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## LUCKY STRIKE: Love in El Dorado book 3 by Janine Amesta

"Janine Amesta took me on a ride that I enjoyed, and I know you all will enjoy reading it as well." – <u>The</u> <u>Lost Coffee Mug</u>

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## **ICARUS by K Ancrum**

\* Cosmopolitan, The Best Young Adult Books You Need to Read in 2024

\* The Nerd Daily, The Most Anticipated YA of 2024

"Beautifully written....Psychologically acute, subtle, and sophisticated." - Booklist, starred review

"Via lyrical language that winningly captures the magic and dreamlike aura of young love, Ancrum expertly weaves together brief, propulsive chapters brimming with riveting action, powerful emotion, and deeply felt romance. In this intimate poetic reimagining of the Icarus myth, Ancrum crafts a subversive triumph that is a love letter both to healing from trauma and to the importance of connection and empathy." – *Publishers Weekly*, starred review

*"Icarus* is a masterpiece. A passionate, heartrending story on the value of emotional intimacy and human connection. K. Ancrum's concise flash-fiction style allows readers to devour the story in one sitting, or savor each word like individual brush strokes on a work of art." – Erik J. Brown, author of All That's Left in the World and Lose You to Find Me

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## POINTE OF PRIDE by Chloe Angyal

"Pointe of Pride is utterly charming." – Cat Sebastian, author of We Could Be So Good and The Queer Principles of Kit Webb

"Pointe of Pride combines witty banter with elegant prose, and the tension between her sparring leads kept me turning pages until all hours of the night. The romance at the story's core is honest, tender, and truly lovely. Like any good dancer, *Pointe of Pride* digs deep and then soars." – **Andie Burke, author** of *Fly with Me* 

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## THE AU PAIR AFFAIR by Tessa Bailey

\* Read an exclusive excerpt featured in Cosmopolitan

"Bailey wonderfully portrays the chemistry between Tallulah and Burgess, creating a tension-filled narrative that keeps readers captivated from beginning to end." – *Library Journal* 

"After the VERY high bar that *Fangirl Down* set, I was skeptical that the followup could hold my attention in the same way—but I devoured this at a ridiculously fast pace....You've got the classic delight of a grumpy single dad/age gap romance with a side of hockey, but there's a whole lot more to it than that." – Jeeves Reads Romance

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#### SAME TIME NEXT YEAR by Tessa Bailey

"If you're already a Tessa stan, then you have an idea of what kind of spicy goodness awaits you in the pages of *Same Time Next Year*, but if you're finding her for the first time, let me set the scene for you: a fake marriage, a hockey hero, and banter that will simultaneously melt even the chilliest heart and make you blush. (They don't call Tessa the "Michelangelo of Dirty Talk" for no reason.)" – **Lauren Plude** 

*"Same Time Next Year* is a sweet and spicy novella length romance....This was a super sweet romance, but with that signature heat that this author is known for." – <u>Smexy Books</u>

"Same Time Next Year was a steamy, marriage of convenience sports novella....Sumner was the sweetest cinnamon roll ever! He was so kind and had it bad for Britta. I was obsessed with listening to his thoughts. They were hilarious and made me smile so much." – <u>Star Crossed Book Blog</u>

"It's sexy, and there are some sweet moments as Sumner helps Britta overcome her aversion to love and relationships....I was happy to see these two get their HEA." – <u>The Escapist Book Blog</u>

*"Same Time Next Year* is a balance of sweet romance with spicy scenes and although readers will have to suspend disbelief about the immigration process, this was a quick and enjoyable novella with a couple I easily rooted for." – <u>The Baking Bookworm</u>

"Oh, man, I wish I could go back and read this novella again for the first time. It had all the things—the loaded looks, the sexual tension you could cut with a knife, the whole possessive yet respectful MMC. Sumner Mayfield is like the ultimate golden retriever hero." – <u>The Romance Mafia</u>

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#### **GRUMBONES by Jenn Bennett**

\* A Kirkus Best Middle Grade Book of the Year 2023!

"[T]errifically eerie and atmospheric...a skillful mix of scary, sweet, and silly" - Booklist

"Bennett creates a palpable, powerful, and fantastical sense of place in this story; the underworld is truly an enticingly and fascinatingly weird and wonderful realm. Readers will be on the edge of their seats as Helena and Ben journey through the underworld and will be mesmerized by the equally mysterious and suspicious Grumbones....A perfect paranormal fantasy with plenty of intrigue and heartfelt feeling." – <u>South Sound Book Review Council</u>

"[S]uper cute." – <u>Confessions of a YA Reader</u>

"Though the premise seems spooky, the story reads more like fantasy than horror, with Helena and her friend Ben hiring a guide to lead them through lands in turmoil as different political factions vie for control. Moments of humor and irony, such as a decidedly not scary ferryman, also lighten the mood.

Check out *Grumbones* if you are seeking fantasy that has a bit of supernatural bent and plenty of quirk." – <u>Pages Unbound Reviews</u>

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## WATCH IT BURN by Kristen Bird

\* USA Today bestseller!

"A captivating psychological tale centers around the death of a prominent woman and the three people seeking answers. From the first few pages, author Kristen Bird draws the readers into a story brimming with secrets and scandal..." – <u>Novels Alive</u>

"Watch It Burn is a twisty, scandalous Southern mystery where three fearless women work together to solve the mystery and uncover the secrets behind a woman's death....[G]ripping, thought-provoking, timely, and atmospheric." – <u>Judith D. Collins</u>

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## THOROUGHLY PUCKED: My Hockey Romance book 3 by Lauren Blakely

"I'm loving this series and these characters....The heat, the fun, the banter, the laughs, the sexiness....It's the perfect romance!" – <u>Two Book Pushers</u>

"The cleverly crafted dynamic between the characters made for an absolutely addictive, unputdownable read with as many heart-racing moments as there were humorous ones. Five smooches from me for *Thoroughly Pucked* by Lauren Blakely!" – <u>Red Cheek Reads</u>

"This was an adventurous and spicy book, and I had a hard time putting it down. It felt fast-paced due to the shorter chapters, and it was both plot and character-driven. I liked all the characters and liked learning about their personalities and flaws." – <u>A Book Lovin' Mama</u>

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## HEARTLESS HUNTER: The Crimson Moth book 1 by Kristen Ciccarelli

