

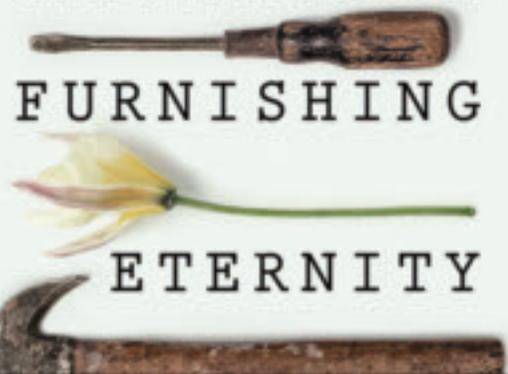
# OHIOana QUARTERLY

FALL 2019 | VOL. 62 NO. 4

78<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL



"Tender, witty, and, like the woodworking it describes, painstakingly and subtly wrought . . . An emotionally satisfying narrative from the Bard of Akron, Ohio." —THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW



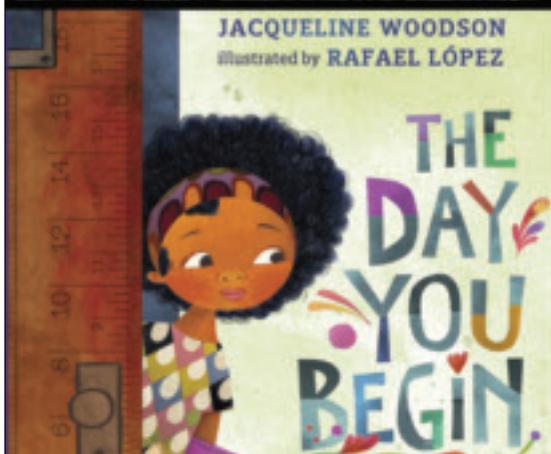
PARDON MY HEART



**Tigerland**



JACQUELINE WOODSON  
Illustrated by RAFAEL LÓPEZ



OHIOANA  
AWARDS

Collecting, Preserving, and Celebrating Ohio Literature

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# OHIOana QUARTERLY

FALL 2019

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# From the Director

Dear Friends,



Autumn is here... my favorite season, and one that is especially wonderful to experience in Ohio with its gorgeous burst of color in every part of the state. Autumn is also the season for many terrific music, art, theater, and literary events in Ohio.

One of those events is the presentation of the annual Ohioana Awards, which we'll do again at the Ohio Statehouse on October 17. As you can see from our cover story, our 2019 award winners represent a truly stellar list of books and authors. In addition to the book awards, we'll present the thirtieth Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant, a competitive prize that goes to an Ohio writer age thirty or younger who has not yet published a book. This year's recipient is David Grandouiller of Jamestown. David's prize-winning story appears here, and we think you'll agree that he is a definitely a writer with a promising future.

Even though we've been talking about it for nearly a year, October officially marks the ninetieth anniversary of Ohioana's founding by First Lady Martha Kinney Cooper. And another milestone worth celebrating – with this issue of the *Ohioana Quarterly*, it is now five years since we introduced the publication for the first time in a full-color magazine format. We were thrilled with the enthusiastic response, and we are still delighted every time we hear from a reader who tells us how much they enjoy the *Quarterly*.

With this issue, we also wrap up our year-long salute to humorist James Thurber. An exciting new exhibition of Thurber's drawings at the Columbus Museum of Art and a beautiful companion book by Michael J. Rosen remind us that James Thurber was one of America's true literary giants.

And if autumn is my favorite season, then I also have to say that Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. Here at Ohioana, we are feeling very thankful for what has been a memorable ninetieth anniversary year. So many people have played a part in Ohioana's story, and we owe each of these special people a debt of gratitude. YOU are one of those people. *Thank you.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Weaver', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Weaver  
Executive Director

## ON THE COVER

This issue's cover, designed by Kathryn Powers, features images of the 2019 Ohioana Award-winning books. To learn more about this year's award winners, see the article on the next page.

# 2019 Ohioana Awards



The Ohioana Book Awards were established in 1942 to recognize excellence in writing by Ohioans and about Ohio and are the second oldest state literary prizes in the nation. Each year juried awards are given to outstanding books in the categories of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, juvenile literature, middle grade and young adult literature, and books about Ohio or an Ohioan. A seventh award, the Reader's Choice Award, is selected by readers across the state in an online poll.

## Fiction



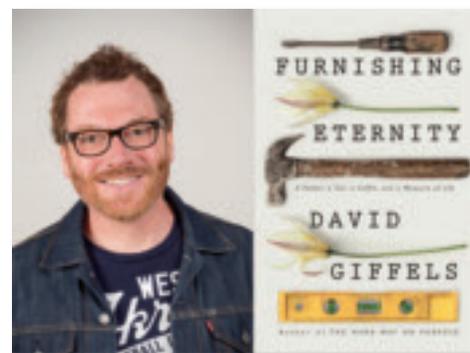
**Moriel Rothman-Zecher, *Sadness Is a White Bird*, Atria Books.**

Moriel Rothman-Zecher is an Israeli-American novelist and poet. He is a 2018 National Book Foundation "5 Under 35" honoree and received a 2017 MacDowell Colony Fellowship for Literature. His writing has been published in the *New York Times*, the *Paris Review's* "The Daily," *Haaretz*, and elsewhere. He lives in Yellow Springs, Ohio, with his wife, Kayla, and daughter, Nahar. *Sadness Is a White Bird* is his debut novel.

"Nuanced, sharp, and beautifully written, *Sadness Is a White Bird* manages, with seeming effortless, to find something fresh and surprising and poignant in the classic coming-of-age, love-triangle narrative, something starker, more heartbreaking: something new."  
— Michael Chabon

In this lyrical and searing debut novel written by a rising literary star and MacDowell Fellow, a young man is preparing to serve in the Israeli army while also trying to reconcile his close relationship to two Palestinian siblings with his deeply ingrained loyalties to family and country. Powerful, important, and timely, *Sadness Is a White Bird* explores one man's attempts to find a place for himself, discovering in the process a beautiful, against-the-odds love that flickers like a candle in the darkness of a never-ending conflict.

## Nonfiction



**David Giffels, *Furnishing Eternity*, Scribner.**

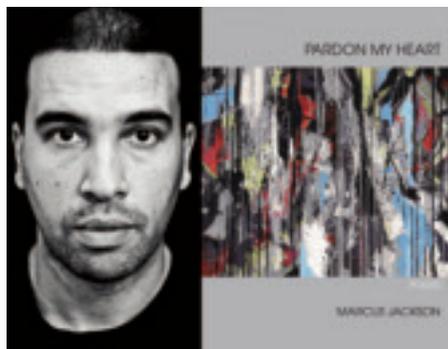
David Giffels is the author of *The Hard Way on Purpose: Essays and Dispatches from the Rust Belt*, nominated

for the PEN/Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award for the Art of the Essay, the memoir *All the Way Home*, winner of the Ohioana Book Award, and *Furnishing Eternity*. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Atlantic.com*, *Parade*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Esquire.com*, *Grantland.com*, *Redbook*, and many other publications. He also was a writer for the MTV series *Beavis and Butt-Head*. He is an associate professor of English at the University of Akron, where he teaches creative nonfiction in the Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts Program.

“Tender, witty and, like the woodworking it describes, painstakingly and subtly wrought, *Furnishing Eternity* continues Giffels’ unlikely literary career as the bard of Akron, Ohio.... Only a very skilled engineer of a writer can transform the fits and starts, the fitted corners and sudden gouges of the assembly process into a kind of page-turning drama” (*New York Times Book Review*).

David Giffels grew up fascinated by his father’s dusty, tool-strewn workshop and the countless creations it inspired. So when he enlisted his eighty-one-year-old dad to help him build his own casket, he thought of it mostly as an opportunity to sharpen his woodworking skills and to spend time together. But the unexpected deaths of his mother and, a year later, his best friend, coupled with the dawning realization that his father wouldn’t be around forever for such offbeat adventures—and neither would he—led to a harsh confrontation with mortality and loss.

## Poetry



**Marcus Jackson, *Pardon My Heart*, TriQuarterly/Northwestern University Press.**

Marcus Jackson was born in Toledo, Ohio. He earned

a B.A. from the University of Toledo and continued his poetry studies at NYU and as a Cave Canem fellow. His poems have appeared in such publications as the *American Poetry Review*, the *New Yorker*, and *Tin House*. He lives with his wife and son in Columbus, where he teaches in the M.F.A. program at the Ohio State University.

“Though not an explicitly political volume, *Pardon My Heart* posits a way of looking at the world that calls to mind the wise, weathered perspectives of Yehuda Amichai and Pablo Neruda: these are poems in which the integrity of one’s personal sphere feels like a necessary refuge from, and an antidote to, the toxic swirl of the world at large.... Plain-spoken but never plain, Jackson’s collection confirms the arrival of a thrilling new voice in American poetry, one whose writing, on page after page, has the fullness and glow of a jubilee.” — *New York Times*

With a compelling blend of narrative, musicality, and imagery, Jackson’s poems span a multitude of scenes, landscapes, and sensations. *Pardon My Heart* examines intimacy, memory, grief, and festivity while seeking out new, reflective sectors within emotion and culture. By means of concise portraiture and sonic vibrancy, Jackson’s poems ultimately express the urgency and pliability of the human soul.

## Juvenile Literature



**Jacqueline Woodson, *The Day You Begin* (illus. by Rafael Lopez), Nancy Paulsen Books.**

Jacqueline Woodson is the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature and received the 2018 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award and the 2018 Children’s Literature Legacy Award. She is the 2014 National Book Award winner for her New York

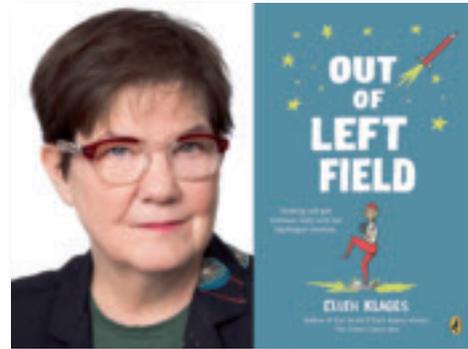
*Times*-bestselling memoir, *Brown Girl Dreaming*, which was also a recipient of the Ohioana Book Award, the Coretta Scott King Award, a Newbery Honor, the NAACP Image Award and a Sibert Honor. She received the Jane Addams Children’s Book Award and is a four-time Newbery Honor winner, a three-time National Book Award finalist, and a two-time Coretta Scott King Award winner. Her books include *The Other Side*, *Each Kindness*, *Coming On Home Soon*, *Feathers*, *Show Way*, *After Tupac and D Foster*, and *Miracle’s Boys*. She received the Margaret A. Edwards and the Ohioana Alice Louise Wood Memorial Awards for lifetime achievement for her contributions to young adult literature.

“Woodson’s poetic lines give power to each child’s experience.... López paints the book’s array of children as students in the same classroom; patterns and colors on the children’s clothing and the growing things around them fill the spreads with life. Woodson’s gentle, lilting story and López’s artistry create a stirring portrait of the courage it takes to be oneself.” — *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

There are many reasons to feel different. Maybe it’s how you look or talk, or where you’re from; maybe it’s what you eat, or something just as random. It’s not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you yet, but somehow you do it.

Jacqueline Woodson’s lyrical text and Rafael López’s dazzling art reminds us that we all feel like outsiders sometimes — and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. And that sometimes, when we reach out and begin to share our stories, others will be happy to meet us halfway.

## Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature



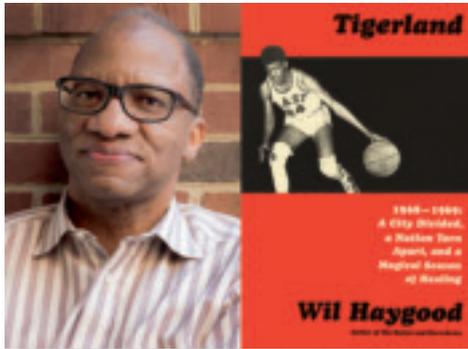
### Ellen Klages, *Out of Left Field*, Viking Books for Young Readers.

Ellen Klages is the author of two acclaimed historical novels: *The Green Glass Sea*, which won the Scott O’Dell Award and the New Mexico Book Award; and *White Sands, Red Menace*, which won the California and New Mexico Book awards. Her story “Basement Magic” won a Nebula Award, and “Wakulla Springs,” co-authored with Andy Duncan, was nominated for the Nebula, Hugo, and Locus Awards, and won the World Fantasy Award for Best Novella. She is a graduate of Second City’s Improv program, and has a degree in philosophy from the University of Michigan, which has led to many odd jobs that begin with the letter P (proofreader, photographer, painter, pinball arcade manager). She lives in San Francisco in a house full of strange and wondrous things.

“There are writers with unique voices and important things to say about people of all kinds and shapes and minds. Ellen Klages is one of those writers. Ignore her at your peril.” —Neil Gaiman, author of Newbery Award winner *The Graveyard Book*

Every boy in the neighborhood knows Katy Gordon is their best pitcher, even though she’s a girl. But when she tries out for Little League, it’s a whole different story. Girls are not eligible, period. It is a boy’s game and always has been. It’s not fair, and Katy’s going to fight back. Inspired by what she’s learning about civil rights in school, she sets out to prove that she’s not the only girl who plays baseball. With the help of friendly librarians and some tenacious research skills, Katy discovers the forgotten history of female ball players. Why does no one know about them? Where are they now? And how can one ten-year-old change people’s minds about what girls can do?

