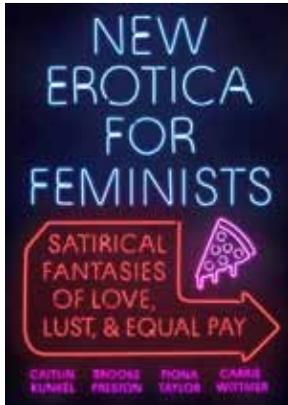


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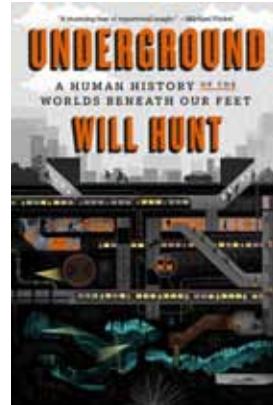
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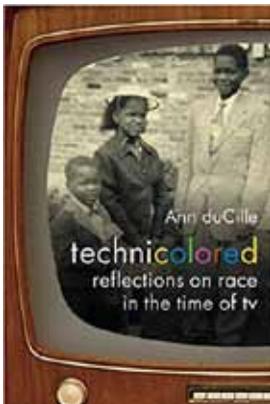


Thursday, February 7 at 7pm
Caitlin Kunkel

In discussion with Katie Hughes-Pucci



Thursday, February 21 at 7pm
Will Hunt

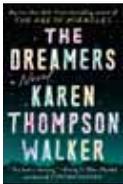


Friday, February 22 at 7pm
Ann duCille



Saturday, February 23 at 4pm
Padma Venkatraman
& Elly Swartz

STAFF PICKS



The Dreamers

by Karen Thompson Walker
(Random House)

The Dreamers is a beautiful novel, set in a town where you feel at ease. But the beginning of the novel soon changes this feeling, when college students start falling asleep and not waking up. Slowly, more and more students are affected by this sleeping spell. The news spreads out of their town into the rest of the state, and the rest of the country—everyone knows about the sleepy college town that is ACTUALLY putting people to sleep. The narrative shifts between multiple characters, where we meet a husband and his newlywed wife and baby, the students who are quarantined who were affected first, and a little girl whose family has been preparing for the end of the world. Each of these characters approaches the threat differently – based on what they know or have heard about it. Do they continue their daily routines or alter them drastically to stay safe? What is the cause of the sleeping spell? Why did it start with students at college? What exactly do they dream about – if they dream? I think about dreams differently after reading this book, and how each person has their own fears and hopes and how it all affects dreaming. For fans of Walker's other novel, *The Age of Miracles*, if you're looking for a love story about dreams and the dreamers—this one is for you.

- Sallie D. Mazzur



Fire and Blood

by George RR Martin
(Bantam)

While the long wait for the next installment in the Song of Ice and Fire series continues, there is this prequel history to digest in the meantime. Covering a period of 150 years, this first volume details both the sordid and soaring of the kings and queens and dragons who ruled the land of Westeros in the time before the main series begins. Written in an in-universe point of view, it contains asides and anecdotes galore, often directly addressing the reader in a way that makes you feel like you are reading secret history. Accompanying this intimate style are lovely illustrations by Doug Wheatley, that complement and elevate the text, to make this a great addition to any Game of Thrones fan's library.

- Andrew Devrell



My Sister the Serial Killer

by Oyinkan Braithwaite
(Doubleday)

My Sister the Serial Killer sums up its own plot in the title. The debut novel by Oyinkan Braithwaite centers on the lives of two sisters, one gorgeous and impetuous, the other solemn and overshadowed. Narrated by the latter, the story introduces us to the (sometimes darkly funny) heartbreak and frustrations that stem from having a serial killer in the family. While one woman lives her life without care, dating a string of men and casually disposing of them when she sees fit, her responsible older sister is left to literally clean up the mess and anticipate the consequences. Braithwaite paints a colorful and biting image of the ties that bind as the limits of sibling love are tested and the sisters discover who they really are, and how far they are willing to go for each other.

- Meghan Sullivan-Silva



How Long 'Til Black Future Month?

by N. K. Jemisin
(Orbit)

This stunning collection of speculative stories by N. K. Jemisin, Hugo Award-winning author of *The Broken Earth* trilogy, shatters any lingering preconceptions about what fantasy and science-fiction should be in the most glorious way: by showing us what it could be. More imaginative. More subversive. More diverse. People are just people—black, brown, android, superpredator... wait, what are people? Magic is free from its citadels: roaming the streets of New York City or simmering inside restaurants, storming across cloud-dragon skies and lurking within the deepest possibilities of space and cyberspace. As Jemisin explains in the introduction, this collection is her answer to a genre that has systematically excluded black characters and futures from its pages—but it offers a diversity that extends beyond that, too, opening conventionally medieval and colonial-based realms into an expanding universe. Devoted fans will uncover gems here—Jemisin's first brushes with now-familiar worlds—but for anyone who hasn't yet traveled her mindscapes, it's a gorgeous first journey in. Happy Black Future Month!