- \* Author Q&A, The Nerd Daily
- \* Book Riot, Winter 2024 YA Book Releases
- \* Goodreads, The Most Anticipated Young Adult Books of 2024
- \* Paste Magazine, Best New Fantasy Books of February
- \* She Reads, Most Anticipated YA Romances of 2024
- \* The Nerd Daily, The Most Anticipated YA of 2024

"From the high-stakes intrigue, to the rich world-building, to the enthralling magic system, to the toecurling tension between two striking characters who are destined to be foes but can't keep their hands (and hearts) to themselves—there is nothing about this book that I don't fervently adore." – **Thea Guanzon**, *New York Rimes* bestselling author of *The Hurricane Wars* 

"I COULD NOT PUT IT DOWN...It's the sexy witchy lady Pimpernel retelling we all deserve." – Kester Grant, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *The Court of Miracles* 

"An enchantingly written, high-stakes romantasy with a pulse-racing plot—I was captivated." – Natasha J. Hastings, author of *How to Charm a Viscount* 

"Ciccarelli has created a cutthroat world of forbidden magic that will become your new favourite enemies-to-lovers Romantasy. This is enemies-to-lovers done right, and after that ending, I can't wait for book two." – Megan Scott, author of *A Temptation of Magic* 

"The Crimson Moth is a spell-binding fantasy romance with twists, turns, and an irresistible forbidden love...Ciccarelli weaves a tale that is impossible to put down." – Elizabeth Helen, author of the Beasts of the Briar series

"An addictive first installment that sets readers up for a series full of magic and romance." - Kirkus

"Ciccarelli persuasively imbues each side of the conflict with complexity, depicting both as being neither wholly good nor evil. The protagonists' strong chemistry unfolds at a tense and steady pace in this high-stakes romantasy." – **Publishers Weekly** 

"Fans of the enemies-to-lovers trope will not be able to put this book down. Ciccarelli creates a world that will immediately immerse readers." – *School Library Journal* 

"Told in alternating third-person point of view between Gideon and Rune, this fantasy take on *The Scarlet Pimpernel* smoothly spools out a complex plot, and the perspective changes heighten the tension between the two....The dizzying finale promises a sequel." – **Booklist** 

*"Heartless Hunter* is a stunning YA fantasy that combines unforgettable characters, thought-provoking themes, and a thrilling romance into a heart-wrenching and consuming story." – YA Books Central

"An addictive romantic fantasy about the cat-and-mouse game between a witch and a witch hunter that develops into something more, *Heartless Hunter* seems destined to be one of the buzziest releases of winter. (The chemistry! Whew!)" – *Paste Magazine* 

"Kristen Ciccarelli weaves a tapestry of words so rich and vivid, you'll swear you can feel the pulse of magic coursing through its pages. Every twist and turn keeps you on the edge of your seat, every revelation sending shivers down your spine." – *Medium* 

"Give me a clever female protagonist, a forbidden romance, a riveting high-stakes plot, and I'll ask for nothing else—apart from the sequel. Kristen Ciccarelli gives us all of this and more in this tantalizing catand-mouse game of deception." – <u>Book of the Month</u>

"A witch and a witch hunter enemies-to-lovers romantasy? Yes, please! I wanted to read this book from the minute I heard the premise, and it is a wild ride. It left me stunned and so emotionally invested in the story, and I'm still thinking about THAT ENDING days after I finished the book." – <u>One Book More</u>

*"Heartless Hunter* simply took my breath away—from its detailed world-building to its emotional love story and every point in between." – <u>Tessa Talks Books</u>

*"Heartless Hunter* absolutely stole my heart, my emotions, and my awe. I could not put this book down for a second once I started. This book deserves SO much more hype because it gripped me with emotions the entire time." – <u>Jotted by Jenna</u>

*"Heartless Hunter* is a captivating and well-crafted tale that seamlessly blends magic, romance, and political intrigue. Kristen Ciccarelli's storytelling prowess shines through, making this novel a compelling addition to the fantasy romance genre." – <u>What I'm Reading</u>

"This year I'm on the hunt for what will be the standout, romantasy book of the year and Ciccarelli's romance is definitely in the running. The combination of enemies to lovers, love triangle, and romantic suspense all wrapped up into an amazing package that I couldn't put down." – <u>She Reads Romance</u> <u>Books</u>

"I absolutely fell in love with *Heartless Hunter* by Kristen Ciccarelli. Plot and pacing were good, world building was interesting, but characters are where this fantasy romance truly shined. I absolutely cannot wait to see how this duet ends." – <u>Reckless Reading</u>

## THE PECAN CHILDREN by Quinn Connor

"The *Pecan Children* is a revelation in ingenuity: lyrical, compelling and unexpected. A haunting tale that pays homage to a disappearing past. A wishful story where the sanctity and sanctuary of home gets trapped in a loop and becomes fractured. There are splintered visions of what was and what is and the story ends up giving us heroes but no fairytale ending. Readers will be drawn to the heartbreak of this work about a bygone era that is lost except in remembering. What a thoroughly mesmerizing read!" – **Leah Weiss, author of** *If the Creek Don't Rise* 

"This suspenseful, eerie ode to doomed Southern towns lulled me into a spell with its atmospheric beauty, then had me gasping when I realized what was happening. Quinn Connor has created an iconic addition to the canon of stories about hometowns and the fearful, hopeful hold they have over us. Like fast-growing kudzu, *The Pecan Children* wraps itself tightly around your heart...at some point, you'll try to glance up from these pages and find yourself transfixed instead." – **Sara Flannery Murphy, author of** *The Wonder State* 

"A Southern Gothic, pecan-scented fever dream of a novel. Beautiful, haunting, and very unique." – Ann Dávila Cardinal, author of *We Need No Wings* 

"Cleverly ensnaring their reader like vines of southern kudzu, the emotional and temporal fractals in *The Pecan Children* make for an eerie, delicious book about loyalty, loss, and the haunting nature of unsated want. It is unlike anything I have ever read before; singular and seductive." – **Katie Lattari, author** of *Dark Things I Adore* 

