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### **Connecting Readers and Ohio Writers**

#### July/August 2017

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 OHIOANA AWARD WINNERS!



The Ohioana Library has announced the winners of the 2017 Ohioana Awards, including seven book awards and the Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant. First given in 1942, the Ohioana Book Awards are the second oldest, and among the most prestigious, state literary prizes in the nation. Nearly every major writer from Ohio in the past seventy-five years has been honored. The 2017 winners are:

#### Fiction

#### Marisa Silver, Little Nothing, Blue Rider Press.

Marisa Silver is the author of the novels *Little Nothing* and *Mary Coin*, a *New York Times* bestseller and winner of the Southern California Independent Bookseller's Award. She is also the author of *The God of War* (a *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize finalist); *No Direction Home*; and two story collections, *Alone with You* and *Babe in Paradise* (a *New York Times* Notable Book and *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year). Winner of a Guggenheim Fellowship in the Creative Arts, Silver's short fiction has won the O. Henry Award and been included in *The Best American Short Stories, The O. Henry Prize Stories*, and other anthologies. A native of Shaker Heights, she lives in Los Angeles.

#### The Director's Chair

#### Dear Friends,

July is always a special month for the Ohioana Library. First, it is the month in which we announce the winners of the Ohioana Book Awards and the recipient of the Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant. Our cover story introduces you to this year's winners, a truly exceptional group. Mark your calendars to join us as we honor them at the 76th annual Ohioana Awards reception and ceremony on Friday, October 6, at the Ohio Statehouse.

And even though the event may seem far off, July is the month when we begin planning in earnest for the next Ohioana Book Festival. This week we began taking applications from Ohio authors for the 12th annual festival, which is set for Saturday, April 14, 2018. Nearly 120 authors attended our festival last spring and drew record-breaking crowds. We hope to make next year's event even bigger and better, and it all starts by having a wonderful and diverse mix of writers and books to offer, as we like to say, "something for every reader of every age."

#### Nonfiction

# Douglas Brinkley, *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America*, Harper.

Douglas Brinkley is a professor of history at Rice University, the CNN Presidential Historian, and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Audubon*. His latest book, *JFK: A Vision for America*, was published to commemorate the centennial of John F. Kennedy's birth. Other Brinkley works include *Cronkite*, winner of the Sperber Prize for Best Book in Journalism and a *Washington Post* Notable Book of the Year; *The Great Deluge*, which won both the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award and the Ohioana Book Award; and his books on the two Roosevelts and conservation: *The Wilderness Warrior* (Theodore Roosevelt) and *Rightful Heritage* (Franklin D. Roosevelt). Brinkley is a member of the Society of American Historians and the Council on Foreign Relations. A native of Perrysburg, Brinkley lives in Austin, Texas, with his wife and children.

#### About Ohio or an Ohioan

## J.D. Vance, *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*, Harper.

J.D. Vance was raised by his working-class grandparents in Middletown, Ohio. He enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school, served in Iraq, and later graduated from Ohio State University and Yale Law School. After a stint at a large corporate law firm, he moved to San Francisco to work in the technology industry, becoming a principal at Mithril Capital, a leading Silicon Valley venture capital firm. He has contributed to the *National Review* and the *New York Times* and regularly discusses politics and public policy on ABC, CBS, Fox, CNN, MSNBC, and CNBC. In early 2017, he returned home to Ohio to found "Our Ohio Renewal," a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing the state's opioid crisis and bringing employment and educational opportunities to Ohioans. Vance lives in Columbus with his wife, Usha, and baby son, Ewan.

