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APRIL 2018

Back Room/Front Page: April come she will

Seems like we've been waiting a long time for spring, and we didn't even have to suffer through any Nor'easters! Today was one of those nice hopeful days, the kind that wakes you up and motivates you.

We're motivated by exciting events we have planned for the month, starting with the **DMACC Celebration of the Literary Arts**. National and Iowa writers and poets will be visiting the campuses for three days, and we will again be hosting readings and book signings. This will feature student writers as well, so we may be able to meet a future bestselling author! Details can be found on Page 2.

The **Des Moines Public Library's AVID series** starts with month, with readings scheduled this month for the first three authors. We will be on hand to sell their books, and will also have copies in the store for sale prior to the events. You can check out the full schedule here: <https://dmpl.org/avid>

Independent Bookstore Day is April 28! Stop by to celebrate with us and check out the exclusive merchandise, enjoy some refreshments, and show your love for indie booksellers. We're still working on this, so stay tuned.

Spring is also when publishers release a lot of new titles, and we'll be putting the latest reads out every week – stop in and see what's new!

Thanks for reading,
Alice

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Sunday, April 1
CLOSED FOR EASTER

Monday, April 2
6:30 p.m.
**DMACC Celebration of the
Literary Arts**
Student Readings at 6:30
National Authors and Poets at 7:00
Pam Houston
Justin Torres
Matthew Olzmann
Jennifer Chang

Wednesday, April 4
5:00 p.m.
Book Launch
Carol Bodensteiner
Simple Truth

Saturday, April 28
Independent Bookstore Day

March Best Sellers:

These were the Top Ten sellers in our store last month - see what everyone's reading!

1. *Russian Roulette*, Michael Isikoff
2. *She Persisted Around the World*, Chelsea Clinton
3. *The Power*, Naomi Alderman
4. *After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again)*, Dan Santat
5. *A Wrinkle in Time*, Madeleine L'Engle
6. *The Future is Female: A Journal*
7. *Little Fires Everywhere*, Celeste Ng
8. *Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead
9. *The Great Alone*, Kristin Hannah
10. *On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons* Timothy Snyder



CELEBRATE!

national
poetry month

Read a book of poetry Memorize a poem
Revisit a poem **Take a poem out to lunch**
Recite a poem to family and friends *Buy a
book of poems for your library Start a poetry reading group*
Add verse to your email signature

**Monday
April 2
6:30 p.m.**



DMACC Celebration of the Literary Arts

One of our favorite events here at Beaverdale Books! Student winners of the DMACC Creative Writing Contest will begin reading their work at 6:30 p.m. After that, enjoy a fantastic lineup of national poets and fiction writers. Get here early to get a seat! Featuring:

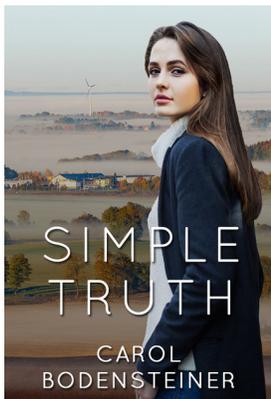
Pam Houston's (University of California, Davis) most recent book is *Contents May Have Shifted*. She's the author of two short story collections, *Cowboys Are My Weakness* and *Waltzing the Cat*, the novel, *Sight Hound*, and a collection of essays, *A Little More About Me*. Her stories have been in *Best American Short Stories*, *The O. Henry Awards*, *The 2013 Pushcart Prize*, and *Best American Short Stories of the Century*. She's the winner of the Western States Book Award, the WILLA award for contemporary fiction, and multiple teaching awards. She lives on a ranch at 9,000 feet in Colorado near the headwaters of the Rio Grande.

Justin Torres' (University of California, Los Angeles) first novel, *We The Animals*, a national best seller has been translated into fifteen languages and is currently being adapted into a feature film. He has published work in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's Granta*, *Tin House*, *The Washington Post*, *Glimmertrain*, *The Guardian* and *The Advocate*. The National Book Foundation named him one of 2012's 5 Under 35.

Matthew Olzmann (Warren Wilson MFA Program) was born in Detroit, Michigan. He is the author of *Contradictions in the Design* (Alice James Books, 2016) and *Mezzanines* (Alice James Books, 2013), winner of the Kundiman Poetry Prize. His poems, stories, and essays have appeared in *Kenyon Review*, *New England Review*, *Necessary Fiction*, *Brevity*, *Southern Review* and elsewhere. Olzmann has received fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and Kundiman, among others. He lives in North Carolina with his wife, the poet Vievee Francis.

Jennifer Chang (George Washington University) was born in New Jersey. She earned her MFA and PhD from the University of Virginia. She is the author of two books of poetry, *The History of Anonymity* and *Some Say the Lark*. She co-chairs the advisory board of Kundiman, a nonprofit organization that supports Asian American literature. She lives in Washington, D.C.