"Quietly suspenseful, mysterious, and magical, The *Pecan Children* is about forgotten places and the people who stay behind. We are transported to a rural Arkansas town in decline, being sold off parcel by parcel, run by its annual pecan harvest, and about to be swallowed up by a lurking darkness—a place that could be and reminds us of so many places across America. An intricately woven narrative that expertly juggles all its moving pieces, Quinn Connor shows us an American South haunted by a history

buried long ago and teaches us that the past is never really forgotten." – E.M. Tran, author of Daughters of the New Year

"Part gothic, part magical, part mysterious, *The Pecan Children* is steeped in atmosphere and place. A haunting and beautiful story about forgotten people and declining places. A hopeful tale that will pull you in like kudzu and hold you spellbound. An engaging page-turner!" – **Terah Shelton Harris, author of One Summer in Savannah** 

"With lyricism that commands attention, *The Pecan Children* offers a soulful exploration of the familial on an untamed and lush stage of what remains of the gathering commons." – **Monica Brashears, author of** *House of Cotton* 

"With creeping claustrophobia and a filter of the surreal over lushly detailed lives, *The Pecan Children* captures both the magic and despair of trying to hold onto home when the world is determined to take it away from you." – **Kiersten White, #1** *New York Times* bestselling author

"Quinn Connor viscerally portrays the quiet claustrophobia of a dying rural town, and that's just the beginning. An atmospheric ghost story where nothing is quite as it seems, *The Pecan Children* is delicious and sinister, and Southern Gothic right down to its roots." – **Haley Harrigan, author of** *Secrets of Southern Girls* 

"Tangled in the twisted roots of where the past and present meet, *The Pecan Children* is a haunting story of survival, limned with touches of magic. Fans of Delia Owens and Alix E. Harrow will enjoy this beautifully written, modern-day southern gothic wrapped in pecan vines, heartache, and hope." – **Heather Webber, USA Today bestselling author of Midnight at the Blackbird Café** 

"A sultry Southern gothic...delivers heat and chills in equal measure....With lyrical prose and a rich seam of folklore, Connor artfully braids satisfying mystery and romance subplots, creating an abiding sense of unease. This story of crumbling grandeur and family secrets will leave readers hungry for more." – *Publishers Weekly* 

"A captivating blend of horror, southern charm, and unapologetic queer representation that redefines the boundaries of family and love....From the whispering pecan trees to the humid nights filled with secrets, every detail immerses readers in allure and mystique. Connor offers a fresh and compelling take on both horror and family dynamics, leaving readers spellbound until the very last page. It's a masterful exploration of the intersection between darkness and light, tradition and progress, making it a must-read for fans of literary horror and inclusive storytelling." – **Booklist** 

## SUMMERTIME PUNCHLINE by Betty Corrello

"The small-town beach setting is bursting with memorable people, and Del and Eddie have a real, livedin feeling as characters; they will undoubtedly reflect the fears, worries, and triumphs of many readers....Wry observational humor and a dose of romance strike a good balance with some tough family dynamics." – *Kirkus* 

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THE OTHER SIDE OF TOGETHER: Other Side book 1 by Emily Cox & Nicole Allen

"An enjoyable and engaging YA romance which kept me hooked throughout....This is a wonderfully written story, and the author really sets the scene and brought the setting and characters to life through the descriptive narrative." – <u>Itsy Bitsy Book Bits</u>

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## THE MYSTERY OF LOCKED ROOMS by Lindsay Currie

- \* A New York Times bestseller!
- \* A USA Today bestseller!
- \* An Amazon Book of the Month pick for April 2024
- \* A Target Middle Reader Book Club Pick for October 2024
- \* The Week Junior Book of the Week for April 5, 2024
- \* Video review, E Train Talks
- \* Trailer reveal and author interview, Mr. Schu Reads
- \* Featured in Colby Sharp's <u>5 Page-Turning 2024 Middle Grade Novels</u>

"I love this trio. The loyalty and love they have for each other will solve any problem (and escape room)! I loved seeing their talents in action and how they handled their weaknesses. I want to visit the abandoned fun house! The description of each room is so cool. Long live the Deltas!!" – Max Chase, The Bookloft

"Take 3 parts *Goonies*, 1 part *Willy Wonka* and 5 parts imagination and you have the wonderful story Lindsay Currie packed into this exciting young readers novel! Readers will instantly be drawn into the adventure as it unfolds and will be on the edge of their seats with each new discovery explored. I couldn't put this book down!" – **Troy Derrer, Wordsmith Bookshoppe** 

"A trio of friends, a noble deed, a deserted fun house and a possible treasure makes this the perfect book for middle grade puzzlers or an edge of the seat read aloud that will have listeners begging for one more chapter! A thoroughly engaging story that will get those brain cells working." – **Janice Penner**, **Watermark Books & Café** 

"Loved this fast-paced middle grade mystery. Using the framework of an escape room was a fun and original idea—and provided a great opportunity for the characters to work through some personal challenges, too. A great read!" – Kate Snyder, Plaid Elephant Books

"The clock is ticking as *The Westing Game* meets *Willy Wonka* with a dash of *Stand by Me* in this exciting adventure, as readers race to solve riddles and puzzles alongside the characters, who learn about themselves and each other straight through to the mystery's epic ending." – **Gibran Graham, The Briar Patch** 

"This is such a great vacation read! It's also perfect for the 'read around the library' mystery category—a smart, suspenseful story that readers will connect with." – **Tegan Tigani, Queen Anne Book Company** 

"This fast-paced story is filled with funny dialogue and tense moments. If you enjoyed *Escape from Mr*. *Lemoncello's Library* or *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, this book may become a new favorite." – *The Week Junior* 

"[W]ith all its thrilling twists and turns, the strength of this mystery is in the emotional character development of the three friends, particularly the narrator Sarah. Readers will certainly be anxious about the safety of the Deltas and their success at solving this ultimate escape room, but the authentic dialogue, believable tween problems, and worrisome conflicts make for a realistic friendship story plunked in the middle of the mystery. "– Youth Services Book Review

"Fans of mysteries, solving puzzles, and escape rooms will find a lot to love in Lindsay Currie's *The Mystery of Locked Rooms*....The story is full of surprises and twists and will make readers eager to try their hand at escape room challenges." – <u>Biblio Brownlee</u>

"Currie's writing is bright and inviting—reading *The Mystery of Locked Rooms* is almost like revisiting a long-lost friend. Her pacing is spot-on, creating tension balanced with moments of reflection or joy." – <u>Cracking the Cover</u>

