**New Fiction Books**

**Winter 2018**

**On a sunbeam / Tillie Walden.**

*Two timelines. Second chances. One love.* A ragtag crew travels to the deepest reaches of space, rebuilding beautiful, broken structures to piece the past together. Two girls meet in boarding school and fall deeply in love—only to learn the pain of loss. With interwoven timelines and stunning art, award-winning graphic novelist Tillie Walden creates an inventive world, breathtaking romance, and an epic quest for love.

**Lethal white / Robert Galbraith.**

When Billy, a troubled young man, comes to private eye Cormoran Strike’s office to ask for his help investigating a crime he thinks he witnessed as a child, Strike is left deeply unsettled. While Billy is obviously mentally distressed, and cannot remember many concrete details, there is something sincere about him and his story. But before Strike can question him further, Billy bolts from his office in a panic. Trying to get to the bottom of Billy’s story, Strike and Robin Ellacott—once his assistant, now a partner in the agency—set off on a twisting trail that leads them through the backstreets of London, into a secretive inner sanctum within Parliament, and to a beautiful but sinister manor house deep in the countryside.

**Dreams on fire / Annette Daniels Taylor.**

With an incarcerated father and an estranged drug-addicted mother, Shanequa's dreams of higher education feel like a fantasy. When Shanequa gets the chance to attend a prestigious private prep school, she feels like her dreams might become reality. Shanequa finds it easier to lie to her new friends than tell them the truth about her family. When her lies are found out, and Shanequa strikes back in blind rage, her path changes forever.

**The reckoning / John Grisham.**

Pete Banning was Clanton, Mississippi’s favorite son—a decorated World War II hero, the patriarch of a prominent family, a farmer, father, neighbor, and a faithful member of the Methodist church. Then one cool October morning he rose early, drove into town, and committed a shocking crime. Pete's only statement about it—to the sheriff, to his lawyers, to the judge, to the jury, and to his family—was: "I have nothing to say." He was not afraid of death and was willing to take his motive to the grave. Reminiscent of the finest tradition of Southern Gothic storytelling, *The Reckoning* would not be complete without Grisham’s signature layers of legal suspense, and he delivers on every page.

