



Book Club Picks

JANUARY - JUNE 2026

Club Schedule At-a-Glance

DATE	BOOK ISBN	MONTH/CLUB / TITLE / AUTHOR
1/1/26	NO MEETING	Happy New Year! Fab Fantasy Resumes February 2026!
1/13/26	9780593953495	January Thrill in the 'Ville: Haven't Killed in Years by Amy K Green
1/19/26	9780063396654	January Adventures in Reading: Zed Moonstein Makes a Friend by Lance Rubin
1/20/26	9781464261770	January Kiss & Tell Romance: Bonded By Thorns by Elizabeth Helen
1/27/26	9780316456241	January Books & Banter: Amity by Nathan Harris
2/5/26	9781649374677	February Fab Fantasy: Fallen Gods by Rachel Van Dyken
2/10/26	9781250341884	February Thrill in the 'Ville: The Storm by Rachel Hawkins
2/16/26	9781665910200	February Adventures in Reading Kids: Hattie Mae Begins Again by Sharon G. Flake
2/17/26	9781464234460	February Kiss & Tell Romance: The Things We Leave Unfinished by Rebecca Yarros
2/24/26	9780593595039	February Books & Banter: The Poisoner by I.V. Ophelia
3/5/26	9780063473263	March Fab Fantasy: The Dragon Keeper by Robin Hobb
3/10/26	9780063422919	March Thrill in the 'Ville: The Burning Library by Gilly Macmillan
3/16/26	9780593691991	March Adventures in Reading Kids: Alice with a Why by Anna James
3/17/26	9781538778494	March Kiss & Tell Romance: Blood & Roses by Callie Hart
3/24/26	9780063421134	March Books & Banter: The Pohaku by Jasmin Iolani Hakes
4/2/26	9781464216909	April Fab Fantasy: An Arcane Inheritance by Kamilah Cole
4/14/26	9798217059799	April Thrill in the 'Ville: Warning Signs by Tracy Sierra
4/20/26	9798217123209	April Adventures in Reading: Lola by Karla Arenas Valenti
4/21/26	9780063462717	April Kiss & Tell Romance: To Cage a Wild Bird by Brooke Fast
4/28/26	9780063377684	April Books & Banter: Lake Effect: A Novel by Cynthia D'Apris Sweeney
5/7/26	9781250377265	May Fab Fantasy: This Kingdom Will Not Kill by Mellona Andrews
5/12/26	9781464245794	May Thrill in the 'Ville: All the Little Houses by May Cobb
5/18/26	9780593488744	May Adventures in Reading Kids: Mystery on Macaw Mountain by María José Fitzgerald
5/19/26	9781250382191	May Kiss & Tell Romance: West of Wicked by Nikki St. Crowe
5/26/26	9781464246425	May Books & Banter: The Last Letters of Sally and Walter by Cammie McGovern
6/4/26	9780593952306	June Fab Fantasy: The Astral Library by Kate Quinn
6/9/26	9781250395238	June Thrill in the 'Ville: This Story Might Save Your Life by Tiffany Crum
6/15/26	9780593711859	June Adventures in Reading Kids: Harper Sharp: Kid Detective by Jarrett Williams
6/16/26	9781250347909	June Kiss & Tell Romance: Seek the Traitor's Son by Veronica Roth
6/23/26	9781464239335	June Books & Banter: The Mountains We Call Home by Kim Michele Richardson

NOTE: NO Fab Fantasy in January
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fab Fantasy Picks: February - June

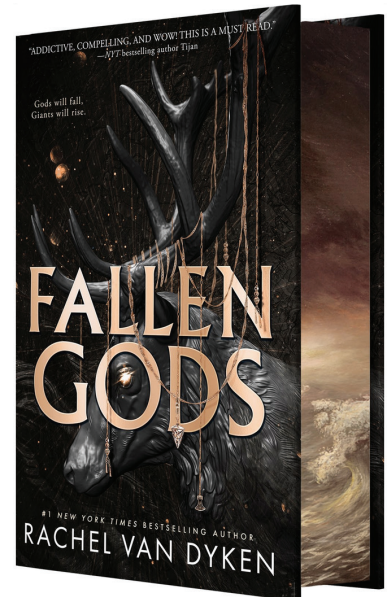
FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Fallen Gods by Rachel Van Dyken

\$32.99 Book club price: \$29.69 Hardcover, 400 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781649374677>

A mythology-infused fantasy about destiny, betrayal, and forbidden love. For centuries, the world believed the old Gods and Giants were only legends—until it's revealed they're merely sleeping, trapped in mortal bodies and waiting to rise again. The daughter of the most ruthless of these hidden Gods has been raised as a weapon: trained to obey, to fight, and to bleed for a war she never chose. Her latest mission sends her to Endir University, a place of ancient bloodlines and deadly secrets, to steal the legendary hammer Mjolnir before it can spark catastrophic conflict. Failure means death for everyone she loves. But Aric Erikson—the icy heir of her enemy—complicates everything. As loyalty blurs with longing and lies unravel, she must decide whether she is her father's blade...or the spark that ignites a rebellion against the Gods themselves. Perfect for fantasy readers craving high stakes and simmering tension. (NOTE: The deluxe limited edition is available for a limited time!)