## About Ohio or an Ohioan



### Wil Haygood, *Tigerland*, Knopf.

Wil Haygood is currently visiting distinguished professor in the department of media, journalism, and film at Miami University of Ohio. For nearly three decades he was a journalist, serving as a national and foreign correspondent at the *Boston Globe*, where he was a Pulitzer Prize finalist, and then at the *Washington Post*. He is the author of *The Butler: A Witness to History; Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America; Sweet Thunder: The Life and Times of Sugar Ray Robinson; In Black and White: The Life of Sammy Davis Jr.; Two on the River; King of the Cats: The Life and Times of Adam Clayton Powell Jr.*; and *The Haygoods of Columbus: A Family Memoir*. *The Butler* was later adapted into the critically acclaimed film starring Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey. The winner of two prior Ohioana Book Awards, Haygood has received a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, and the 2017 Patrick Henry Fellowship Literary Award for his research for *Tigerland*. He lives in Washington, D.C.

“Dynamic, multidimensional, and heart-revving.... As in all his avidly read books, Haygood sets the stories of fascinating individuals within the context of freshly reclaimed and vigorously recounted African American history as he masterfully brings a high school and its community to life. This laugh-and-cry tale of rollicking and wrenching drama... is electric with tension and conviction, and incandescent with unity and hope.” — *Booklist* (starred review)

Against the backdrop of one of the most tumultuous periods in recent American history, as riots and demonstrations spread across the nation, the Tigers

of poor, segregated East High School in Columbus, Ohio, did something no team from one school had ever done before: they won the state basketball and baseball championships in the same year. They defeated bigger, richer, whiter teams across the state and along the way brought blacks and whites together, eased a painful racial divide throughout the state, and overcame extraordinary obstacles on their road to success.

## Readers' Choice



### Rachel Wiley, *Nothing Is Okay*, Button Poetry.

Rachel Wiley is a performer, poet, feminist, and fat positive activist from Columbus, Ohio. Rachel has represented Columbus at multiple National Poetry Slam Competitions and was a finalist twice in 2011. She is on staff at Writing Wrongs Poetry Slam and the co-host/co-founder of the Columbus Queer Open Mic. She has toured nationally, performing at slam venues, colleges, and festivals. Her work has appeared on *Upworthy*, *Huffington Post*, *Militant Baker*, and *Everyday Feminism*.

*Nothing Is Okay* is the second full-length poetry collection by Rachel Wiley, whose work simultaneously deconstructs the lies that we were taught about our bodies and our beings, and builds new ways of viewing ourselves. As she delves into queerness, feminism, fatness, dating, and race, Wiley molds these topics into a critique of culture and a celebration of self. A fat positive activist, Wiley's work soars and challenges the bounds of bodies and hearts, and the ways we carry them.

Congratulations also to the 2019 Ohioana Book Award Finalists! Our nominees' books have appeared on numerous bestseller lists, and the writers have won many prestigious literary awards. All have made an impact on the literary life of Ohio, and we are proud to support their work.

### FICTION

Brad Feltner. *The Dogs of Detroit: Stories*  
 Jeffrey Ford. *Ahab's Return: or, The Last Voyage*  
 Stephen Markley. *Ohio: A Novel*  
 Curtis Sittenfeld. *You Think It, I'll Say It: Stories*  
 Thirty Umrigar. *The Secrets Between Us*



### NONFICTION

Wil Haygood. *I, Too, Sing America: The Harlem Renaissance at 100*  
 Stephen Kuusisto. *Have Dog, Will Travel*  
 Beth Macy. *Dopesick*  
 Susan Orlean. *The Library Book*



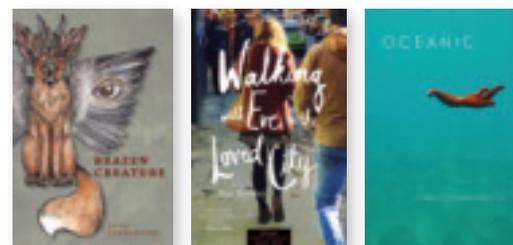
### ABOUT OHIO OR AN OHIOAN

Jane Congdon. *How the "Wild" Effect Turned Me into a Hiker at 69*  
 William Hazelgrove. *Wright Brothers, Wrong Story*  
 Lawrence P. Jackson. *Chester B. Himes: A Biography*  
 Julia Van Haften. *Berenice Abbott: A Life in Photography*



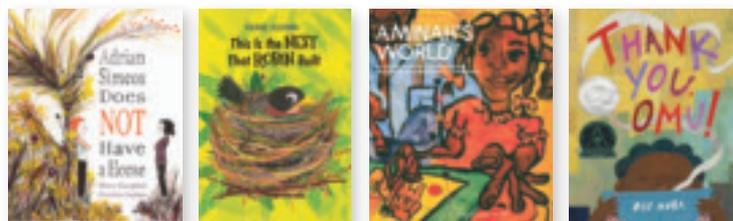
### POETRY

Anne Barngrover. *Brazen Creature*  
 Roy Bentley. *Walking with Eve in the Loved City*  
 Aimee Nezhukumatathil. *Oceanic*



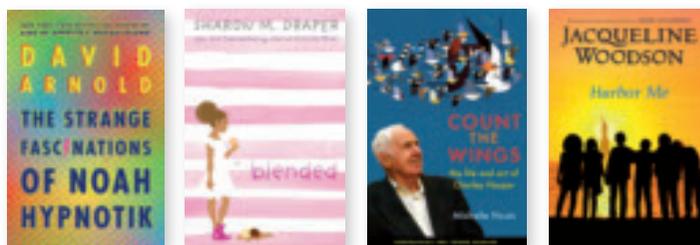
### JUVENILE LITERATURE

Marcy Campbell, illus. by Corinna Luyken. *Adrian Simcox Does NOT Have a Horse*  
 Denise Fleming. *This is the Nest That Robin Built*  
 Carole Miller Genshaft. *Aminah's World*  
 Oge, Mora. *Thank You, Omu!*



### MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

David Arnold. *The Strange Fascinations of Noah Hypnotik*  
 Sharon M. Draper. *Blended*  
 Michelle Houts. *Count the Wings: The Life and Art of Charley Harper*  
 Jacqueline Woodson. *Harbor Me*



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# Excerpt from “In the Beginning, Bada Bing”

by David Grandouiller, 2019 Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant Winner

Nathan Schwartz crosses town in a 1990 Crown Vic every Wednesday, parks in the gravel lot on the slope of Fountain Street. He’s already laughing. Bada’s on Fountain: Bada Bing, a local pizzeria with beer on tap. These nights, it’s packed with the college crowd from Wittenberg — Springfield, Ohio’s liberal arts university. Witt Wednesday’s dollar pizza, dollar PBR.

Bada’s a smoking pipe: all the noise stuffed in the front. Nathan walks in to high decibels of live, raucous grunge by the bay window, an impossible sonic threshold. Boys with scaly green faces and long snouts wear salmon polo shirts and form tight packs around a limited number of tables and yell to be heard. TVs play East-Coast hockey. Nathan takes the narrow channel out of this noise bowl, past the bar, the pizza ovens, the bathrooms, out onto the back deck.

The deck is its own petri dish. Illegitimate Christian kids working loose from under the collar of a Baptist school mix with the metalheads in a dadrock band mix with the chain-smoking off-duty bartenders mix with the ex-Amish college student who’s got something to prove (that’s Nathan).

Nathan tends bar, too, but when he’s not, he’s throwing up over the railing because he just shotgunned a beer when his stomach was already full of various kinds of alcohol. Now he turns back to our little circle of friends, five or six people who don’t actually know him at all and insists on shotgunning another beer to make up for that one, even after we say, *no, don’t worry about it, take it easy, man*. It’s a matter of pride.

He’s a skinny guy with a pale face and wispy, blonde hair. Everyone likes him. Some people like him because he’s always laughing, some because he’s comfortable around anyone. Some don’t know why they like him, but they do. Somebody introduces him to me as “the coke guy,” and he laughs nervously. *No no no no. I’m not the coke guy. I do a lot of coke*. He nods vigorously. *But I’m not the coke guy*.

Nathan’s a junior at Wittenberg. Before that, he’s a sophomore. Before that, he’s arrested in his hometown on four charges, all drug related. Before that, he spends

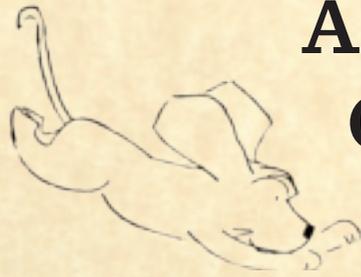
“not a day” of his freshman year sober. Before that, he hates high school in Portage County, Ohio, where he moved with his parents and sisters from an Amish neighborhood in Nappanee, Indiana. Before that, the Amish community stops shunning his family. Before that, Nathan and his family leave the Amish and are shunned. Before that, he gets in fistfights with other Amish boys in somebody’s barn on Sunday afternoons. He’s the black sheep among his relatives. He’s one of a few Amish kids attending public school. Before that, his parents teach him to question all authorities. Before that, he’s conceived out of wedlock.

And even before that, before Nathan’s less-than-immaculate conception in his dad’s basement bedroom, where a Schwartz and a future Schwartz are being so quiet—sshh—so quiet under the collective Amish ear: before that, he’s at Bada, always there, always there.

So am I. I write about Nathan to avoid writing about myself. I want to say he’s overcompensating for the constraints and the judgment of the narrow religious community he grew up in, but that would be foolish. It’s more complicated than that. And “narrow” is a relative term. And he’s not the only one finding his communion at Bada on this Wednesday night. A few steps across the pressure-treated lumber there’s a deeply uncertain Christian kid with something to prove (that’s me).

The Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant, named for Ohioana’s second director and established by his family, is a competitive prize for an Ohio writer age thirty or younger who has not yet published a book. This year’s recipient is David Grandouiller. Born in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, and raised in Jamestown, Ohio, David is a 2017 graduate of Cedarville College. He writes essays and is currently in his third year as an M.F.A. candidate in creative writing at Ohio State University.





# A Mile-and-a-Half of Lines: Celebrating Thurber's Art

by David Weaver

As any reader of the *Ohioana Quarterly* must know by now, 2019 marks the 125th anniversary of the birth of humorist and cartoonist James Thurber. We have been delighted to be an official partner in the year-long celebration, with a special section in each of this year's issues devoted to Thurber's life and legacy.

Many wonderful events have taken place, and now, the grandest of them all, the Columbus Museum of Art presents *A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber*. It's a special exhibition of the humorist's celebrated drawings; showcasing his work for the *New Yorker*, his illustrations for his own and others' books, including children's books, and ad campaigns.

After a childhood accident left Thurber blind in one eye, his other eye began to deteriorate as he got older. The exhibition includes examples of this later work and the magnifying gadget that allowed him to continue working. Sections of the exhibition include "Signs of the Times" (prohibition, the Great Depression, and the Lost Generation); "The Bestiary in Me" (the animal kingdom); and "Columbustown."

Guest curator for the exhibition is Michael J. Rosen, who has also written a companion book. A four-time Ohioana Award-winning writer, illustrator, and editor, Rosen has collaborated with the Thurber Estate and written about the works of James Thurber for almost forty years. The founding literary director of Thurber House, Rosen recently started a new website, [www.jamesthurber.org](http://www.jamesthurber.org).

Working with Rosen on the exhibition is the museum's curator-at-large, Carole Genshaft, who earlier this year was an Ohioana Award finalist for *Aminah's World*, a book for children about another renowned Columbus artist, Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson.

The exhibition at the museum opened in August and will continue through March. It's expected to draw thousands of visitors from Ohio and around the country.

What does Rosen hope the visitors to the exhibition will learn from Thurber's drawings?

"[I hope they] come away from this exhibit realizing that almost singlehandedly—*single-line-edly*—Thurber shifted the possibilities of the drawn line not only in cartooning but in American art. His pre-intentional and spontaneous lines often preceded any idea he had about the subject or the text and revealed a way

of creating humor by improvising and problem-solving, rather than simply neatly executing a punch line. That accounts for the enduring nature of his work: he didn't decide, conclude, or tell. He simply left us in the middle of unresolved things."

Please visit [www.columbusmuseum.org](http://www.columbusmuseum.org) for more information about *A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber*.

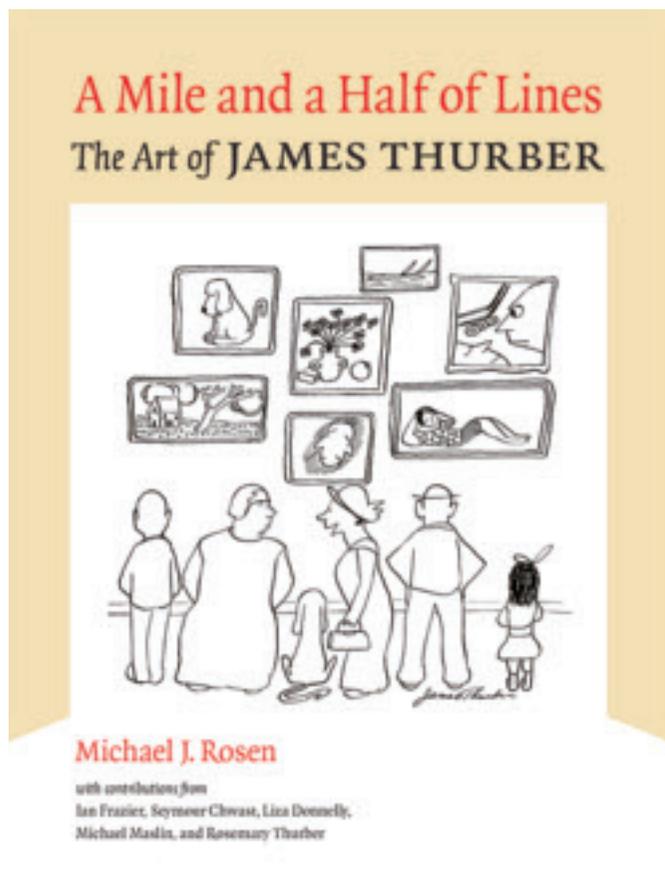


Columbus Museum of Art Exhibition. Photo by Michael J. Rosen.



