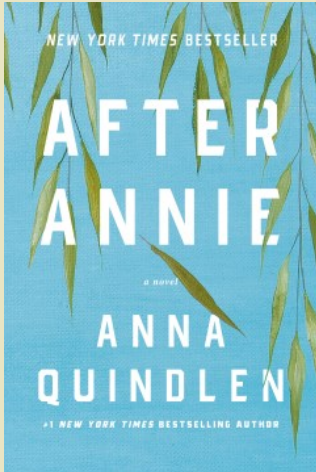
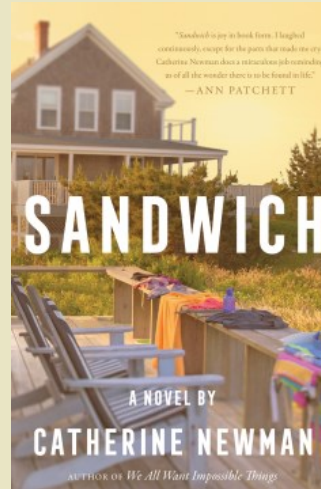




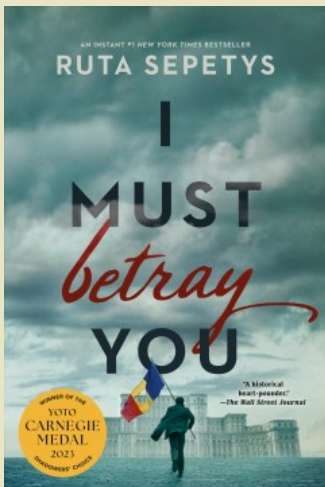
Ellen's PICKS



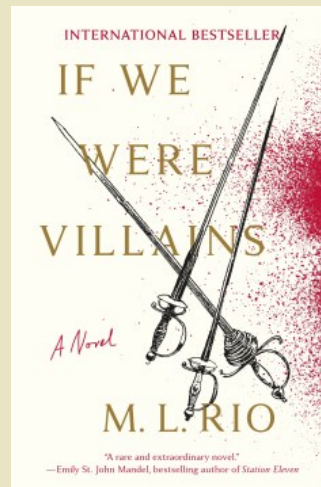
This book is about friendship. It's about your ride or die person. It also is a book about death and the aftermath of death: the messiness, the grief and the spiderweb effects a death has on so many people. It is an honest representation of loss and not a picture perfect one and that is LIFE. It is heavy, but also hopeful.



There is a lot of buzz about Sandwich! It likely won't "hit" for every reader, but for me in my current season of life, it was so relevant. I loved the brutal honesty in it - from menopause to aging parents to parenting young adults. We women carry the emotional load of everyone and the load gets very, very heavy sometimes. Great book.



Sepetys is a fabulous YA Historical Fiction writer who really does her research. This one is about communist Romania in 1989 around the time the Berlin Wall came down. The Government was very corrupt and made life miserable for the citizens. Our narrator is Christian, who dreams of a better life for himself and his family - at almost any cost.



If you like Dark Academia and/or Shakespeare you will like this book! It pulls you in immediately with a mystery and ends with a surprising twist. My only criticism is that the frequent Shakespeare quotes in everyday conversation had me rolling my eyes.



A real contender for my Best Book of 2024.

I have no words. The. Best. I just love these magical characters so much. This 2nd book continues the story of Linus and Arthur, but from Arthur's perspective and how they are trying to build a family with their magical creature "children." We also get a new character - a Yeti named David. I listened to the audiobook and the narration is wonderful. ****You must read Under the Cerulean Sea first. ***

Also: Don't sleep on TJ Klune's acknowledgments at the end!



★ = my favorite choice