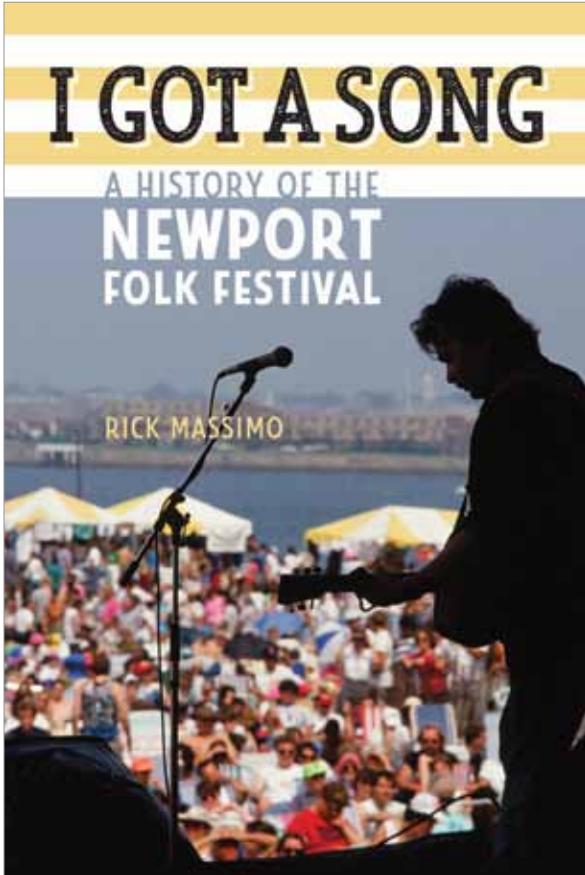


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JULY 2017

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Thursday July 27, 2017

I Got a Song: A History of the Newport Folk Festival by Rick Massimo

6:30pm reception with the What Cheer DJs
7:00pm reading and book signing

Relive sonic history at this multi-sensory book and listening event! What Cheer DJs will spin records of Newport Folk Festival artists past and present at this author event for former Providence Journal music critic Rick Massimo's book *I Got a Song: A History of the Newport Folk Festival*. Books AND records will be available for purchase at the event.

The first-ever book exclusively devoted to the history of the Newport Folk Festival, **I Got a Song** documents the trajectory of an American musical institution that began more than a half-century ago and continues to influence our understanding of folk music today. Rick Massimo's research is complemented by extensive interviews with the people who were there and who made it all happen: the festival's producers, some of its biggest stars, and people who huddled in the fields to witness moments—like Bob Dylan's famous electric performance in 1965—that live on in musical history.

RICK MASSIMO grew up in Providence, RI, and covered the Newport Folk Festival for nine years for the Providence Journal. He is also the author of **A Walking Tour of the Georgetown Set**. He lives with his wife in Washington, D.C.

WHAT CHEER DJs (Chris and Jennifer Daltry) return to Wayland Square after moving What Cheer Records + Vintage, their wildly popular shop, from a physical location to the internet. The force behind the ever popular Rock and Roll Yard Sale, What Cheer DJs are available for events of all sizes. [facebook.com/WhatCheerDJs/](https://www.facebook.com/WhatCheerDJs/)

BOOKS ON THE SQUARE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Coming Saturday, September 23, 2017

STAFF PICKS

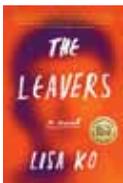


Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall (Candlewick)

Local author Gaia Cornwall has written a fabulous book on conquering your fears. I

immediately fell in love with her beautiful art! Jabari is unsure of the diving platform and you can see how he works through this with a little help from his Papa. True story: a customer came in and told us her daughter was taking swimming lessons with PODS, and she conquered her fear of jumping in the water through reading Jabari night after night! A great read and signed copies available!