"I just adore Lindsay Currie's books and *The Mystery of Locked Rooms* was a fantastic read, part suspense, filled with puzzles, riddles and precarious hidden passages that pose potential dangers around every corner. Highly recommend it for fans of *Goonies, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and even *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*." – Log Cabin Literary

"For anyone who wants to experience the mystery and suspense of an escape room, this book is for them. I was on the edge of my seat rooting for the 'Deltas' to figure out clues as they frantically searched for a treasure in the funhouse." – <u>The Southern Bookseller Review</u>

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## THE BLUES BROTHERS by Daniel de Visé

- \* #1 Bestseller in Movie History & Criticism on Amazon!
- \* Author interview, <u>BBC Radio 2</u>
- \* Featured in Mojo Magazine's March 2024 issue
- \* Dan de Visé wrote an article adapted from the book for USA Today
- \* An article by the author was featured in The Daily Express
- \* Featured in an article in <u>*The New York Post</u>*</u>
- \* The Independent UK, Books of the Month: March New Releases and Bestsellers
- \* Radio interview, <u>WBEZ Chicago</u>
- \* American Writers Museum, A Conversation with Daniel de Visé
- \* Podcast, Getting to Yes, And
- \* Read an excerpt in Air Mail

"Daniel de Visé has brought the iconic comedy friendship between Belushi and Aykroyd brilliantly to life in this thoroughly researched, beautifully written book about one of the funniest movies ever made. I loved every page." – Josh Karp, author of *A Futile and Stupid Gesture: How Doug Kenney and National Lampoon Changed Comedy Forever* 

"Aykroyd and Belushi's singing, dancing, car-crashing mission from God came about because of their ferocious devotion to the blues. That same passion flows through Daniel de Visé's riveting, meticulously detailed book, in which the creation of one of Hollywood's most wonderful oddities is chronicled like never before. A worthy tribute to a raucous masterpiece—and as flavorsome as four fried chickens and

# a Coke." – Nick de Semlyen, author of Wild and Crazy Guys: How the Comedy Mavericks of the '80s Changed Hollywood Forever

"Here is the true story of a human sunflare. In case we forget that we're as organic as the sun, that blazes of naked spirit once rose wherever the mysteries of nature and chance threw humans together whose madness, passion, conflict and love could combust in real life—till everyone was lit and became a part of the dazzle. This is how it works. This is how we burn. This book is on a mission from God."—DBC Pierre, author of Vernon God Little, winner of the Booker Prize

"Takes readers into the chaos of the making of the film and its aftermath. The narrative becomes even more riveting as filming of *The Blues Brothers* kicks off, and it's also more tragic as it shows the steady decline that ultimately led to Belushi's tragic death in 1982. Will be popular with fans of pop culture and aficionados of film and TV history, as it not only covers the creation of *The Blues Brothers* but also serves as a dual biography of Aykroyd and Belushi." – *Library Journal* 

"Daniel de Visé's droll and rigorous book tells of how [*The Blues Brothers*] began as an *SNL* sketch, grew into a live musical revue and became one of the biggest movies of 1980, grossing more than \$100 million....De Visé, a Pulitzer-winning American journalist, is bracingly thorough, interviewing Aykroyd, Landis and Belushi's extraordinarily patient widow, Judy." – *The Times* 

"In *The Blues Brothers: An Epic Friendship, the Rise of Improv and the Making of an American Film Classic,* an exhaustive, illuminating, funny, tragic and propulsive account of the Blues Brothers' ascent into pop culture immortality, author Daniel de Visé sets the scene with impressively detailed chapters on the lives and careers of Aykroyd and Belushi before they met, a dual narrative which covers the emergence of those future star-studded countercultural American/Canadian improvised comedy troupes who eventually begat *SNL." – The Big Issue* 

"Not only nirvana for *Blues Brothers* nerds but a fascinating snapshot of a cultural moment and a touching study of an unlikely friendship. Black hats off!" – *Empire Magazine* 

"It's a triple-helixed biography of the main contributors to the counterculture comedy revolution of the post-'60s: *SNL*, the Lampoon and the Second City comedy troupe in all its stage and TV iterations. It's a tale of Hollywood excess—both budgetary and pharmaceutical—that beggars belief. And, at its essence, it's the story of a great American bromance, a partnership that was kept alive by one man's creative discipline before crashing on the rocks of another man's addictions....This is a well-researched book. Better, it's a well-told story, one that rarely loses it focus on the larger picture—the many forces that came together to create comedy by the baby boom generation for the baby boom generation—while engaging the reader in a close-up view of two very different, very funny men." – *The Washington Post* 

"Mr. de Vise's book...races along on a whoosh of marvelous details and crackling anecdotes." – **The Wall Street Journal** 

"In Daniel De Visé's in-depth new book *The Blues Brothers: An Epic Friendship, the Rise of Improv, and the Making of an American Film Classic,* the author goes to phenomenal lengths to detail not just the making of the *Blues Brothers* film (which is a bonkers story in and of itself), but goes back to the beginning, detailing the upbringings of the two actors, their explorations into a burgeoning comedy scene, their rise at SNL, and all the blues that's fit to print." – <u>AllMusic</u>

"Much like the movie, the book *The Blues Brothers: An Epic Friendship, the Rise of Improv, and the Making of an American Film Classic* works on so many different levels and should appeal to a variety of readers. Whether you're looking at learning more about improv, the early days of *Saturday Night Live,* want to revisit the classic movie or remember the comedy legacy of John Belushi, Daniel de Visé offers a rich history of how Jake and Elwood Blues came to be and why it's still making audiences laugh forty-four years later." – <u>Paul's Trip to the Movies</u>

"Dan de Visé explores in great depth the relationships and circumstances that led to the film's creation, and its sombre aftermath....a definitive account of *The Blues Brothers*' creation." – <u>Irish Independent</u>

*"The Blues Brothers* isn't just a book about a movie; it's a love letter to the power of laughter, music, and the enduring bonds of friendship. Whether you're a fan of the film or simply intrigued by the intersection of comedy and culture, this is a must-read that will leave you laughing, singing, and perhaps even shedding a tear for the unforgettable journey of Jake and Elwood Blues." – Live for Films