## Book Review

Rosen, Michael J., with contributions from Ian Frazier, Seymour Chwast, Liza Donnelly, Michael Maslin, and Rosemary Thurber. *A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber*. Trillium/OSU Press (Columbus, OH) 2019. HC \$39.96.



2019 is the Year of Thurber!

James Thurber, born in Columbus, Ohio, 125 years ago, was destined to become one of the country's most celebrated and beloved humorists, especially, but not exclusively, for the *New Yorker* magazine.

During this anniversary year, his work is being celebrated extensively around Columbustown. The Columbus Museum of Art has mounted an important exhibition of Thurber's art — “the first major exhibit of Thurber's art,” according to author Michael J. Rosen — on loan from the Ohio State University Libraries' Rare Books and Manuscripts Library. That library has also

hung its own exhibition of Thurber material, “Thurber's Columbus.” As Jolie Braun, curator of modern literature and manuscripts at OSU's library, states, their Thurber exhibition “explores his lifelong relationship with the city.”

As well, Columbus' three main literary organizations — Thurber House, the Ohioana Library, and the Aldus Society — are celebrating Thurber in 2019. This truly is Thurber's year in his hometown, a year-long, city-wide celebration.

In collaboration with the Columbus Museum of Art's exhibition, the Ohio State University Press has just published a magnificent collection of Thurber's art, which shares its title with the museum's exhibition, *A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber*. His writings have long been acknowledged to be among the best of American humor. There's even a national Thurber Prize for American Humor, and now author/illustrator Michael J. Rosen, himself a Columbus treasure, has prepared this outstanding compendium of Thurber's witty drawings.

Rosen is the founding literary director of Thurber House and has edited six volumes of Thurber's works, so who better to assemble this valuable volume of Thurber's art?

The title comes from Thurber himself, who wrote, “If all the lines of what I've drawn were straightened out, they would reach a mile and a half. I drew just for relaxation, between writing.”

Thurber drew prolifically, and not just for the *New Yorker*. In this tome, we find many other comical efforts by Thurber, including a series of advertisements for Bug-a-Boo, an insect repellent for the Vacuum Oil Company. He also drew for the books of others.

The production values of this oversized book are remarkable. Clearly the publisher invested a great deal of time and effort in this labor of love, which I suspect should (and will) grace many homes during this coming holiday season. Unlike many coffee table books received as gifts, this hefty title will be picked up and enjoyed again and again, with the reader turning to someone in the room, or one's dog, pointing to one of Thurber's illustrated witticisms, saying, “Check this one out!”

The book is grouped around his cartoons' themes: "The Lost Generation," "War and Peace," "The Machine Age," "The Speakeasy and Prohibition," "Gangsters," "Nudism," and one of his classic categories, "Men, Women, and the Troubles Between."

Rosemary Thurber, the humorist's daughter, writes about her father's men vs. women cartoons, "The key word for me in all this — for both his men and his women — is 'baffled.' They're startled. They're confused."

Rosen also features the theme "The Masculine Approach," a favorite of Thurber's, and gives us a long list of twenty variations on this general topic, writing, "clearly the subject either pleased or plagued Thurber to no end."

To know Thurber's work at all is to know that he loved to draw dogs, derived from his own love of the critters. This focus is the subject of an entire chapter in *A Mile and a Half of Lines*. Rosen writes, "Whether the 'unregistered' hybrid, 'the Thurber Dog,' or a seal, penguin, bird, or any number of other real — or in his books for children, imagined — creatures, each offers a soundness in an unsound world." Adam Gopnik, himself a longtime *New Yorker* contributor, wrote of the Thurber dogs, "Thurber's theme is that a dog's life is spent, as a man's life should be, doing pointless things that have the solemnity of inner purpose."

Thurber commented on his famous dog, "Although at first he was a device for balance, I gradually worked him in as a sound creature in a crazy world."

He drew thirty-two illustrations of dogs for *How to Raise a Dog in the City and Suburbs* (1938) by James R. Kinney and Ann Honeycutt. Three of those rarely seen illustrations are featured in the book.

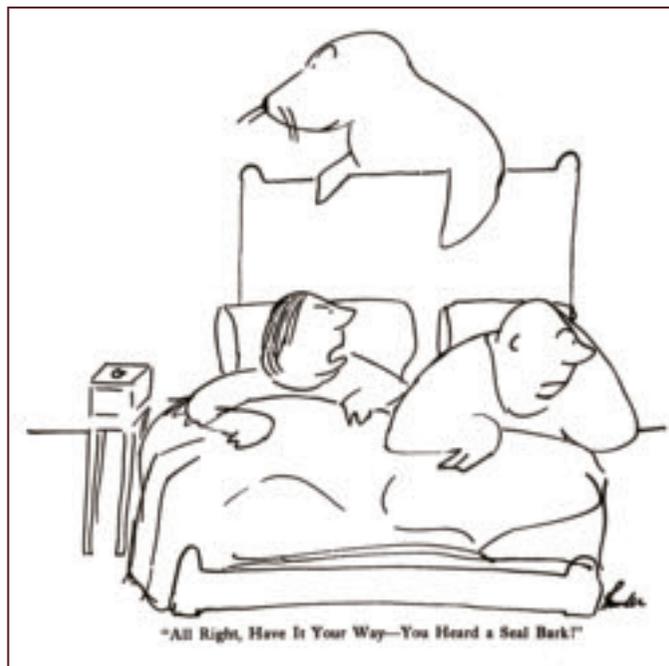
Some of the other cartoons in the book are also seeing the stain of print for the first time, drawn from that fabulous collection in OSU's Rare Books and Manuscripts archives — a feather in both the Press's and Rosen's cap.

Thurber himself is oft-quoted, sometimes at length, as he comments on his drawings, which adds much authenticity to the book. So we have Thurber's own text, Rosen's commentary, Rosemary Thurber's thoughts, as well as a number of other noted participants in the presentation of American culture who are quoted

throughout, adding richness to the reader's experience.

For example, Rosemary and Stephen Vincent Benét note that "His style of drawing is completely his own. An unsigned Thurber is as unmistakable as an unsigned kangaroo."

Michael Shaw, also a cartoonist for the *New Yorker*, was quoted by Rosen, commenting on Thurber's drawings in an article for the *Columbus Dispatch*, "As more than a number of people have said, 'It's about the think, not the ink.'"



James Thurber, Barking Seal

*Time* magazine featured Thurber on its cover in July, 1951, and in the related article, T.S. Eliot's comments illustrate why a revival of Thurber's art works so well: "His writing and also his illustrations are capable of surviving the immediate environment and time out of which they spring."

Algonquin Roundtable regular Dorothy Parker wrote the introduction to Thurber's first published collection of drawings, *The Seal in the Bedroom and Other Predicaments* (1932). That intro is reproduced here, and includes a line that is appropriate to this year's exhibitions and book: "It is none too soon that Mr. Thurber's drawings have been assembled in one space." Yet Rosen writes that Thurber "did not aspire to be a 'fine artist'....The art of writing, however, Thurber took

very seriously.” Thurber once wrote, “I can do only one thing, even passably, and that is to make words and space between punctuation points.”

Drawing was, for Thurber, “like smoking cigarettes or clinking ice cubes in a glass, something one did while waiting for or even while doing other things.”

This collection is addictive, rather like a clump of grapes. When you open a bag of potato chips, you know that an open bag is an empty bag. But with grapes, you think you’ll eat a few as a nutritious snack, but end up pulling all the grapes off their stems, unaware of the process. Once you start looking — though Rosen’s text is entertaining and educational — you get caught up in the drawings of what is a bound exhibition of Thurber’s art, and you’re a done dog. The evening is shot; you’ve missed the time to take your pills, call your child, and the dog has been whining for an hour to get out and is now looking guilty. Your eyes rise from the pages of illustrations,

trying to refocus on your surroundings, which appear nothing like the world Thurber has drawn. You’ve been Thurber-ized.

The handsome, large-format book was designed by Sara Thurber Sauers, Thurber’s granddaughter, who is a graphic artist, having obviously inherited an artistic sensibility from her famous grandfather. This book on the art of James Thurber is itself a work of art.

*George Cowmeadow Bauman loves books, traveling, and vintage travel books. He was the longtime co-owner of the Acorn Bookshop in the Grandview Heights neighborhood of Columbus.*

*All drawings by James Thurber are copyright © by Rosemary A. Thurber. Reprinted by permission of Rosemary A. Thurber and the Barbara Hogenson Agency, Inc.*



James Thurber, American Male Tied Up in Typewriter Ribbon

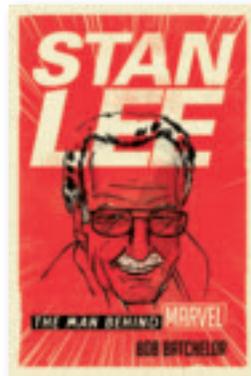
# Book Reviews

## NONFICTION

### **Batchelor, Bob. *Stan Lee: The Man Behind Marvel*.**

Rowman & Littlefield (Lanham, MD) 2017. HC \$25.95.

Stan Lee has become synonymous over the past decade with phrases like the King of Comic Books and King of the Nerds, but he wasn't always the kindly grandfather figure appearing in nearly every Marvel movie. Batchelor delves into the full life of a man who changed pop culture forever.



Beginning with his birth and upbringing in New York City, we see the hard scrabble days of the Depression that would form his world view. His father's repeated unemployment would plague his family, crush their home life, and in many ways haunt Stanley Lieber (Stan Lee) for the rest of his life. A man with a seemingly unending imagination, he would write in the army, and at the same time write for comic books back home, and still be told by his commanding officer that he needed to slow down his output. Luckily, later in civilian life, he would meet Jack "King" Kirby, a man who drew comics at an astounding pace, perhaps the only person able to keep up with the young Stan Lee.

Over at DC Comics, individuals were creating characters — Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster with Superman, Bob Kane and Bill Finger with Batman, and William Moulton Marston and Harry G. Peter with Wonder Woman. At Marvel Comics, Stan Lee and Jack Kirby created an entire universe of characters, including the Fantastic Four, the X-Men, Spider-Man, Iron Man, the Hulk, and many, many more. At one point, the count was well over 3,000 characters in all.

Influenced by his upbringing, Lee's creations would not be invincible men of unwavering character. Instead, they were flawed individuals, struggling with their own personal problems and misgivings. They also didn't live

in fantasy places like Metropolis and Gotham. They all resided in New York City — real people with real problems living in a real city. What seems obvious today was unheard of in the 1960s comic book world, and it started a revolution in both publishing and American culture that sixty years later is still going strong. With the addition of the Marvel movies based on these characters (and often Lee's classic storylines), one could say stronger than ever.

Batchelor explores the ups and downs (and downs and downs) of Lee's life, decade by decade, from his childhood into his nineties. In it, he draws the picture of a man determined to always keep working, driven by a fertile imagination and the fear of unemployment. Like the characters he created, his is a flawed life, but a very human one nonetheless. And that drive to create, even in his final years, is never diminished; he was constantly writing and creating for a multitude of companies on a myriad of platforms — print, the web, television, movies, live appearances, YouTube, video games, etc. Batchelor shows us a man who could have been crushed repeatedly throughout his life, but by sheer determination and an unflagging drive to create, rises again and again to the top of his field, changing ideas and culture in the process.

REVIEWED BY MICHAEL BRADSHAW, POET, WRITER, SUPREME COURT OF OHIO LAW LIBRARIAN, AND CHAIR OF THE OHIO LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF INSTITUTE

### **Ewing, Tom. *Bill Monroe: The Life and Music of the Blue Grass Man*.**

University of Illinois Press (Champaign, IL) 2018. HC \$34.95.

Bill Monroe (1911 – 1996) is a towering figure in country music history. His career as a composer, performer, and bandleader played a central role in the development of bluegrass as a distinct form of country music. Musician and writer Tom Ewing, a native of Columbus, Ohio, has written



## BOOK REVIEWS | NONFICTION

an important book about him, *Bill Monroe: The Life and Music of the Blue Grass Man*. In it, Ewing traces Monroe's family history and then writes with authority about the Blue Grass Man's early musical development in his hometown of Rosine, Kentucky, as well as his lifelong career in music.

Bluegrass is played by small combos that typically feature acoustic instruments, including the guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and stand-up bass. Singing is also distinctive in bluegrass songs, with a lead singer who at times is backed by two or three harmony singers, including a high tenor. Because of the fast tempo of the music, Alan Lomax, a traditional music scholar and record producer, wrote in a famous 1960 article for *Esquire* magazine that bluegrass "is folk music in overdrive, with a silvery, rippling, pinging sound."

Bluegrass has historical roots in Appalachian areas of Southern states, including Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina. Appalachia has many people of Scots-Irish descent; their ancestors began moving into these mountainous areas in the early 1700s, bringing with them traditional ballads and dance tunes that are the precursors of bluegrass. Indeed, some bluegrass songs are versions of the older ballads, such as "Bury Me Beneath the Weeping Willow" and "The Girl with the Blue Velvet Band," which can be traced back to the British Isles. Both songs were recorded by Monroe.

Monroe came from a musical family. From an early age, Bill remembered his mother combining music-making with her housework. She sometimes paused from her chores and as Bill remembered: "She would go by the bed where she left her fiddle and pick it up and play a number, you know, an old-time fiddle number, and it was just wonderful" (p. 9). Another major influence for Bill was his Uncle Pendleton Vandiver, an accomplished fiddler who played for barn dances in and around Rosine. Bill and his older brothers, Harry, Speed, John, Birch, and Charlie, all learned to play the fiddle or the guitar from their Uncle Pen, as he was known. Later in his life, Monroe immortalized Pendleton Vandiver in one of his best-known and loved songs, "Uncle Pen," which includes the chorus:

*Late in the evening about sundown  
High on the hill above the town  
Uncle Pen played the fiddle, Lordy how it would ring  
You could hear it talk, you could hear it sing.*

Another early influence on Monroe's music came from Arnold Shultz, an African American fiddler and guitarist from Ohio County, Kentucky. Shultz also played fiddle for area barn dances, and his guitar style later influenced other Kentucky musicians, including Merle Travis, who was celebrated for his fingerpicking guitar style, featuring the thumb picking a distinctive rhythm on the bass strings. Years later, Monroe remembered that as a thirteen-year-old he played guitar to accompany Shultz's fiddling at a dance.