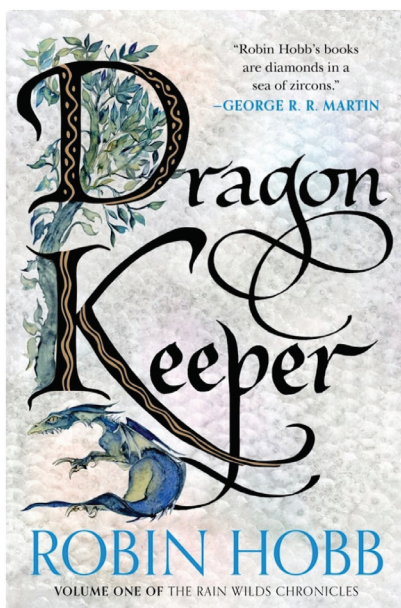
MARCH 5, 2026

The Dragon Keeper by Robin Hobb

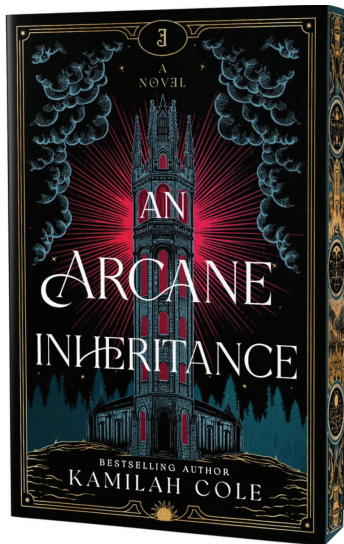
\$19.99 Book club price: \$17.99 Paperback, 496 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063473263>

Robin Hobb's launches her bestselling Rain Wilds series with this unforgettable journey into a world where dragons and humans are bound by peril, promise, and ancient memory. Years after the great dragon Tintaglia saved the Trader cities, the weakened, earth-bound dragons that followed have become burdens the Traders are desperate to abandon. Fearing disaster if the creatures are left untended, the council decrees they must be escorted upriver to the long-lost city of Kelsingra. Among the unlikely keepers are Thymara, a forest girl shunned for her Rain Wild markings, and Alise, a neglected Trader's wife whose obsession with dragons becomes her escape. Together with a mismatched company of tenders, they embark on a dangerous odyssey filled with hardship, betrayal, and unexpected bonds. Rich with worldbuilding and emotional depth, The book offers endless themes to explore—identity, belonging, loyalty, and the cost of transformation.



Fab Fantasy Picks: February - June



APRIL 2, 2026

An Arcane Inheritance by Kamilah Cole

\$18.99 Book club price: \$17.09 Paperback, 432 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781464216909>

Welcome to this haunting, twist-filled dark academia fantasy perfect for fans of *Babel* and *A Deadly Education*. Warren University may be an elite Ivy League institution, but its prestige is built on centuries of forbidden magic—and the exploitation of its most vulnerable students. Freshman Ellory Morgan arrives determined to prove she belongs, yet the campus's shadowed halls and ornate towers feel disturbingly familiar. As flashes of déjà vu grow darker and more insistent, she becomes convinced she's walked these paths before—and that something erased her memory. To uncover the past she must persuade brooding legacy student Hudson Graves to help her expose the secret society controlling Warren from within. Atmospheric and razor-sharp, this fantasy will spark discussion about power, privilege, memory, and who pays the true price of ambition.

MAY 7, 2026

This Kingdom Will Not Kill Me by Ilona Andrews

\$29.99 Book club price: \$26.99 Hardcover, 480 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781250377265>

When Maggie wakes up cold, filthy, and naked in a gutter, she quickly realizes she's not dreaming—she's somehow landed inside Kair Toren, the brutal, magic-soaked city from her favorite (and famously unfinished) dark fantasy series. Armed with nothing but her encyclopedic knowledge of the books, Maggie must navigate rival warlords, treacherous politics, deadly magic, and a cast of characters whose tragic fates she already knows. Though she discovers she can't be killed, the same isn't true for the living, breathing companions she grows to love—from a former lady's maid and a charming soldier to assassins and unruly magical creatures. As princes and villains vie for her loyalty, Maggie is drawn into a looming war she's desperate to rewrite. Perfect for fans of Sarah J. Maas, and portal fantasy epics.



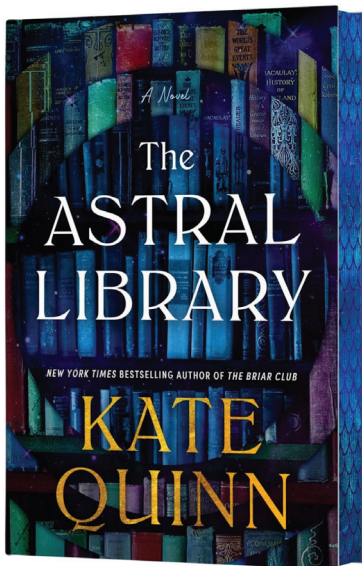
JUNE 4, 2026

The Astral Library by Kate Quinn

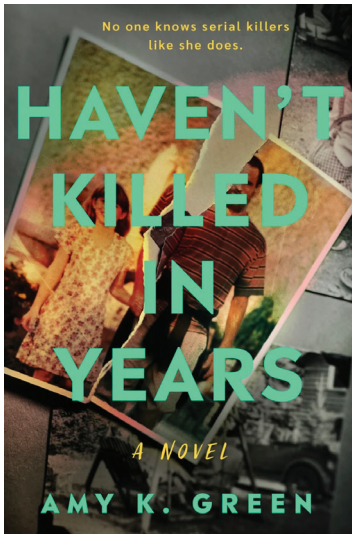
\$32.00 Book club price: \$28.80 Hardcover, 304 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063244788>

