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# Remarkably Bright Creatures A Read With Jenna Pick

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The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano

Elsewhere

Cher Ami and Major Whittlesey

Revolution in World Missions

The Great Witch of Brittany

The House in the Cerulean Sea

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*Remarkably Bright  
Creatures A Read With  
Jenna Pick*

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## **ASHLEY REEVES**

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### The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano Tor Books

A beautiful and gentle story about life and death from beloved author Mem Fox, illustrated by rising star Freya Blackwood; its star imagery, and sense of rebirth make it a perfect choice for the holiday season. In this touching and timeless story, a star falls to earth where it becomes a baby and is embraced and

cared for by the community. Renowned author Mem Fox's tender text about the journey of life is beautifully rendered by Freya Blackwood whose luminous illustrations capture the warmth and complexity of growing up. This a unique and moving story to be cherished by all ages and shared for generations to come. "Mem Fox's books are like a warm blanket; they have a way of making the world seem a little cosier." --Sunday Age (Australia) Elsewhere POW! Kids Books For fans of Jonathan Tropper, Amy Tan, and Kevin Kwan, this "sharp, smart, and gloriously extra" (Nancy Jooyoun Kim,

author of The Last Story of Mina Lee) novel follows a family of estranged Vietnamese women—cursed to never know love or happiness—as they reunite when a psychic makes a startling prediction. Everyone in Orange County’s Little Saigon knew that the Duong sisters were cursed. It started with their ancestor, Oanh, who dared to leave her marriage for true love—so a fearsome Vietnamese witch cursed Oanh and her descendants so that they would never find love or happiness, and the Duong women would only give birth to daughters. Oanh’s current descendant Mai Nguyen knows this curse

well. She's divorced, and after an explosive disagreement a decade ago, estranged from her younger sisters, Minh Pham (the middle and the mediator) and Khuyen Lam (the youngest who swears she just runs humble coffee shops and nail salons, not Little Saigon's underground). Though Mai's three adult daughters, Priscilla, Thuy, and Thao, are successful in their careers (one of them is John Cho's dermatologist!), the same can't be said for their love lives. Mai is convinced they might drive her to an early grave. Desperate for guidance, she consults Auntie Hua, her trusted psychic in Hawaii, who delivers an unexpected prediction: this year, her family will witness a marriage, a funeral, and the birth of a son. This prophecy will reunite estranged mothers, daughters, aunts, and cousins—for better or for worse. A multi-narrative novel brimming with levity and candor, "The Fortunes of Jaded Women pulls off the magic trick of being a heartfelt, multi-generational epic as well as a fast-paced, hilarious romp. It is your good fortune to have this novel in your hands" (Camille Perri, author of *When Katie Met Cassidy*).

**Cher Ami and Major Whittlesey** Simon and Schuster  
 Longlisted for the Carnegie Medal  
 Nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal  
 Boy lives in a caravan on his own in the woods. His dad, John, is in prison and promises to get out soon. All the boy needs to do is survive alone for a little while longer. But dark forces are circling – like the dangerous man in the Range Rover, who is looking for his stolen money. And then there are the ancient forces that have lain asleep in the woods for an age... *Revolution in World Missions* HarperCollins  
 Ice Cream Cone Worm. Monkeyface Prickleback. Pink Fairy Armadillo. You're called WHAT?! Welcome to the Ministry of Silly Animal Names where all the creatures have one thing in common: they want to change their names. A unique and rip-roaringly funny, tongue-twisting story full of weird and wonderful real creatures and facts at the end that will amaze. Written by Kes Gray, the bestselling, award-winning author of *Oi Frog!* and illustrated with charm and wit by dazzling new talent, Nikki Dyson.  
*The Great Witch of Brittany* HarperCollins  
 "[A] kaleidoscopic narrative . . . Tenacious,

wildly original, and full of insight." —San Francisco Chronicle "An alluring, atmospheric debut." —People A Belletrist Book Club Pick A Most Anticipated Book of the Year Entertainment Weekly • The Millions • Bustle On the eve of Evangeline's wedding on Winter Island, the groom may be lost at sea, a dead whale is trapped in the harbor, and Evie's mostly absent mother has shown up out of the blue. From there, in this mesmerizing, provocative debut, the narrative flows back and forth through time as Evie reckons with her complicated upbringing—a weed-dealing, charming but neglectful father, a wild-child best friend—in this lush land off the coast of Southern California. With wit, love, and bracing flashes of anger, *Creatures* probes the complexities of family and abandonment, guilt and forgiveness, betrayal and grief—and exerts a pull as strong as the tides.