Each of these musicians — his mother, his Uncle Pen, and Arnold Shultz, influenced Bill's approach to singing and mandolin playing. As for his playing the mandolin, Bill took up the instrument at the behest of his brothers, who were already playing the fiddle or guitar. Ewing quotes folklorist Ralph Rinzler, who knew Monroe and helped him get bookings at folk festivals in the 1960s. Rinzler wrote that Bill was given his first mandolin by his mother: "[He then] resolved at the age of thirteen, to play the mandolin in a way that nobody else had ever played it and to play his music cleaner and better than anyone" (p. 31).

Monroe's mandolin style attracted widespread public attention in the mid-1930s, when he played and recorded with his brother Charlie. Billed as the Monroe Brothers, the songs featured their duet singing, with Charlie often taking the lead and Bill singing a harmony tenor above his brother's vocal. The instrumentation featured Charlie on acoustic guitar and Bill on mandolin. Notably, Bill's mandolin style was based on lively fiddle tunes with rapid notes played at a remarkably fast tempo. Bill Monroe was the original master of bluegrass mandolin and his reputation as a virtuoso began with Charlie during their three years together as the Monroe Brothers.

Even more central to the emergence of bluegrass music was Bill's band, the Blue Grass Boys, which he began in the spring of 1939 at the age of twenty-seven. Ewing notes in his book that Monroe began to sing lead on some songs, such as "Footprints in the Snow" and Jimmie Rodgers' "Mule Skinner Blues," which his band eventually recorded and continued to perform for many years. In October of that year, the Blue Grass Boys appeared for the first time on the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville. Monroe sang and played "Mule Skinner Blues" with an aplomb that featured a falsetto yodel. At the end of the number he received a standing ovation

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from the audience and a permanent place thereafter as an Opry performer.

Monroe changed the lineup of the Blue Grass Boys often, partly in his search for side musicians who could recreate the arrangements he heard in his head. In 1946, he formed the band that is often referred to as the classic bluegrass group, with Lester Flatt singing lead and playing guitar, Monroe on mandolin, Chubby Wise on fiddle, Howard Watts on bass, and the twenty-one-year-old Earl Scruggs on banjo. Scruggs in particular caused an immediate sensation with audiences because of his dramatic three-string picking style and intricate improvisation that complemented Monroe's mandolin perfectly. Flatt and Scruggs went on to form their own band in 1948 as the Foggy Mountain Boys, and they gained popularity that rivaled that of Monroe's band. Indeed, Flatt and Scruggs became even more widely known than their mentor when, in the early 1960s, they recorded "The Ballad of Jed Clampett," which was used as the theme song for the hit television series, *The Beverly Hillbillies*.

Ewing has meticulously researched Bill Monroe and brings an informed perspective to his subject, since he played in Monroe's bluegrass band for ten years (1986-1996) and appeared on Monroe's last three albums as a guitarist and lead singer. Ewing's reminiscence of visiting Monroe during his last illness is a telling story of his respect and reverence for the Father of Bluegrass. Today, the music Monroe developed with his musicians is more popular than it has ever been, with large summer festivals and fans and bluegrass bands throughout the United States and in many foreign countries. Rosine has become a Mecca for bluegrass acolytes from around the globe to visit: the town now has a Bill Monroe Museum and a street named for Uncle Pen.

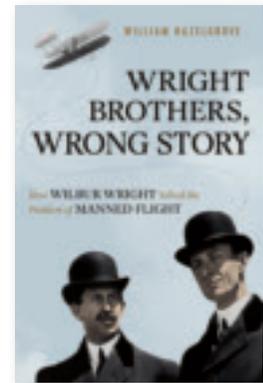
REVIEWED BY JACK SHORTLIDGE, WRITER AND RETIRED PUBLIC FOLKLORIST, COLUMBUS, OHIO

### **Hazelgrove, William. *Wright Brothers, Wrong Story: How Wilbur Wright Solved the Problem of Manned Flight*.**

Prometheus Books (Amherst, NY) 2018. HC \$24.00.

On December 14, 1903, Wilbur Wright flipped a coin in the air to see whether he or his brother Orville would fly in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Wilbur won and

managed to get the Wright Flyer airborne for all of sixty feet, a partial success, as he wrote to his father, Bishop Wright, that evening. The plane was damaged and would require some repairs. Although technically Wilbur had flown first, there was no photographic record of his having done so.



Three days later, it was Orville's turn. Wilbur placed a camera close by and instructed an associate to snap a picture as the machine rose off its track. That picture created the illusion that Orville was first and helped to perpetuate the myth that he and Wilbur were equally responsible for their creation.

According to Hazelgrove, nothing could be further from the truth. Wilbur was seventeen and an exceptional student possibly headed to Yale, when a jealous neighbor named Oliver Haugh, later electrocuted for murder, attacked Wilbur during an ice hockey match. He broke Wilbur's jaw and shattered some of his teeth. During his convalescence, Wilbur tended to his dying mother and fell into a deep depression that lasted three years. That was when he began grappling with the complexities of human flight.

Wilbur was the first to understand that pitch, roll, and yaw were essential to getting a plane in the air. Samuel P. Langley, the director of the Smithsonian, spent \$50,000 of the government's money on an aerodrome that failed repeatedly, landing in the Potomac River like a brick. In contrast, Wilbur realized that control, rather than power, was what would lift his machine into the sky.

Many years later, after Wilbur was long dead, Orville engaged in a protracted legal and propaganda war with Langley and his supporters that stalled the American aviation industry for many years to come. These struggles over who owned which patents and where the original Wright Flyer ought to be housed have been well documented elsewhere.

This book, however, finally gives Wilbur the credit he deserves. Hazelgrove has combed the correspondence between the brothers and their family and between Wilbur and other leading engineers and aviation specialists of the time to provide a birds-eye view of

## BOOK REVIEWS | NONFICTION

what it felt like to be at the center of this epoch-defining maelstrom.

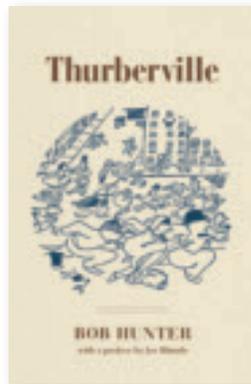
That Orville, an astute businessman, remained on an equal footing with his older brother is due to several factors: he lived thirty-six years longer than Wilbur; the Wrights were a neurotically close-knit family who tended to see outsiders as enemies and to think of themselves as “we,” not “I”; and Orville curated every aspect of Fred Kelly’s authorized biography that asserted the two brothers were full collaborators. The book was considered the last word on the Wrights for decades after its publication. *Wright Brothers, Wrong Story* does an excellent job of correcting the inaccuracies of Kelly’s biography and individualizing the brothers, who have been interchangeable in the popular imagination for too long.

REVIEWED BY TERRI PAUL, COLUMBUS WRITER AND PAST WINNER OF THE OHIOANA BOOK AWARD IN FICTION

### **Hunter, Bob, with a preface by Joe Blundo. *Thurberville*.**

Trillium/OSU Press (Columbus, OH) 2017. HC \$29.95.

Everyone knows James Thurber’s Columbus. Joe Blundo, in the introduction to *Thurberville*, quotes Columbus native and playwright Donald Ogden Stewart from the 1950s: “When I first came to live in London, I was amazed at the number of Englishmen who said, ‘Oh, yes, Columbus, of course, I know it very well, from Thurber’s books, you know.’”



And if you live in Columbus or have only visited or never visited and read some the celebrated stories, then you are just like those Englishmen in the 1950s who “know it very well.” And you’re going to get to know it better with Bob Hunter’s generous and detailed book.

The first thing you need to do is get a map so that you can keep track — as much as anyone can — of the many places that the young Jamie Thurber and his family lived. There were a lot. The current Thurber House at 77 Jefferson is address among several, most the them long gone. With Hunter as your guide, you can follow one trail through the history of Columbus, from old neighborhoods that went on the decline and are now

on the rise to homes on what used to be the outer edges of the city, surrounded by trees and farmland. The buildings, streets, and former farms of the city are as important as the people.

In fact, Hunter has brought every possible Thurber character back to life for us in this detailed book. Not content with the known highlights, the author has dug into the old stories and walked the old sidewalks to tell us exactly everything that can be known about the Fishers (Thurber’s mother’s family) and the far-flung relatives in Sugar Grove in the Hocking Hills. The most poignant and moving tributes in this book are the detailed descriptions of Thurber’s parents, Charles and Mary Agnes, known as “Mame.” Hunter shines in unearthing the neglected origin stories.

“Charles L. Thurber lives on today mostly as the straight man/dupe of his son’s humorous short stories,” writes Hunter. “James repeatedly casts his father as a poor sap who is flummoxed by man and machine, a kind-hearted soul who is unwittingly victimized by the people, objects, and events surrounding him.”

But Bob Hunter’s dedicated research and writing shows a man of idealism who was committed to public service. Never financially successful but always able to support his family, Charles supported two Ohio governors as a staff aid, clerked for politicians, was secretary to the mayor of Columbus, and even ran for office himself. He was not a failure. In fact, conjectures Hunter, “the world might even see him as a stunning success.”

Mame, Thurber’s mother, was born into a more prosperous family than her husband, and her father never took to Charles. “Mame” Fisher Thurber was the funny one, the one who never let a little modesty get in the way of a good prank. Had her circumstances been different (or her parents less watchful), she might have made a career as a comedienne on the vaudeville stage, soaking up applause with guffaw-inducing pratfalls. “Mame’s embellishment of stores became familiar to all who knew her, so much that no one really knew how much of what she said was true.” Like mother, like son ...

REVIEWED BY LESLIE SHORTLIDGE, COLUMBUS RESIDENT AND EDITOR OF THE OHIOANA QUARTERLY

**Johnston, Christopher. *Shattering Silences: Strategies to Prevent Sexual Assault, Heal Survivors, and Bring Assailants to Justice.***

Skyhorse Publishing (New York: NY) 2018. HC \$24.95.

Rape is forever. As a survivor, I read Christopher Johnston's seminal work through both the lens of victim and socio-cultural critic. Typically, I'm a fan of short titles, but with the lack of solution-based information about the issue of sexual assault — in spite of its long term, devastating impact on hundreds of thousands of women — this is the perfect title for his book. In it, Johnston carefully takes the reader through the history of dealing with sexual assault in Cleveland, Ohio, and nationally, including evidence collection, survivor experiences, law enforcement response, and most importantly, the key people behind the scenes in Cleveland and throughout the country, making a marked difference for the better in the way women survivors are treated.



Following Johnston's introduction, the book begins with the story of Shondreka Lloyd, who was drugged and raped at a friend's house in Cleveland at fourteen when she was still a virgin. Johnston's description of the assault, based upon his interview with the survivor, is vivid and chilling,

including what the rapist said when she tried to scream for help, "If you holler out that window, I'm gonna kill you," before punching the young girl in the face, his after-the-assault apology reminding me of what was said to me decades ago.

Unfortunately, when an ambulance took Shondreka to the hospital, no one believed her, not even her own mother. Like too many survivors in, according to Johnston, "the bad old days" before a concerted effort to develop and implement a plan for change, Shondreka's experience of being blamed and shamed as the victim, of suffering the invasive, insensitive administering of a rape kit, punctuated by a mother who subsequently refused to let her participate in the case, was the common way of handling sexual assault cases.

As a result, "[h]er rape kit sat gathering dust and time... and the police and the prosecutor's office let the case die [f]or twenty years." Fortunately, for Shondreka Lloyd, she managed to go on with her life, in spite of the almost constant memory of her rapist. In the interim a lot changed for the better.

Space will not permit a more thorough overview of *Shattering Silences*, but the next sixteen chapters carefully chronicle the progress, challenges, and breakthroughs in sexual assault rape kit collection, health care and law enforcement education and attitudes, thanks in large part to people on the front lines, beginning with Kristi Mouncey and the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center.

In a chapter filled with important acronyms like VOCA (Victims of Crime) and State Victim Assistance Act (SVAA), which provided Mouncey and the CRCC with major grants resulting in the opening of a second and much needed CRCC office in Westlake, Mouncey noted, "We...answer[ed] a number of phone calls that [went] something like this 'I need help. Our office is downtown'. And then we hear 'click.'" Thanks to Mouncey, her staff, and countless numbers of volunteers, the CRCC is "one of the five cornerstone rape crisis centers in the country, along with Boston, Washington, Pittsburgh, and San Francisco."

Working tirelessly for rape victims, Mouncey led the first new training workshops for the Cuyahoga County Sexual Assault Kit Task Force in 2017 as part of an ongoing commitment to teaching all parties involved the principles of "patient centered" trauma-informed care. Such principles included an overview of the latest research on how best to treat survivors of sexual assault beginning with automatically believing the rape victim, training of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) compassionate collection and protection of the evidence, and pursuing prosecution whenever possible.

There are too many heroes and sheroes featured in this comprehensive look at all aspects of sexual assault to name here, but Cleveland Police Commander James McPike stands out because of his commitment to making a difference when he became sergeant in charge of the Sex Crimes and Child Abuse Unit of the Cleveland Police Department in 2011. His first move was to change the language used to describe a sexual assault survivor and her or his description of what happened.

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Two other individuals are also notable for their efforts: Elizabeth Booth an R.N., for her tireless efforts to train empathetic sexual assault nurse examiners (SANE), and Mike Pistorino, consultant and child rape survivor, who travels the country telling his story in the hopes of putting all people who rape “little kids” behind bars.