A lush, imaginative adventure from NYT bestselling author Kate Quinn, perfect for anyone who's ever wished they could step inside their favorite book. Alix Watson, a foster-care survivor scraping by on three jobs, finds comfort only in the Boston Public Library's reading room and the stories that have never failed her. But everything changes when she slips through a hidden door and discovers the Astral Library—a magical refuge where readers can live inside the worlds they love. Taken under the wing of the sharp-tongued Librarian, Alix glimpses the life she's always dreamed of...until a mysterious enemy threatens the Library itself. Joined by a charming costume-shop owner, Alix races through the pages of Austen, Conan Doyle, and Fitzgerald to uncover the truth. A whimsical, high-stakes tale perfect for sparking book club discussions about escapism, belonging, and the power of story.



Thrill in the 'Ville Picks: January - June



JANUARY 13, 2026

Haven't Killed in Years by Amy K. Green

\$30.00 Book club price: \$27.00 Hardcover, 368 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780593953495>

Here's a fast-paced, darkly witty thriller about identity, inherited trauma, and the shadows we can't outrun. Gwen Tanner has lived quietly for twenty years, ever since she was given a new name and hidden away as the daughter of notorious serial killer Abel Haggerty. She keeps her world small and guarded—until severed body parts begin appearing at her front door with a chilling message: I know who you are. To protect her secret, Gwen must hunt down the new killer, pulling her back into the disturbing orbit of true crime obsession and the myths built around her father. As she confronts her own past, Gwen grapples with whether she can trust others—or even trust herself. The work invites discussion about nature versus nurture, the ethics of true crime culture, and the resilience required to reclaim a life shaped by fear and notoriety.

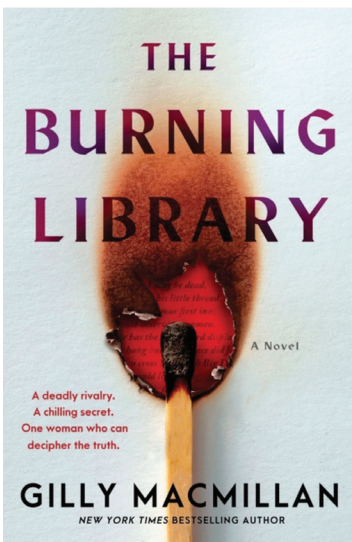
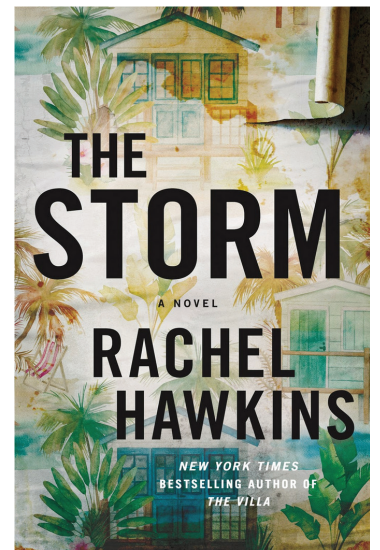
FEBRUARY 10, 2026

The Storm by Rachel Hawkins

\$29.00 Book club price: \$26.08 Hardcover, 288 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781250341884>

A sultry, twist-filled thriller set on the hurricane-battered shores of St. Medard's Bay, Alabama—where the past is never truly washed away. The town is infamous for three things: its deadly storms, the historic Rosalie Inn, and Lo Bailey, the woman long suspected of killing her lover, political golden boy Landon Fitzroy, during Hurricane Marie in 1984. When a writer arrives to dig into the decades-old crime, inn owner Geneva Corliss hopes the attention might revive her struggling business. But he brings someone unexpected: Lo Bailey herself, returning home determined to finally clear her name. As Geneva grows closer to Lo and the writer, she begins to question their motives—and whether Lo has come seeking redemption or revenge. With another dangerous storm barreling toward the coast, this novel explores how secrets, ambition, and old wounds can be as deadly as any hurricane, making it a gripping pick for book club discussion.



