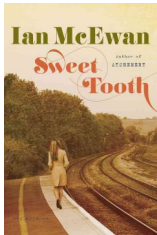


Information, Answers & Reviews

Next Booksplus Discussion: This Sunday-- September 8th--at 2 p.m.



[view in catalog](#)

Our next book to be discussed is a thrilling read about early 70's Britain. I always enjoy novels set in the author's youth. In an interview, McEwan describes this period of rock and roll and changing mores as the time of his life, "when it was very bliss to be alive." Rent was cheap even in London. For only three pounds a month, McEwan scored a large apartment, and could live off writing a few reviews and articles each month. He spent the rest of his time, reading, writing, and socializing.

This novel combines a spy novel, a love story, and a journey into the literary world of early 70s England. McEwan, who has won many prizes, could have titled it a spy in the house of literature.

[Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 4, 2013

[Sweet Tooth : a novel](#)

[Book Clubs](#)

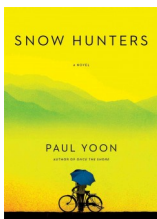
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A North Korean Emigré to Brazil



[view in catalog](#)

Want to read a novel but feeling pressed for time with all the craziness of back-to-school and fall a-coming? If so, try this new one, the highly lyrical *Snow Hunters* by Korean-American Paul Yoon. It tells the story of a North Korean prisoner of war who refuses to return home after the Korean War. Instead the administrators of his prison camp finds him a placement in Brazil. Yohan boards a cargo ship where the sailors befriend him and they set sail for South America. Yohan arrives at a small unnamed town in the rain as a young girl on a bicycle rides past. She gives him her umbrella. Yohan shelters himself under it as he goes in search of the tailor Kiyoshi who has agreed to give him an apprenticeship.

The former Japanese tailor and Yohan develop a relationship that is at first wordless. Neither speaks the same language. But Kiyoshi is both very kind and very observant. When Yohan wakes in the middle of the night with [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 3, 2013

[Snow Hunters : a novel](#)

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Fall Books!



Even though the days are still hot and it technically isn't fall yet, the students are back so

we know summer is on its last legs. Fall book previews are out and I am excited to see that some of my favorite authors have new titles coming out in the next few months.

One of my favorite nonfiction authors, Malcolm Gladwell has a new book out this fall called *David and Goliath*. His previous books include *Outliers* (my favorite), *Blink* and *The Tipping Point*. Gladwell is a journalist who has turned some pop and academic research on the social sciences on its head. The chapters usually are distinct journalistic pieces unto themselves and make for some unexpectedly fascinating reading.

Dave Eggers has a new thriller coming out in early October called *The Circle*. I didn't love his most recent novel, *A Hologram for a King*. I liked the story and found the Saudi Arabian setting interesting but I found the main character too unsympathetic. I did love the characterization, setting and unique narrative voice of 2007's *What is the What* so much that I might possibly have to read everything he ever writes. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on August 27, 2013

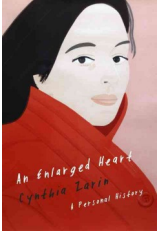
[New Books](#)

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An Enlarged Heart



[view in catalog](#)

Summer--a great time for reading novels--is also a good time to catch up on more episodic reading. This memoir is perfect for a short period listening to the cicada orchestra from the porch swing, or a quick read before bed.

In twelve varied segments, poet and former *New Yorker/Talk of the Town* writer Zarin shares important milestones in her life as well as a passion for several material objects that she has become attached to over the years.

The strongest and most emotionally-charged piece is the title one in which Zarin describes a typical day on the Cape with her and her husband's assorted brood of kids, when the youngest gets ill. It began with a cough. Her brother had a cough. And, after all, what was a cough?? By this time, Zarin had treated countless upset tummies and sore throats. But two emergency visits later, she found herself kneeling next to her daughter while the ambulance raced to Children's Hospital in Boston.

The diagnosis: the rare Kawasaki Disease, which is the leading cause of heart damage in children. This segment shows how quickly our ordinary lives can turn frightening and possibly tragic. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 20, 2013

[An Enlarged Heart: a personal history](#)

[Memoir](#)

[Nonfiction](#)

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The Rosies Are Ready for Some Football



August means back to school, the first touch of a chill in the morning air, and football, of

course! This year, three of the Rosie Award nominees are about or related to football ? in very special and different ways. Geoff Herbach's novel *Stupid Fast* is set in the exciting and bewildering world of high school football, where Felton Reinstein has gone from being a bullied failure of a stand-up comedian to a seriously fast, seriously *gigantic* football player in his sophomore year. There's a decent amount of football action (including off-season training) and a bit of romance, but Herbach's strong point is how he balances a story about a neglectful mother with Felton's often hilarious struggles to control his newly grown-up body and the popularity it brings. Fans of [Carl Deuker](#) or [Paul Volponi's](#) sports novels will enjoy this one. [Read more](#)

Posted by Chris H. on August 15, 2013

[Teens](#)

[Sports](#)

[Family Relationships](#)

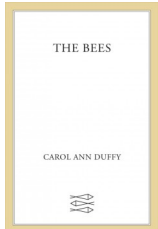
[Coming of Age](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Chris H.'s blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

The Bees



[view in catalog](#)

Before we slide into autumn, and the lightning bugs, daddy long legs, and bees disappear, take time to enjoy Carol Ann Duffy's new collection of poems, *The Bees*. No, it has nothing to do with the dark subject of colony collapse. Instead many of these poems center on this communal insect and its work in the world. Other poems are about love and family and the desolation of winter, yet even in these, bees hover over the edges of the poems, providing a small celestial moment of grace and fortitude (especially in those set during cold months.)

Duffy writes lyrical poetry that resonates with imaginative and sometimes unexpected images. Examine how the title poem begins: "Here are my bees / brazen, blurs on paper, / besotted: buzzwords, dancing / their flawless, airy maps."

In this poem she compares bees to words, how they dive deeply into everything and bring back scents that pervade her "shadowed, busy heart, / and honey is art." [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 13, 2013

[The bees](#)

[Poetry](#)

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