#### **Juvenile** Literature

#### C.F. Payne, Miss Mary Reporting, Paula Wiseman Books.

C.F. Payne has illustrated more than a dozen picture books, including the *New York Times* bestselling *Mousetronaut* by astronaut Mark Kelly; the Texas Bluebonnet winner *Shoeless Joe & Black Betsy*, written by Phil Bildner; *Miss Mary Reporting*, written by Sue Macy; and the *New York Times* bestsellers *The Remarkable Farkle McBride* and *Micawber*, both by John Lithgow. Payne is the director of the MFA Illustration Program at the Hartford Arts School in Connecticut. The recipient of the 2017 Ohio Governor's Award for the Arts, he lives with his wife and children in Lebanon, Ohio. Visit him online at <u>www.cfpayne.com</u>.

#### Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature

### Sally Derby, *Jump Back, Paul: The Life and Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar*, Candlewick.

Sally Derby is the author of several books for young readers, including *Kyle's Island* and *No Mush Today*. She says, "For years, I wanted to write a book about Paul Laurence Dunbar, the famous poet from Dayton, Ohio,

Finally, July is the month when we begin a new fiscal year, and, in the case of this year, the start of a new biennium. We are grateful to Governor John Kasich and to the members of the 132nd Ohio General Assembly for renewing their support of the Ohioana Library through June 30, 2019. As I said in my testimony before both the Ohio House and Senate, the collaboration between the State of Ohio and the Ohioana Library is a model example of a successful public-private partnership. It's a partnership that has served the people and state well for nearly 90 years.

Thanks again to the Governor and the General Assembly. And a very special thank you to everyone who contacted their legislators to tell them how much you value the Ohioana Library. Your calls, letters, and emails truly made a difference.

We hope you're having a wonderful summer filled with fun, good times, and good books like the ones we've listed in this issue! Ohioana would not be the special place it is without friends like you. Thank you again!

David E. Weaver Executive Director but I didn't know how. Then one day, I heard a voice saying, You never heard of the poet Paul Laurence Dunbar? Child, where've you been? And once I'd heard that voice, I knew how to write the story." Derby is a native of and lives in Cincinnati.

#### Poetry

#### Teri Ellen Cross Davis, Haint, Gival Press.

Teri Ellen Cross Davis is a Cave Canem fellow and is on the advisory committee for the biennial Split This Rock Poetry Festival. Her work can be read in many anthologies and journals. Her first collection, *Haint*, is published by Gival Press. She coordinates the O.B. Hardison Poetry Series for the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. A native of Cleveland, Davis now lives her husband, poet Hayes Davis, and their two children in Silver Spring, Maryland. Her website is <u>www.poetsandparents.com</u>.

#### **Readers' Choice**

#### Tiffany McDaniel, *The Summer That Melted Everything*, St. Martin's Press

Tiffany McDaniel is an Ohio native whose writing is inspired by the rolling hills and woods of the land she knows. McDaniel's debut novel, *The Summer That Melted Everything*, won the 2016 "Not-the-Booker Prize" from the Guardian, Britain's most popular daily newspaper. The supernatural thriller was also a Goodreads Choice Award double nominee in both the fiction and debut categories, and is a nominee for the Lillian Smith Book Award and a finalist for the Women's Fiction Writers Association Star Award for Outstanding Debut. McDaniel lives in southern Ohio.

#### Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant

In addition to the book awards, Ohioana will present the 28th Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant, a competitive prize for an Ohio writer age thirty or younger who has not yet published a book. This year's recipient is Ashley Bethard of Dayton. A



graduate of Ashland University's Master of Fine Arts program, her writing has appeared in *PANK Magazine*, *The Rumpus, Hobart, Fanzine*, and others. Bethard's essay "Of Blood" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. A digital and new media specialist and winner of a Newspaper Association of America's "30 Under 30" Award, she is currently working on a book that doubles as a love letter to her late brother. For more information visit <u>https://ashleybethard.com</u>.

The 2017 Ohioana Awards will be presented Friday, October 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the atrium of Ohio's historic statehouse in Columbus. Tickets for the event, which include a pre-awards reception, will go on sale August 25.