- Robin Gross



The Leavers by Lisa Ko (Algonquin Books)

What did I like best about this book? Tough to choose given the number of positives. Lisa Ko's empathy for the characters was moving

and their circumstances were so believable. The immigration issue like any other has two sides, but reading this story makes snap judgements hard. Not to say all is grim. There is humor and irony, too. Readers can feel the plight of adopting parents in the suburbs as well as those struggling to survive with a salary earned in a nail salon. The ability of people to reinvent themselves might be the heart of this story. That is beautifully tempered by our longing for the familiar. This is one I would happily read again.

- Dora Truong



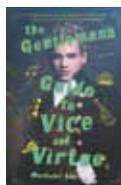
You Don't Have To Say You Love Me by Sherman Alexie (Little, Brown and Company)

This memoir by Alexie is not so much his own story, but rather an elaborate ode to his mother, and her influence then and now on his life and work. While it not only touches on the expected markers in one's life; in Alexie's case this mostly means the grief and poverty that permeated his life until he managed to physically, if not mentally, escape, it also shows how having a powerful anchor in one's life can give it direction and focus, even if the anchor itself is a bit unsteady. Told in short-story-like chapters and poetry, this gives an unflinching window into where Alexie came from, where he has gone, and the main thread in his mother that ties all of it together.

- Andrew Devrell

After the death of his mother, Alexie turns his memories and emotions into an intense, and complicated memoir that only Alexie could write. He uses prose and poetry to convey the complicated bonds of family amid addiction and trauma, with compassion, humor, and love. Admitting that he may be an unreliable narrator of his own life, he writes of her life, and their relationship with brutal honesty. This is a heartbreaking, beautiful, and emotionally raw memoir. And, it is simply mesmerizing!

- Susan Schlesinger



A Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue by Mackenzi Lee (Katherine Tegen Books)

Mackenzi Lee's new book for has everything you could possibly want: intrigue, adventure, pirates, highwaymen, scandal, love, all on an European Tour. Follow Monty, his best friend, and his sister as they have what is possibly the worst vacation ever, starting with nudity in Paris and robbery on the way to finishing school. The story is alternately fun, heartbreaking, and breathless. You will fall in love with all three of this perfectly crafted characters and maybe even learn what a panacea is. But only maybe. (Teens ages 13-17)

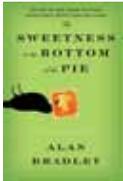
- Francesgrace Ferland

SHELF TALKERS

Focus on Fiction – Mystery

Mysteries, thrillers, and crime novels have been a mainstay of fiction for decades. And it's no big mystery as to why: these books are often fun with fast paced plots that allow the reader to escape into a world with danger and intrigue while trying to discover secrets.

And while writers such as James Patterson, John Grisham and Louise Penny dominate this genre, there are many more voices telling inventive stories. A few that our staff has enjoyed recently:



The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie

by Alan Bradley

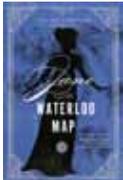
"A cute, gentle mystery for a young reader or just a person who doesn't need a mystery to be disturbing or dark" - Emily



The Zig Zag Girl

by Elly Griffiths

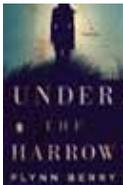
"A story of magicians as WW2 special ops soldiers... A fun tale of magic and murder."
- Jennifer



Jane and the Waterloo Map

by Stephanie Barron

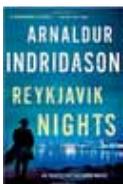
"This series impressed me so much, I'm about three books away from finishing the dozen! Ms. Barron does a superb job of recreating Jane Austen's world for mystery fans" - Dora



Under the Harrow

by Flynn Berry

"A powerful psychological thriller. A complex and compelling tale that will keep you spellbound" – Susan



Reykjavik Nights

by Arnaldur Indridason

"A fantastic prequel to the Erlander series and a great way to meet this fantastic character!"
- Jennifer

Dennis Lehane

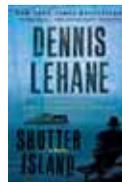
Dennis Lehane's visit to WGBH this spring was a home coming of sorts. Born in Boston in 1965, he had tried a variety of jobs, always believing writing was the one thing at which he might succeed. Twelve books, four movies and even more television shows later he can rest assured. He wrote his first one in 1994. Will he ever have time to look back?