*Shattering Silences* is a must read for anyone interested in understanding all key aspects of sexual assault. Like all good books, it ends with hope in an Epilogue that details the paradigm shift in sexual assault that occurred in 2017, as well as the fact that more work is needed. As Commander McPike shares, “Everything complicates the investigation.... We want the absolute truth. The reality is our criminal justice system, I don’t think, is very kind to victims at all.”

Thanks to Mouncey, McPike, Booth, Pistorino, and countless others, patient-centered sexual assault support is changing the system, one survivor at a time.

REVIEWED BY MARY E. WEEMS, PH.D., WRITER, POET, AND CLEVELAND RESIDENT

## FICTION

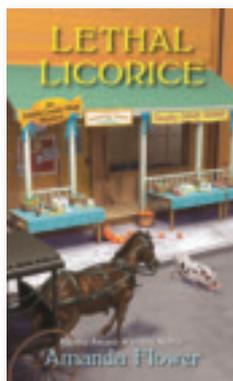
### **Flower, Amanda. *Lethal Licorice: An Amish Candy Shop Mystery #2.***

Kensington Books (New York, NY) 2018. PB \$7.99.

What do murder, candy, and a missing polka-dot pig have to do with one another? That’s what *Lethal Licorice* is all about. Bailey King, chocolatier and confectioner, takes her grandfather’s place in the Amish Confectionery Competition in Harvest (in the heart of Ohio’s Holmes County Amish country). It’s stiff competition as Bailey is the only non-Amish person making candy using Amish methods only.

She’s up for the test. When Josephine Weaver is found dead inside the church’s organ, there’s foul play afoot. To top it off, her friend Janet Brody’s pet pig is missing.

As Bailey and Deputy Sheriff Aiden Brody search for the killer and the pig, they learn more than they ever expected to about Amish culture, strictures, and



discontent. You’ll keep reaching for sugary foods and candies as you delve into *Lethal Licorice*. Beware the sugar high!

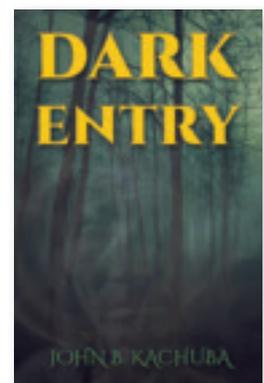
Amanda Flower, as always, writes an exciting cozy mystery, full of Amish culture, small town Ohio, and a variety of interesting characters. I’d say charming characters, but some are downright nasty.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN, COLUMBUS, OHIO

### **Kachuba, John B. *Dark Entry.***

Hellbender Books (Mechanicsburg, PA) 2018. PB \$14.95.

With *Dark Entry*, Ohioan John Kachuba, best known for his nonfiction paranormal books and his speaking engagements at numerous universities, libraries, and conferences, makes his debut in the fiction world of supernatural horror. Set in northwestern Connecticut, the tale opens in 1868 in Dudleytown, where the charcoal burners who work in the forest become victims of an ancient



curse. A century later, the place is a ghost town. Only one family still maintains a residence in the old forest, and it is to that house that Sandy Lawrence comes to escape domestic abuse at the hands of her boyfriend.

The novel is peopled with numerous characters, each with a distinctive voice and story to tell. Each chapter of the novel introduces us to these voices: Sandy; Leslie, Sandy’s friend and owner of the house in the woods; the ghostly “presence” in the forest; Kevin, the abusive boyfriend; Nathan, a handyman of sorts who becomes a romantic interest; and the lights that coalesce into the sachem of the original curse. These shifting points of view add to the eerie quality of the tale itself. Readers must pay attention to these shifts as the plot unfolds.

Kachuba is adept at blending his nonfiction skills with the fictional narrative, infusing the story with historical tidbits regarding the setting, the 1868 inhabitants, and the local legends surrounding the strange series of deaths over the years. This background prepares for the introduction of journal entries from Leslie’s father, who conducted research on the mysterious curse before ending his own life with a shotgun. The discovery of the

## BOOK REVIEWS | FICTION

written accounts forces Sandy to consider the possibility that the ghostly presence she senses in the woods actually exists:

“There she was, alone in the woods, reading a journal about spooky happenings in Dudleytown after hearing a ghost story from Nathan. Is it any wonder she would jump at the slightest sound...Or that she would feel cold in a house on a mountain shaded by trees, or that shadow and light could surprise her with optical tricks? Ghosts? That explanation seemed unlikely, far-fetched. Maybe...” (p. 67).

As the tension mounts, Sandy receives an unexpected visitor. Kevin has tracked her down and threatens her, then disappears into the night. When his body is discovered deep among the trees, Sandy and her friend are forced to admit the existence of paranormal forces.

“Maybe somewhere along the line, somewhere between here and there — wherever there is — some of us get lost, get off the bus one stop short of our destination. Maybe that’s what a ghost is...” (p. 131).

Kachuba mines this theme of the afterlife as well as the topic of domestic abuse. In a number of scenes, he examines the reasons why a person might not report such abuse. As the story behind the abuse emerges, the reader is presented with a thoughtful exploration of Sandy’s circumstances, as well as psychological insight into the experience.

The placement of the story in the forests of Connecticut sounds a distinct echo of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Stephen King in the narrative. The spooky old trees, the unexpected outcroppings of rock, hidden pits, and dilapidated cabins... oh, my! Readers who enjoy suspenseful tales that deal with the supernatural will enjoy *Dark Entry’s* tension-filled atmosphere and plot.

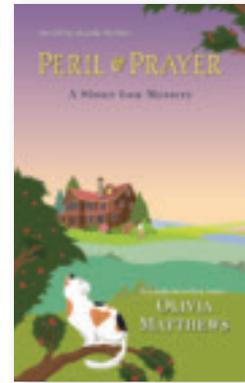
REVIEWED BY JANET E. IRVIN, AUTHOR OF *THE DARK END OF THE RAINBOW*, *THE RULES OF THE GAME*, AND *THE STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF ROSE STONE*

### **Matthews, Olivia. *Peril & Prayer: A Sister Lou Mystery.***

Kensington Books (New York, NY) 2018. PB \$7.99.

When Autumn Tassler, the owner of the Briar Coast

Cabin Resorts, is murdered, Sister Louise (Lou) LaSalle is certain that 1) the Advent retreat for the Congregation of St. Hermione of Ephesus will fall apart, and 2) she must solve the mystery of Autumn’s death and restore the reputation of her congregation. She’s certain her fellow nun, Sister Marianna, didn’t kill Autumn, but then which of the numerous suspects did? Was it her business partner Rita, her sister January, her accountant Gary, or the businessman/investor Montgomery Crane? Perhaps it was Sister Marianne, the least likely suspect.



With the help of her nephew, Chris LaSalle, and intrepid newspaper reporter, Shari Henson, the trio follows the clues. And there are lots of clues. Of course, they bump heads with the local sheriff’s deputies Fran Cole and Ted Tate, causing lots of ruffled feathers and a lot of tension.

This cozy is lots of fun. There are a good number of false leads, a lot of suspects, and a few subplots. You’ll enjoy *Peril and Prayer* and yearn for more. Good thing number three in the series is already in the works.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN, LIBRARIAN, COLUMBUS, OHIO

### **Ramspeck, Doug. *The Owl That Carries Us Away.***

BkMk Press/University of Missouri-Kansas City (Kansas City, MO) 2018. PB \$15.95.

Winner of the G. S. Chandra Prize for Short Fiction, *The Owl That Carries Us Away* is a collection of twenty-nine short stories that introduce us to characters and images at once familiar and frightening. From the title story where a boy treasures a possum skull only to have it destroyed by a bully to the final episode where a boy kills a crow and then attempts to revive it, the reader enters a world where the death of a parent or the abandonment of a lover unleashes unexpected emotion, intense inner reflection, and yet arrested reactions. Reviewer Michael



Griffith called Doug Ramspeck's collection "a sad, dark, terrific book." I agree with his assessment, except I find it sad, dark, and terrifying.

Frequently, Ramspeck's emotionally challenged protagonists are unnamed, or referred to as Father, Mother, the boy, she. They drift through their lives like ghosts, forced against their will to face head on the calamities that visit them. Wary and uneasy, they skirt the blood in the snow, the clothes in the closet, searching for answers that may never come. In "Old Man," an unnamed widower spends his mornings reading the newspaper and his evenings drinking on a bench in the backyard. Ramspeck writes, "He thought of this stage of life as like living all alone on a great hill overlooking a bustling village" (p. 113). Removed from the action, the old man can do nothing but observe until loud music from the neighbors' forces him to take action. Even as he contemplates the intrusion of the group next door, he feels separate and alone: "Growing old meant the sun receded farther away into the sky" (p. 114).

If one is familiar with Ramspeck's poetry, it is easy to recognize his poems' recurring images in these stories: crows, snow, abusive fathers, distant mothers, boys who spend long stretches of the day exploring the fields and rivers, unexpected passages into the bizarre. In "Messenger," the boys who figure in the story are not named initially. The tale begins outdoors.

"Here is the place, as quiet as a whisper. It is old here at the far edge of the woods where the fence lies down. It has fallen mostly in one spot, where the brothers cross on their way into the open field and school" (p. 39).

This is a world that "keeps its own counsel." One day as the boys walk to school, they observe a neighbor girl having sex. Despite the rigid structure of their lives — "The boys exist in the seam of the world, in the narrow slip where there has to be silence, where nothing else is possible." (p. 42) — they sneak out to find her house and continue their clandestine peeping. Now, they are named, acquiring substance and drawing us closer to their fascination with the girl and her partner. When the boyfriend catches Seth and Jay watching, he pursues the boys until they elude him. Now, excluded from more sightings and bitter at the loss, Jay "...cannot see

what is coming in his future, except for the days ahead, their geography. He will be as old someday as the boy and girl, will know whatever mysteries they know, will understand or not understand" (p. 49).

Imbued with poetry, hemmed in by the mysterious, these stories lie uneasy in our minds, their sad, lonely, forgotten men and women carrying on as best they can in a world at once familiar yet unknowable. Ramspeck, the author of six books of poetry, debuts his fiction with these enigmatic stories of loss, strife, and perseverance.

REVIEWED BY JANET E. IRVIN, AUTHOR OF *THE DARK END OF THE RAINBOW*, *THE RULES OF THE GAME*, AND *THE STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF ROSE STONE*

### MIDDLE GRADE & CHILDREN'S

#### **Klages, Ellen. *Out of Left Field*.**

Viking Books for Young Readers (New York, NY) 2018.  
HC \$16.99.

At the age of nine, Katy Gordon is already on her way to becoming a pro baseball player. She's the best pitcher in her neighborhood and is happy to spend summers playing ball with the boys who live on her street. When Katy is scouted to join Little League, she is over the moon — until she discovers that girls are not eligible to join the team. From there, Katy sets out on a mission to prove that girls deserve the same opportunities to play as boys and discovers that women have a rich but overlooked history in the sport.



Katy's story takes place in San Francisco during the school year of 1957-1958, a tumultuous period of scientific and social change in the United States. The novel explores gender equality in sports, while also focusing on prevalent topics of the time such as racism, Japanese internment, and the launch of the first Russian and American satellites. These issues and ideas are weaved thoughtfully into the narrative, presented as a part of Katy's everyday life rather than a history lesson for the reader. Katy herself is an intelligent and positive heroine, willing to stand up against authority for

what she knows is right by using her research skills to construct a convincing argument for her point. She also uses the help of supportive librarians, teachers, and her delightfully independent mother and sisters. Pioneering female baseball players from the early 1900s appear, acting as Katy's guides and role models, reminding her that her passion and efforts cannot be erased.

Though Katy's story takes place in the 1950s, the subjects that *Out of Left Field* covers are still relevant today. The history presented in the story is accessible and fascinating — especially the true stories of female athletes and their often-unfair treatment. Readers at a middle grade level and above will enjoy following Katy and her friends in their efforts to make the world better.

REVIEWED BY MORGAN PETERS, PROGRAM COORDINATOR, OHIOANA LIBRARY

**Valente, Catherynne M. *The Glass Town Game*.**

Margaret K, McElderry Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division (New York, NY ) 2017. HC \$17.99.

In the pages of her delightful and energetic middle-grade reader, *The Glass Town Game*, author Catherynne M. Valente brings the astonishing Brontë siblings to life for the kind of adventure they deserve. For just this once, the miseries of poverty, ill health, and a constrained life have no victory over this fiercely talented family.

Charlotte, Emily, and Anne were of course the famous Brontë sisters who wrote, respectively, *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights*, and *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. As children, they joined with their brother Bramwell to create elaborate worlds of fantasy that featured their twelve wooden soldiers.

The Brontës in this book share that same love of fantasy — but they are facing the beginning of the new school year, a more dismal prospect than the modern reader might understand: two older Brontë sisters are already dead as the book begins, having died after enduring the unhealthy living conditions of the grim Cowan Bridge Boarding School. Charlotte, Emily, and Anne are all

bound for Cowan, as the son, Bramwell, can look forward to his father's undivided attention and being schooled at home. But prospects change at the railroad station — where so many good things can begin for stories based in England that involve motherless children.

From the moment the train arrives, it is obvious that things are not even close to normal: a strange man made of magazines is causing chaos on the platform, and the train's engine is made of wicker. And the ticket takers are two of their own wooden soldiers, Crashy and Bravey. These worthies, by the way, are based on the actual wooden soldiers of the Brontë children. With buttons as cash paying for bright lemons as tickets, all four siblings are on their way into the heart of the Napoleonic Wars as it rages in the imaginary land of Glass Town.

The dialogue is witty and inventive. The Wonderland-esque creatures of Glass Town challenge the Brontës at every turn, which forces the children to be adept and nimble and to choose sides in the war over grog, the life-giving elixir that could bring back their mother and older sisters if they can just smuggle it back into England.