### Spotlight

Kasich, John. *Two Paths: America Divided or United*. Thomas Dunne Books (New York, NY) 2017.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER TWOPATHS AMERICA DIVIDED OR UNITED JOHN KASICH Be on the lookout for the fall issue of the *Ohioana Quarterly*, where we'll review the latest book by Ohio's governor, John Kasich. *Two Paths: America Divided or United* recounts Governor Kasich's run for the highest office in the land during the tumultuous 2016 election. This book is a great primer for anyone thinking of entering the fray themselves at any level.

There's plenty of nuts-and-bolts to satisfy the most die-hard political wonk. Kasich's admirable self-confidence, along with a willingness to take advice from more experienced hands, helped him make his first contacts as he learned the ropes on his ongoing journey in the public realm.

But the book is more than an impressive résumé. It's John Kasich's emotional plea to Americans to find a way forward and keep building a great country, and strikes a heartfelt tone in these divided times. Kasich believes in the power of people talking to one another, people who work to unite rather than divide. His strong faith in God and love of family are front and center in this book. He gives credit to those who have helped him in his journey and praises his wife and daughters for their support, intelligence, and good common sense. We'll revisit this book in more detail this October—and we'll all watch our governor to see what his next moves might be.

### **NEW BOOKS**

The following books arrived at the Ohioana Library in June and July. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

#### Nonfiction

Harvey, Charles H., annotated by Edmund F. Ball. *California Gold Rush: Diary of Charles H. Harvey Feburary 12-November 12, 1852.* Indiana Historical Society (Indianapolis, IN) 1983. PB \$20.00. The diary of Charles H. Harvey and his journey from his home in Ohio to San Francisco in the California Gold Rush of 1852.

#### Johnson, Bill. Raising Fathers: How Nurturing and Encouraging Fatherhood Helps Strengthen Families and Our Nation.

RaisingFathers.org (Marietta, OH) 2017. PB \$19.95.

In *Raising Fathers*, Bill Johnson uses his own life experiences as a son to an alcoholic father and as a father himself to begin a national conversation about the issue. He speaks of the innate desire of every child to have a good relationship with their father and of the societal impacts facing America due to generations of fatherless children.

#### Lauck, Jon K. *From Warm Center to Ragged Edge: The Erosion of Midwestern Literary and Historical Regionalism 1920-1965.* University of Iowa Press (Iowa City, IA) 2017. PB \$27.50.

During the half-century after the Civil War, intellectuals and politicians assumed the Midwest to be the font and heart of American culture. Despite the persistence of strong currents of midwestern regionalism during the 1920s and 1930s, the region went into eclipse during the post–World War II era. In the apt language of Minnesota's F. Scott Fitzgerald, the Midwest slid from being the "warm center" of the republic to its "ragged edge." This book explains the factors that triggered the demise of the Midwest's regionalist energies, from anti-midwestern machinations in the literary world and the inability of midwestern writers to break through the cultural politics of the era to the growing dominance of a coastal, urban culture. These developments paved the way for the proliferation of images of the Midwest as flyover country, the Rust Belt, and a staid and decaying region. Yet Lauck urges readers to recognize persistent and evolving forms of midwestern identity and to resist the forces that squelch the nation's interior voices.

Mangini, Cara. The Vegetable Butcher: How to Select, Prep, Slice, Dice, and Masterfully Cook Vegetables from Artichokes to Zucchini. Workman Publishing (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$29.95. The skills of butchery meet the world of fresh produce in this essential, inspiring guide that demystifies the world of vegetables. In step-by-step photographs, "vegetable butcher" Cara Mangini shows how to break down a butternut squash, cut a cauliflower into steaks, peel a tomato properly, chiffonade kale, turn carrots into coins and parsnips into matchsticks, and find the meaty heart of an artichoke. Additionally, more than 150 original, simple recipes put vegetables front and center, from Kohlrabi Carpaccio to Zucchini, Sweet Corn, and Basil Penne to a Parsnip-Ginger Layer Cake to sweeten a winter meal.