The first five or so centered around a couple from Dorchester who had tough and troubled lives. Together they ran a detective operation encountering some dark examples of how badly people can go wrong. Lehane writes the opposite of "cozies." Rather than go through his amazing list of books I will recommend Wikipedia for a complete list. **Mystic River** was directed by Clint Eastwood in 2003 so you get the idea.



I was early to this literary feast since mysteries set in Boston were a favorite of mine. Recommending one to a mystery book group that used to meet at Books on the Square turned the group leader, Kate, into a fan as well. That's how she and I came to hear him at the Providence Public library all those years ago. He proved to be a remarkably down-to-earth, unassuming guy who said that his wife, who was a social worker, labored much harder than he did. How refreshing to hear such a demurral from an up and coming young author.



On the radio he spoke about living in California, how he hung around with a few other Boston ex-pats. He said he was reminded of his father who always spoke of his youth in Ireland with such nostalgia. Yet when offered the chance by his now successful son to get a second home the surprising response was something like what would I go back there for?



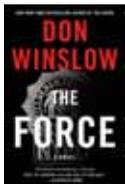
Now with two daughters growing up in the west coast sunshine he sounds like his father and yet he clearly respects his roots. When asked if he agreed with an SNL cast member who said Boston was the most racist city, Lehane didn't see that. Is there racism, of course, but the most seems a stretch. What a pleasure to hear someone who sounds like success only made him smarter.





INDIE NEXT LIST

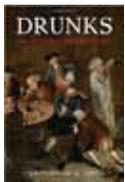
See what independent booksellers around the country are reading. Here are a few selections from the most recent Indie Bound Next List. These are all highly recommended and available now at Books on the Square.



The Force
by **Don Winslow**
(William Morrow)

"Denny Malone, veteran NYPD detective and leader of the elite Manhattan North Task Force, didn't start out as a dirty cop. Over the years, however, the odd payoff and favor became routine, and a talented and effective cop slid past the point of no return, stealing millions in money and drugs. As Winslow shows us, keeping citizens safe isn't always clean and easy work, but even Malone and his team's corruption is chump change compared to the real players behind the scenes who are busy rebuilding the city after the September 11 attacks. A gutsy and uncompromising look at the dark heartbeat of modern America."

- Patrick Millikin, The Poisoned Pen Bookstore, Scottsdale, AZ



Drunks: An American History
by **Christopher M. Finan**
(Beacon Press)

"The long and evolving history of alcoholism and corresponding sobriety movements in America is fascinating, for both its colorful characters and its complex interface with religion and the sciences. In Finan's astute, well-researched, and entertaining narrative, this story of sober drunks offers both understanding and insight into a critically important subject whose nature has long been occluded and subsumed in stigma."

- Kenny Brechner, Devaney Doak & Garrett Booksellers, Farmington, ME

BOOK CLUBS & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Book clubs and discussion groups are free and open to the public. Monthly book club selections will be discounted 10%.

HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

7/10 @ 7pm **Petropolis**, Anya Ulinich

8/7 @ 7pm **Casting Lots**,
Susan Silverman

QUEER BOOK CLUB

7/19 @ 7pm **The Song of Achilles**,
Madeline Miller

8/16 @ 7pm **Lum**, Libby Ware

WATERMAN STREET DOG PARK MEETING

7/11 @ 7pm & 8/8 @ 7pm

KIDS' STORY HOURS

Mon., Babies 10:30-11:00

Sat., All Kids 11:00-11:30

Please Note: *Sometimes our story times are cancelled due to sickness or inclement weather. You're welcome to give us a call around 10am to find out if our story hours are still taking place.*

HOLD ON TO THOSE RECEIPTS!

In the months of January and July, bring in any of your old Books on the Square receipts and we will add them up and give you a store credit worth 10% of your purchases!

It's our way of thanking you for your business! Speak to an associate for details.