[The House in the Cerulean Sea](#) Open Road Media

A READ WITH JENNA BOOK CLUB PICK AS FEATURED ON TODAY \* A PEOPLE MAGAZINE PICK \* AN INDIE NEXT PICK \* A LIBRARYREADS PICK \*AN AMAZON

EDITORS PICK “On every page there are little shimmering bombs. Like Room, where parenthood is at once your jail and your salvation, it is almost claustrophobic—but in the most glorious way.”—Lisa Taddeo, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Three Women* and *Animal A* rising international literary star makes her American debut with this visceral, tender, and brave portrait of addiction, recovery, and motherhood, as harrowing and intense as Shuggie Bain. Sonya used to perform on stage. She used to attend glamorous parties, date handsome men, ride in fast cars. But somewhere along the way, the stage lights Sonya lived for dimmed for good. In their absence, came darkness—blackouts, empty cupboards, hazy nights she can't remember. What keeps Sonya from losing herself completely is Tommy, her son. But her immense love for Tommy is in fierce conflict with her immense love of the bottle. Addiction amplifies her fear of losing her child; every maternal misstep compels her to drink. Tommy's precious life is in her shaky hands. Eventually Sonya is forced to make a choice. Give up drinking or lose Tommy—forever. Bright

Burning Things is an emotional tour-de-force—a devastating, nuanced, and ultimately hopeful look at an addict's journey towards rehabilitation and redemption. A MOST ANTICIPATED BOOK FROM: Washington Post, The Millions, PopSugar, Shondaland, Good Morning America, Nylon, Good Housekeeping, Town & Country

**If the World Were 100 People** Thomas Nelson

Finalist for the National Book Award for Nonfiction \* New York Times Bestseller \* A Huffington Post Notable Nonfiction Book of the Year \* One of the Best Books of the Month on Goodreads \* Library Journal Best Sci-Tech Book of the Year \* An American Library Association Notable Book of the Year “Sy Montgomery’s *The Soul of an Octopus* does for the creature what Helen Macdonald’s *H Is for Hawk* did for raptors.” —New Statesman, UK “One of the best science books of the year.” —Science Friday, NPR Another New York Times bestseller from the author of *The Good Good Pig*, this “fascinating...touching...informative...entertaining” (The Daily Beast) book explores the emotional and physical world of the

octopus—a surprisingly complex, intelligent, and spirited creature—and the remarkable connections it makes with humans. In pursuit of the wild, solitary, predatory octopus, popular naturalist Sy Montgomery has practiced true immersion journalism. From New England aquarium tanks to the reefs of French Polynesia and the Gulf of Mexico, she has befriended octopuses with strikingly different personalities—gentle Athena, assertive Octavia, curious Kali, and joyful Karma. Each creature shows her cleverness in myriad ways: escaping enclosures like an orangutan; jetting water to bounce balls; and endlessly tricking companions with multiple “sleights of hand” to get food. Scientists have only recently accepted the intelligence of dogs, birds, and chimpanzees but now are watching octopuses solve problems and are trying to decipher the meaning of the animal's color-changing techniques. With her “joyful passion for these intelligent and fascinating creatures” (Library Journal Editors' Spring Pick), Montgomery chronicles the growing appreciation of this mollusk as she tells a unique love story. By turns funny, entertaining, touching, and

profound, *The Soul of an Octopus* reveals what octopuses can teach us about the meeting of two very different minds.

[Lily and the Octopus](#) HarperCollins

From the bestselling author of *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir* comes a thrilling new WWII story about a village busybody—the mighty Mrs. Braithwaite—who resolves to find, and then rescue, her missing daughter Mrs. Braithwaite, self-appointed queen of her English village, finds herself dethroned, despised, and dismissed following her husband's selfish divorce petition. Never deterred, the threat of a family secret being revealed sets her hot-foot to London to find the only person she has left—her clever daughter Betty, who took work there at the first rumbles of war. But when she arrives, Betty's landlord, the timid Mr. Norris, informs her that Betty hasn't been home in days—with the chaos of the bombs, there's no telling what might have befallen her. Aghast, Mrs. Braithwaite sets her bullish determination to the task of finding her only daughter. Storming into the London Blitz, Mrs. Braithwaite drags the reluctant Mr. Norris along as an unwitting sidekick as they piece together

Betty's unexpectedly chaotic life. As she is thrown into the midst of danger and death, Mrs. Braithwaite is forced to rethink her old-fashioned notions of status, class, and reputation, and to reconsider the question that's been puzzling her since her world overturned: How do you measure the success of your life? Readers will be charmed by the unforgettable Mrs. Braithwaite and her plucky, ruthless optimism, and find in *The Spies of Shilling Lane* a novel with surprising twists and turns, quiet humor, and a poignant examination of mothers and daughters and the secrets we keep.