O'Rourke, P.J. How the Hell Did This Happen? The Election of 2016. Atlantic Monthly Press (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$25.00. This election cycle was so absurd that celebrated political satirist, journalist, and diehard Republican P. J. O'Rourke endorsed Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton. As O'Rourke put it, "America is experiencing the most severe outbreak of mass psychosis since the Salem witch trials of 1692. So why not put Hillary on the dunking stool?" In How the Hell Did This Happen?, O'Rourke brings his critical eye and inimitable voice to some seriously risky business. Starting in June 2015, he asks, "Who are these jacklegs, high-binders, wirepullers, mountebanks, swellheads, buncombe spigots, four-flushers and animated spittoons offering themselves as worthy of America's highest office?" and surveys the full cast of presidential candidates, including everyone you've already forgotten and everyone you wish you could forget. O'Rourke offers a brief history of how our insane process for picking who will run for president evolved, from the very first nominating convention through the reforms of the Progressive era to the present. He takes us through the debates and key primaries and analyzes everything from the campaign platforms (or lack thereof) to presidential style. And he rises from the depths of despair to come up with a better way to choose a president.

Paulson, George W. *Courage: Reminders and Remembrances.* George W. Paulson (Columbus, OH) 2014. PB \$10.00. This book reviews patient examples and discusses the fact that courage is the most significant factor in caregiving and in being a patient.The major motivation for caregiving is benevolent love.

Paulson, George W. James Fairchild Baldwin, M.D. 1850-1936: An Extraordinary Surgeon. The Ohio State University Medical Center (Columbus, OH) 2005. PB \$12.00. This book documents the life of James Fairchild Baldwin, M.D., the founder of Grant Hospital in Columbus.

Paulson, George W. *In Pursuit* of *Excellence: The Ohio State University Medical Center from 1834 to 2010.* The Ohio State University Medical Center (Columbus, OH) 2010. HC \$20.00. The history of The Ohio State University Medical Center from 1834 to 2010.

Scheurer, Michael. *Signature Scheurer: The Art of Michael Scheurer.* Weston Art Gallery (Cincinnati, OH) 2017. HC \$10.00. A catalog produced for the exhibition Signature Scheurer: The Art of Michael Scheurer at the Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery in the Aronoff Center for the Arts from April 28-June 18, 2017.

Smith, William, edited by Martin West. *Bouquet's Expedition Against the Ohio Indians in 1764 by William Smith*. Kent State University Press (Kent, OH) 2017. HC \$39.95. In the fall of 1764, Col. Henry

Bouquet led a British-American

army into what is today eastern Ohio with the intention of ending the border conflict called "Pontiac's War." Brokering a peaceful truce through negotiations, he ordered the Delawares and Shawnees to release all of their European and Colonial American captives. For the indigenous Ohio peoples, nothing was more wrenching and sorrowful than returning children from mixed parentage and adopted members of their families, many of whom had no memory of their former status or were unwilling to relinquish Native American culture. Provost William Smith of the College of Philadelphia wrote a history of these events in 1765 titled Bouquet's Expedition Against the Ohio Indians in 1764. This fully annotated edition of Smith's remarkable book, drawn from 1765–1778 versions, includes a new introduction with essays on Smith and his contributors and sources, such as Bouquet, Benjamin Franklin, and Edmund Burke, in addition to a new history of the publication. Numerous eighteenth-century sketches, drawings, engravings, and paintings are reproduced, and for the first time Benjamin West's two original drawings depicting Ohio leaders negotiating with Bouquet and the return of the captives are featured. Also included are impressive maps drawn by Thomas Hutchins, Bouquet's engineer, of the Ohio country and the battle of Bushy Run in 1763.

Ricca, Brad. Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York City's Greatest Female Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case That Captivated a Nation. St. Martin's Press (New York, NY) 2016. HC \$27.99.