- Susannah Morse

AUTHOR & SPECIAL EVENTS



Thursday, February 7 at 7pm

Caitlin Kunkel,

New Erotica for Feminists

In discussion with
Katie Hughes-Pucci

Imagine a world where all erotica was written by feminists: Their daydreams include equal pay, a gender-balanced Congress, and Tom Hardy arriving at their doorstep to deliver a fresh case of LaCroix every week. Both light-hearted and empowering, **New Erotica for Feminists**—based off of the viral McSweeney’s piece of the same name—is a sly, satirical take on all the things that turn feminists on. From a retelling of Adam and Eve to tales of respectful Tinder dates, **New Erotica for Feminists** answers the question of “What do women really want?” with stories of power, equality, and an immortal Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Caitlin Kunkel is a comedy writer and satirist. Her work has been featured in The New Yorker, McSweeney’s Internet Tendency, Live Wire Radio, and other places on the vast internetz. She’s the co-founder of the comedy and satire site for women and non-binary authors, The Belladonna.



Thursday, February 21 at 7pm

Will Hunt,

Underground

When Will Hunt was sixteen years old, he discovered an abandoned tunnel that ran beneath his house in Providence, Rhode Island. His first tunnel trips inspired a

lifelong fascination with exploring underground worlds, from the derelict subway stations and sewers of New York City to sacred caves, catacombs, tombs, bunkers, and ancient underground cities in more than twenty countries around the world. **Underground** is both a personal exploration of Hunt’s obsession and a panoramic study of how we are all connected to the underground, how caves and other dark hollows have frightened and enchanted us through the ages.

Will Hunt’s writing, photography, and audio storytelling have appeared in The Economist, The Paris Review Daily, Discover, The Atavist Magazine, and Outside, among other places. A recipient of grants and fellowships from the Thomas J. Watson Foundation, the New York Foundation for the Arts, the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, and the MacDowell Colony, he is currently a visiting scholar at the NYU Institute for Public Knowledge. Underground is his first book.



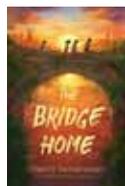
Friday, February 22 at 7pm

Ann duCille,

Technicolored

From early sitcoms such as I Love Lucy to contemporary prime-time dramas like Scandal and How to Get Away with Murder, African Americans on television have too often been asked to portray tired stereotypes of blacks as villains, vixens, victims, and disposable minorities. In **Technicolored**, black feminist critic Ann duCille combines cultural critique with personal reflections on growing up with the new medium of TV to examine how televisual representations of African Americans have changed over the last sixty years. Whether explaining how watching Shirley Temple led her to question her own self-worth or how televisual representation functions as a form of racial profiling, duCille traces the real-life social and political repercussions of the portrayal and presence of African Americans on television. Neither a conventional memoir nor a traditional media study, **Technicolored** offers one lifelong television watcher’s careful, personal, and timely analysis of how television continues to shape notions of race in the American imagination.

Ann duCille is Emerita Professor of English at Wesleyan University and author of Skin Trade and The Coupling Convention: Sex, Text, and Tradition in Black Women’s Fiction.



Saturday, February 23 at 4pm

Padma Venkatraman,

The Bridge Home

Elly Swartz, **Smart Cookie**

Padma Venkatraman, author of the new book **The Bridge Home**, and Elly Schwartz, author of **Smart Cookie**, will be joining us for a conversation on their work, the importance of children’s literature, and more. Please join us and bring your friends, your kids, and your curiosity.



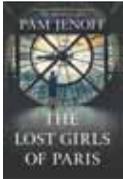
Padma Venkatraman was born in Chennai, India, and became an American citizen after attaining a Ph.D. in oceanography from The College of William and Mary. She is also the author of A Time to Dance, Island’s End, and Climbing the Stairs.

Elly Swartz is the author of Finding Perfect. She loves hiking, Twizzlers, writing for kids, and anything with her family. Elly is a graduate of Boston University and the Georgetown University Law Center.



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 Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff (Park Row)

"Pam Jenoff specializes in finding a piece of history that has not been fully explored and that often leaves one thinking truth is stranger than fiction. In **The Lost Girls of Paris**, she returns

to WWII but this time her protagonists are a group of British women recruited to blend into the French countryside and sabotage the Nazi network in preparation for D-Day. The story, told from the perspective of three women, ties up a whodunit in a satisfying knot with a little romance, but it's really a lot more about women finding out who they are and what role they can play in making a difference in the world."

- Cathy Fiebach, Main Point Books, Wayne, PA



The Last Romantics by Tara Conklin (William Morrow)

"Oh, my! I was so moved by this book it brought me to tears. Fiona, Renee, Catherine, and Joe invaded my imagination and kept me spellbound until the end. Siblings! Many

of us have them and often don't think about the nuances of our relationships. Conklin's story brought my own siblings to mind and questions emerged that can't be pursued on paper. Memories are such powerful things and affect our lives in compelling ways. There is so much love in this story. It's absolutely wonderful! Please read it!"

- Stephanie Crowe, Page and Palette, Fairhope, AL

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.

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

2/4 @ 7pm **Lioness**,
Francine Klagsbrun

3/4 @ 7pm **Whipping Boy**,
Allen Kurzweil

QUEER BOOK CLUB

2/20 @ 7pm **The House of Impossible Beauties**,
Joseph Cassara

3/20 @ 7pm **Miss Timmins' School for Girls**,
Nayana Currimbhoy

THE YOUNG ADULT LITCLUB

2/18 @ 7pm **Warcross**, Marie Lu

3/18 @ 7pm **Georgia Peaches and Other Forbidden Fruit**,
Jaye Robin Brown

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.*