**Fire & blood / George R. R. Martin.**

With all the fire and fury fans have come to expect from internationally bestselling author George R. R. Martin, this is the first volume of the definitive two-part history of the Targaryens in Westeros. Centuries before the events of *A Game of Thrones*, House Targaryen—the only family of dragonlords to survive the Doom of Valyria—took up residence on Dragonstone. Fire and Blood begins their tale with the legendary Aegon the Conqueror, creator of the Iron Throne, and goes on to recount the generations of Targaryens who fought to hold that iconic seat, all the way up to the civil war that nearly tore their dynasty apart.
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>A spark of light: a novel</em> / Jodi Picoult.</td>
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<td>The warm fall day starts like any other at the Center—a women's reproductive health services clinic—its staff offering care to anyone who passes through its doors. Then, in late morning, a desperate and distraught gunman bursts in and opens fire, taking all inside hostage. Told in a daring and enthralling narrative structure that counts backward through the hours of the standoff, this is a story that traces its way back to what brought each of these very different individuals to the same place on this fateful day. Jodi Picoult—one of the most fearless writers of our time—tackles a complicated issue in this gripping and nuanced novel. <em>A Spark of Light</em> will inspire debate, conversation . . . and, hopefully, understanding.</td>
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<td><em>A cloud in the shape of a girl: a novel</em> / Jean Thompson.</td>
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<td><em>A Cloud in the Shape of a Girl</em> is a poignant novel about three generations of the Wise family—Evelyn, Laura, and Grace—as they hunt for contentment amid chaos of their own making. Spanning from World War II to the present, Thompson reveals a matrilineal love story that is so perfectly grounded in our time—a story of three women regressing, stalling, and yes, evolving, over decades. One of the burning questions she asks is: by serving her family, is a woman destined to repeat the mistakes of previous generations, or can she transcend the expectations of a place, and a time? Can she truly be free?</td>
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<td><em>Waiting for Eden</em> / Elliot Ackerman.</td>
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<td>Eden Malcom lies in a bed, unable to move or to speak, imprisoned in his own mind. His wife Mary spends every day on the sofa in his hospital room. He has never even met their young daughter. And he will never again see the friend and fellow soldier who didn't make it back home—and who narrates the novel. But on Christmas, the one day Mary is not at his bedside, Eden's re-ordered consciousness comes flickering alive. As he begins to find a way to communicate, some troubling truths about his marriage—and about his life before he went to war—come to the surface. Is Eden the same man he once was: a husband, a friend, a father-to-be? What makes a life worth living?</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Red, white, blue</em> / Lea Carpenter.</td>
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<td>A dark, powerful, and subtly crafted novel that traces the intertwined fates of a CIA case officer and a young woman who is forced to confront her dead father's secret past—at once a gripping, immersive tale of duplicity and espionage, and a moving story of love and loyalty. Smart, fast-moving, and suspenseful, <em>Red, White, Blue</em> plunges us into the inner workings of the CIA, a China Ops gone wrong, and the consequences of a collision between one's deepest personal ties and the most exacting and fateful professional commitment.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Time's convert</em> / Deborah Harkness.</td>
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<td>In his much-anticipated debut novel, Hank Green—cocreator of Crash Course, Vlogbrothers, and SciShow—spins a sweeping, cinematic tale about a young woman who becomes an overnight celebrity before realizing she's part of something bigger, and stranger, than anyone could have possibly imagined. Compulsively entertaining and powerfully relevant, <em>An Absolutely Remarkable Thing</em> grapples with big themes, including how the social internet is changing fame, rhetoric, and radicalization; how our culture deals with fear and uncertainty; and how vilification and adoration spring for the same dehumanization that follows a life in the public eye.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Time's convert / Deborah Harkness.</strong></td>
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<td>On the battlefields of the American Revolution, Matthew de Clermont meets Marcus MacNeil, a young surgeon from Massachusetts, during a moment of political awakening when it seems that the world is on the brink of a brighter future. When Matthew offers him a chance at immortality and a new life free from the restraints of his puritanical upbringing, Marcus seizes the opportunity to become a vampire. But his transformation is not an easy one and the ancient traditions and responsibilities of the de Clermont family clash with Marcus's deeply held beliefs in liberty, equality, and brotherhood.</td>
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<th><strong>Three daughters of Eve / Elif Shafak.</strong></th>
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<td>Peri, a married, wealthy, beautiful Turkish woman, is on her way to a dinner party at a seaside mansion in Istanbul when a beggar snatches her handbag. As she wrestles to get it back, a photograph falls to the ground—an old polaroid of three young women and their university professor. A relic from a past—and a love—Peri had tried desperately to forget. <em>Three Daughters of Eve</em> is set over an evening in contemporary Istanbul, as Peri arrives at the party and navigates the tensions that simmer in this crossroads country between East and West, religious and secular, rich and poor.</td>
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<th><strong>Wolf in the snow / Matthew Cordell.</strong></th>
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<td>A girl is lost in a snowstorm. A wolf cub is lost, too. How will they find their way home? Paintings rich with feeling tell this satisfying story of friendship and trust. Here is a book set on a wintry night that will spark imaginations and warm hearts, from Matthew Cordell, author of <em>Trouble Gum</em> and <em>Another Brother</em>.</td>
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<th><strong>Strange grace / Tessa Gratton.</strong></th>
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<td>Long ago, a village made a bargain with the devil: to ensure their prosperity, when the Slaughter Moon rises, the village must sacrifice a young man into the depths of the Devil’s Forest. Only this year, the Slaughter Moon has risen early. Bound by duty, secrets, and the love they share for one another, Mairwen, a spirited witch; Rhun, the expected saint; and Arthur, a restless outcast, will each have a role to play as the devil demands a body to fill the bargain. But the devil these friends find is not the one they expect, and the lies they uncover will turn their town—and their hearts—inside out.</td>
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<th><strong>At the edge of the universe / Shaun David Hutchinson.</strong></th>
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<td>Tommy and Ozzie have been best friends since the second grade, and boyfriends since eighth. They spent countless days dreaming of escaping their small town—and then Tommy vanished. More accurately, he ceased to exist, erased from the minds and memories of everyone who knew him. Everyone except Ozzie. Ozzie doesn’t know how to navigate life without Tommy, and soon he suspects that something else is going on: that the universe is shrinking. When Ozzie is paired up with the reclusive and secretive Calvin for a physics project, it’s hard for him to deny the feelings developing between them, even if he still loves Tommy. But Ozzie knows there isn’t much time left to find Tommy—that once the door closes, it can’t be opened again.</td>
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**Things I should have known / Claire LaZebnik.**  
Meet Chloe Mitchell, a popular Los Angeles girl who’s decided that her older sister, Ivy, who’s on the autism spectrum, could use a boyfriend. Chloe already has someone in mind: Ethan Fields, a sweet, movie-obsessed boy from Ivy’s special needs class. Chloe would like to ignore Ethan’s brother, David, but she can’t—Ivy and Ethan aren't comfortable going out on their own so Chloe and David have to tag along. Soon Chloe, Ivy, David, and Ethan form a quirky and wholly lovable circle. And as the group bonds over frozen yogurt dates and movie nights, Chloe is forced to confront her own romantic choices—and the realization that it’s okay to be a different kind of normal.