Mrs. Sherlock Holmes tells the true story of Mrs. Grace Humiston, the detective and lawyer who turned her back on New York society life to become one of the nation's greatest crime fighters during an era when women weren't even allowed to vote. After graduating from N.Y.U. law school, Grace opened a legal clinic in the city for low-income immigrant clients and quickly established a reputation as a fierce but fair lawyer who was always on the side of the disenfranchised. Grace's motto, "Justice for those of limited means," led her to strange cases all over the city and eventually the world. From defending an innocent giant on death row to investigating an island in Arkansas with a terrible secret about slavery, from the warring halls of Congress to a crumbling medieval tower in Italy, Grace solved crimes between shopping at Bergdorf Goodman and being marked for death by the sinister Black Hand. But despite her many successes in social and criminal justice, Grace began to see chilling connections in the cases she had solved, leading to a final showdown with her most fearsome adversary of all and one of the most powerful men of the twentieth century. The great mystery of Mrs. Sherlock Holmes-and its haunting twist ending-is how could one woman with so much power disappear so completely?

Turner-Yamamoto, Shinji. *Sidereal Silence.* Weston Art Gallery (Cincinnati, OH) 2016. PB \$10.00. A catalog produced for the exhibition Shinji Turner-Yamamoto: Sidereal Silence at the Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery in the Aronoff Center for the Arts from April 8-June 5, 2016. Vanasco, Jeannie. The Glass Eye: A Memoir. TinHouse Books (Portland, OR) 2017. PB \$15.95. The night before her father dies, eighteen-year-old Jeannie Vanasco promises she will write a book for him. But this isn't the book she imagined. The Glass Eye is Jeannie's struggle to honor her father, her larger-than-life hero but also the man who named her after his daughter from a previous marriage, a daughter who died. After his funeral, Jeannie spends the next decade in escalating mania, in and out of hospitals, increasingly obsessed with the other Jeanne. Obsession turns to investigation as Jeannie plumbs her childhood awareness of her dead half sibling and hunts for clues into the mysterious circumstances of her death. It becomes a puzzle Jeannie feels she must solve to better understand herself and her father.

#### Weaver, Mark R. *A Wordsmith's Work: Three Decades of Writing to Persuade, Inform, and Amuse.* CreateSpace (Charleston, SC) 2017. PB \$17.76.

Author Mark Weaver has counseled thousands of clients all across America. He worked one-on-one with the Great Communicator himself, President Ronald Reagan. NBC News in Charlotte, North Carolina, called Weaver "one of the nation's foremost experts in crisis communications." His weapon of choice: powerful words. Words that persuade, inspire, and amuse. This book offers useful insights into how to make your writing more persuasive and memorable.

#### **Fiction**

Hetzel, Dennis. *Season of Lies: When Sports and Politics Collide.* Headline Books (Terra Alta, WV) 2017. PB \$19.95.

A pitcher. A president. Two men become linked by events when the stakes are highest. The Chicago Cubs have finally won a World Series for the first time since 1908. Now they want to build a baseball dynasty. To do so, they trade for star pitcher Trey Van Ohmann. Meanwhile, the Cubs' biggest and best-known fan, Luke Murphy, is running for re-election as president of the United States. But world events and powerful, unknown forces conspire against the two men. To succeed, they must overcome terrorism, scandals, and threats to their lives and those around them. The baseball season and a presidential campaign that could be ripped out of today's headlines intertwine in one fateful October.

Klages, Ellen. Wicked Wonders. Tachyon Publishing (San Francisco, CA) 2017. PB \$15.95. A rebellious child identifies with wicked Maleficent instead of Sleeping Beauty. Best friends Anna and Corry share one last morning on Earth. A solitary woman inherits a penny arcade haunted by a beautiful stranger. A prep-school student requires more than luck when playing dice with a faerie. Ladies who lunch—dividing one last bite of dessert-delve into new dimensions of quantum politeness. Whether on a habitat on Mars or in a boardinghouse in London, Ellen Klages presents stories full of wicked, wondrous adventures.