Wednesday
April 4
5:00 p.m.



Book Launch

Carol Bodensteiner

Simple Truth

Simple Truth is the thought-provoking story of a young woman who lands a career-making opportunity only to discover her client may be exploiting immigrant workers. With each revelation, she comes to question not only the client but also her own prejudices and her career. Ultimately she must come to grips with what she's willing to risk to help someone else.

About the Author...

Carol Bodensteiner is an Iowa writer who finds inspiration in the people, places and history of the state. After a 30-year career in public relations, Carol turned to creative writing because her mother kept urging her to tell their family stories. That urging led to her popular memoir *Growing Up Country, Memories of an Iowa Farm Girl*. Another family story inspired her first novel, World War I-era *Go Away Home*. In *Simple Truth*, Carol draws from her years in public relations to craft a story of risk, retaliation, and reward. Since she didn't set out to write books, what she has to say at this point is, "Thanks, Mom."

It's Better in Beaverdale

Come to Beaverdale the last Thursday of the month from 5-8 pm and enjoy what the local businesses have to offer! Enjoy food & drink specials, live music, promotions and other events. Come and enjoy our beautiful new streetscape!



April 26

**20% off
Poetry**

Check out **It's Better in Beaverdale** on Facebook to see what's happening each month!

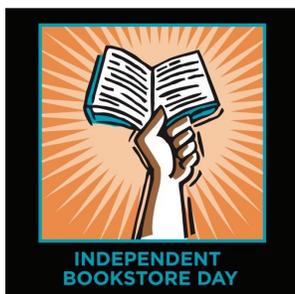
FUNDRAISE SUNDAYS

If your group or organization is looking for a quick and easy way to raise money, give us a call. We will dedicate a Sunday to your cause and donate 20% of the day's sales! Whether your group is a PTA, church youth group, sports team or other charity, we can help. All you need to do is publicize the event and get your supporters to come to the store that day to purchase books, and we'll do the rest!

CALL US NOW AT 279-5400 to set up a day to raise funds for your cause!

**Sunday Store hours:
Noon – 4:00 p.m.**

Saturday
April 28



Independent Bookstore Day!

Independent Bookstore Day (IBD) is a celebration of books, readers and indie bookselling that started in California in 2014; it is modeled after the extremely successful Record Store Day.

To show their support for indies, publishers produce unique, limited-edition books and literary art pieces that are only available at participating bookstores on Bookstore Day. You can't get them before. You can't get them online, and you most certainly can't get them at Target.

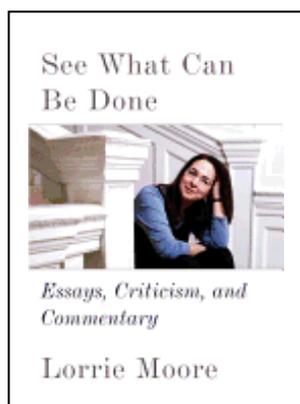
Now in its fourth year, IBD has become a nationwide party as big and varied as the country itself. In 2017 more than 400 stores participated.

We'll have activities, sales and specials going on all day – come see us!



TAKE A LOOK AT OUR HANDSELLING FAVORITES WITH A STRONG MIDWEST REGIONAL APPEAL

SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE by Lorrie Moore

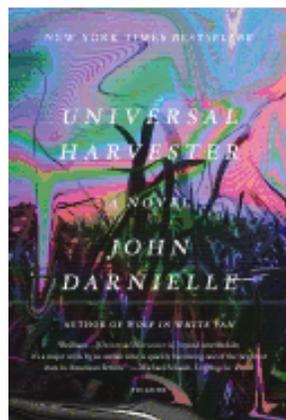


"Acclaimed fiction writer Moore has compiled her nonfiction writings into a marvelous collection...a window onto the trajectory of both late 20th-century American culture and Moore's development as a writer. Throughout, her chief virtue as a critic is shown to be a sympathetic, generous eye...a boon to any lover of smart cultural criticism." --*Publishers Weekly*

More than fifty essays, reviews, and pieces of cultural criticism by one of America's most revered and admired novelists who has been parsing the political, artistic, and media idiom for the last three decades. *See What Can Be Done* ranges from reviews of novels by Margaret Atwood and Nora Ephron, to an essay on Ezra Edelman's 2016 O.J. Simpson documentary, to commentary on the continuing unequal state of race in America and the shocking GOP.

