

CONVENIENCE

COMMUNITY

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The Browser

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www.beaverdalebooks.com

JANUARY 2022

Back Room/Front Page: Welcoming 2022!

The weather outside is frightful, but our books are just delightful. Oops, I'm still singing holiday songs. And that is because we had a great holiday thanks to our loyal customers who shopped local and gifted their family and friends with books! As we look ahead to 2022, we are more resolved than ever to continue giving our customers personalized service plus a wonderful assortment of books for every type of reader. January is a great time to crawl under a warm blanket and enjoy the wintery weather with a good book!

Join a Book Club or Start Your Own!

Share your thoughts about the books you read at a monthly book club. The store's Mystery Book Club welcomes new members. Their next meeting is on Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. If you are already a member of a book club, give us a call to let us know how many books you will need, and we will give you a 10% discount on that month's title.

Check Out Our Iowa Author Wall

As an independent bookstore, we take pride in our vast offering of works by Iowa authors. In fact, we have books by more than 500 authors! From fiction to nonfiction, memoirs to poetry, there is sure to be a book of interest to you. Thank you for shopping local and consider buying from a local author as well.

Congratulations, Hunter!

Our store manager, Hunter Gillum, has won James Patterson's Holiday Book Store Bonus! The prolific and best-selling author once again pledged \$250,000 to fund this program through the American Booksellers Association, which awarded the funds to 500 booksellers in \$500 increments.

Save the date!

The DSM Book Festival will be held on Saturday, March 26 and Beaverdale Books will once again be the official bookseller. Mark your calendar and we will keep you updated on the authors and programs to be featured.

Thanks for reading and stay safe,
Alice

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 22 @ 2:00 PM
Meet the Authors: Catherine Schaff-
Stump & Doug Engstrom
*The Wrath of Horus &
Corporate Gunslinger*

Wednesday, January 26 @ 6:30 PM
Meet the Author: Julie Stone
He's With the Band

Wednesday, February 2 @ 6:30 PM
Meet the Author: Heather Gudenkauf
The Overnight Guest

Saturday, February 12, 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Local Author Fair

STORE HOURS:
Monday – Friday
10:00 – 5:30
Saturday
10:00 – 5:00
Sunday
12:00 – 4:00

Wondering What WE Are Reading?

A joy of being a bookseller is the opportunity to share the good books we have just read. We love to allow our customers time and space to browse, but we also LOVE to share our recent reads.

Feel free to ask for recommendations the next time you stop in or discover [what we are reading](#) on our website.



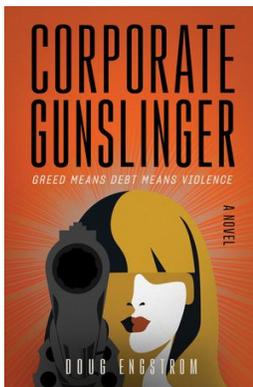
December Top Ten Best Sellers at Beaverdale Books

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

1. *Call Us What We Carry*, Amanda Gorman
2. *Atlas of the Heart*, Brene Brown
3. *Cy's Perfect Day: The Iowa State Way*, John Walters*
4. *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*, Nikole Hannah-Jones*
5. *The Lincoln Highway*, Amor Towles
6. *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, Anthony Doerr
7. *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse*, Charlie Mackesy
8. *The Storyteller: Tales of Life and Music*, Dave Grohl
9. *The Sentence*, Louise Erdrich
10. *Where the Deer and the Antelope Play: The Pastoral Observations of One Ignorant American Who Loves to Walk Outside*, Nick Offerman