MARCH 10, 2026

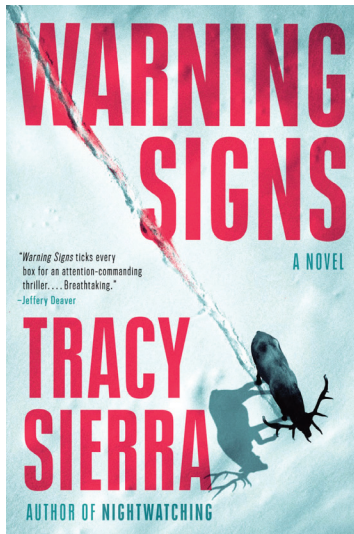
The Burning Library by Gilly Macmillan

\$30.00 Book club price: \$27.00 Hardcover, 304 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063422919>

A gripping dark-academia thriller steeped in murder, obsession, and centuries-old secrets. When the body of Eleanor Bruton is found on a remote Scottish shore, her family believes she lived a quiet, ordinary life. But the fraying scrap of embroidery she carried reveals a far more dangerous truth—one tied to a medieval manuscript coveted for over a hundred years. Two rival women's organizations, the shadowy Order of St. Katherine and the powerful Fellowship of the Larks, have long fought to control it. Unaware of the danger, brilliant translator Dr. Anya Brown is drawn into the Fellowship's inner circle at St. Andrews, even as Detective Constable Clio Spicer quietly investigates Eleanor's death. As their paths converge, all three women become trapped in a lethal web of ambition and hidden agendas.

Thrill in the 'Ville Picks: January - June



APRIL 14, 2026

Warning Signs by Tracy Sierra

\$30.00 Book club price: \$27.00 Hardcover, 368 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9798217059799>

Twelve-year-old Zach, schooled in mountain survival by his late mother, is eager to prove himself during a father-son backcountry ski weekend arranged by his cash-strapped father Bram. Surrounded by adults who dismiss icy conditions and push boundaries with bravado, Zach keeps a wary eye on the landscape — and on the men. When strange tracks begin appearing in the snow, he senses there's more danger than weather. As the wilderness closes in, Zach must now rely on his instincts, confronting not only the unknown terror lurking in the forest, but also the darker instincts of those he's supposed to trust. This is a chilling, atmospheric thriller that merges survival horror with fragile family ties, and keeps you turning pages long after lights are out. Ripe with discussion possibilities!

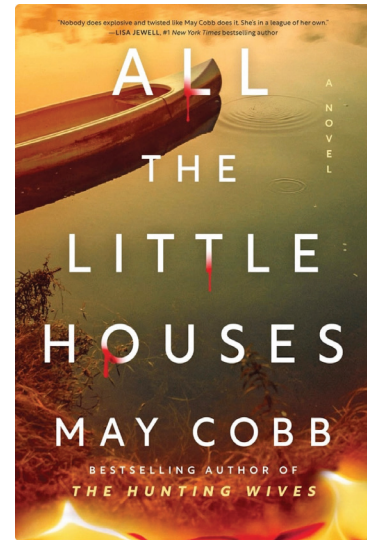
MAY 12, 2026

All the Little Houses by May Cobb

\$27.99 Book club price: \$25.19 Hardcover, 480 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781464245794>

From the author of *The Hunting Wives* comes this wickedly addictive thriller about mean girls, mean moms, and the explosive truths hiding inside all the little houses. In the mid-1980s in Longview, Texas, beauty and power rule—and no one wields them like Nellie Anderson and her ruthlessly poised mother, Charleigh. Once an outcast who clawed her way into the town's elite, Charleigh has built a glittering social empire she refuses to lose. But when a wholesome, prairie-sweet family moves in—complete with a picture-perfect daughter and charm that turns heads—old insecurities flare, rivalries ignite, and the fragile hierarchy of Longview begins to crack. As alliances shift and secrets simmer behind manicured doors, the Anderson dynasty finds itself in a battle for control that could leave reputations—and lives—ruined.



JUNE 9, 2026

This Story Might Save Your Life by Tiffany Crum

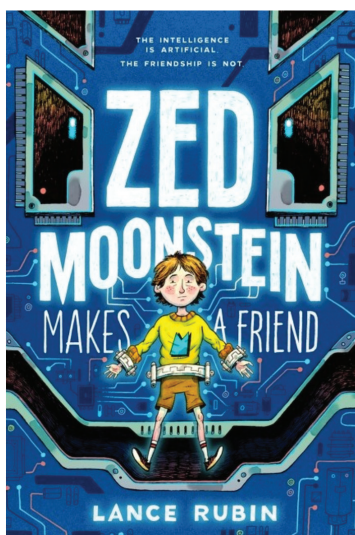
\$29.99 Book club price: \$26.99 Hardcover, 304 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781250395238>

Bestselling podcasters Benny Abbott and Joy Moore have spent years sharing unbelievable survival stories. They like to say they've been saving each other's lives since the moment they met. They charm millions with their humor, honesty, and ride-or-die friendship. But when Benny arrives to record a new episode and finds Joy's house shattered and empty, their brand of "against all odds" storytelling takes a chillingly literal turn. The only clue: an unfinished draft of Joy's secret memoir—one that hints at cracks beneath their perfect public persona. As police label Benny the prime suspect and the clock ticks down on Joy and her husband Xander's disappearance, buried truths begin to surface, revealing just how little anyone truly knows about the duo they adore. A riveting blend of mystery and emotional depth, this propulsive thriller asks how far we go to save the people we love—and ourselves.