Valente's experience in the horror and fantasy genres comes to the fore with a skeletal Bonaparte (not called "Boney" for nothing) and death on the battlefield as well as the Vivisectionist's Garden on the grounds of a posh country home. A suitcase dubbed Bestminster has both sentience and a marvelous ability to become a hot air balloon or a grand house. The author's deft and beguiling imagination spins out endless scenes of conflict and delirium as the children enter the fray. There are promises and betrayals, fantastical balls, Lord Byron (sort of), a young Queen Victoria (again, sort of), and danger. And, alas, Bramwell is not entirely to be trusted.

Fans of C. S. Lewis's Narnia will see echoes of the weaselly Eustace from *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* and Digory's choice in *The Magician's Nephew*. Valente makes these tropes entirely her own. Highly recommended for children who love wild and imaginative fantasy.

REVIEWED BY LESLIE BIRDWELL SHORTLIDGE, COLUMBUS RESIDENT AND EDITOR OF THE OHIOANA QUARTERLY



# Book List

The following books were added to Ohioana's collection between June and August, 2019. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

## NONFICTION

Abdurraqib, Hanif. *Go Ahead in the Rain: Notes to a Tribe Called Quest*. University of Texas Press (Austin, TX) 2019. PB \$16.95. The first chronicle of A Tribe Called Quest — the visionary, award-winning group whose jazz-influenced records and socially-conscious lyrics revolutionized rap in the early 1990s, and again after the 2016 election, when *We Got It from Here...Thank You 4 Your Service* arrived when fans needed it most.

Axelrod, David. *The Eclipse I Call Father: Essays on Absence*. Oregon State University Press (Corvallis, OR) 2019. PB \$21.95. In *The Eclipse I Call Father: Essays on Absence*, David Axelrod recalls a balmy night in May 1970 when he vowed to allow no one and nothing he loves to pass from this life without praise, even if it meant praising the most bewildering losses. In each of these fourteen essays Axelrod delivers on that vow as he ranges across topics as diverse as marriage, Japanese poetry, Craftsman design, old English riddles, trains, the Great Depression, and the effects of climate change — accretions of absence that haunt the writer and will likewise haunt readers.

Brown, Sherrod. *Desk 88: Eight Progressive Senators Who Changed America*. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux (New York, NY) 2019. ARC \$28.00.

Since his election to the U.S. Senate in 2006, Ohio's Sherrod Brown has sat on the Senate floor at a mahogany desk with a proud history. In *Desk 88*, he tells the story of eight of the Senators who were there before him. Despite their flaws and frequent setbacks, each made a decisive contribution to the creation of a more just America. They range from Hugo Black, who helped to lift millions of American workers out of poverty, to Robert F. Kennedy, whose eyes were opened by an undernourished Mississippi child and who then spent the rest of his life afflicting the comfortable. Brown revives forgotten figures such as Idaho's Glen Taylor, a singing cowboy who taught himself economics and stood up to segregationists, and offers new insights into George McGovern, who fought to feed the poor around the world even amid personal and political calamities. He also writes about Herbert Lehman of New York, Al Gore Sr. of Tennessee, Theodore Francis Green of Rhode Island, and William Proxmire of Wisconsin.

Caracciolo, Matthew. *The Waygook Book: A Foreigner's Guide to South Korea*. Monday Creek Publishing (Buchtel, OH) 2018. PB \$14.99. It's Chicago in 2012, and Matthew has three jobs, two degrees, and one relentless itch to return home to Ohio. Rather than drive 317 miles east to Columbus, he and his wife travel 6600 miles west to

teach English in South Korea. *The Waygook Book* follows Matthew as he navigates living, working, and traveling in the Land of the Morning Calm.

Farrell, Shawn Patrick. *Heart and Darkness: Scary Adventures and the Evolution of Disney's Dark Rides*. Theme Park Press (New York, NY) 2017. PB \$17.95.

The dark rides in Disney theme parks have delighted — and sometimes terrified — millions of people. The history of these attractions is a fascinating story of creativity, engineering, and pop culture, and it's told here for the first time. From their primitive beginnings in the 1800s, to their perfection by the Disney Imagineers, dark rides are an ingenious way to tell a visually exciting story to guests who "travel" through the action, scene by scene, aboard vehicles ranging from boats to (Doom) buggies. Farrell also explores notable dark rides not in a Disney park, the many that have gone into the gloom, and some hints of what's to come.

Kaufman, Kenn. *A Season on the Wind: Inside the World of Spring Migration*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (New York, NY) 2019. HC \$26.00.

Every spring, billions of birds sweep north, driven by ancient instincts to return to their breeding grounds. This vast parade often goes unnoticed, except in a few places where these small travelers concentrate in large numbers. One such place is along Lake Erie in northwestern Ohio. Now climate change threatens to disrupt patterns

## BOOK LIST | NONFICTION & ABOUT OHIO/OHIOAN

of migration and the delicate balance between birds, seasons, and habitats. But wind farms — popular as green energy sources — can be disastrous for birds if built in the wrong places. This is an urgent study of the complex issues that affect bird migration.

Latimer, Sandi. *The Bills Keep Coming, the Grass Keeps Growing: Survivor of a Suicide Gets on with Life*. iUniverse (Bloomington, IN) 2017. PB \$10.99.

Sandi Latimer's life changed forever the day she returned home after her volunteer work to find her husband dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. In this book she shares her story. Having no immediate family to rely on, she had to learn to cope by herself.

McCoy, David B. *An American's Guide to Understanding the Troubles of Northern Ireland*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2013. PB \$8.99.  
Historian David McCoy's short guide to the late twentieth-century conflict in Northern Ireland.

McCoy, David B. *The Average Family's Multi-Disaster Preparedness Manual*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2017. PB \$9.99.  
McCoy, who holds certificates from FEMA and the Columbia Regional Learning Center for personal emergency preparedness, presents a short guide on a variety of disaster scenarios and what to do when they strike.

McCoy, David B. *General John Burgoyne: Soldier, Statesman, Playwright*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2017. PB \$8.99.  
Biography of General John

Burgoyne, a British army officer, dramatist, and politician who sat in the House of Commons from 1761 to 1792. He first saw action during the Seven Years' War when he participated in several battles, most notably during the Portugal Campaign of 1762.

McCoy, David B. *A Short History of Hilton Head Island, 3rd Edition*. Spare Change Press (Massillon, OH) 2018. PB \$9.99.  
The third edition of McCoy's concise history of Hilton Head Island.

McCrary, Micah. *Island in the City*. University of Nebraska Press (Lincoln, NE) 2018. PB \$17.95.  
What forges the unique human personality? Micah McCrary, taking his genetic inheritance as immutable, considers the role geography has played in shaping who he is.

McGregor, Tanny. *Ink & Ideas: Sketchnotes for Engagement, Comprehension, and Thinking*. Heinemann (Portsmouth, NH) 2019. PB \$28.75.  
A different kind of thinking happens with pen in hand. With sketchnoting, the one who holds the pen holds the power. Only the thinker decides what appears on the page, and how. Open up a window into your students' brilliant minds and watch their thinking become visible as they sketchnote their way to deeper understanding and new ideas.

Mould, David H. *Monsoon Postcards: Indian Ocean Journeys*. Ohio University Press (Athens, OH) 2019. HC \$27.95.  
In *Monsoon Postcards*, journalist David H. Mould, notebook in hand, traverses the Indian Ocean — from

Madagascar through India and Bangladesh to Indonesia. It's an unpredictable journey on battered buses, bush taxis, auto-rickshaws, and crowded ferries. Much like its predecessor, Mould's *Postcards from Stanland*, *Monsoon Postcards* offers witty and insightful glimpses into countries linked by history, trade, migration, religion, and a colonial legacy. It explores how they confront the challenges of climate change, urban growth, economic development, land, water and natural resources, and national and ethnic identity.

Vanasco, Jeannie. *Things We Didn't Talk About When I Was a Girl*. Tin House Books (Portland, OR) 2019. ARC \$24.95.

Jeannie Vanasco has had the same nightmare since she was a teenager. She startles awake, saying his name. It is always about him: one of her closest high school friends, a boy named Mark. A boy who raped her. When her nightmares worsen, Jeannie decides — after fourteen years of silence — to reach out to Mark. He agrees to talk on the record and meet in person. "It's the least I can do," he says. Exacting and courageous, *Things We Didn't Talk About When I Was a Girl* is part memoir, part true crime record, and part testament to the strength of female friendships — a recounting and reckoning that will inspire us to ask harder questions and interrogate our biases.

## ABOUT OHIO/OHIOAN

Crowl, Thomas. *Opdycke's Tigers in the Civil War: A History of the 125th Ohio Volunteer Infantry*. McFarland & Company (Jefferson, NC) 2019. PB \$45.

Organized in the fall of 1862, the 125th Ohio Volunteer Infantry was commanded by the aggressive and ambitious Colonel Emerson Opdycke, a citizen-soldier with no military experience who rose to brevet major general. Impressed by the heroic charge of an untested regiment, Union General Thomas Wood labeled them "Opdycke's Tigers." Drawing on both primary sources and recent scholarship, this is the first full-length history of the regiment in more than 120 years.

Davies, Kathleen. *Sacred Groves: Or, How a Cemetery Saved My Soul*. Bink Books (Fairfield, CA) 2019. PB \$16.95.

In the not-so-sacred Groves of Academe, where female colleagues can be less than supportive and male colleagues downright intimidating and even devious, Kathleen Davies felt intense pressure to prove herself as an English professor. But in the beautiful local cemetery, she found a truly sacred landscape that offered not only relief but inspiration.

Fernandez, Kathleen M. *Zoar: The Story of an Intentional Community*. Kent State University Press (Kent, OH) 2019. HC \$29.95. In 1817, a group of German religious dissenters immigrated to Ohio. Less than two years later, in order to keep their distinctive religion and its adherents together, they formed a communal society (*eine güter gemeinschaft* or "community of goods"), where all shared equally.

Their bold experiment thrived and continued through three generations; the Zoar Separatists are considered one of the longest-lasting communal groups in U.S. history. Though the society dissolved in 1898, today its site is a significant historical attraction.

Grunenwald, Jill. *Reading Behind Bars: A True Story of Literature, Law, and Life as a Prison Librarian*. Skyhorse Publishing (New York, NY) 2019. HC \$25.99.

In December 2008, Jill Grunenwald graduated with her master's degree in library science, ready to start living her dream of becoming a librarian. But the economy had a different idea. As the Great Recession reared its ugly head, jobs were scarce. After some searching, however, Jill was lucky enough to snag one of the few librarian gigs left in her home state of Ohio. The catch? The job was behind bars as the prison librarian at a men's minimum-security prison. Over the course of a little less than two years, Jill came to see past the bleak surroundings and the orange jumpsuits and recognize the humanity of the men stuck behind bars. They were just like every other library patron — people who simply wanted to read, to be educated and to be entertained through the written word.

Harris, John M. *Redemption in '64: The Champion Cleveland Browns*. Black Squirrel Books (Kent, OH) 2018. PB \$20.95.

The Cleveland Browns set the standard by which all professional football teams were measured in the 1940s and '50s, but when they won the National Football League championship in 1964 it came as a surprise. *Sports Illustrated*

called it "one of the biggest of all football upsets."

Herbert, Jeffrey G. *Index of Hamilton County, Ohio, Reported Court Records 1880-1884*.

Hamilton County Genealogical Society (Cincinnati, OH) 2019. PB \$26.00.

This index contains the names of individuals in more than 16,600 court cases reported in the Cincinnati *Enquirer* between 1880 and 1884.

McLean, Genetta. *Dixie Selden: An American Impressionist from Cincinnati, 1868-1935*. Cincinnati Art Galleries (Cincinnati, OH) 2001. PB \$28.00.

Dixie Selden (1868-1935) was an American Impressionist painter from Cincinnati. This catalogue from an exhibit at the Cincinnati Art Galleries has ninety-six illustrations, many in color.

O'Brien, Erin, and Bob Perkoski. *Rust Belt Burlesque: The Softer Side of a Heavy Metal Town*. Swallow Press (Athens, Ohio) 2019. PB \$24.95.

*Rust Belt Burlesque* traces the history of burlesque in Cleveland from the mid-1800s to the present day, while also telling the story of Bella Sin, a Mexican immigrant who largely drove Northeast Ohio's neo-burlesque comeback. The historical center of Cleveland burlesque was the iconic Roxy Theater on East Ninth Street. Here, in its twentieth-century heyday, famed dancers like Blaze Starr and comics like Red Skelton and Abbott and Costello entertained both regulars and celebrity guests.

## BOOK LIST | ABOUT OHIO/OHIOAN & FICTION

Prufer, Jason. *Small Town, Big Music: The Outsized Influence of Kent, Ohio on the History of Rock and Roll*. Kent State University Press (Kent, OH) 2019. HC \$29.95. Relying on oral histories, hundreds of rare photographs, and original music reviews, this book explores the countercultural fringes of Kent, Ohio, over four decades. From the formation of Joe Walsh's first band, the Measles, and the creation of DEVO in Kent State University's art department to original performances of Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* and serendipitous collaborations like Emmylou Harris and Good Company in the Water Street Saloon, the influence of Kent's music scene has been powerful.

Rosen, Michael J. *A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber*. Trillium/OSU Press (Columbus, OH) 2019. HC \$49.95. The first book to assemble the range of James Thurber's art, from decades of cartoons that established the *New Yorker* to illustrations for advertisements, children's books, and other's books. This book includes previously unpublished art.

Skinner, Daniel, and Berkeley Franz, eds. *Not Far from Me: Stories of Opioids and Ohio*. Trillium/OSU Press (Columbus, OH) 2019. PB \$14.95. More and more Americans find themselves in some way touched by the opioid epidemic. But while many have observed the effects of the crisis, *Not Far from Me* is the first book on this public health emergency composed entirely of first-person accounts.

Steele-Gouch, Janice Daulbaugh. *We Called It the Home: Vignettes and Memories from My 13 Years in the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home*. Orange Frazer Press (Wilmington, OH) 2019. PB \$19.95.

