is ready to spread her wings, move from home, and begin a new career. And Ruth Sterling will do anything to prevent that from happening. Ruth Sterling thinks she knows her daughter. Catherine would never rebel, would never question anything about her mother's past or background. But when Ruth's desperate quest to keep her daughter by her side begins to reveal cracks in Ruth's carefully-constructed world, both mother and daughter begin a dance of deception. No one can know Ruth's history. There is a reason why Ruth kept them moving every few years, and why she was ready--in a moment's notice--to be gone in the night. But danger is closing in. Is it coming from the outside, from Ruth's past? Is Ruth reaching a breaking point? Or is the danger coming from the darkness that may live in Catherine, herself?

* PS 3620 .E75 F57 2023b

The first ladies / Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

Initially drawn together because of their shared belief in women's rights and the power of education, civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt fight together for justice and equality, holding each other's hands through tragedy and triumph.

* PS 3620 .H75 D43 2023b

Dead fall : a thriller / Brad Thor

In the war-ravaged borderlands of Ukraine, a Russian military unit has gone rogue. Its members, conscripted from the worst prisons and mental asylums across Russia, are the most criminally violent, psychologically dangerous combatants to ever set foot upon the modern battlefield. With all attention focused on the frontlines, they have pushed deeper into the interior to wage a campaign of unspeakable barbarity. As they move from village to village, committing horrific war crimes, they meet little resistance as all able-bodied men are off fighting the war. Simultaneously, a team of Russian mercenaries has been dispatched by the Kremlin to loot truckloads of art and priceless cultural treasures hidden away in a host of churches, museums, and private homes. When multiple American aid workers are killed, America's top spy is sent in to settle the score. But in a country almost the size of Texas, will Harvath be able to find the men in question and, more importantly, will he be able to stop them before they can kill again?

* PS 3623 .H5776 H66 2023b

The house on Prytania / Karen White

Nola Trenholm may not be psychic herself, but she's spent enough time around people who are to know when ghosts are present, and there are definitely a few lingering spirits in her recently purchased Creole cottage in New Orleans. Something, or someone, is keeping them tethered to this world. And not all of them are benign. But with the sudden return of Sunny Ryan, Beau Ryan's long-lost sister, Nola has plenty to distract her from her ghostly housemates. Especially when the tempting--yet firmly unavailable--Beau, wanting to mete out justice to those he blames for Sunny's kidnapping, asks Nola for a favor that threatens to derail her hard-won recovery and send her hurtling backward.

* PT 8951.24 .E83 B5813 2023b

Killing moon / Jo Nesbø ; translated from the Norwegian by Seán Kinsella

Two young women are missing, their only connection a party they both attended, hosted by a notorious real-estate magnate. When one of the women is found murdered, the police discover an unusual signature left by the killer, giving them reason to suspect he will strike again. And exposing him calls for a detective like no other. But the legendary Harry Hole is gone--fired from the force, drinking himself to oblivion in Los Angeles. It seems that nothing can entice him back to Oslo. Until the woman who saved Harry's life is put in grave danger, and he has no choice but to return to the city that haunts him and track down the murderer.