Kids Reading Adventures: January - June



JANUARY 19, 2026

Zed Moonstein Makes a Friend by Lance Rubin

\$19.99 Book club price: \$17.99 Hardcover, 336 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063396654>

Zed Moonstein has never been great at making friends, but at least he's always had Rishti—his one true bestie, fellow tech geek, and co-explorer of MonoTown, home to the ultra-cool MonoLyth. But middle school changes everything. Different classes, new social circles, and Rishti's cooler new friend leave Zed feeling outdated, like last year's MonoPhone. Then he stumbles onto a secret prototype app on his mom's work computer: MonoFriend. Soon Zed is chatting with "Matt," an A.I. pal who seems to understand him better than any human ever has. Matt is supportive, funny... maybe too perfect. As their bond deepens, Zed starts to realize that a digital best friend might be real enough to cause real-world trouble. A funny, fast-paced, and eerily timely story about belonging, jealousy, and the slippery line between tech and trust.

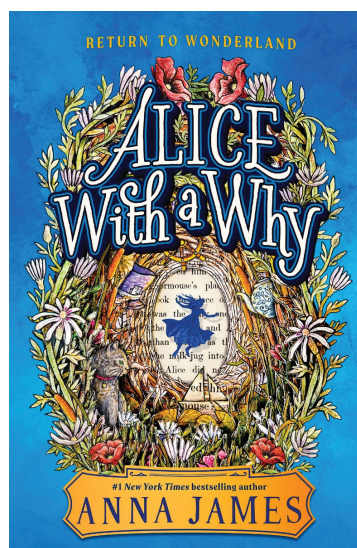
FEBRUARY 16, 2026

Hattie Mae Begins Again by Sharon G. Flake

\$17.99 Book club price: \$16.19 Hardcover, 368 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780593650349>

Hattie Mae has always known the rhythms of Seed County, North Carolina—milking cows, tending gardens, doing the work her family relies on. But when she's sent north to Miss Abigail's School for Exceptional Young Ladies, the elite Philadelphia boarding school feels like another world entirely. Her classmates—from polished Lisa to the girls who mock her accent, her clothes, her manners—insist a Southern Black girl like Hattie could never become a doctor, a scientist, or anything extraordinary. And Hattie fears they might be right. As waves of Black families arrive in the city seeking new futures during the Great Migration, Hattie sees herself reflected in their longing and resilience. Slowly, she learns that belonging isn't given—it's claimed. A tender coming-of-age story about courage, identity, and lifting others as you rise, ripe with book club discussion opportunities.



MARCH 16, 2026

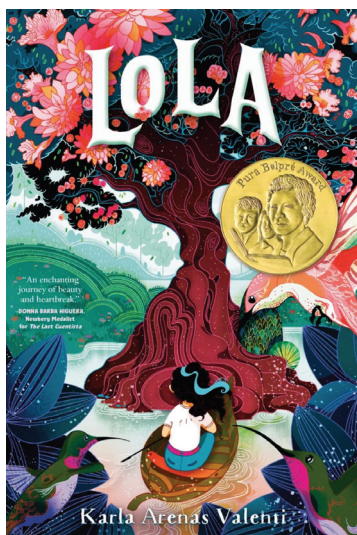
Alice with a Why by Gilly Macmillan

\$18.99 Book club price: \$17.09 Hardcover, 240 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780593691991>

In 1919 England, twelve-year-old Alyce—with a Y—is sent to live with her grandmother, the original Alice, still known for her strange tales of a place called Wonderland. Grieving the loss of her father and feeling out of place, Alyce is stunned when a mysterious tea party invitation quite literally strikes her. Suddenly, the impossible becomes real, and she tumbles into Wonderland herself—only to discover a land dimmed by conflict. The Sun King and the Queen of the Moon are battling over a stolen hour, plunging Wonderland into chaos. With help from the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat, and a clever Sailor Fox, Alyce must solve the puzzle, restore balance, and find her way home. A sparkling, imaginative homage that celebrates Carroll's classic while crafting a fresh, enchanting adventure.

Kids Reading Adventures: January - June



APRIL 20, 2026

Lola by Karla Arenas Valenti

\$17.99 Book club price: 16.19 Hardcover, 272 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9798217123209>

Ten-year-old Lola has always lived with magic—enchanted flowers that shift with the seasons, a sandbox that coughs up strange treasures, and playful chaneques only she can see in her Mexico City home. But ever since The Thing That Happened, her brother Alex has grown mysteriously ill, and the great tree at the center of their house has begun to wither along with him. Convinced the two are connected, Lola seeks answers from a grocery-store oracle and follows the chaneques into Floresta, a hidden realm of wonders, monsters, and ancient myth. There, a young queen guards the secret Lola needs to save Alex. To bring her brother home, Lola must summon courage she never knew she had. A heartfelt, magical-realist adventure celebrating family, bravery, and the power of love.

MAY 18, 2026

Mystery on Macaw Mountain by María José Fitzgerald

\$17.99 Book club price: \$16.19 Hardcover, 272 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780593488744>

When eight endangered scarlet macaws vanish from a new bird sanctuary at the ancient Mayan ruins of Copán, cousins Nico, Celeste, Mateo, and Isa suddenly find themselves at the heart of a baffling crime. The four don't have much in common—except their excitement to witness the rare birds' release and their determination to solve the case. With poachers, shady developers, and even Mama's irritating novio on the suspect list, the cousins follow clues from lively downtown Copán to the misty heights of Macaw Mountain. Each step uncovers new secrets—and reveals how much stronger they are when they work together. Fast-paced, atmospheric, and full of cultural richness, this engaging mystery invites readers to explore Honduras while cheering on four unlikely detectives in a high-stakes race to save the macaws.