**Someday / David Levithan.**  
For as long as A can remember, life has meant waking up in a different person's body every day, forced to live as that person until the day ended. A always thought there wasn't anyone else who had a life like this. But A was wrong. There are others. A has already been wrestling with powerful feelings of love and loneliness. Now comes an understanding of the extremes that love and loneliness can lead to -- and what it's like to discover that you are not alone in the world.

**Wildcard / Marie Lu.**  
Emika Chen barely made it out of the Warcross Championships alive. Now that she knows the truth behind Hideo’s new NeuroLink algorithm, she can no longer trust the one person she's always looked up to, who she once thought was on her side. Determined to put a stop to Hideo's grim plans, Emika and the Phoenix Riders band together, only to find a new threat lurking on the neon-lit streets of Tokyo. Someone's put a bounty on Emika's head, and her sole chance for survival lies with Zero and the Blackcoats, his ruthless crew. But Emika soon learns that Zero isn't all that he seems--and his protection comes at a price. Caught in a web of betrayal, with the future of free will at risk, just how far will Emika go?

**Dry / Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman.**  
The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't fill up your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turned against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return and her life—and the life of her brother—is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she’s going to survive.

**Hellfighters / Alexander Gordon Smith.**  
Thrown into a relentless war against the forces of darkness, fifteen-year-old Marlow Green and his squad of secret soldiers must fight for control of the Devil's Engines—ancient, infernal machines that can make any wish come true, as long as you are willing to put your life on the line. But after a monstrous betrayal, Marlow, Pan and the other Hellraisers find themselves on the run from an enemy with horrific powers and limitless resources—an enemy that wants them dead at all costs. Failure doesn't just mean a fate worse than death for Marlow, it means the total annihilation of the world. And when all looks lost and the stakes couldn't be higher, just how far is he willing to go?
**How you ruined my life / Jeff Strand.**
Rod's life doesn't suck. If you ask him, it's pretty awesome. He may not be popular, but he and his best friends play in a band that has a standing gig. Yeah, it's Monday night and they don't get paid, but they can turn the volume up as loud as they want. And Rod's girlfriend is hot, smart, and believes in their band—believes in Rod. Aside from a winning lottery ticket, what more could he ask for? Answer: A different cousin. When Rod's scheming, two-faced cousin Blake moves in for the semester, Rod tries to keep calm. Blake seems to have everyone else fooled with good manners and suave smile, except Rod knows better. Blake is taking over his room, taking over his band, taking over his life! But Rod's not about to give up without a fight.