*Iowa Author

**Saturday
January 22
2:00 p.m.**



Meet the Authors: Catherine Schaff-Stump & Doug Engstrom

The Wrath of Horus

For Gregorius Klaereon, his trial with the god Horus isn't about winning or losing. It's about the fight. His temperament aggressive, his anger on display for all to see, Greg is a direct contrast to his brother Marcellus, the perfect Lord Klaereon, the prophet who can do no wrong. How Marc tolerates Greg is a mystery to Greg himself, especially as Greg knows deep down that he is responsible for the deaths of his parents. On the eve of the Klaereon birthday celebration, two days before Greg's trial, Greg fights with his cousin Flavia Borgia, and the two of them activate a reality shard which sends them, Marc, and others to the Abyss. There, they are judged and scattered throughout the nine circles. Greg, alone, discovers his Trial was the least of his worries as he is confronted by Set, the god of destruction, in a desolate landscape where his shadow powers no longer work. While Greg endures, certain his rightful punishment has found him, Marc and the others scramble to reunite, rescue Greg, and make their way to the Golden City of the banished Egyptian pantheon, desperate to find a way home.

Corporate Gunslinger

Doug Engstrom imagines a future all too terrifying--and all too possible--in this eerie, dystopic speculative fiction debut about corporate greed, debt slavery, and gun violence that is as intense and dark as Stephen King's *The Long Walk*.

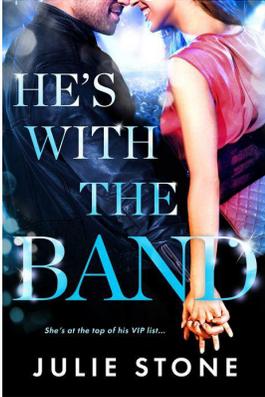
Like many Americans in the middle of the 21st century, aspiring actress Kira Clark is in debt. She financed her drama education with loans secured by a "lifetime services contract." If she defaults, her creditors will control every aspect of her life. Behind on her payments and facing foreclosure, Kira reluctantly accepts a large signing bonus to become a corporate gunfighter for TKC Insurance. After a year of training, she will take her place on the dueling fields that have become the final, lethal stop in the American legal system.

About the authors...

Cath Schaff-Stump writes fantasy for children and adults. She writes funny stories, dark stories, and everything in between. She is the author of the Klaereon Scroll series and the Abigail Rath Versus series. Cath lives and works in Iowa. During the day, she teaches English at a local community college.

Doug Engstrom has been a farmer's son, a US Air Force officer, a technical writer, a computer support specialist, and a business analyst, as well as being a writer of speculative fiction. He lives near Des Moines, Iowa with his wife, Catherine.

**Wednesday
January 26
6:30 p.m.**



Meet the Author: Julie Stone

He's With the Band

After twenty-three years of marriage to an utter jackass and beige décor as far as the eye can see, Campbell Cavett is now divorced. Officially. But how did she lose herself for all these years? Somehow, she went from being a bold, starry-eyed young groupie who followed Golden Tiger on tour to...snapping photos of snot-nosed kids for their Pinterest moms at the local Portrait Hut.

But she takes her Divorce Party one bottle of Pinot Grigio too far and wakes to discover she's quit her boring-ass job, arranged to sell her house, and has tickets to the Golden Tiger reunion show. Now Campbell's on tour as the official photographer of her favorite band and living the life she's always dreamed. But backstage access means that she's about to discover a whole lot. Not just about herself, but about a blast from her past who looks way hotter than he has any right to twenty-plus years later.

About the author...

Julie Stone was born a child of the seventies complete with rainbow shirts, bell bottoms and a belief in unicorns. All that whim and whimsy ushered her into the wonderful world of being a teenager in the eighties, something she has a hard time letting go of most days.

She graduated with a degree in English from the University of Iowa (go Hawks!) and also earned herself a husband. She embarked on all the regular, boring grown up things that come with age. Until the magical world of motherhood brought along a new chapter of joy, terror, and sleepless nights. But also, nap time. Suddenly there was time to go back to her creative calling and write. Through raising two boys, several moves around the Midwest, those stories and that keyboard kept her company and kept her, relatively sane. (Depending on who you ask.) Currently settled in Iowa, she continues to pursue her love of the written word, her cat and "sMothering" the three boys in her life.