Kuhlman, Evan. *Wolf Boy.* Shaye Areheart Books (New York, NY) 2006. HC \$23.00.

On a frosty winter's day, Francis the sweet, generous, responsible eldest child of the Harrelson family—dies in a car accident on an ice-covered highway, and Wolf Boy is born. The earth doesn't rumble, no angels descend, and the sun doesn't weep. Nothing happens, in short, to signify the deep change that each member of the Harrelson household will undergo. Parents Gene and Helen turn away from each other and look inward, losing themselves in private fantasies. Tenyear-old Crispy devises elaborate strategies for her escape from the suffocating clutch of the Harrelson home and into the waiting arms of pop star Marky Mark. But the heart of this family portrait is younger brother Stephen, who, along with his quirky and creative friend Nicole, crafts an alternative reality in which their comic book hero, Wolf Boy, battles the forces of evil, champions the powers of good, and fights to keep his family intact. Through Wolf Boy, Stephen finds an outlet for his grief, a concrete expression for his place in a family spiraling out of control, and a way to express all the natural yearnings and hopes of a typical thirteenyear-old. Wolf Boy's adventures are featured throughout the book, introducing a graphic-novel subplot.

Money, Nicholas P. *The Mycologist: The Diary of Bartholomew Leach, Professor of Natural Philosophy (a novel).* Wooster Book Company (Wooster, OH) 2017. PB \$16.00. This is the fictional diary of Professor Bartholomew Leach (1823-1913), who taught at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Leach formulated his theory of Creation by Natural Perfection in the late 1850s, but discovered, to his great disappointment, that he had been trumped by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. In southwestern Ohio, Leach became known for his rejection of biblical teachings on creation and was vilified by many in his community. History is kinder to his memory as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.

Ng, Celeste. Little Fires Everywhere. Penguin Press (New York, NY) 2017. PB \$27.00. In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is planned, from the layout of the winding roads, to the colors of the houses, to the successful lives its residents lead. No one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules. Enter Mia Warrenan enigmatic artist and single mother-who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenaged daughter Pearl and rents a house from the Richardsons. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community. When old family friends of the Richardsons attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, a custody battle erupts that dramatically divides the town-and puts Mia and Elena on opposing sides. Suspicious of Mia and her motives, Elena is determined to uncover the secrets in Mia's past. But her obsession will come at unexpected and devastating costs.

*Little Fires Everywhere* explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood, and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster.

Putnam, Douglas. Stadium. Maverick Publications (Bend, OR) 2016. PB \$16.00. In 1920, as a university and city launch a campaign to build a magnificent new football stadium, Anna Cormany's neighbor in the village of Upper Arlington raises his voice to protest what he calls "a monument to megalomania." Karl Nace is a man with grievances against many people, including the professors and civic leaders who have spurned him and Anna's husband, Willy, the stadium's most zealous supporter. As the campaign proceeds from the crowning of "Stadium Girl" through groundbreaking and construction and on to the dedication game, the giant concrete horseshoe becomes the focus of Nace's hatred, and he plans a horrific act of violence to express his outrage.

Turzillo, Mary. *Bonsai Babies: A Short Story Collection.* Omnium Gatherum (Los Angeles, CA) 2016. PB \$12.99.

A collection of short stories by prolific author Mary Turzillo, including "Pigeon Drop," which begins with "A cat told me this story," as well as "Bloodtide" (about a mother and her gift from the sea), and "Bottle Babies," about a boy who literally grows up within a bottle and whose little sister communes with fairies. Valente, Catherynne M. *The Refrigerator Monologues.* Saga Press (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$19.99.

