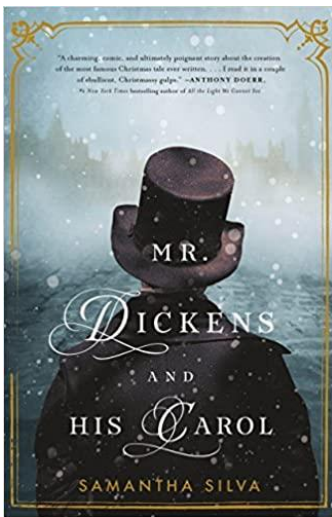


Audubon Book Club 2023

Clearfield Library, 1st Thursdays @ 3:00

January 5



Mr. Dickens and His Carol: A Novel

Hardcover – October 31, 2017

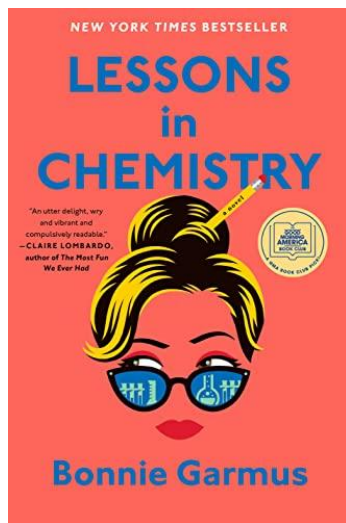
by Samantha Silva

Flatiron Books, 276 pages, 10 HC, 3 audiobooks

"CHARMING...I READ IT IN A COUPLE OF EBULLIENT, CHRISTMASSY GULPS." —Anthony Doerr, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *All The Light We Cannot See*

Dickens is deep in debt and constantly assailed by friends and family for handouts. His publishers have required a Christmas book, but the popular author is under siege and has become bitter, an Ebenezer Scrooge. Can a Christmas tale come from the pen of one who has become so moody and difficult that his wife and children have left him? Silva has conjured up a nice tale to explain the backstory of a Christmas classic.

February 2



Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel

by Bonnie Garmus

Doubleday (April 5, 2022)

394 pgs, 10 HC, 6 Lrg Pr

A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR: Washington Post, NPR, Oprah Daily, Newsweek, Bookpage, Kirkus • NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • GOOD MORNING AMERICA BOOK CLUB PICK • Meet Elizabeth Zott: a “formidable, unapologetic

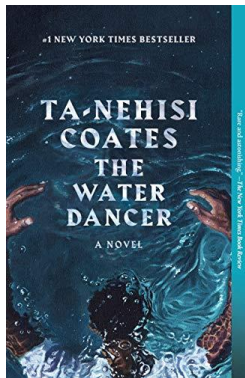
and inspiring” (PARADE) scientist in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show in this novel that is “irresistible, satisfying and full of fuel. It reminds you that change takes time and always requires heat” (The New York Times Book Review).

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it’s the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America’s most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth’s unusual approach to cooking (“combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride”) proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn’t just teaching women to cook. She’s daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

March 2



The Water Dancer: A Novel

by Ta-Nehisi Coate

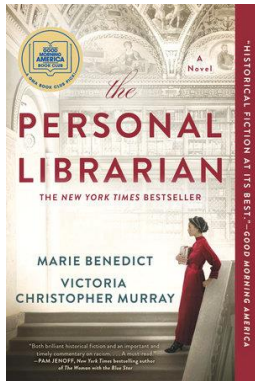
One World (September 24, 2019)

September 24, 2019, 417 pages, 14 HC, 4 audiobook, 14 LrgPrt

“Coates balances the horrors of slavery against the fantastical. He extends the idea of the gifts of the disenfranchised to include a kind of superpower. But *The Water Dancer* is very much its own book, and its gestures toward otherworldliness remain grounded. In the end, it is a novel interested in the psychological effects of slavery, a grief that Coates is especially adept at parsing. . . . In Coates’s world, an embrace can be a revelation, rare and astonishing.”—Esi Edugyan, *The New York Times Book Review*

“The best writers—the best storytellers, in particular—possess the enchanting, irresistible power to take the reader somewhere else. Ta-Nehisi Coates imagines the furthest reach of that power as a means to transcend borders and bondage in *The Water Dancer*, a spellbinding look at the impact of slavery that uses meticulously researched history and hard-won magic to further illuminate this country’s original sin. . . . Exploring the loaded issues of race and slavery has become yet more fuel for today’s culture wars, but an underlying message of liberation through the embrace of history forms the true subject of *The Water Dancer*. . . . Coates envisions the transcendent potential in acknowledging and retelling stories of trauma from the past as a means out of darkness. With recent family separations at the U.S. border, this message feels all the more timely.”—*Los Angeles Times*

April 6



The Personal Librarian

by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

Berkley; First Edition (June 29, 2021)

352 pages, 14 HC, 3 audiobooks, 7 LrPr

“Benedict, who is white, and Murray, who is African American, do a good job of depicting the tightrope Belle walked, and her internal conflict from both sides—wanting to adhere to her mother's wishes and move through the world as white even as she longed to show her father she was proud of her race. Like Belle and her employer, Benedict and Murray had almost instant chemistry, and as a result, the book's narrative is seamless...I became hooked.” — NPR

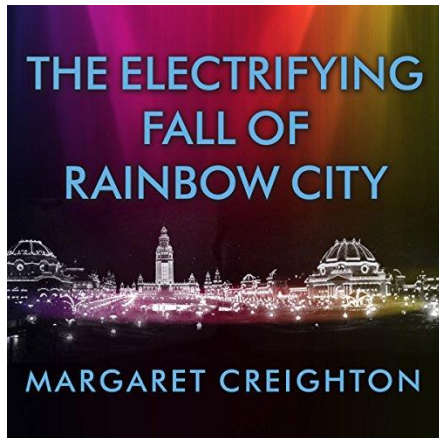
“A marvel of a story. This unflinching look at one woman’s meteoric rise through New York’s high society is enthralling, lyrical, and rife with danger. Belle’s painful secret and her inspiring courage will capture – and break – your heart. Serious kudos to Benedict and Murray for bringing this true story to life.”

—Fiona Davis, New York Times bestselling author

“This fictional account of Greene’s life feels authentic; the authors bring to life not only Belle but all those around her. An excellent piece of historical fiction that many readers will find hard to put down.” —Library Journal (starred review)

“A powerful take on the accomplishments of J.P. Morgan’s librarian.... Benedict and Murray do a great job capturing Belle’s passion and tenacity as she carves a place for herself in a racist male-dominated society. This does fine justice to a remarkable historical figure.” —Publishers Weekly

May 4



The Electrifying Fall of Rainbow City: Spectacle and Assassination at the 1901 World's Fair

Margaret Creighton

Berkley; First Edition (June 29, 2021)

352 pages, 14 HC, 6 audio, Book-Club-in-a-Bag

The Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, meant to herald the twentieth century, went tragically, spectacularly awry.

In 1901, Buffalo was the eighth-largest city in the United States, and its leaders had big dreams. They would host a world's fair, showcasing the Americas, and bring millions of people to western New York. With nearby Niagara Falls as a drawing card and with stunning colors and electric lights, they hoped the fair would be more popular and more brilliant, literally, than Chicago's White City of 1893.

In this extraordinary account, Margaret S. Creighton lifts the curtain on the assassination of McKinley as well as on the fair's lesser-known battles, involving both notorious and forgotten figures. In a story that is by turns suspenseful, heartrending, and triumphant, she reveals the myriad power struggles that not only marked the Exposition but shaped the new century.