*You're Called What?* Remarkably Bright Creatures

"This tragicomic novel is heartfelt, touching, and delightfully quirky. You'll fall in love with the offbeat cast of characters (both living and dead) and find yourself rooting for them right through the last page."—*Good Housekeeping* (Book Club pick) A lost young woman returns to small-town New Hampshire under the strangest of circumstances in this one-of-a-kind novel of life, death, and whatever comes after from the acclaimed author of *Rabbit Cake*. ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE

YEAR: *The Washington Post*, *Book Riot* • Longlisted for the Joyce Carol Oates Prize It was a source of entertainment at Maple Street Cemetery. Both funny and sad, the kind of story we like best. Natural-born healer Emma Starling once had big plans for her life, but she's lost her way. A medical school dropout, she's come back to small-town Everton, New Hampshire, to care for her father, who is dying from a mysterious brain disease. Clive Starling has been hallucinating small animals, as well as having visions of the ghost of a long-dead naturalist, Ernest Harold Baynes, once known for letting wild animals live in his house. This ghost has been giving Clive some ideas on how to spend his final days. Emma arrives home knowing she must face her dad's illness, her mom's judgment, and her younger brother's recent stint in rehab, but she's unprepared to find that her former best friend from high school is missing, with no one bothering to look for her. The police say they don't spend much time looking for drug addicts. Emma's dad is the only one convinced the young woman might still be alive, and Emma is hopeful he could be right. Someone should look for

her, at least. Emma isn't really trying to be a hero, but somehow she and her father bring about just the kind of miracle the town needs. Set against the backdrop of a small town in the throes of a very real opioid crisis, *Unlikely Animals* is a tragicomic novel about familial expectations, imperfect friendships, and the possibility of resurrecting that which had been thought irrevocably lost.

**The Many Daughters of Afong Moy**  
Penguin

A young girl describes what it's like when her mom's new friend comes to stay — a moving story about domestic violence that ends on a hopeful note. The young girl tells us that her mom's new friend is just like the big bad wolf. At first the wolf is sweet and kind to her mom, though the girl notices the wolf's cold eyes from the very beginning. When her mom arrives home late one day, the wolf suddenly hurls angry words and terrible names at her. From that day on her mother doesn't smile anymore. The girl is careful to clean her room and brush her teeth and do everything to keep the peace, but the wolf is unpredictable, throwing plates on the floor, yelling at her mother and holding the

girl's arm so tightly she is left with bruises. Whenever the yelling begins, she hides under the covers in her room. How will she and her mom cope as the wolf becomes increasingly fierce? Valérie Fontaine and Nathalie Dion have created a powerful, moving story about violence in the home that ends on a note of hope. Correlates to the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3 Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.9 Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story (e.g., Cinderella stories) by different authors or from different cultures. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.2 Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

**Light Years from Home** Simon and Schuster

\*A New York Times Notable Book of 2022\*  
\*A Washington Post Notable Work of Fiction\* \*An NPR Best Book of the Year\* \*A New Yorker Best Book of 2022\* From the New York Times bestselling author of *The*

*Plot*, Jean Hanff Korelitz's *The Latecomer* is a layered and immersive literary novel about three siblings, desperate to escape one another, and the upending of their family by the late arrival of a fourth. *The Latecomer* follows the story of the wealthy, New York City-based Oppenheimer family, from the first meeting of parents Salo and Johanna, under tragic circumstances, to their triplets born during the early days of IVF. As children, the three siblings – Harrison, Lewyn, and Sally – feel no strong familial bond and cannot wait to go their separate ways, even as their father becomes more distanced and their mother more desperate. When the triplets leave for college, Johanna, faced with being truly alone, makes the decision to have a fourth child. What role will the “latecomer” play in this fractured family? A complex novel that builds slowly and deliberately, *The Latecomer* touches on the topics of grief and guilt, generational trauma, privilege and race, traditions and religion, and family dynamics. It is a profound and witty family story from an accomplished author, known for the depth of her character studies, expertly woven storylines, and

plot twists.