JUNE 15, 2026

Harper Sharpe, Kid Detective by Jarrett Williams

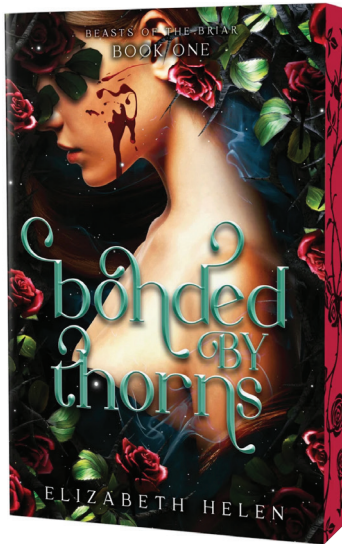
\$14.99 Book club price: \$13.49 Hardcover, 304 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780593711859>

Fifth-grader Harper Sharp already has a full plate—homework, friends, leveling up in video games—but as the school's resident kid detective, he also tackles mysteries big and small. When Starview Elementary announces its annual Young Inventor's Fair, excitement explodes across campus as students dream up everything from new card games to high-tech slug collectibles. But the fun screeches to a halt when creepy fliers appear, warning everyone to "BEWARE THE FAIR!" With inventions at risk and nerves running high, Harper jumps into action. Can he unmask the culprit before the fair is ruined, or will this year's sparks of creativity fizzle out for good? Fast, funny, and full of action, this first installment launches a graphic novel series perfect for readers who love clever twists and unstoppable kid heroes. This will be the book club's first exploration of a graphic novel!



Kiss & Tell Romance: January - June



JANUARY 20, 2026

Bonded by Thorns by Elizabeth Helen

\$18.99 Book club price: \$17.09 Paperback, 592 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781464261770>

When a shy, bookish heroine crosses into the Enchanted Vale to rescue her imprisoned father, she never expects to become the captive of four cursed fae princes—each one beastly by night and dangerously magnetic by day. To win her freedom, she strikes a bargain: she'll help the princes find their fated mates and break the curse that binds them. But fairy-tale logic quickly unravels as she begins falling for all four—sweet and scholarly, brooding and deadly, charming and flirty, and the fiercely stubborn prince who seems determined to keep her by his side forever. With magic fading and the wickedly irresistible Prince of Thorns threatening war, she must decide how far she'll go to save the princes she never meant to love. A sensual, high-stakes “why-choose” Beauty & the Beast retelling, full of endless enchanting magic.

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

The Things We Leave Unfinished by Rebecca Yarros

\$32.99 Book club price: \$29.69 Hardcover, 400 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781682816318>

In this sweeping, dual-timeline love story, 28-year-old Georgia Stanton returns to her great-grandmother Scarlett's Colorado estate to rebuild her life after a brutal divorce. The last thing she expects is to clash with Noah Harrison, a bestselling “golden boy” romance author chosen to finish Scarlett's final, unfinished novel. Georgia refuses to let a charming, arrogant writer complete her great-grandmother's legacy—until the two uncover Scarlett's letters and realize the manuscript is based on a real World War II love affair with a devastating end. As Georgia and Noah work side-by-side, their undeniable chemistry forces Georgia to confront her own guarded heart. Interwoven with Scarlett's wartime romance, this emotional novel explores the risks of loving, the wounds that linger, and the stories we're afraid to finish—on the page and in life. YES, we'll have signed copies of Rebecca Yarros new soon-to-be collector's hit!



MARCH 17, 2026

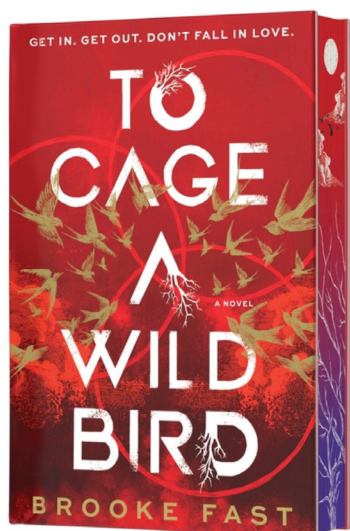
Blood & Roses by Callie Hart

\$19.99 Book club price: \$17.99 Paperback, 400 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781538778494>

In this dark, addictive contemporary romance from #1 NYT bestselling author Callie Hart, Seattle's most feared enforcer, Zeth Mayfair, is used to dealing in guns, drugs, and dirty money—but never women. When his ruthless employer expands into trafficking kidnapped girls, Zeth's loyalty fractures, especially after he meets Sloane Romera. A brilliant trauma doctor desperate to find her missing sister, Sloane needs information no one will give her—except, perhaps, the dangerous man with the wicked smile and a moral code buried beneath scars. Their uneasy alliance pulls them into the shadows of Seattle's criminal underworld, where every secret has a cost and desire becomes a risk neither can ignore. Tense, seductive, and emotionally charged, this romance explores what happens when two broken souls collide in the dark—and refuse to let go.