"Daniel De Visé has done this wonderful and raucous film truly proud with a fascinating account....[T]he definitive telling of the making of *The Blues Brothers*." – *Buzz Magazine* (UK)

"A must-read for fans of a cinema classic." -The Independent (UK)

"This absolute blast of a book....[F]ull of incredible research and fascinating details....One of this book's many strengths is the portrayal of the friendship and dynamic between the two stars." – <u>Literary Review</u>

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## THE PATIENT'S SECRET by S.A. Falk

"S.A. Falk's *The Patient's Secret* is a fiendishly smart psychological thriller....Readers will find themselves on the edge of their seats as they witness the lengths Dr. Stevenson will go to prove her theories. With smart dialogue, gripping prose and a mind-rushing plot, S.A. Falk hits it out of the park with this debut novel." – **Elisa Hart Kipness, Amazon bestselling author of** *Lights Out* 

This book is really fast paced and page turning. The first part of the book was what really made me get invested into the book–I simply couldn't put the book down." – <u>Tropical Girl Reads Books</u>

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## CHARM ME: Cherry Blossom Lake book 2 by Tawna Fenske

"I absolutely reveled in this one as the writing sparkled with clever humor, authentic and delightfully quirky characters, and interesting storylines that kept me invested and engaged throughout. I always enjoy reading Ms. Fenske's multi-textured and frisky romantic comedies, and this one shines like a glitter ball and is undoubtedly her best yet." – <u>Books and Bindings</u>

"I really enjoyed the fun between Peter and Lucy....Ms. Fenske's humor shows up everywhere in these characters....Cherry Blossom Lake is now definitely a place I am going to visit again and again." – <u>The</u> <u>Good, The Bad, and The Unread</u> "Charm Me is a story of family, relationships, friendships, and love. The premise is endearing and captivating; the romance is seductive and passionate; the characters are charismatic and determined." – <u>The Reading Cafe</u>

## THE LIGHTHOUSE AND THE LITTLE BOAT by Katie Frawley & Ben Mantle

"This story has everything a preschooler could love....The writing is spare and fluid, making this ideal for reading aloud to a group or just one child. The illustrations have the sweep and grace of old watercolors in a book that no one will read just once. VERDICT A reassuring book for the very young that allows for ambition, curiosity, and homecoming in equal measure, and the knowledge that someone watchful is nearby, if needed. Lovely." – *School Library Journal*, starred review

"Mantle's digital renderings employ watercolor, ink, and pastel for painterly page-filling vistas of the sea....The duo's relationship easily echoes that between caregiver and child in this peppy maritime tale about the anchoring support that allows independence to grow." – *Publishers Weekly* 

#### **BREATH TAKING by Jessica Fein**

\* Read an article by the author for the Courageous Parents Network, Words Matter

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#### **CASTLE OF THE CURSED by Romina Garber**

\* Goodreads, The Most Anticipated Young Adult Books of 2024

"Deliciously atmospheric and darkly romantic, *Castle of the Cursed* was one of my favourite novels of the year. I absolutely loved it." – Melissa Marr, *New York Times* bestselling author

"The plot became more complex as the story progressed, but at the heart of it, was an intriguing mystery that had both multi-generational and multi-dimensional aspects...quite literally....*Castle of the Cursed* was an original gothic mystery with dark fantasy elements that tells a spellbinding story about inheritance, family, love, and sacrifice." – <u>The Starry Library</u>

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#### **RAISING SECURELY ATTACHED KIDS by Eli Harwood**

"Raising Securely Attached Kids is a comprehensive roadmap for parents who want to raise securely attached, emotionally healthy children. Eli Harwood breaks down the science of attachment to offer practical insights for cultivating parent-child relationships based on safety, connection, and collaboration. A parenting must-read." – Alyssa Blask Campbell, M.Ed., author of *Tiny Humans, Big Emotions* 

"Eli uses her charm, humor, and compelling storytelling ability to weave together a narrative that will guide parents toward a deep and transformative relationship with their children. Eli has a special gift to take complex research and psychological concepts and make them accessible to her audience, and that is woven through each page of this book. This is a must-read for any parent looking to cultivate a secure

# attachment with a child at any age." – Tammy Schamuhn, author of *The Parenting Handbook* and cofounder of the Institute of Child Psychology

"Insightful, profound, poignant. *Raising Securely Attached Kids* is a must-read for parents committed to building a secure foundation that lasts a lifetime. This book seamlessly translates cutting-edge research into practical wisdom, providing the guide every parent needs. Eli Harwood brings an outstanding fusion of knowledge and heart to the world of parenting." – **Dr. Galit Atlas, author of** *Emotional Inheritance* and faculty member at NYU Postdoctoral Program for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis

"If there's one thing a divorcing parent wishes for as their marital status changes, it's a continued healthy attachment with their children. As a certified divorce and coparenting specialist, I have long since turned to Harwood's work for inspiration, motivation, and the best tips for fostering a healthy, secure attachment with our children. This book is the delicious icing on the cake for all she's put into the world so far, and a gift to those of us working hard to give our children a childhood they can be proud of one day." – Michelle Dempsey-Multack, founder of Moms Moving On

"You can't put a roof on a house without first laying a sturdy foundation and building a frame. There are many parenting advisors offering quick tips on shaping your child's behavior, but much of this advice falls short and leads to parenting feeling like a game of whack-a-mole, with one challenge replacing another. *Raising Securely Attached Kids* will guide you in creating the secure attachment relationship with your child that will become the foundation upon which healthy families can be built. This book is the parenting guide we all need." – **Rachel Samson, clinical psychologist and @AustralianPsychologist** 

"Raising Securely Attached Kids provides a compelling invitation to every parent....Eli Harwood weaves her personal and professional experiences in teaching the essentials of attachment which can help us as parents all 'show up' in ways that enable our children to become securely attached to us. This security then enables our kids to develop resilience and the capacity to connect with others in deeply rewarding ways." – Daniel J. Siegel, M.D., New York Times bestselling co-author of The Whole-Brain Child

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## AND THE SKY BLED by S. Hati

"And the Sky Bled is a book that grabs you by the shoulders, stares into your eyes, and does not let go until THE END. It's set in a fascinating, deeply-built world that explores extractive colonialism and the resultant environmental devastation, but does so through the very human experiences of its characters. It's an intricate tangle of histories and relationships—loss, guilt, regret, hope, survival, and the shifting balance of power. It's a book that asks 'What now?' and then answers, 'Now we find a way to move on.'" – Moniquill Blackgoose, author of national bestseller To Shape a Dragon's Breath

