

## Anderson and Stephanie's Picks

### MUST READS

Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern  
What Alice Forgot by Lianne Moriarty

If you liked Steig Larsson's Millennium Trilogy then you will like:

Snowman By Jo Nesbo  
The Hypnotist By Lars Kepler  
3 Seconds By Rossum and  
The Keeper of Lost Causes By Jussi Adler Olsen  
(These Scandinavian mysteries are fabulous!!!!!!)

Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern - A magnificent, mesmerizing novel. Debut novelist Erin Morgenstern weaves a uniquely wonderful story with elements of romance, mystery, and the paranormal, all blended seamlessly together. Recommended for book clubs of all fiction genres, and also to anyone who is eager for something completely original! AUTHOR COMING TO GRAND FESTIVAL OF BOOKS OCT 8-9!

What Alice Forgot by Lianne Moriarty - A novel that grabs you on the first page and doesn't let go. Smartly written, filled with funny yet poignant observations on the type of person we expect become, and wish we could be. Alice's attempt to uncover, examine and reclaim a decade of her life is a thought-provoking journey filled with moments of outright laughter. It is a delightful ride that should not be missed.

### OTHER GREAT BOOKS

#### NEW RELEASES

Little Women Letters by Gabrielle Donnelly- a delightful read. Lulu, a member of a modern family that is distantly related to the March girls discovers some old letters in the attic written by Jo and uses these letters to help her with her own family issues.

A Young Wife by Pam Lewis An intriguing story of Minke van Aisma and her life as she travels from Amsterdam to Argentina and then New York. This turn of the century story has it all, love, betrayal and redemption and I loved it. Readers who like historical fiction or just want to be transported to another time and place will particularly enjoy!

French Lessons by Ellen Sussman- This is a wonderful story about 3 Americans and their experience as they explore Paris with a French tutor. They experience the language as well as learn about love and loss. Evocative and engaging.

Domestic Violets by Matthew Norman - A clever, laugh-out-loud read filled with everyday observations on the jobs we "do" instead of the work we love; the spouses to whom we are devoted and the crushes who distract us; the parents we never want to emulate but secretly strive to be, and everything in-between. Debut novelist Matthew Norman's sharp wit and wisdom is pure, honest and absolutely hysterical. Anderson read it aloud to her husband on a road trip!

Wildflower Hill By Kimberly Freeman- I loved this book. If you liked Kate Morton's Forgotten Garden, you will like this. It's a multigenerational story that spans London and Australia and I couldn't put it down. Great read!!

The Orchard A memoir by Theresa Weir- Although this is a memoir, it reads like a novel. A captivating story of apple farmers in the midwest. Not only do you delve into the inner life of Theresa, you also dis-

cover disturbing things about farming and how it affects our lives.

Story of Beautiful Girl by Rachel Simon

A remarkable story about a white developmentally disabled white woman and a deaf African American man, drawn together by a secret pact and extraordinary love. A powerful, beautifully written novel that fans of Kim Edwards' Memory Keeper's Daughter will enjoy.

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett - A vivid, fascinating story of science, mystery and discovery in the Amazon. Filled with complex, intriguing characters who leap off the page. One of Anderson's favorite books of the year. Fans of Patchett's other books, esp. Bel Canto, will enjoy!

Maine by J. Courtney Sullivan - Filled with genuinely flawed characters that will remind you of your own parents, siblings, in-laws and everyone in between - those family members that drive you crazy, but you love fiercely. Find a shady spot, grab a beach chair and enjoy!"

This Burns My Heart by Samuel Park- This is a powerful story of love, loss and endurance and is based somewhat on the author's mother. The story occurs in postwar South Korea and I found the cultural customs enlightening. A great story!!

Tiny Sunbirds Far Away by Christie Watson- This is a brilliantly told story of 12 year old Blessing and her experience growing up in a traditional Nigerian village. This story helps us understand the challenges facing Africa today. It's a wonderful story and demonstrates the resilience of African women. A wonderful story! I loved it!!

Turn of Mind by Alice LaPlante- An intriguing story of a 64 year old surgeon who has dementia. The author puts the reader inside the head of the surgeon, Jennifer White, and what a fascinating ride. There is also some mystery involved as Jennifer's best friend has been murdered and she is being questioned. She doesn't know if she did it or not. Hmm!

A Good Hard Look by Ann Napolitano- A good read! The author reveals the interior lives of the characters in a very intimate way. She also includes in her story, a southern writer, Flannery O'Conner. This book is very engaging and heart wrenching. A fabulous story!

Until Thy Wrath Be Past by Asa Larsson- another fabulous scandinavian mystery. A great story!

The Homecoming of Samuel Lake By Jenny Wingfield An engaging story of the Moses family. They are such interesting characters and their experiences are memorable. A great story.

Adrenaline by Jeff Abbott - A great CIA thriller that Steph couldn't put down and it wasn't written by a Scandinavian.

Iron House by John Hart This is the Indie pick for August. A real thriller-mystery, a story of 2 brothers who grew up in an orphanage and the unforgettable experience of one brother trying to protect the other. A real humdinger and Steph stayed up till 5:30 am to finish!

The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb By Melanie Benjamin A unique novel about Mercy Lavinia Warren Bump who lived during the Civil War and after. She was a leading celebrity in P.T. Barnum's human curiosities and married Tom Thumb, another small person. An engaging story.

The Hare with Amber Eyes by Edmund De Waal A fascinating memoir of the Ephrussi family and their collection of netsuke. The author who now has the collection presents an artistic style in telling the story of his ancestors, how they came to begin the collection in the 1800's and what has happened to the family and the collection until present day. One of the most interesting periods was during WWII as this family was Jewish and in Austria. An interesting history.

UPCOMING RELEASES

The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh - A fabulous story of a girl who grows up in foster care experiencing loss, anger and distrust. She learns to use flowers to communicate and through the meaning of flowers confronts her problems and experiences a second chance at life. It captures the power and resilience of maternal love like nothing we've ever encountered. Both Anderson and Steph were blown away by this one.

The Most Dangerous Thing by Laura Lippman - In this riveting story of friendship and betrayal, Laura Lippman brilliantly orchestrates suspense that rumbles along, then crescendos in the final pages. True to it's title, the most dangerous thing about this novel is once you start reading, you won't be able to put it down.

The Buddha In The Attic by Julie Otsuka - An exquisite, heartbreaking story about a group of women brought from Japan to San Francisco as mail order brides in the early 1900s. In her crisp, elegant and simply breathtaking voice, Otsuka tenderly reveals the naive hopes, shattered dreams and extraordinary resilience of these unforgettable women, their acclimatization to a culture that was not their own, in a country that when faced with war, betrayed them. A poignant, spellbinding novel that should not be missed.

The Time in Between by Maria Duenas

A fascinating novel about a haute couture seamstress who becomes an undercover spy for the British Secret Service during World War II. It there is such a thing as a historical thriller, this is it!

Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English by Natasha Solomons A charming story of a German Jew who relocates to England during WWII and his striving to become an Englishman. It is poignant and delightful. This is a British author's first novel and is loosely based on her grandparents story.

Coming up for Air by Patti Callahan Henry A great beach read of love, endings and new beginnings and it is set in Fairhope (aka Bayside). What more could you ask!!!!