**Wednesday
February 2
6:30 p.m.**



Meet the Author: Heather Gudenkauf

The Overnight Guest

A woman receives an unexpected visitor during a deadly snowstorm. She thought she was alone. True crime writer Wylie Lark doesn't mind being snowed in at the isolated farmhouse where she's retreated to write her new book. A cozy fire, complete silence. It would be perfect, if not for the fact that decades earlier, at this very house, two people were murdered in cold blood and a girl disappeared without a trace.

As the storm worsens, Wylie finds herself trapped inside the house, haunted by the secrets contained within its walls -- haunted by secrets of her own. Then she discovers a small child in the snow just outside. Bringing the child inside for warmth and safety, she begins to search for answers. But soon it becomes clear that the farmhouse isn't as isolated as she thought, and someone is willing to do anything to find them.

About the author...

Heather was born in Wagner, South Dakota, the youngest of six children. At one month of age, her family returned to the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota where her father was employed as a guidance counselor and her mother as a school nurse. At the age of three, her family moved to Iowa, where she grew up. Having been born with a profound unilateral hearing loss (there were many evenings when Heather and her father made a trip to the bus barn to look around the school bus for her hearing aids that she often conveniently would forget on the seat beside her).

Heather tended to use books as a retreat, would climb into the toy box that her father's students from Rosebud made for the family with a pillow, blanket, and flashlight, close the lid, and escape the world around her. Heather became a voracious reader and the seed of becoming a writer was planted.

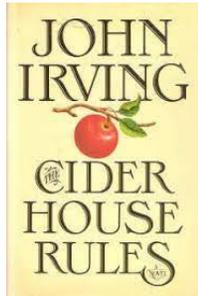
Heather lives in Iowa with her family and a very spoiled German Shorthaired Pointer named Lolo. In her free time, Heather enjoys spending time with her family, reading, swimming, and hiking.



Iowa Public Radio - Talk of Iowa Book Club

Iowa Public Radio recently announced the next novels for the Talk of Iowa Book Club. Each book was carefully selected by host Charity Nebbe, highlighting culturally relevant topics from a diverse group of authors with Iowa connections.

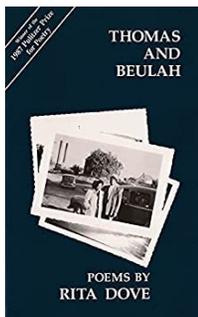
The book club meets on Tuesdays, every other month, during Talk of Iowa. They are excited to share a mix of old favorites and new publications with you for 2022. [Download and print the reading list](#), grab your copies to read along and join the bi-monthly meetings!



February 15: *The Cider House Rules*

By John Irving

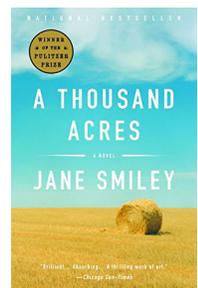
Set in rural Maine pre- and post-WWII, *The Cider House Rules* tells the story of Dr. Wilbur Larch — saint and obstetrician, ether addict and abortionist, founder and director of the orphanage in the town of St. Cloud's. It is also the story of Dr. Larch's favorite orphan, Homer Wells.



April 12: *Thomas and Beulah*

By Rita Dove

This collection of connected, narrative poems tells the semi-fictionalized story of the author's maternal grandparents — a Black family in the predominantly white Midwest — and the sometimes contradictory experiences and perspectives of men and women within a traditional American marriage.



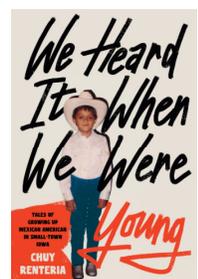
June 14: *A Thousand Acres*

By Jane Smiley

A successful Iowa farmer decides to divide his farm among his three daughters. When the youngest objects, she is cut out of his will. This sets off a chain of events that brings dark truths to light and explodes long-suppressed emotions.