Kiss & Tell Romance: January - June



APRIL 21, 2026

To Cage a Wild Bird by Brooke Fast

\$32.00 Book club price: \$28.80 Hardcover, 384 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063462717>

In Dividium, justice is brutal and absolute: commit a crime and you're condemned to Endlock, a deadly prison where the wealthy hunt inmates for sport. Raven Thorne, the city's most feared bounty hunter, has survived by trusting no one—until her younger brother is sentenced to Endlock. Determined to save him, she gets herself arrested and plunges into a world ruled by violence, shifting alliances, and secrets as dangerous as any weapon. Raven will do whatever it takes to protect Jed, but one threat proves unexpectedly complicated: a mysterious guard whose loyalty is unclear...and whose pull she can't ignore. As desire ignites in the shadows, Raven must decide whether love is a fatal vulnerability or the spark that could bring the entire system down. A gripping, high-stakes dystopian romance.

MAY 19, 2026

West of Wicked by Nikki St. Crowe

\$32.99 Book club price: \$29.69 Hardcover, 320 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781250382191>

When a violent cyclone rips Dorothy and her farmhouse from the Kansas plains, she awakens in the eerie, cursed land of Oz—far from home and armed only with a warning to avoid the monsters, mercenaries, and witches that stalk the yellow brick road. Determined to reach the Wizard and return to Kansas, Dorothy sets out alone...until she discovers a brutally beaten stranger tied to a pole like a living scarecrow. With no memories but an irresistible charm, Rook becomes her unexpected—and dangerously attractive—companion. Yet as they travel deeper into Oz and encounter the infamous Tinman and other twisted legends, Dorothy realizes nothing in this realm is what it seems. A seductive fantasy romance where every secret could change the story. This deluxe edition features gorgeous stenciled edges, a map, endpapers, and case stamp.



JUNE 16, 2026

Seek The Traitor's Son by Veronica Roth

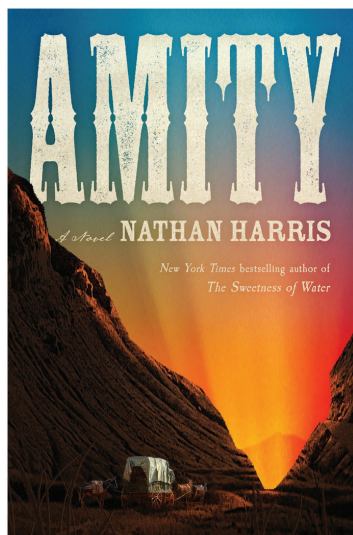
\$29.99 Book club price: \$26.99 Hardcover, 432 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781250347909>

From NYT bestselling author Veronica Walsh! Elegy Ahn is content serving as a loyal soldier, protecting her small nation from the Talusar—an empire transformed by a deadly Fever that grants half its survivors uncanny powers. But everything changes the day she is summoned to hear a prophecy alongside Rava Vidar, Talusar's most feared general. One of them, the prophecy declares, will lead their people to victory over the other...and a man stands at the center of their intertwined fates, a man Elegy is destined to love. Suddenly stripped of the future she imagined, Elegy is thrust onto a collision course with her enemy, where desire and doom twist together in dangerous ways. As war looms and destiny tightens its grip, Elegy vows she'll be the one left standing—no matter the cost. This beautiful hardcover edition features a map, designed endpapers and black sprayed edges.



Books & Banter Picks: January - June



JANUARY 27, 2026

Amity by Nathan Harris

\$29.00 Book club price: \$26.08 Hardcover, 320 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780316456241>

From Nathan Harris, *NYT* bestselling author of *The Sweetness of Water*. This is a sweeping story about the price of freedom in the uncertain years after the Civil War. In 1866 New Orleans, emancipated siblings Coleman and June remain trapped in the long shadow of their former master, Mr. Harper. Two years earlier, Harper dragged June to Mexico to escape Reconstruction; now, a mysterious letter summons Coleman there as well. Believing he'll finally be reunited with his sister, Coleman sets out—only to be thrust on the run with Harper's daughter, Florence, across the unforgiving Mexican desert. As crooked pursuers close in and June faces her own frontier peril, both siblings learn that true freedom isn't granted—it's claimed. Richly drawn and emotionally resonant, *Amity* is a powerful new contribution to the literature of emancipation.

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

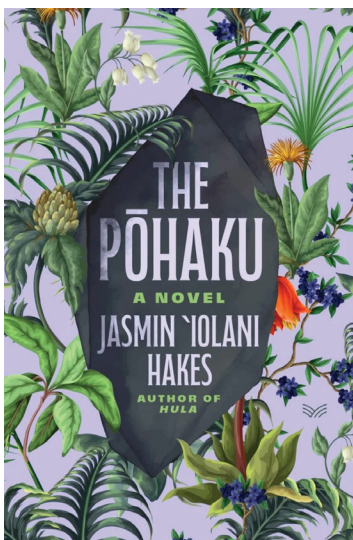
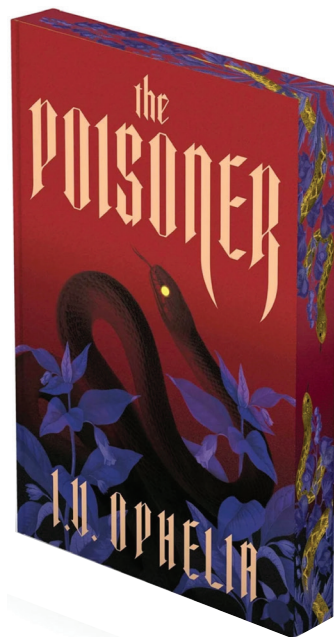
The Poisoner by I.V. Ophelia

\$19.99 Book club price: \$17.99 Paperback, 400 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781668228203>

The Lost Apothecary meets *Gothikana* in this intoxicating Victorian gothic romance about a botanist who poisons wicked men—and the target whose arrival upends everything she thinks she knows. “Have you ever wondered how long it would take for a lethal dose of arsenic to kill you? Thirty-five hours, twenty-nine minutes, and fifteen seconds. I should know. I counted myself.”