## THE LAIRD'S KISS: Highland Lairds series book 2 by Eliza Knight

"This was a well-written, action-packed story with wonderful characters and lots of fun banter between Rhiannon and Ian. The story picks up where the previous book ends and is a non-stop adventure filled with sword fights, a treacherous ride, stolen kisses, danger at every turn, battles, confrontations with rival clans, steamy love scenes, a mischievous cat, and a HEA that didn't seem possible. I loved Rhiannon and Ian and their journey to HEA was a fast, fun read. This is the second book in the series but it could easily be read as a standalone title with no problem." – <u>Flippin' Pages</u>

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## YOGA LIFE by Brett Larkin

"In Yoga Life, Brett Larkin achieves a remarkable feat—translating the ancient, often elusive wisdom of yoga into practical, everyday practices for the modern individual. This book emerges not just as a guide, but as a beacon of hope for those struggling to integrate wellness and peace into their hectic lives." – <u>Michelle Cornish</u>

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## A SONG TO DROWN RIVERS by Ann Liang

"Ann Liang has fashioned an elegant historical epic, honouring the ingenuity of women in the face of impossible odds. With impeccable pacing, evocative prose, and a romance that had my heart in a vice, *A Song to Drown Rivers* will call you onward, page by page, until you reach its devastating end." – **Samantha Shannon, internationally bestselling author of** *The Bone Season* and *The Priory of the Orange Tree* 

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## I HOPE THIS DOESN'T FIND YOU by Ann Liang

\* She Reads, Most Anticipated YA Romances of 2024

\* The Nerd Daily, The Most Anticipated YA of 2024

\* Cosmopolitan, The Best Young Adult Books You Need to Read in 2024

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#### **PICASSO'S LOVERS by Jeanne Mackin**

\* Featured in an article in Shondaland

"The sensual, succulent prose draws the reader in like a particularly delicious work of art." – *Historical Novels Review* 

"Mackin fleshes out the primary story with many memorable minor characters....Mackin's absorbing story does a skillful job of weaving together different timelines and bringing in social issues. Suggest to art lovers and readers interested in 20th-century history." – *Library Journal* 

"A complex, absorbing portrait." – People

"Relationships play a vital role in the story....*Picasso's Lovers* shines a light on the man behind the legend through the lens of two different eras." – <u>Novels Alive</u>

"What follows is an unravelling and piecing together, in fictional form, of the women of Picasso's life. You don't have to know much about art, or indeed Pablo Picasso, to know he was famously awful to the women in his life....I really enjoyed the voices she gave to each female character: without making each woman purely placidly likeable, she evokes sympathy and strength in each of their dealings with the artist....I enjoyed this book so much." – <u>History Lizzie</u> *"Picasso's Lovers* was a pleasant departure from the typical romance. It's destructive and devastating in a way I didn't expect. I was completely drawn into the world the author created which is part of the appeal of this book. Who doesn't want to visit Paris and the French Riveria in the 1920s? If you're a fan of art history, this one's for you!" – <u>She's Becoming Bookish</u>

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## **THESE TANGLED VINES by Julianne Maclean**

\* THESE TANGLED VINES has been optioned for a television series by Audacious Dreamer Productions!

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#### SUPERCONVERGENCE by Jamie Metzl

"Metzl capably describes recent developments in genetics and biotech and looks at how AI is providing an analytical engine of unprecedented power....An important book in which the author sets out a path for the future based on his experience and expertise." – *Kirkus,* starred review

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## **PASSION STRUCK by John Miles**

\* A finalist for the First Horizon award for debut authors as well as the Grand Prize in the Eric Offer Book Awards!

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## A QUIET RETREAT by Kiersten Modglin

\* Shepherd, The Best Secluded and Trapped Survival Thrillers

## THE HOLLOW by Kiersten Modglin

"Gripping, tense, and achingly addictive, this story from the heart was brought to life in a way only Modglin could. *The Hollow* is heart-wrenching, twisted, unpredictable, shocking, and cinematic in true Modglin style. It had me reminiscing about the carefree, yet angsty days of my youth...And, as always, kept me guessing until the very end." – **Emerald O'Brien, bestselling author of I Heard You** *Scream* 

"There are many suspenseful moments in this book, for many different reasons....When it was all revealed, I was absolutely shocked! I didn't see it coming from a mile away. This was another great read by Kiersten Modglin, so check it out." – <u>The Book Review Crew</u>

"[A]ddictive and atmospheric....I stayed up and read it from cover to cover in one sitting. Thank you to Kiersten Modglin for writing yet another compelling psychological thriller that definitely cost me some sleep." – <u>Robin Loves Reading</u>

*"The Hollow* blew me out of the water and then some. This book is not your normal domestic or psychological thriller....If you're like me and like a little romance, a little thriller and a little suspense all

rolled up into one great book then get ready to add *The Hollow* by Kiersten Modglin to that ever growing TBR pile next to your bed!" – <u>Phyllis Jones Pisanelli Reviews</u>

"[H]aunting, and atmospheric, and—it moves in to live in your head rent-free while you are reading it....I'm assuming it will be one of the most talked about books for some time, because somehow it fuses thriller/mystery with emotions/romance, and it works, it works wonderfully." – @this.human.reads (39k followers on Instagram)

"[Kiersten Modglin] is well known (and really good at) writing super fast paced and twisty thrillers and this had a different vibe. It was slower and quieter, more of a coming of age story with some mystery elements and romance too....At it's heart this is about grief, loss and tragedy with romance playing a heavy roll, things even got a little steamy!" – <u>Novel Gossip</u>

## **STRANGE BEASTS by Susan J. Morris**

"In *Strange Beasts*, Susan J. Morris gives readers a subtle alchemy of beauty, poetry, suspense, and horror, nestled perfectly in Paris during the Belle Époque, a world that is recognizable but also uniquely her own. Hel and Sam are a stunning pair, fighting monsters in the darkest catacombs, while at the same time fighting against a world that would make monsters of them. A delightfully wicked read." – Jaleigh Johnson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Door to the Lost* 

