**The Thickety**
*by* J.A. White

“A dark, forbidden forest, a powerful book, and an ancient, deeply rooted fear of witchcraft set the stage for White’s incredible debut. Shunned by fellow villagers because of her mother’s witchcraft conviction, Kara and her family struggle in every way imaginable. One day, Kara enters Sordyr’s Realm, the Thickety, from which no one has ever emerged unchanged. There she discovers a powerful book that she believes belonged to her mother and that holds incredible and dangerous powers. What follows is an amazing start to a great new series that will leave you thirsting for more!”

—Bess Bleyaert, McLean & Eakin Booksellers, Petoskey, MI

**Conversion**
*by* Katherine Howe

“When a mysterious illness begins to afflict Colleen Rutherford’s classmates at St. Joan’s Academy in Danvers, Massachusetts, panicked parents and hungry media swarm, armed with questions, accusations, and wild theories. Refusing to let an unknown illness jeopardize her college prospects, Colleen takes on an assignment comparing *The Crucible* to the real Salem witch trials. As tensions rise, she begins to notice similarities between the witch trials and the panic that’s taken over Danvers. In her first book for young adults, Howe deftly parallels the infamous Salem trials and the overwhelming societal pressures on modern teens.”

—Sara Grochowski, Blue Phoenix Books, Alpena, MI

**We Were Liars**
*by* E. Lockhart

“This is the book everyone is going to be talking about this year. Cadence Sinclair—yes, of those Sinclairs—spends her summers with her family on their private island off of Martha’s Vineyard where the houses have names and appearances must be maintained. What has changed this summer? And why won’t anyone tell Cadence what happened two years ago? This book is best experienced with little prior knowledge of the plot, but you can expect beautiful language, twists aplenty, and a sophisticated mastery of style. On top of all that, it’s a page-turner in the truest sense. Teens and adults alike will adore We Were Liars.”

—Mary-Catherine Breed, Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX

**Say What You Will**
*by* Cammie McGovern

“Amy can only speak with the aid of a voice box and she can’t walk more than a few steps without assistance. Matthew has his own obsessive worries. When Matthew starts helping Amy, a relationship begins to take shape. But can their friendship weather all that their lives have in store? Wonder meets *Eleanor and Park* in this authentic romance with beautifully crafted characters.”

—Beth Reynolds, Norwich Bookstore, Norwich, VT
I Am Otter
by Sam Garton
“Otter found himself on Otter Keeper’s doorstep one day and, luckily for him, Teddy had also just arrived. Otter, Teddy, and Otter Keeper become best friends and have lots of fun together, especially on weekends. Unfortunately, Mondays arrive and Otter Keeper has to leave for work, so Otter and Teddy decide to begin their own business—a toast restaurant from their very own kitchen. What could go wrong? Everything! A funny and warm tale with an important message about friendship. I can’t wait for more Otter adventures!”
—Karen Briggs, Great Northern Books & Hobbies, Oscoda, MI

Chengdu Could Not, Would Not Fall Asleep
by Barney Saltzberg
“Chengdu has a problem. It’s night time and he can’t sleep. He tries everything he can to fall asleep, but nothing works. This is a wonderful interactive book featuring pandas! The pages are fun as they fold this way and that. I love the big eyes that are open in the bamboo forest while everyone else sleeps. Chengdu’s solution is a wonderful surprise.”
—Janice Hunsche, Kaleidosaurus Books, Fishers, IN

Three Bears in a Boat
by David Soman
“Soman has created a masterpiece! Three siblings are doing something they shouldn’t and end up breaking their mother’s favorite blue seashell. Rather than face her wrath—because she is a bear, after all—they go in search of a replacement. They travel all over and meet many odd characters, but they don’t find what they seek until they’re looking in the right place. Art and text are perfectly balanced and full of nuances that, taken together, make a simple tale something wonderful. Three Bears in a Boat will become a classic!”
—Elizabeth Anker, Alamosa Books, Albuquerque, NM

The Glass Sentence
by S.E. Grove
“Suppose that the dimension of time took on the physical form of natural disaster, and that the different eras of Earth’s history, some preceding what we call the present and some beyond it, suddenly all surfaced within fault lines that cause the whole world to be fractured into different ages. Writers who had never been born in what has become 10th century Europe are still alive in 19th century Boston, for example, and map making, marvelous and multi-dimensional, has become the transcendent science in a world of danger, intrigue, politics, and discovery. This tightly woven, highly imaginative and compelling world offers deep satisfaction for readers of all ages.”
—Kenny Brechner, Devaney, Doak & Garrett Booksellers, Farmington, ME

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The Night Gardener
by Jonathan Auxier
“This is a family read-together book that will keep everyone up at night—in a good way. Molly and Kip, brother and sister, are each making their way in the world without their parents, but they have many good intentions to protect each other and find a place where they belong. The night gardener haunts them by night, and by day they learn about the evil that can grasp those who fall prey to greed. Magical and unforgettable, this is storytelling at its best!”
—Arna Lewis, Buttonwood Books & Toys, Cohasset, MA

Find out more about this book and others at www.indiebound.org

The Truth About Alice
by Jennifer Mathieu
“Free-spirited, bold, and beautiful, Alice has always been the object of boys’ lust and other girls’ jealousy and admiration at her small-town high school. After a party, rumors about Alice start to spread: she’s a slut, she had sex with two boys in one night, and she was responsible for the death of one of them. Told from multiple perspectives, The Truth About Alice details what it means to be bullied and what it takes to stand against it. At times harshly funny, at times heart-wrenching, this is ultimately a hopeful story.”
—Emily Ring, Inklings Bookshop, Yakima, WA

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