In the gaslit streets of London, Alina Lis dispenses her own brand of justice—until conceited playboy Silas Forbes, her latest intended victim, turns up alive in her apothecary. Their tense, magnetic connection sparks rumors in high society even as something far more dangerous brews in the shadows. As hidden identities surface and enemies close in, Alina and Silas must decide whether their dark bond will destroy them—or pull them irresistibly together.



MARCH 24, 2026

The Pōhaku by Jasmin Iolani Hakes

\$30.00 Book club price: \$27.00 Hardcover, 320 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063421134>

From the award-winning author of *Hula* comes a sweeping, multi-generational saga about the Hawaiian women entrusted with safeguarding their family's most sacred legacy. When a young woman is found comatose after a mysterious fall from a cliff, her estranged grandmother keeps vigil by her bedside, certain the tragedy is tied to the pōhaku—an ancient stone their lineage has protected for generations. As the narrative spans Hawai'i and California, past and present, the family's fractured history unfolds: stories of displacement, guardianship, loss, and the enduring bond between people and place. To heal, the truth of the pōhaku must endure. Reminiscent of *Homegoing*, *Pachinko*, and *There, There*, *The Pōhaku* is a bold, immersive novel about resilience, cultural memory, and the unbreakable strength of Native Hawaiian women.

Books & Banter Picks: January - June



APRIL 28, 2026

Lake Effect by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney

\$30.00 Book club price: \$27.00 Hardcover, 288 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9780063377684>

From the NYT bestselling author of *The Nest* and *Good Company* comes this newest novel about the ripples one decision can send through generations. In 1977 Rochester, restlessness hangs over Cambridge Road as Nina Larkin questions the lack of intimacy in her marriage. When a friend hands her *The Joy of Sex*, Nina is awakened to desires she can no longer ignore. A passionate affair with a prominent neighbor offers the freedom she's craved—but shatters the stability of both families and devastates her teenage daughter, Clara. Decades later, Clara, now a successful food stylist in New York City, remains haunted by the scandal that reshaped her youth. Returning home for a family wedding, she faces old wounds and new choices in a wise, insightful novel about desire, forgiveness, and the complicated bonds between mothers and daughters.

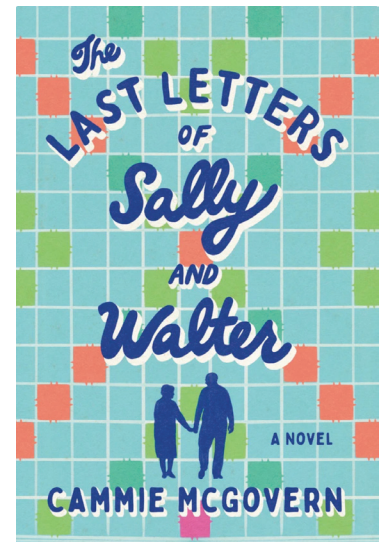
MAY 26, 2026

The Last Letters of Sarah and Walter by Cammie McGovern

\$17.99 Book club price: \$16.19 Paperback, 384 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781464246425>

Brimming with the charm of *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* and the camaraderie of *The Thursday Murder Club*, this heartwarming novel follows two unlikely friends who discover new beginnings in their golden years—over competitive Scrabble. New to a lively retirement community, Sally wants nothing more than to fit in while quietly managing worries about her adult children back home. But when she wanders into Scrabble Club expecting a crowd and finds only Walter Kretzer—the community curmudgeon with an intimidating reputation—her plans shift. Walter is stunned to discover that Sally is a natural prodigy at the game. As he draws her into the world of high-stakes tournaments, their connection deepens. When Sally's real reasons for moving emerge, Walter finds the courage to rewrite his final chapter—and maybe their future together.



JUNE 23, 2026

The Mountains We Call Home by Kim Michele Richardson

\$18.99 Book club price: \$17.09 Paperback, 384 pp

<https://bookshop.org/a/89/9781464239335>

In this powerful standalone companion to *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*, beloved heroine Cussy Lovett returns home in a story that honors resilience, justice, and the transformative power of books. Now confronting a changing Kentucky, Cussy witnesses the criminalization and incarceration that entrap the poor and marginalized, unraveling families and deepening generational wounds. As she navigates fractured communities, bustling Louisville streets, and remote hollers, Cussy remains devoted to spreading literacy and hope—delivering books and comfort where they're needed most. Meticulously researched and vividly rendered, this novel introduces a new cast whose struggles and triumphs mirror the complexities of Appalachia. Gritty and full of courage, *The Mountains We Call Home* celebrates endurance, compassion, and the ways reading can illuminate even the darkest paths.





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