



Eugene Public Library

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EUGENE-OR.GOV/130/EUGENE-PUBLIC-LIBRARY

My Heart Fills with Happiness by Monique Gray Smith, illustrated by Julie Flett. Orca Book Publishers, \$9.95.

Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors by Hena Khan, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini. Chronicle Books, \$17.99.

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, \$16.99.

Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same! by Grace Lin. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, \$14.99.

El Deafo by Cece Bell. Abrams, \$21.95.

Princess Princess Ever After by Katie O'Neill. Oni Press, \$12.99.

A Boy Called Bat by Elana K. Arnold, illustrated by Charles Santoso. Walden Pond Press, \$16.99.

The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Pérez. Viking Books for Young Readers, \$16.99.

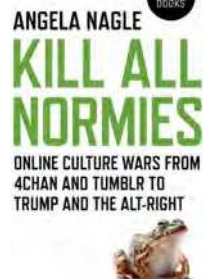
The Lottery's Plus One by Emma Donoghue, illustrated by Caroline Hadilaksono. Arthur A. Levine Books, \$17.99.

Barefoot Book of Children by Tessa Strickland and Kate DePalma, illustrated by David Dean. Barefoot Books, \$19.99.

Every Anxious Wave by Mo Daviau. Macmillan, \$15.99. From a library staffer: Rock music, time travel, romantic angst and hipster ennui. I love this book so much I want to buy a copy for all my friends so we can all read it and then build a house out of the books and live together talking about the book.

— French writer Emmanuel Carrere's *The Kingdom* is absolutely unique: A lifelong non-believer, Carrere at mid-life converted full-bore to Christianity, becoming obsessed with the gnostic writings of John, and then, after a few years, he fell once again un-beguiled, returning to skepticism, though now haunted by the specter of belief he'd briefly acquired. "I forsake you, Lord," he writes at one point. "Please do not forsake me." That's one hell of a perspective from which to dive headlong into the Gospels, eking out the truth, fiction, supposition and mythology (and plagiarism) of writers like Paul, Luke and Mark. Vulnerable, gutsy, smart and exhaustively researched, Carrere's book is a challenging, baffling and always fascinating examination of first-century Christianity — what happened, how it took hold and why a small cult of fervid, messianic Jews and Greeks (among innumerable such cults) is at the roots of Western Civilization. The book doubles as a deeply personal confession of one man's struggles with faith — its rigors, its goads to betterment, its inherent contradictions, its struggles and rewards — making it essential reading for anyone concerned about the hesitant, ecstatic and anguished fluctuations of human spirituality. — *Rick Levin*

Kill All Normies: Online Culture Wars from 4chan and Tumblr to Trump and the Alt-Right



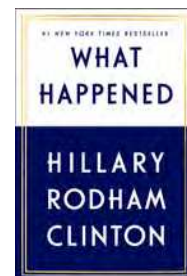
Angela Nagle's *Kill All Normies* is exceedingly relevant for its time. The short book chronicles how internet sites entrenched in sexism, misogyny, racism, homophobia, etc., have not only served as communities for the alt-right, but have started

seeping into the mainstream through memes like Pepe the Frog and situations like Gamergate. Nagle states in the intro that *Kill All Normies* is an attempt to "place contemporary culture wars in some historical context and attempt to untangle the real from the performance, the material from the abstract and the ironic from the faux-ironic, if such a thing is any longer possible."

Nagle dives deep into sub-reddits and 4chan threads, and a bit into the psyche of their users, to reveal just how nihilistic, emotionless and seemingly hopeless the alt-right internet troll persona is. Her writing is not one-sided, though. She also tackles the left's participation in this reactionary cyber war and how its own liberal bubbles of cyberspace have formed. *Kill All Normies* focuses on what's going on in this very specific point in time, but also connects these distinct ideas back to larger motifs — surrealism, philosophers like Nietzsche, and the "punk rock" aspects of counterculture and rebellion, to state a few. Nagle lays out just how much of a culture war modern politics has become and how the access to communicative technology has not necessarily aided that fact. Equal parts grim and bleak, this one is definitely not a beach read — but it is definitely important.

— *Meerah Powell*

What Happened by Hillary Rodham Clinton. Simon & Schuster. \$30.



How many men are reading this book? I would guess not many, but Jeremy Nissel at J. Michaels said men have been buying the book, and it has been on the best-seller list for weeks. My push to read it was both political and feminist, although after the election I wished the Clintons would just go away. Her book is important

Doing It Yourself

The year in local self-published literature BY WILL KENNEDY

Do you have a book moldering away in a desk drawer? Or perhaps trapped in your laptop, languishing in a digital world of ones and zeroes, never to see light of day?

To keep your genius to yourself is a great disservice to the world, and these days, with self-publishing easier than ever, there's no reason to deprive the world of your voice.

While going from self-published to the top of *The New York Times* Bestseller list is a long shot, you never know what might happen. So, what are you waiting for?

In 2017, lots of local authors took the plunge into self-publishing. Here's a sampling of what we got tipped off to here at *Eugene Weekly*.

In the far future, facts are myths and myths are taken as truth in *Alpha Dawn: Book One of the Teragene Chronicles*, penned by local siblings writing under the penname Morgan R.R. Haze. In the book, humans live on colonized planets in outer space. Human society has gone off track, but Captain Singer is prepared to lead the human race to a better future. Find *Alpha Dawn: Book One of the Teragene Chronicles* in paperback on Amazon.com for \$10.99, or Amazon Kindle for \$5.99.

Set in Oregon's south coastal town of Port Orford, *The Last Frontier of the Fading West* is a memoir by Helen

Picca. The book tells the little-known true story of how an oil tanker was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine off the Oregon coast in the early days of World War II. This event propels a young woman into a half-century long saga spanning from WWII to the war in Kuwait, including several historical events familiar to any Oregon native. Get

The Last Frontier of the Fading West in paperback on Amazon.com for \$9.99 or Amazon Kindle for \$2.99.

From Winchester Bay comes *Paradigm Lost: Jamari Shaman*, the second installment in a dystopian fantasy series from author R. Roderick Rowe. Set in a post-apocalyptic Pacific Northwest, the book follows the coming of age story and spiritual journey of a young man coming to terms with his sexuality and identity in his homosexual-dominant tribe. Find *Paradigm Lost: Jamari Shaman* in paperback on Amazon.com for \$15.99 or Amazon Kindle for \$3.99.

Accidental Spirituality, from Eugene author George W. Kaufman, is a collection of essays reminding us to slow down and live life fully. Kaufman drew from his time practicing law in

New York and Washington, D.C. as well as his work with the Omega Institute, a holistic education corporation, to inspire essays that he calls more simply "reflections." Find *Accidental Spirituality* in paperback on Amazon.com for \$12 or Amazon Kindle for \$8.