**Muse of nightmares / Laini Taylor.**
As humans and godspawn reel in the aftermath of the citadel's near fall, a new foe shatters their fragile hopes, and the mysteries of the Mesarthish are resurrected: Where did the gods come from, and why? What was done with thousands of children born in the citadel nursery? And most important of all, as forgotten doors are opened and new worlds revealed: Must heroes always slay monsters, or is it possible to save them instead? Love and hate, revenge and redemption, destruction and salvation all clash in this gorgeous sequel to the *New York Times* bestseller, *Strange the Dreamer*.

**The dark descent of Elizabeth Frankenstein / Kiersten White.**
Elizabeth Lavenza hasn't had a proper meal in weeks. Her thin arms are covered with bruises from her "caregiver," and she is on the verge of being thrown into the streets . . . until she is brought to the home of Victor Frankenstein, an unsmiling, solitary boy who has everything—except a friend. Victor is her escape from misery. Elizabeth does everything she can to make herself indispensable—and it works. She is taken in by the Frankenstein family and rewarded with a warm bed, delicious food, and dresses of the finest silk. Soon she and Victor are inseparable. But her new life comes at a price.

**Exile for dreamers / Kathleen Baldwin.**
Tess Aubreyson can’t run far enough or fast enough to escape the prophetic dreams that haunt her. Dreams bring nothing but death and grief, and Tess refuses to accept that any good can come from the Sight—the curse that destroyed her mother. But when danger threatens Stranje House, Tess's disturbing dreams become the only means of saving Lord Ravencross, the man she loves, and her fellow students. Tess's traitorous friend, a former student at Stranje House, has returned to England, intent on paving the way for Napoleon's invasion. Can the young ladies of Stranje House prevail once more? Or is England destined to fall into the hands of the power-mad dictator?