At just five years old, Janice Dalbaugh, along with her three siblings, was sent to the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home in Xenia, Ohio. Her touching and at times incredibly difficult journey began the day she left her grandmother's house and ended the day she graduated high school from the home.

Watkins, Steve, and Dick Maloney. *Classic Bengals: The 50 Greatest Games in Cincinnati Bengals History*. Black Squirrel Books (Kent, OH) 2018. PB \$19.95. In *Classic Bengals*, authors Steve Watkins and Dick Maloney tell the stories of the fifty greatest games in Bengals history — along with the stories behind the games.

### FICTION

Berry, Connie. *A Dream of Death: A Kate Hamilton Mystery*. Crooked Lane (New York, NY) 2019. HC \$26.99. Autumn has come and gone on Scotland's Isle of Glenroth, and the islanders gather for the Tartan Ball, the annual end-of-tourist-season gala. Spirits are high. A recently published novel about island history has brought hordes of tourists to the small Hebridean resort community. On the guest list is American antiques dealer Kate Hamilton. Kate returns reluctantly to the island where her husband died, determined to repair her relationship with his

sister, proprietor of the island's luxe country house hotel, famous for its connection with Bonnie Prince Charlie. Kate has hardly unpacked when a body is found, murdered in a re-enactment of an infamous unsolved murder described in the novel — and the only clue to the killer's identity lies in a curiously embellished antique casket.

Black, Lisa. *Let Justice Descend: A Gardiner and Renner Thriller*. Kensington Books (New York, NY) 2019. ARC \$26.00.

Three days before a key election, U.S. Senator Dian Cragin is electrocuted on her own doorstep — a shocking twist in an already brutal political race. Cragin's chief of staff is quick to blame rival Joey Green, a city development director who's had his hand in every till in town for more than twenty years. Maggie and Jack have their own theories, especially after discovering a fortune in the senator's safe. But as they follow the money through the treacherous landscape of Cleveland politics, they find many more millions in play — and many suspects.

Blaskovits, A. A. *Magic for Unlucky Girls*. SFWP (Santa Fe, NM) 2017. PB \$14.95.

The fourteen fantastical stories in *Magic for Unlucky Girls* take the familiar tropes of fairy tales and twist them into new and surprising shapes. These unlucky girls, struggling against a society that all too often oppresses them, are forced to navigate strange worlds as they try to survive. From carnivorous husbands to a bath of lemons to whirling basements that drive people mad, these stories are about the demons that lurk in the corners and the women who refuse

## BOOK LIST | FICTION & POETRY

to submit to them, instead fighting back — sometimes with their wit, sometimes with their beauty, and sometimes with shotguns in the dead of night.

Chiaverini, Jennifer. *Resistance Women*. William Morrow (New York, NY) 2019. HC \$26.99. After Wisconsin graduate student Mildred Fish marries brilliant German economist Arvid Harnack, she accompanies him to his German homeland, where a promising future awaits. In the thriving intellectual culture of 1930s Berlin, the newlyweds create a rich new life filled with love, friendships, and rewarding work — but the rise of a malevolent new political faction inexorably changes their fate.

Doench, Meredith. *Deadeye*. Bold Strokes Books (Valley Falls, NY) 2019. PB \$18.95. Special Agent Luce Hansen's Thanksgiving vacation with her new lover, forensic pathologist Harper Bennett, is cut short when she's tasked with recapturing Deadeye, a vicious serial predator who has escaped custody. The timing couldn't be worse, especially when Bennett seems to be struggling with the realities of Hansen's work and questioning whether she's willing to risk building a life with a woman who puts work first, even when the job puts her in the line of fire.

Everman, Ellen. *Bell Bottoms to Gucci*. Acclaim Press (Morley, MO) 2019. HC \$24.95. *Bell Bottoms to Gucci* drops readers into the year 1964 when the first protests of that era are born — campus takeovers, billy-clubbing, students being dragged into police vans, etc. Patti's boyfriend, David, a

student at UC Berkeley — inspired by the real kingpin of protests in those days — takes Patti under his wing and grooms her for the stereotypical role of hippie campus protester. “Hell No, We Won't Go!” echoes her true feelings about the Vietnam War during her college years. But after three assassinations and the Kent State shootings, Patti wears down and eventually admits her revulsion of the protests themselves. What she doesn't know is that her past relationships with conspiratorial figures involved in the Kennedy assassination are about to catch up with her in a life-and-death situation.

Harper, Karen. *The Queen's Secret: A Novel of England's World War II Queen*. William Morrow (New York, NY) 2020. ARC \$26.95. 1939. As the wife of the King George VI and the mother of the future queen, Elizabeth — “the queen mother” — shows a warm, smiling face to the world. But it's no surprise that Hitler himself calls her the “Most Dangerous Woman in Europe.” For behind that soft voice and kindly demeanor is a will of steel. Elizabeth holds many powerful cards; she's also hiding damaging secrets about her past and her provenance that could prove to be her undoing.

Norgard, R. J. *Trophy Kill: A Sidney Reed Novel*. Bird Dog Publishing (Huron, OH) 2019. PB \$16. Private investigator Sidney Reed hasn't been the same since the tragic death of his wife, Molly. Sharing a rundown apartment above an Anchorage, Alaska, coffee shop with a cat named Priscilla, he dulls his bitter memories with cheap beer and sarcasm. When he's offered a bundle

of cash for a simple surveillance job, Sidney sees a chance to finally put the broken pieces of his life back together. But once the job turns deadly, he'll have to sort through a mountain of clues to solve this case — and confront his own demons in the process.

Welsh-Huggins, Andrew. *Fatal Judgment*. Swallow Press (Athens, OH) 2019. HC \$26.95. Judge Laura Porter fiercely guarded her privacy, and never more so than during her long-running — and long in the past — affair with disgraced quarterback-turned-private investigator Andy Hayes. Now she's missing, disappeared just hours after she calls Andy out of the blue explaining she's in trouble and needs his help. A trail of clues leads Andy to a Central Ohio swamp whose future lies in the judge's hands as she weighs a lawsuit pitting environmentalists against developers. In partnership with a cop on her own quest for justice, Hayes rushes to find the judge, and the truth, before it's too late.

## POETRY

Andrle, Fred. *Rocking in the Cradle of the Moment: Haiku, Senryu, and Small Poems*. XOXOX Press (Gambier, OH) 2019. PB \$14.00. An assembly of small poems — groupings in haiku and senryu form, with variations — voiced with a gentle passion, alert and keen, and rooted in the goodness life provides. Fred Andrle is a radio legend in Central Ohio, having hosted a popular talk show on WOSU, NPR Columbus, for twenty years. Fred has been writing poems all those years and has published

## BOOK LIST | POETRY & CHILDREN'S

several collections and poet-artist collaborations. He continues now with this delightful run of small poems, paired up in twos, threes, and fours.

Cariello, Matthew M., and Ambra Meda. ***A Boat That Can Carry Two***. Bordighera Press (New York, NY) 2011. PB \$10.00. Bilingual (English and Italian) edition of the Bordighera Poetry Prize-winning collection of sonnets representing an elegy for a lost sister as well as the reality of a living daughter.

Cariello, Matthew M. ***Talk***. Bordighera Press (New York, NY) 2019. PB \$10.00. The newest collection by Cariello has won the Lauria/Frasca Poetry Prize, which promotes the poetry of the Italian diaspora in English.

Demaree, Darren C. ***Emily as Sometimes the Forest Wants the Fire: Emily Poems 2006-2018***. Harpoon Books (Columbus, OH) 2019. PB \$16.00. This eleventh collection by Darren C. Demaree collects twelve years of poems written for his wife, Emily.

Hughes, Betsy. ***Forest Bathing: Shinrin-Yoku***. Antrim House (Bloomfield, CT) 2019. PB \$19.00. David Lee Garrison writes that in *Forest Bathing: Shinrin-Yoku*, “the sonnets of Betsy Hughes take us all over the world, from antiquity to now, from the horrors of mass shootings to the serenity of a forest. These journeys offer, in the elegant sweep of her verses, a captivating new vision of our environment and ourselves. You will never look at things in the same way or feel the same way about your life once

you read this book, for you will have traveled to the depths and the heights of the human heart.”

Murphy, Patricia Colleen. ***Bully Love***. Press 53 (Winston-Salem, NC) 2019. PB \$14.95. Murphy’s latest collection of poetry is the winner of the Press 53 Award for Poetry and a Tom Lombardo Poetry Selection.

Phillips, W. Louis. ***More Hill Country Poetry***. W. Louis Phillips (Logan, OH) 2015. PB \$10.00. More poetry from the creator of *Hill Country Poetry* (2001).

Riley, James Alan. ***Broken Frequencies: A Book of Poems***. Shadelandhouse Modern Press (Lexington, KY) 2019. PB \$16.50. *Broken Frequencies* confronts the disconnect between the present and the past in our personal lives. Each poem is a search for meaning in an otherwise random sequence of events that lean always toward the relationships that lend significance to our lives, the connections between those we love and those we have lost, and the many possible futures each moment implies.

Wick Poetry Center. ***Speak a Powerful Magic: Ten Years of the Traveling Stanzas Poetry Project***. Black Squirrel Books (Kent, OH) 2019. HC \$29.95. This book, featuring a representative collection of Traveling Stanzas poetry illustrations, celebrates the tenth anniversary of this award-winning community arts project. Launched in 2009 as a collaboration between Kent State University’s Wick Poetry Center and Professor Valora Renicker’s visual communication design students,

Traveling Stanzas pairs poems with striking graphic designs.”

## CHILDREN'S

Carville, James, and Patricia C. McKissack. Illus. by David Catrow. ***Lu and the Swamp Ghost***. Anne Schwartz/Atheneum Books for Young Readers (New York, NY) 2004. HC \$17.99.

Mama always said, “You’re never poor if you have a loving family and one good friend.” Well, Lu has a family but no friend — so maybe she is just a *little* poor. One day this all changes down on the Louisiana Bayou — when Lu comes face-to-face with a real, live swamp ghost.

Edwards, Pamela Duncan. Illus. by Daniel Kirk. ***While the World Is Sleeping***. Orchard Books (New York, NY) 2010. HC \$16.99.

Take a flight across the meadows, forests, lakes, and rivers with only the moonlight to guide the way. See what the deer, fish, foxes, and porcupines do — while the world is sleeping.

Hillenbrand, Will. ***Mighty Reader and the Big Freeze***. Holiday House (New York, NY) 2019. HC \$18.99. It’s Hugo’s first day of school, and the shy beagle pup is eager to make friends. But when the teacher asks his new buddy Barkley to read an unfamiliar book, the young dog freezes. Only Mighty Reader can save the day by giving Barkley some tricks to get through the new story, and the confidence to put on a performance that will impress everyone — even a visiting author.

## BOOK LIST | CHILDREN'S, YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE

Hillenbrand, Will. ***Santa's Story***. Two Lions (New York, NY) 2019. HC \$17.99.

Santa is ready to leave on Christmas Eve, but he can't find the reindeer anywhere. Dasher is busy dashing, Donner is dozing, and Cupid is crooning. It isn't until Santa remembers their annual tradition — reading a Christmas story together — that the reindeer are ready to go.

Hoefler, Kate. Illus. by Sarah Jacoby. ***Rabbit and the Motorbike***. Chronicle Books (San Francisco, CA) 2019. HC \$17.99.

Rabbit isn't sure he'll ever be brave enough to go on an adventure. He's a homebody who lives in a quiet field of wheat he dreams of leaving every night. His world is enlarged by his friend Dog and Dog's tales of motorbike adventures. But one day, Dog is gone, and with him, go the stories Rabbit loves so much. Does Rabbit dare to pick up the motorbike and live his own story?

Houts, Michelle. Illus. by Deb Hoeffner. ***Silent Swoop: An Owl, An Egg, and a Warm Shirt Pocket***. Dawn Publications (Nevada City, CA) 2019. ARC \$16.95.

An owl swoops down to lay her egg in a coal yard — a dangerous spot for a fragile egg! Rescued by Walter, a bird expert with a big heart and warm shirt pocket, the egg miraculously hatches and is aptly named Coal. Thus begins the tender story of rescue, rehabilitation, and most of all, friendship.

Lewis, J. Patrick, and Kenn Nesbitt. Illus. by Minalima. ***Bigfoot Is Missing!*** Chronicle Books (San Francisco, CA) 2015. HC \$17.99. Bigfoot, the Mongolian Death Worm, the Loch Ness Monster — these

and other creatures lurk within the pages of *Bigfoot is Missing!* Are they animals yet undiscovered? Are they figments of imagination? Only eerie whispers and sinister rumors give us hints at the truth.

Rappaport, Doreen. Illus. by C.F. Payne. ***To Dare Mighty Things: The Life of Theodore Roosevelt***. Disney/Hyperion (New York, NY) 2013. HC \$17.99.

President Theodore Roosevelt is known as “the man with a plan,” the “rough rider.” His figure stands tall in American history, his legacy stretching him to larger-than-life proportions. But before his rise to fame, he was just “Teedie,” a boy with ambitious dreams to change the world and the conviction to see his stupendous imaginings brought to fruition.

Rylant, Cynthia. Illus. by S.D. Schindler. ***Children of Christmas: Stories for the Season***. Orchard Books (New York, NY) 1987. HC \$20.00.

Six short stories of Christmas for young readers.

Van Vleet, Carmella. Illus. by Tom Casteel. ***Robotics! With 25 Science Projects for Kids***. Nomad Press (White River Junction, VT) 2019. PB \$14.95.

*Robotics!* includes twenty-five science-minded activities to engage budding scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and artists and to help answer the questions, “What exactly is a robot and where do they come from?” *Robotics!* is part of a set of two *Explore Technology* books that introduce young digital natives to the history, science, and engineering of the tech world in which we live, using hands-on STEM activities,

essential questions, links to online primary sources, and real-life connections.

## YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE

Buckley, Michael. ***Nerds 2: M Is for Mama's Boy***. Amulet Books (New York, NY) 2010. HC \$14.95.