From the New York Times bestselling author Catherynne Valente comes a series of linked stories told from the points of view of the wives and girlfriends of superheroes, female heroes, and anyone who's ever been "fridged": comic book women who are killed, raped, brainwashed, driven mad, disabled, or had their powers taken so that a male superhero's storyline will progress. In an entirely new and original superhero universe, Valente subversively explores these ideas and themes in the superhero genre, treating them with the same love and humor as her fairy tales. After all, superheroes are our new fairy tales, and these six women have their own stories to share.

White, Nick. *How to Survive A* Summer. Blue Rider Press (New York, NY) 2017. HC \$26.00. Camp Levi, nestled in the Mississippi countryside, is designed to "cure" young teenage boys of their budding homosexuality. Will Dillard, a midwestern graduate student, spent a summer at the camp as a teenager, and has since tried to erase the experience from his mind. But when a fellow student alerts him that a slasher movie based on the camp is being released, he is forced to confront his troubled history and possible culpability in the death of a fellow camper. As past and present are woven together, Will recounts his "rehabilitation," eventually returning to the abandoned campground to solve the mysteries of that pivotal summer and to reclaim his story from those who have stolen it.

#### **Poetry**

Abbott, Steve. *The Incoherent Pull of Want: Poems.* NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2016. PB \$10.00. A collection of poems by prolific poet and educator Steve Abbott, including "The Present Doesn't Last as Long as It Used To," "Dead Man at the Centerfold Lounge," "Death Is a Waffle Iron," and "Dorothy's Other Dream."

Andrews, Nin. Miss August: Poems. CavanKerry Press (Fort Lee, NJ) 2017. PB \$16.00. In her latest collection, Miss August, Nin Andrews takes on difficult topics: racism, segregation, child abuse, mental illness, and sexual identity. Told from the viewpoints of three different characters, the poems take place in a small town in the Jim Crow South, where opposition to racial integration is still strong. The book presents a tale of a boy's discovery of his sexual identity, of profound love and friendship, and of racism in a specific time and place in American history.

Arcangelini, M.J. *Room Enough: Poems.* NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2016. PB \$10.00. A collection of poetry addressing a variety of subjects, from meeting Bob Kauffman ("Bob at the Bank") to speaking at International Women's Day ("Written for the Occasion") to having "Room Enough" for the loves in his life.

Borsenik, Dianne, ed. *Delirious: A Poetic Celebration of Prince.* NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2016. PB \$10.00. Edited by Dianne Borsenik, Delirious contains ninety-eight pages of poems written by seventy different poets from across the United States, England, and the Philippines. The poems range from a five-word haiku to a three-page crown of sonnets. Also included are shape-poems, abecedarians, a poem written in java script, a conversation with a nintey-sevenyear-old mom, poems with lines meant to be sung, a touching tribute to a "best friend," a smile in turquoise, and reminiscences about the soundtracks of younger selves. Each poem is a distinct facet of the glittering world of Prince: his music, his words, his art, his sexuality, his fashion, his convictions, and his impact on an entire generation. Prince influenced lives on multiple levels, giving face and voice to nonconformity and self-expression, encouraging and validating creativity and sensitivity. This book celebrates the remarkable life of a very special man.

Carpathios, Neil. Far Out Factoids: Poems. FutureCycle Press (Athens, GA) 2017. HC \$15.95. Welcome to the wild world of factoids. Using a different factoid as the starting point and title for each of his musings, award-winning poet Neil Carpathios offers up thirty poems in this unique collection that explore sexuality, relationships, culture, metaphysics, and many other corners of our universe. Carpathios takes full advantage of the mental springboard that is the factoid. Included are original drawings by artist Carole Carpathios, the poet's wife.

Fagan, Kathy. *Sycamore: Poems.* Milkweed Editions (Minneapolis, MN) 2017. PB \$16.00. A collection of poems that takes the sycamore as its inspiration, providing insights on lost love, nature, and the process of recovery. Hassler, Donald Mack. *High Latitudes: A Selection of Poems.* Blurb Press (San Francisco, CA) 2016. HC \$22.95.