"A magnificent book. Of gaslamps and murders, of Paris, of secrets and love, and of finding yourself and trust. I treasure this tale, I hope it's the first of many, and until those many start appearing, I'll reread this one. Often." – Ed Greenwood, creator of *The Forgotten Realms* 

#### HOPE ABLAZE by Sarah Mughal Rana

- \* Goodreads, The Most Anticipated Young Adult Books of 2024
- \* SheReads, The Most Anticipated YA of 2024
- \* BookRiot, Winter 2024 YA Book Releases To Enjoy This Season
- \* Desi Blitz, 10 Must-Read South Asian Books Releasing in 2024

"A thought-provoking and provocative novel about faith, family, and friendship." – Publishers Weekly

"Fierce, Brilliant, and unapologetic, *Hope Ablaze* is a bright-burning star of a novel. Seamlessly and assuredly weaving together prose and poetry, Rana tackles Islamophobia, racism, and generational trauma with authentic nuance and terrific heart. An incredible, unmissable debut." – Vaishnavi Patel, New York Times bestselling author of *Kaikeyi* 

*"Hope Ablaze* is a young adult novel by Sarah Mughal Rana that deftly criticizes the bigotry and hate facing Muslim people in America today and empowers teens to find their own voice in a country aiming to silence them." – *F(r)iction* 

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#### THE TRUTH ACCORDING TO EMBER by Danica Nava

- \* Featured in <u>A Tribe Called Geek</u>
- \* Mentioned in The Hopi Times, Native American Authors Making Waves in Rom-Coms
- \* Entertainment Weekly, <u>38 Books We're Excited to Read in 2024</u>
- \* Publishers Weekly, <u>10 New Books by Indigenous Authors</u>
- \* Library Journal, Romance Prepub Alert, August 2024 titles
- \* PublishDrive, <u>Best Books to Read in 2024</u>
- \* United by Pop, Naina Kumar's Most Anticipated 2024 Debut Rom-com Books

"Danica Nava has created a fantastic heroine in Ember Lee Cardinal, whose good heart and determination to do the right thing are as admirable as her occasional lies are understandable...Nava guides Ember along a compelling journey of empowerment while tackling complicated issues of identity, racism, corporate corruption, and the pain and joy that family can bring. And the book is so funny, too! The characters shine, each of them unique and interesting and so real they could step off the page. *The Truth According to Ember* was a delight from start to finish, and Nava delves into both heartbreaking and life-affirming topics with wit and wisdom. Danica Nava's writing is fresh, funny, and romantic, and I will read anything she writes." – Sarah Hawley, author of A Werewolf's Guide to Seducing a Vampire

"Fresh, funny, and full of heart, *The Truth According to Ember* delivers a romantic comedy delight. Ember is lovable and laugh-out-loud hilarious, and her journey as she learns to lean into the support of her community, discovers unconditional love, and embraces the power of telling her truth, is wonderfully touching. This is a romance I won't soon forget." – **Chloe Liese, USA Today bestselling author of Always Only You** 

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## SKATER BOY by Anthony Nerada

- \* Kirkus, <u>12 YA Books You'll Never Want to End</u>
- \* The Lambda Literary Reviews, February's Most Anticipated LBBTQIA+ Literature
- \* Brightly, The Most Exciting Young Adult Books Coming in 2024
- \* LGBTQ Reads, MOST ANTICIPATED LGBTQ+ YOUNG ADULT FICTION: JANUARY-JUNE 2024

"I had the best time reading *Skater Boy*...is multi-faceted exploring friendship drama, crushes, and second chances. How our reputation can sometimes just happen without us knowing it. *Skater Boy* is perfect for YA Contemporary fans and making amends. For those who love reading about characters who have to realize our own impact, the importance of apologies, and second chances." – <u>Utopia State</u> of Mind

"I was blown away by how much I engaged with and enjoyed this book." – I've Read This

*"Skater Boy* is an amazing debut novel about a boy who learns what it means to rip off labels and be himself. But this is not *only* a story teenagers deserve to read—it's a story that *needed* to be told. A story about what it means to to be young and queer in a world where adults may fail you. A story about taking the first steps to overcome the struggles one might be facing. A story about how you owe *no one, but yourself,* the life you want to live." – <u>F(r)iction</u>

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#### **PRINCIPLES OF EMOTION by Sara Read**

- \* The Nerd Daily, Swoonworthy 2024 Romance Book Releases You Need
- \* Author Q&A, <u>The Nerd Daily</u>
- \* Podcast, <u>The Manuscript Academy</u>

## "An incredible STEMinist read." – The Honey Pop

"Principles of Emotion is a triumph of the human spirit and what it means to live a life of one's own." – The Gloss

"This author is quickly becoming a mainstay for me. Her characters are so real! And this story puts a smile on your face! Need a brilliant romance to take you away...THIS IS IT!" – <u>Reeca's Pieces</u>

"Meg Brightwood's journey is a testament to the power of breaking down barriers and pursuing one's dreams, regardless of gender. This book is a must-read for anyone seeking inspiration from a remarkable female protagonist." – <u>Little Infinite</u>

"Every so often a book comes along that hits just the right points for me, and Sara Read's *Principles of* (*E*)motion delighted me from the very first page....The plot had me hooked all the way through, and the writing style managed to tread the perfect line between the best contemporary book club fiction and more literary voices....We need more female protagonists with STEM gifts and ambitions. For Bonnie Garmus (*Lessons in Chemistry*) fans, this one is a must-read." – <u>Shelley Burbank</u>

"And that is what makes this book particularly great. Yes, it is messy. Yes, it can be convoluted at times. Yes, it may or may not feel particularly "swoon worthy" romantic at times....But all of this, to me, makes it feel all the more "real"....Very much recommended." – <u>Book Anon</u>

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## MIDNIGHT RUIN: Dark Olympus book 6 by Katee Robert

"This is where Katee Robert shows her brilliance as an author. I was expecting this story to go one way, and it veered off in the opposite direction, much to my delight. I loved the subverted expectations, and it kept me on my toes, trying to guess what would happen next....The stakes are higher than ever, and there is more than one close call that will have you holding your breath in fear and anticipation." – <u>Subjectify Media</u>

"I can't be trusted to be objective and balanced when the book in question made me gasp repeatedly and then exclaim at my partner that the book was SO GOOD. This book gave me so much Good Book Noise!" – <u>Smart Bitches Trashy Books</u>

*"Midnight Ruin* is another delightful installment in Katee Robert's *Dark Olympus* series. With each installment, I've loved the way the "world" of this reimagined Greek pantheon has come to life, with more and more new layers, and this one is no exception." – <u>Courtney Reads Romance</u>

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THE LAST TWELVE MILES by Erica Robuck

"Danger and intrigue will come to a head as Elizebeth and Marie play a deadly game of cat and mouse along the Florida coast. Fans of Kate Quinn, strong female protagonists, and history-based storytelling will enjoy this read." – **Booklist** 

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#### YOUR LONELY NIGHTS ARE OVER by Adam Sass

\* Notable Selection - ALA's Rainbow Booklist 2024!