**Kubla Khan** Penguin

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Star Wars: Brotherhood* A Best Of pick and Most Anticipated Sci Fi and Fantasy novel, as selected by Goodreads • BuzzFeed • BookRiot • The Portalist • IO9 • BookBub • SheReads • BiblioLifestyle • Den of Geek • GeekDad “A rich backstory... a highly satisfying ending... All the stars for Chen's warmhearted space-travel story.” -Kirkus, starred review Every family has issues. Most can't blame them on extraterrestrials. Evie Shao and her sister, Kass, aren't on speaking terms. Fifteen years ago on a family camping trip, their father and brother vanished. Their dad turned up days later, dehydrated and confused—and convinced he'd been abducted by aliens. Their brother, Jakob, remained missing. The women dealt with it very differently. Kass, suspecting her college-dropout twin simply ran off, became the rock of the family. Evie traded academics to pursue alien conspiracy theories, always looking for Jakob. When Evie's UFO network uncovers a new event, she goes to investigate. And discovers Jakob is back. He's different—older,

stranger, and talking of an intergalactic war—but the tensions between the siblings haven't changed at all. If the family is going to come together to help Jakob, then Kass and Evie are going to have to fix their issues, and fast. Because the FBI is after Jakob, and if their brother is telling the truth, possibly an entire space armada, too. The perfect combination of action, imagination and heart, *Light Years from Home* is a touching drama about a challenge as difficult as saving the galaxy: making peace with your family...and yourself. “With heart and insight...Chen crosses the stakes and imagination of a space opera with the emotional depth and intricacy of a family drama.” —Erika Swyler, bestselling author of *Light from Other Stars*

Good Rich People Tordotcom

Help your child become a global citizen with this accessible introduction to the people who live on our planet, with big ideas broken into bite-size chunks through clever graphic design. Perfect for home and classroom settings! With almost 7.8 billion people sharing the earth, it can be a little hard to picture what the human race looks like all together. But if we could

shrink the world down to just 100 people, what could we learn about the human race? What would we look like? Where and how would we all be living? This book answers all these questions and more! Reliably sourced and deftly illustrated, *If the World Were 100 People* is the perfect starting point to understanding our world and becoming a global citizen. If we focus on just 100 people, it's easier to see what we have in common and what makes us unique. Then we can begin to appreciate each other and also ask what things we want to change in our world.

Penguin

A Read With Jenna Today Show Book Club Pick! “Remarkably Bright Creatures is a beautiful examination of how loneliness can be transformed, cracked open, with the slightest touch from another living thing.” -- Kevin Wilson, author of *Nothing to See Here* For fans of *A Man Called Ove*, a charming, witty and compulsively readable exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors

and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors—until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova. Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late. Shelby Van Pelt's debut novel is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible.

*Bodies Are Cool* Celadon Books

"Arlo Dilly is young, handsome and eager to meet the right girl. He also happens to be DeafBlind, a Jehovah's Witness, and under the strict guardianship of his controlling uncle. His chances of finding someone to love seem slim to none. And yet, it happened once before: many years

ago, at a boarding school for the Deaf, Arlo met the love of his life—a mysterious girl with onyx eyes and beautifully expressive hands which told him the most amazing stories. But tragedy struck, and their love was lost forever. Or so Arlo thought. After years trying to heal his broken heart, Arlo is assigned a college writing assignment which unlocks buried memories of his past. Soon he wonders if the hearing people he was supposed to trust have been lying to him all along, and if his lost love might be found again. No longer willing to accept what others tell him, Arlo convinces a small band of misfit friends to set off on a journey to learn the truth. After all, who better to bring on this quest than his gay interpreter and wildly inappropriate Belgian best friend? Despite the many forces working against him, Arlo will stop at nothing to find the girl who got away and experience all of life's joyful possibilities"--

Makeda Redhook

Remarkably Bright Creatures HarperCollins  
Summary of Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt: A Read with Jenna Pick  
 MIRA

From Australia's favourite storyteller

comes a story that shows us the extraordinary power of true love and solves a decades-old mystery. Once upon a time, in a dark city far away, there lived a boy called Walter, who had nothing but his name to call his own ... The handwritten book, with its strangely vivid illustrations, has been hidden in the old house for a long, long time. Tonight, four kids and their teacher will find it. Tonight, at last, the haunting story of Walter and the mysterious, tragic girl called Sparrow will be read - right to the very end ... From one of Australia's most renowned children's authors comes an extraordinary story within a story - a mystery, a prophecy, a long-buried secret. And five people who will remember this night for the rest of their lives. PRAISE 'Another magnificent book from Emily Rodda' - Readings 'guaranteed to capture the imaginations of 8+ mystery lovers' - Better Reading AWARDS Winner - 2019 Prime Minister's Literary Awards (Children's Literature) Winner - 2019 Australian Book Design Awards (Children's Fiction Book) Winner - 2019 CBCA Book of the Year Awards (Younger Readers) Shortlisted - 2019 Davitt Awards