High Latitudes is a selection of poetry written by Donald "Mack" Hassler and collected over a fiftyyear period between 1966 and 2016. These poems provide a snapshot of various influences and periods in the author's life, as well as the lives of his family, as seen through his eyes.

Howey, Christine. Playing Tennis with the Net Down: Poems. NightBallet Press (Elvria, OH) 2016. PB \$10.00. A collection of poems by **Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate** Christine Howey. With a folksy, conversational tone, Howey leads the reader through adventures including the childhood experiences of X-rayed shoe selection, glow-in-the-dark watches, and tick-borne diseases, and the decidedly adult experiences of things found in a meadow, receiving your Life<sup>™</sup> (and how to get it out of that pesky package), and "why you don't like reading poetry."

Roberts, Andy. *Yeasayer: Poems.* NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2016. PB \$5.00. A philosophical poetry reflection on the questions human beings encounter as we age.

Shaheed, Margie. *Dream Catcher: Poems.* NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2017. PB \$10.00. A collection of poetry from the past year of Shaheed's life: conversations, lovemaking, triumph in aging, political and historical happenings, friends' influences, and anger at injustices, all steeped in the rich tradition of African-American storytelling.

Wood, Rebecca. *Black-Socket Sky: Poems.* NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2016. PB \$5.00. A collection of poetry that explores themes of winter, loss, belonging, religion, and night.

#### **Young Adult**

Mackall, Dandi Daley. Just Sayin'. Tyndale House Publishers (Carol Stream, IL) 2017. PB \$9.99. Nick and Cassie almost had their perfect family: their parents were getting married, and that meant best friends would be brother and sister. When their parents mysteriously call off the wedding and Cassie is left in her Gram's care, Cassie and Nick become "almoststep" pen pals. Told through letters, *Just Sayin*' is the story of scheming to get parents back together even as their friendship deepens and brings them closer together.

# **COMING SOON**

**Thurber House Summer Literary Picnics** August 2 – August 16, 2017, Thurber House, Columbus The 32nd summer season of outdoor picnics concludes with 2017 Ohioana Readers' Choice Book Award winner Tiffany McDaniel (August 2) and Ohio Poet Laureate Amit Majmudar (August 16). For more information and tickets, visit the Thurber House website at <u>www.thurberhouse.org</u>.

**Ohioana Book Club** August 16, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – noon, Ohioana Library, Columbus The book for August is *The Invisible Soldiers: How America Outsourced Our Security* by Ann Hagedorn. If you would like to attend, please email us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

#### Cleveland Book Week September 5 – 9, 2017, Cleveland

The second annual literary celebration presents ten events at venues throughout the city, including the 2017 Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards ceremony at Playhouse Square. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.anisfield-wolf.org">www.anisfield-wolf.org</a>.

**Ohioana Book Awards** October 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Ohio Statehouse Atrium, Columbus Join us as we celebrate the winners of the 2017 Ohioana Book Awards. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with a reception followed by the awards presentations and book signing. Tickets go on sale in September. For more information, visit <u>www.ohioana.org</u>.

#### Middle Grade & Children's

Mackall, Dandi Daley. Illus. by Annabel Tempest. *Wow! The Good News in Four Words*. Tyndale House Publishers (Carol Stream, IL) 2017. HC \$14.99. The gospel is now called "the Good News," and that's because it's the best news ever! Using four words: "Wow! Uh-Oh. Yes! Ahh," Wow! uses rhymes and illustrations to walk kids through God's whole story.

### CALLING ALL OHIO AUTHORS!

Ohioana is now taking applications for Ohio authors interested in participating in the 2018 Ohioana Book Festival. For details and an application, visit <u>www.ohioana.org</u>.