\* Nominated for the Garden State Teen Book Awards!

"Sass weaves an intricate thriller that will keep readers guessing until the last few chapters...highly recommended." – *School Library Journal* 

"The severity of the stakes at hand rarely stifles the rapport of the duo who are giving gay joy and resolve in the face of serial murder. The spotlight on queer loneliness, precarious and fatal, makes the relationships and humor even more potent." – **Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books** 

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#### **HOUSE OF FRANK by Kay Synclaire**

"Wow. Just wow. A heartbreaking, magnificent debut that offers space to sit with grief—and reads like a warm hug." – Rebecca Thorne, bestselling author of *Can't Spell Treason Without Tea* 

"In *House of Frank*, Kay Synclaire balances the expansive experience of grief with the transformative impact of found family in a way that stirred me to my core. I will be thinking about this book for years to come. This heartwarming story is a gift to anyone searching for healing and home." – **Meg Hood**, content creator @megstearoom

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#### THE ART OF CATCHING FEELINGS by Alicia Thompson

\* The Athletic, <u>3 Novels to Read if You Love Romance and Baseball</u>

"This fun romance from Thompson (*With Love from Cold World*) is perfect for fans of Tessa Bailey." – *Library Journal* 

"Unfailingly sweet and surprisingly sexy at the same time, *The Art of Catching Feelings* is a home run for Alicia Thompson." – Jodi Picoult, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Mad Honey and Wish You Were Here

"I'm an Alicia Thompson fan first and a human second, and *The Art of Catching Feelings* is a shining example of why. Chris and Daphne's achingly vulnerable, hot slide into love was so masterfully crafted with intimacy and care that I was tempted to go right back to the first page once I finished (fine, and maybe I did). With her signature effortless prose and deeply insightful musings on life and love, this is Alicia Thompson at the top of her already spectacular game." – Jessica Joyce, USA Today bestselling author of You, with a View

"A soft and sexy riff on You've Got Mail, The Art of Catching Feelings delivers a beautifully layered look

at how intimacy blooms on and offline. I savored the bittersweetness of Alicia Thompson's expertly deployed angst. Whether or not you're a baseball fan, you'll find yourself rooting for Daphne and Chris from the moment of their one-of-a-kind meet-cute." – **Rosie Danan**, **USA Today bestselling author** of **Do Your Worst** 

"Reading an Alicia Thompson book always feels like watching the most elegant of baseball plays—the kind of utter mastery that seems, deceptively, like ease. Explosive, subtle, and quick-witted all at once, Alicia's prose is as sharp as her characters are human, and Chris and Daphne's romance is a stunning portrayal of finding genuine joy and partnership at our lowest points. I didn't think it was possible to love baseball more than I already did, but *The Art of Catching Feelings* manages to capture everything that makes this sport and this genre special: flawlessly executed fundamentals, an impeccable balance of tension and release, and breath-stealing moments that stick in your chest long after the game, or book, ends." – **KT Hoffman, author of** *The Prospects* 

"On the leaderboard of the handsome, sad baseball men of fiction, Chris Kepler would rank near the very top. Alicia has such a gift for writing characters who are hilarious, thorny, (horny), and fully human—which is also really what baseball's about. *Feelings* is a love letter to the game and the patience and transitions it demands, as well as a love story between characters learning how to find themselves as they find one another. It's as steamy as a day game in August and as exciting as the final out of a world championship. In short, I loved it." – **KD Casey, author of the Unwritten Rules series** 

## CAN'T SPELL TREASON WITHOUT TEA by Rebecca Thorne

\* CAN'T SPELL TREASON WITHOUT TEA is a May 2024 LibraryReads Pick!

## THE UNIVERSE IN 100 COLORS by Tyler Thrasher & Terry Mudge

"What a delight! A book that keeps its science as vibrant as its photographs, filled with colorful facts, deep insights, and shiny humor." – **Theodore Gray, author of** *New York Times* bestselling series, *The Elements* 

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#### HAVE YOU SEEN THIS GIRL by Nita Tyndall

\* LGBTQ Reads, Most Anticipated LGBTQ+ Young Adult, January – June 2024

"Haunting and propulsive. The mystery will keep you guessing, but it's the heartfelt rendering of Sid—a teenager struggling to escape the shadow of their father's sins—that will keep you turning those pages until the very last." – **Caleb Roehrig, author of** *Last Seen Leaving* and *White Rabbit* 

"I read Nita Tyndall's *Have You Seen This Girl* in one breathless sitting; it's that good. A vivid setting, spare yet evocative prose, and a captivating mystery make this book shine, but its beating, bleeding heart is brave Sid, a terrific protagonist whose hopes and fears feel so real and urgent that you root for them right from the first page. Thrilling, moving, and quietly devastating." – **Claire Legrand**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Sawkill Girls* 

"Taut, chilling and unforgettable, *Have You Seen This Girl* is a must-read thriller, as beautifully written and romantic as it is terrifying. I loved every page." – **Tom Ryan, award winning author of** *Keep This to Yourself* 

"[A] tightly plotted true crime–informed murder mystery....Tyndall strikes an emotionally resonant chord via tender explorations of queer romance." – *Publishers Weekly* 

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## LONELY HEARTS DAY by Kasie West

*"Lonely Hearts Day* is exactly why I always enjoy reading Kasie West books. They always leave my heart happy and with a big stupid smile on my face. It is filled with fun and fluffy moments that any contemporary YA reader can devour and love. It is a story I won't soon forget and once I started, was hard to put down." – <u>Susan Loves Books</u>