**Refuge for masterminds / Kathleen Baldwin.**
Napoleon's invasion of England is underway and someone at Stranje House is sneaking information to his spies. Lady Jane Moore is determined to find out who it is. If anyone can discover the traitor, it is Jane—for, according to headmistress Emma Stranje, Lady Jane is a mastermind. Jane doesn't consider herself a mastermind. It's just that she tends to grasp the facts of a situation quickly, and by so doing, she's able to devise and implement a sensible course of action. Is Jane enough of a mastermind to save the brash young American inventor Alexander Sinclair, her friends at Stranje House, and possibly England itself?
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serafina and the splintered heart / Robert Beatty.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Something has happened to Serafina. She has awoken into a darkness</td>
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<td>she does not understand, scarred from a terrible battle, only to</td>
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<td>find that life at Biltmore Estate has changed in unimaginable ways.</td>
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<td>Old friends do unthinkable things and enemies seem all around. A</td>
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<td>mysterious threat moves towards Biltmore, a force without a name,</td>
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<td>bringing with it violent storms and flooding that stands to uproot</td>
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<td>everything in its path. Serafina must uncover the truth about what</td>
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<td>has happened to her and find a way to harness her strange new</td>
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<td>powers before it's too late.</td>
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<td>Confessions of a high school disaster / Emma Chastain.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I'm Chloe Snow, and my life is kiiiiind of a disaster. 1. I'm a</td>
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<td>kissing virgin (so so so embarrassing). 2. My best friend, Hannah,</td>
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<td>is driving me insane. 3. I think I'm in love with Mac Brody, senior</td>
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<td>football star, whose girlfriend is so beautiful she doesn't even</td>
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<td>need eyeliner. 4. My dad won't stop asking me if I'm okay. 5. Oh,</td>
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<td>and my mom moved to Mexico to work on her novel. But it's fine—she'll</td>
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<td>be back soon. She said so. Mom says the only thing sadder than</td>
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<td>remembering is forgetting, so I'm going to write down everything</td>
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<td>that happens to me in this diary. That way, even when I'm ninety, I'll</td>
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<td>remember how awkward and horrible and exciting it is to be in high</td>
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<td>school.</td>
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<td>For a muse of fire / Heidi Heilig.</td>
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<td>Jetta’s family is famed as the most talented troupe of shadow</td>
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<td>players in the land. With Jetta behind the scrim, their puppets</td>
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<td>seem to move without string or stick—a trade secret, they say. In</td>
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<td>truth, Jetta can see the souls of the recently departed and bind</td>
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<td>them to the puppets with her blood. But ever since the colonizing</td>
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<td>army conquered their country, the old ways are forbidden, so Jetta</td>
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<td>must never show, never tell. Her skill and fame are her family’s</td>
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<td>way to earn a spot aboard the royal ship to Aquitan, where shadow</td>
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<td>plays are the latest rage, and where rumor has it the Mad Emperor</td>
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<td>has a spring that cures his ills—and could cure Jetta’s, too.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Because seeing spirits is not the only thing that plagues her.</td>
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<td>A blade so black / L.L. McKinney.</td>
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<td>The first time the Nightmares came, it nearly cost Alice her life.</td>
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<td>Now she's trained to battle monstrous creatures in the dark dream</td>
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<td>realm known as Wonderland with magic weapons and hardcore fighting</td>
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<td>skills. Yet even warriors have a curfew. Life in real-world Atlanta</td>
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<td>isn't always so simple, as Alice juggles an overprotective mom, a</td>
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<td>high-maintenance best friend, and a slipping GPA. Keeping the</td>
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<td>Nightmares at bay is turning into a full-time job. But when Alice's</td>
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<td>handsome and mysterious mentor is poisoned, she has to find the</td>
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<td>antidote by venturing deeper into Wonderland than she's ever gone</td>
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<td>before. And she'll need to use everything she's learned in both</td>
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<td>worlds to keep from losing her head . . . literally.</td>
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<td>Blanca &amp; Roja / Anna-Marie McLemore.</td>
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<td>The del Cisne girls have never just been sisters; they’re also</td>
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<td>rivals, Blanca as obedient and graceful as Roja is vicious and</td>
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<td>manipulative. They know that, because of a generations-old spell,</td>
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<td>their family is bound to a bevy of swans deep in the woods. They</td>
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<td>know that, one day, the swans will pull them into a dangerous game</td>
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<td>that will leave one of them a girl, and trap the other in the</td>
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<td>body of a swan. But when two local boys become drawn into the</td>
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<td>game, the swans’ spell intertwines with the strange and</td>
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<td>unpredictable magic facing the woods, and all four of their</td>
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<td>fates depend on facing truths that could either save or destroy</td>
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<td>them. Blanca &amp; Roja is the captivating story of sisters,</td>
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<td>friendship, love, hatred, and the price we pay to protect our</td>
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<td>hearts.</td>
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**Crown of thunder / by Tochi Onyebuchi.**
In the sequel to the acclaimed *Beasts Made of Night*, Taj has escaped Kos, but Queen Karima will go to any means necessary—including using the most deadly magic—to track him down. Taj is headed west, but the consequences of leaving Kos behind confront him at every turn. Innocent civilians flee to refugee camps as Karima's dark magic continues to descend on the city. Taj must return, but first he needs a plan.

**Bull / a novel by David Elliott.**
Much like Lin-Manuel Miranda did in *Hamilton*, the *New York Times* best-selling author David Elliott turns a classic on its head in form and approach, updating the timeless story of Theseus and the Minotaur. A rough, rowdy, and darkly comedic young adult retelling in verse, which NPR called “beautifully clever,” *Bull* will have readers reevaluating one of mythology's most infamous monsters.

**The opposite of innocent / Sonya Sones.**
It’s the story of a girl named Lily, who’s been crushing on a man named Luke, a friend of her parents, ever since she can remember. Luke has been away for two endless years, but he’s finally returning today. Lily was only twelve when he left. But now, at fourteen, she feels transformed. Having Luke back is better than Lily could have ever dreamed. His lingering looks set Lily on fire. Is she just imagining them? Lily’s friends think anyone his age who wants to be with a fourteen-year-old must be really messed up. Maybe even dangerous. But Luke would never do anything to hurt her...would he? In this powerful tale of a terrifying leap into young adulthood, readers will accompany Lily on her harrowing journey from hopelessness to hope.