A group of unpopular fifth graders runs a spy network from inside their school. With the help of cutting-edge science, they transform their nerdy qualities into incredible abilities!

Buckley, Michael. ***Nerds 4: The Villain Virus***. Amulet Books (New York, NY) 2012. HC \$15.95.

A former NERDS team member named Gerdie (code name Mathlete) has invented a powerful device that she's using to loot alternate realities. Her goal? Plastic surgery and a spot on a competitive cheerleading squad.

Buckley, Michael. ***Nerds 5: Attack of the Bullies***. Amulet Books (New York, NY) 2013. HC \$15.95.

The grand finale to the bestselling series *Attack of the Bullies* stars Ruby Peet, a.k.a Agent Pufferfish, the team captain with super nanobyte-enhanced allergies.

Butler, Dori Hillestad. Illus. by Jeremy Tugeau. ***The Buddy Files: The Case of the Fire Alarm***. Albert Whitman & Company (Chicago, IL) 2010. HC \$14.99.

Buddy is starting his work as a therapy dog at Four Lakes Elementary School, where Connor attends and Mom is the principal. But on his very first day, he accidentally knocks down a little kid on the playground.

## BOOK LIST | YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE

Chima, Cinda Williams. *The Dragon Heir*. Disney/Hyperion (Los Angeles, CA) 2008. HC \$17.99.

The covenant that was meant to keep the wizard wars at bay has been stolen, and Trinity must prepare for attack. All are doing their part — Seph is monitoring the Weirwalls; Jack and Ellen are training their ghostly army; even Anaweir Will and Fitch are setting booby traps around the town's perimeter. But to Jason Haley, it seems like everyone wants to keep him out of the action. He may not be the most powerful wizard in Trinity, but he's prepared to fight for his friends. Without any significant power of his own, what can Jason possibly do to help the people he cares about — and to prove his mettle?

Curry, Jane Louise. *What the Dickens!* Margaret K. McElderry Books (New York, NY) 1991. HC \$5.99.

In 1842, eleven-year-old twins, whose father runs a boat on the Juniata Canal in Pennsylvania, learn of a Harrisburg bookseller's plan to steal Charles Dickens's newly finished novel while Dickens himself is touring the U.S.

Hamilton, Virginia. *Plain City*. Blue Sky Press (New York, NY) 1993. HC \$15.99.

Plain City is a small town with big secrets... and everyone is keeping them from Buhlaire. It's hard to find answers when your parents aren't around.

Johnson, Angela. Illus. by Scott M. Fischer. *Lottie Paris and the Best Place*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers (New York, NY) 2013. HC \$16.99.

Lottie Paris has a favorite place.

The library! She loves to go there and read about space. She knows there are rules at the library, but sometimes they are not so easy to follow. The library is Carl's favorite place, too. And he loves to read about dinosaurs. When Lottie and Carl meet, they become fast friends. Now Lottie reads about dinosaurs, and Carl loves space!

Landers, Melissa. *Blastaway*. Disney/Hyperion (Los Angeles, CA) 2019. ARC \$16.99.

Kyler Centaurus isn't your typical runaway. All he wanted was a quick trip to the legendary Fasti Sun Festival. Who *wouldn't* want to see new stars being born? Kyler's entire family! They couldn't care less about wonders of science. When an accidental launch sequence ends with Kyler hurtling through space on the family cruiser, the thrill of freedom is cut short by two space pirates determined to steal his ship. Luckily, Kyler runs into Fig, a savvy young Wanderer who makes a living by blowing up asteroids. She could *really* use a ride to Earth, and Kyler could really use a hand with the pirates. But when Kyler learns the truth about Fig's mission, the two must put aside their differences long enough to stop a threat of astronomical proportions racing toward Earth.

Lord, Emery. *The Map from Here to There*. Bloomsbury (New York, NY) 2020. ARC \$17.99.

It's senior year, and Paige Hancock is finally living her best life. She has a fun summer job, great friends, and a super charming boyfriend who totally gets her. But senior year also means big decisions. Weighing "the rest of her life," Paige feels her anxiety begin to pervade every

decision she makes. Everything is exactly how she always wanted it to be — how can she leave it all behind next year? In her head, she knows there is so much more to experience after high school. But in her heart, is it so terrible to want everything to stay the same forever?

Miller, Brandon Marie. *Robert E. Lee: The Man, The Soldier, The Myth*. Calkins Creek (Honesdale, PA) 2019. HC \$19.95.

Who exactly was Robert E. Lee, the famous Confederate general? Lee was a son, a soldier, a father, and a husband, but he is also a myth and an icon — both reviled and revered as a symbol of the segregated South. Lee served for thirty-five years in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but when the Civil War broke out, Lee resigned this commission and fought for the South. Noted history writer Brandon Marie Miller unravels how Lee came to this decision, and how, after the war, stripped of citizenship and home, Lee struggled to rebuild his life.

Pilkey, Dav. *Captain Underpants and the Terrifying Return of Tippy Tinkletrousers: The Ninth Epic Novel*. Scholastic (New York, NY) 2012. HC \$9.99.

When we last saw George and Harold, they were headed to jail for the rest of their lives. What could be worse? How about being pulled from prison by a time-traveling tyrant named Tippy Tinkletrousers! Now the boys are taking a trip back in time to the carefree days of kindergarten, when the scariest thing they had to face was not evil mad scientists or alien cafeteria ladies but a sixth-grade bully named Kipper Krupp, the nephew of their clueless school principal. And

because George and Harold don't invent Captain Underpants until they're in fourth grade, the clever kindergarteners are on their own.

Scillian, Devin. Illus. by Tim Bowers. ***Back Roads, Country Toads.*** Sleeping Bear Press (Ann Arbor, MI) 2019. HC \$16.99.

When country toads, Hank and Buckeroo, hear some folks talking about going "fly fishing," they know they have to tag along. What could be better than fishing for flies? So they stow away in a picnic basket and prepare for the feast of their lives. But what will happen when they realize fly fishing isn't exactly what they expected? This knee-slapping story is from Devin Scillian and Tim Bowers, the same team that brought you *Memoirs of a Goldfish* and the rest of the hysterical *Memoirs* series.

Stamper, Phil. ***The Gravity of Us.*** Bloomsbury (New York, NY) 2020. ARC \$17.99.

As a successful social media journalist with half a million followers, seventeen-year-old Cal is used to sharing his life online. But when his pilot father is selected for a highly publicized NASA mission to Mars, Cal and his family relocate from Brooklyn to Houston and are thrust into a media circus.

Stine, R. L., ed. ***Fear: 13 Stories of Suspense and Horror.*** Dutton Children's Books (New York, NY) 2010. HC \$16.99.

In this collection of thirteen fabulously chilling stories from thirteen true masters of suspense, including five New York *Times* bestsellers and a number of Edgar Award nominees, all edited by none other than R. L. Stine, nothing is what it seems. From cannibalistic

children, to an unwitting date with a vampire, to a crush on a boy who just might be a werewolf, no scary stone is left unturned.

Stine, R. L. ***Goosebumps Wanted: The Haunted Mask.*** Scholastic (New York, NY) 2012. HC \$15.99. From horror master R. L. Stine come two new chilling stories in one spooky standalone: Lu-Ann Franklin usually loves Halloween. Not this year. Her best friend, Devin O'Bannon, is going away for the week. And she has to go to a boring party where nothing exciting could ever happen. But when Lu-Ann comes face-to-face with the Haunted Mask, major trouble lies ahead. Devin O'Bannon didn't want to leave his best friend Lu-Ann Franklin behind on Halloween. He didn't ask to go on this trip. And that was before he heard the strange scratching on his windows and saw the shadows moving around in the fields. Something is out there and it doesn't seem to want Devin around!

Stine, R. L. Illus. by Kelly and Nichole Matthews. ***Just Beyond: The Scare School.*** Kaboom! (Los Angeles, CA) 2019. ARC \$9.99. Middle school feels like the worst place imaginable, but for Jess, Josh, and Marco, their school may actually be the worst place in this world... or any other! After a chance encounter with a deadly creature stalking the school halls, these three unsuspecting students are whisked away to a horrifying realm beyond the school boiler room where they must unravel a terrifying mystery.

Taylor, Mildred D. ***All the Days Past, All the Days to Come.*** Viking (New York, NY) 2020. ARC \$18.99. The story of the Logan family

— made famous in the Newbery Medal-winning *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* — concludes in a long-awaited and deeply fulfilling story. In her tenth book, Mildred Taylor completes her sweeping saga about the Logan family of Mississippi, which is also the story of the civil rights movement in twentieth-century America. Cassie Logan, first introduced to readers in *Song of the Trees* and *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, is a young woman now, searching for her place in the world, a journey that takes her from Toledo to California, to law school in Boston, and ultimately home to Mississippi to participate in voter registration in the 1960s. She is witness to the historic events of the century: the Great Migration north; the rise of the civil rights movement, preceded and precipitated by the racist society of America; and the often violent confrontations that brought about change.

# Coming Soon

## A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber

Now through March 15, 2020  
Columbus Museum of Art,  
Columbus, Ohio

A special exhibition curated by Michael J. Rosen that showcases the drawings of the Columbus native and beloved humorist. For more information, visit [www.columbusmuseum.org](http://www.columbusmuseum.org).

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## Ohioana Awards

October 17, 2019  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Ohio Statehouse Atrium, Columbus

Join us as we celebrate the winners of the 2019 Ohioana Book Awards. The event begins at 6 p.m. with a reception followed by the awards presentations and book signing. Tickets go on sale in September. For more information, visit [www.ohioana.org](http://www.ohioana.org).

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## Books by the Banks

October 26, 2019  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Duke Energy Convention Center,  
Cincinnati, Ohio

This day-long festival, which is free and open to the public, features national, regional, and local authors and illustrators; book signings; panel discussions; and activities for the entire family. For more information, visit <http://booksbythebanks.org>.

## Celebration of Learning: Candice Millard

November 1, 2019  
7:15 – 11 p.m.  
Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main  
Library, Columbus, Ohio

The Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation's largest annual fundraiser, this year features award-winning (including the Ohioana Book Award) and New York Times best-selling author Candice Millard. For more information, contact [col@columbuslibrary.org](mailto:col@columbuslibrary.org) or visit <https://foundation.columbuslibrary.org/celebration-of-learning>.

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## Buckeye Book Fair

November 2, 2019  
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Fisher Auditorium, Wooster, Ohio

The thirty-second annual book fair is a great chance to get a jump on holiday shopping, with more than 100 authors and illustrators. For more information, visit [www.buckeyebookfair.com](http://www.buckeyebookfair.com).

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## Brews + Prose at Market Garden Brewery

November 12, 2019  
7 – 9 p.m.  
Market Garden Brewery,  
Cleveland, Ohio

The monthly series continues with Ohioana Award-winning novelist Mary Doria Russell reading from her new release, *The Women of the Copper Country*. For more information, visit <http://www.brewsandprose.com/>.

## Thurber House Evenings with Authors: Scott Woods

November 19, 2019  
7:30 – 9 p.m.  
Columbus Museum of Art,  
Columbus, Ohio

Thurber House presents nationally renowned poet Scott Woods, a Columbus Foundation Spirit of Columbus Award recipient and Columbus Alive's first-ever "Face of Columbus" in a reading and discussion from his collection, *Urban Contemporary History Month: Poems*. For information and tickets, visit [www.thurberhouse.org](http://www.thurberhouse.org).

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## Ohioana Book Club

November 20, 2019  
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Ohioana Library, Columbus, Ohio

The book for November is the Ohioana Award-winning *Furnishing Eternity* by David Giffels. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at [ohioana@ohioana.org](mailto:ohioana@ohioana.org).

Do you have a literary event you'd like to list in the next edition of the *Ohioana Quarterly*? Contact us at [ohioana@ohioana.org](mailto:ohioana@ohioana.org).

## Thank You!

The Ohioana Library wouldn't be the unique organization it is without our many generous supporters. Listed below are those who have given from June 1, 2019, through August 31, 2019. Special thanks to Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio General Assembly for the state's ongoing support.

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Elizabeth Salt  
Wednesday Book Club  
Robin Yocum

### \$50 – 99

Michael Babin & Kit Kilen  
George Bauman  
Jinny Berten  
John Bittel  
Matthew Brennan  
Kathleen Burgess  
Kathleen Cadmus  
Beth Rigel Daugherty  
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Ed & Barbara Seeberger  
Janet Shailer  
Martha Shaw  
Leslie Shortlidge  
Susan Spallino  
Tricia Springstubb  
Brian Stettner  
Vicki Stoddard  
Mary Van Tassel  
Bostwick & Linda Wyman

### \$25 – 49

Margaret Blevins  
Katherine Brandt  
Fred & Jerri Lawrence  
Gretchen Mote  
OCTELA  
Janet Rether  
Patricia Sargeant-Matthews  
Dora Sterling

### In Honor of Barbara Whitaker

Lisa Hedrick

## Why I Support Ohioana

*Every October since 1929, members of the Ohioana Library have elected the individuals who serve on our Board of Trustees. These volunteer leaders from around the state generously give their time and talents to support Ohioana's mission. At our 90th annual meeting this October, one of the new trustees elected was Daniel Best, a writer and attorney from Columbus. We asked Daniel to share with us why he supports Ohioana.*

My number one passion is books. Be it reading, writing, listening, I write stories and consume books of all types.

The major reason I want to join Ohioana is because I want other youths who look like me to know that they can take part in the book world beyond just consuming them; I want them to know that they can write their stories—that their voices not only matter, they are valued in society. I am a writer and I want to show them that they can be, too.

That's why I support Ohioana, and why I am excited to join its board of trustees.



*Daniel Best*

Ohioana Board Member

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**CALLING  
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Author applications for the 2020 Ohioana Book Festival are now open! Visit [www.ohioana.org](http://www.ohioana.org) for more information and a downloadable application form.