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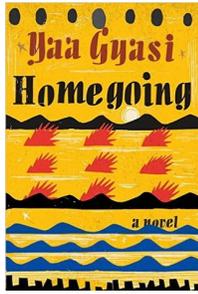
August 16: A "banned book" chosen by you! [Book club members can vote](#) for one of the many books currently facing controversy in Iowa and across the nation. The winner will be announced on the first episode of Talk of Iowa Book Club on February 15, 2022, at 10 a.m.



October 11: *We Heard It When We Were Young*

By Chuy Renteria

A first-generation Mexican American boy is torn between cultures: between immigrant parents trying to acclimate to Midwestern life and a town that could be supportive or disturbingly antagonistic. Renteria's story looks past the public celebrations of diversity to dive into the private tensions of a community reflecting a changing American landscape.



December 20: Homegoing

By Yaa Gyasi

Ghana, eighteenth century: two half-sisters are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned and sold into slavery. Stories of their children and descendants unfold throughout subsequent chapters.

If you miss the meeting, or want to catch up on past discussions, podcasts are available [here](#). The Talk of Iowa Book Club podcast is sponsored by Western Home Communities and Cultivating Compassion: The Dr. Deming Foundation. Listen to Talk of Iowa weekdays at 10 a.m. on all IPR News and News/Studio One signals or online at iowapublicradio.org. Tune in and join in!

Speakers

[NICOLE BAART](#)

[REKHA BASU](#)

[LAURA BELIN](#)

[PERRY BEEMAN](#)

[VENISE BERRY](#)

[LAUREN BITTRICH](#)

[ROMEN BORSELLINO](#)

[DOUGLAS BURNS](#)

[RACHELLE CHASE](#)

[COURTNEY CROWDER](#)

[JOHN DINGES](#)

[TODD DORMAN](#)

[ALLISON ENGEL](#)

[MARGARET ENGEL](#)

[DEB ENGLE](#)

[RANDY EVANS](#)

[ARNOLD GARSON](#)

[SCOTT GARSON](#)

[ANN GARVIN](#)

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[KYLE MUNSON](#)

[CHUCK OFFENBURGER](#)

[PERRY BEEMAN](#)

[CALEB RAINEY](#)

[LEE ROOD](#)

[TY RUSHING](#)

THE OKOBOJI WRITERS' RETREAT SEPTEMBER 19, 20 and 21, 2022

Mark Your Calendar!

Award-winning authors, journalists, playwrights, teachers, editors, memoir-writers, and storytellers are all committed to helping you realize your goals as a writer. The Okoboji Writers' Retreat, 2022, will be held on the campus of the Lakeside Laboratory on West Lake Okoboji, Iowa. For *all* skill levels. There is a story in everyone. Let them help you find yours.

The Lakeside campus is noteworthy for both its natural areas and its buildings. The natural areas are diverse and include prairies, wetlands, and forests. Eleven of Lakeside's 37 buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition to several returning speakers from the first Okoboji Writers' Retreat, there will be a mix of veteran and new speakers added regularly. Check the [website](#) for updates.



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Tell your friends about us!

If you know someone who loves to read, invite them to visit our web site and sign up for our monthly newsletter! It's a great way to stay up to date with best-selling books, fascinating author visits, and other fun bookstore happenings!

Make New Friends, Discover New Books – Join a Monthly Book Club!

Hunter's Classics

Tuesday, January 11 @ 7:00 p.m.

Bridge of San Luis Rey

by Thornton Wilder

Beaverdale Book Browsers

Thursday, January 13 6:30 p.m.

Below Zero

By C. J. Box

Books and Bon Bons

Thursday, January 20 @ 7:00 p.m.

Bottled Goods

by Sophie Van Llewyn

(At capacity.)

Mystery Book Club

Tuesday, January 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Huntress

Kate Quinn

(New members are welcome.)

Our monthly book discussions are now being held in the store. Masks required.