(Children's) Shortlisted - 2019 QLD Literary Awards (Griffith University Children's Book Award) Shortlisted - 2018 Aurealis Awards (Best Young Adult Novel)

Bright Burning Things Celadon Books

A Good Morning America 'January Book That Can Get Us Through Anything' A Most Anticipated Novel of 2022 by The New York Times, Good Housekeeping, Harper's Bazaar, Entertainment Weekly, New York Post, PopSugar, Shondaland, Yahoo!, and Crime Reads A destitute woman deceives her way into the guesthouse of a Hollywood Hills mansion and inadvertently becomes a target in the twisted game of the wealthy family upstairs in the next intoxicating novel from Eliza Jane Brazier. Lyla has always believed that life is a game she is destined to win, but her husband, Graham, takes the game to dangerous levels. The wealthy couple invites self-made success stories to live in their guesthouse and then conspires to ruin their lives. After all, there is nothing worse than a bootstrapper. Demi has always felt like the odds were stacked against her. At the end of her rope, she seizes a risky opportunity to take over another person's life and unwittingly

becomes the subject of the upstairs couple's wicked entertainment. But Demi has been struggling forever, and she's not about to go down without a fight. In a twist that neither woman sees coming, the game quickly devolves into chaos and rockets toward an explosive conclusion. Because every good rich person knows: in money and in life, it's winner takes all. Even if you have to leave a few bodies behind.

The Soul of an Octopus Ballantine Books

A NEW YORK TIMES, USA TODAY, and WASHINGTON POST BESTSELLER! A 2021 Alex Award winner! The 2021 RUSA Reading List: Fantasy Winner! An Indie Next Pick! One of Publishers Weekly's "Most Anticipated Books of Spring 2020" One of Book Riot's "20 Must-Read Feel-Good Fantasies" Lambda Literary Award-winning author TJ Klune's bestselling, breakout contemporary fantasy that's "1984 meets The Umbrella Academy with a pinch of Douglas Adams thrown in." (Gail Carriger) Linus Baker is a by-the-book case worker in the Department in Charge of Magical Youth. He's tasked with determining whether six dangerous magical children are likely to bring about

the end of the world. Arthur Parnassus is the master of the orphanage. He would do anything to keep the children safe, even if it means the world will burn. And his secrets will come to light. The House in the Cerulean Sea is an enchanting love story, masterfully told, about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place—and realizing that family is yours. "1984 meets The Umbrella Academy with a pinch of Douglas Adams thrown in." —Gail Carriger, New York Times bestselling author of *Soulless* At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied. *Mother Daughter Widow Wife* Dark Ink A starlet on a transcontinental train fears her director may be trying to kill her in this novel by Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Dorothy B. Hughes. Four years after she arrived in Los Angeles, Kitten Agnew has become a star. Though beautiful and talented, she'd be nowhere without Vivien Spender: Hollywood's most acclaimed director—and its most dangerous. But Kitten knew what she was getting into when she got involved with him; she had heard the stories of Viv's

past discoveries: Once he discarded them, they ended up in a chorus line, a sanatorium, or worse. She knows enough of his secrets that he wouldn't dare

destroy her career. But he may be willing to kill her. On a train from Los Angeles to Chicago, Kitten learns that Viv is planning to offer her roommate a part that was

meant for her. If she lets him betray her, her career will be over. But fight for the part, and she will be fighting for her life as well.

Best Sellers - Books :

- [The Inmate: A Gripping Psychological Thriller By Freida Mcfadden](#)
- [The Wager: A Tale Of Shipwreck, Mutiny And Murder](#)
- [Saved: A War Reporter's Mission To Make It Home By Benjamin Hall](#)
- [The Legend Of Zelda: Tears Of The Kingdom - The Complete Official Guide: Collector's Edition By Piggyback](#)
- [I Will Teach You To Be Rich: No Guilt. No Excuses. Just A 6-week Program That Works \(second Edition\)](#)
- [Twisted Hate \(twisted, 3\) By Ana Huang](#)
- [The Psychology Of Money: Timeless Lessons On Wealth, Greed, And Happiness](#)
- [Hello Beautiful \(oprah's Book Club\): A Novel](#)
- [World Of Eric Carle, Around The Farm 30-button Animal Sound Book - Great For First Words - Pi Kids](#)
- [America's Cultural Revolution: How The Radical Left Conquered Everything](#)