Lorrie Moore is the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of English at Vanderbilt University. She is the recipient of the Irish Times International Prize for Literature, a Lannan Foundation fellowship, as well as the PEN/Malamud Award and the Rea Award for her achievement in the short story. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

UNIVERSAL HARVESTER by John Darnielle



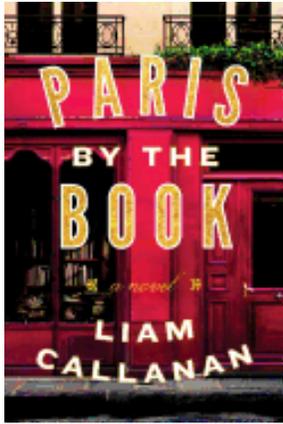
"Brilliant...Darnielle is a master at building suspense, and his writing is propulsive and urgent; it's nearly impossible to stop reading. . . [Universal Harvester is] beyond worthwhile; it's a major work by an author who is quickly becoming one of the brightest stars in American fiction." —Michael Schaub, *Los Angeles Times*

"Few books in recent memory have mastered the Midwestern uncanny as well as John Darnielle's strange and lyrical *Universal Harvester*...Like Midwestern cornfields, this book haunts in many ways." --*Chicago Review of Books*

It's the late '90s, and you can find Jeremy at the Video Hut in Nevada, Iowa. Suddenly, customers begin complaining that there are mysterious movies on the tapes they've rented. As Jeremy and those around him are absorbed into tapes, they become part of another story—one that unfolds years into the past and years into the future, part of an impossible search for something someone once lost that they would do anything to regain.

John Darnielle is the author of *Wolf in White Van*, which was a *New York Times* bestseller, National Book Award nominee, and widely hailed as one of the best novels of the year. He is the writer, composer, guitarist, and vocalist for the band the Mountain Goats. He lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his wife and sons.

PARIS BY THE BOOK
by Liam Callanan

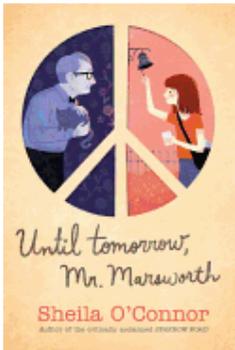


"This charming and poignant novel made me fall in love with Paris and all things French. Oh, to own a bookstore in any arrondissement! Within this love story there are reflections on the mystery of writing, the solace of reading, the ties that bind and those that don't, plus the joy of *The Red Balloon*, to name but a few of the pleasures of *Paris by the Book*."—Jane Hamilton, author of *The Excellent Lombards* and *A Map of the World*

Leah Eady and her two daughters are left shaken when her husband, Robert, disappears. He leaves behind plane tickets to Paris and a half finished manuscript. Leah uproots her family to Paris in search of him and buys a struggling English language bookstore, hoping to lure her husband back...

Liam Callanan is a novelist, teacher and journalist, whose first novel, *The Cloud Atlas*, was a finalist for an Edgar Award. Winner of George W. Hunt, S.J., Prize for Excellence in Journalism, Arts and Letters, Liam has published in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Slate*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The San Francisco Chronicle*, and has recorded numerous essays for public radio. He's taught for the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and lives in Wisconsin with his wife and daughters.

**UNTIL TOMORROW,
MR. MARSWORTH**
by Sheila O'Connor



"Moving and thought-provoking for middle-grade readers."
—*Kirkus Reviews*

Eleven-year-old Reenie Kelly is Lake Liberty's newest paper girl. When one customer, Mr. Marsworth, the town recluse, won't answer his doorbell to meet her, Reenie begins to leave him letters. Slowly, the two become pen pals, striking up the most unlikely of friendships. Reenie learns Mr. Marsworth is a staunch pacifist and soon enough the two devise a plan to keep her brother from enlisting in the Vietnam War.

Sheila O'Connor is the critically acclaimed author of *Sparrow Road*, winner of the International Reading Award, and *Keeping Safe the Stars*, as well as the adult novels *Tokens of Grace* and *Where No Gods Came*, winner of the Minnesota Book Award. Sheila is a professor in the MFA program at Hamline University, where she also serves as the fiction editor for *Water~Stone Review*.

Connect with us!



OVER
2100
LIKES!



OVER
2300
FOLLOWERS!

Just hit CTRL + click above to like or follow us!

Tuesday, April 3 @ 7:00 p.m.
Beaverdale Writers Group

Hunter's Picks Book Club
Tuesday, April 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
Exit West
by Mohsin Hamid

Environmental Book Club
Saturday, April 21 @ 10:00 a.m.
Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future
by Ashlee Vance

Urbandale United Church of Christ
Monday, April 16 @ 6:00 p.m.
Homegoing
by Yaa Gyasi

Monday, April 23 @ 6:00 p.m.
Mind-Body-Spirit Book Club
Desert Pilgrim
by Mary Swander

Tuesday, April 24 @ 7:00 p.m.
Mystery Book Club
Heartbreak Hotel: An Alex Delaware Novel
by Jonathan Kellerman