

The Reader



at Literary Leftovers Bookstore

Issue 1

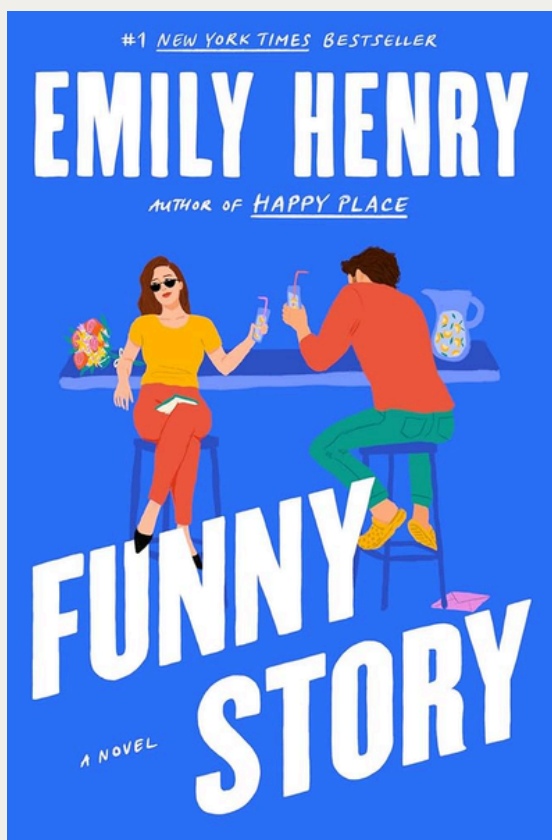
July/Aug 2024

Reading *The Reader*

from the booksellers

What to call this little emission? A paper, a bulletin, a newsletter? Use it to satisfy yourself during a slow, sunny morning in the shop this summer, take it home and share it with your friends and family, or stuff it in your purse and forget about it until later. You can call it whatever you want and use it however you like—we're going to call it *The Reader*, and we'll fill the pages with observations, anecdotes, poetry, reviews and more from the shop and the rest of our bookish community. *The Reader's* Little Reader, edited by our own storybook fairy godmother, Corrie Albertson, is the landing place for children's book reviews, children's poetry (by and for kids!) and everything else aimed at young readers.

If you want to submit your own reviews, musings on literature, poetry, local bookish news, or anything else, email us at thereaderatliteraryleftovers@gmail.com. If you have children's content to submit, send it to the same. Please review the Submission Guidelines on our website before submitting.



Funny Story (2024), Emily Henry

REVIEW

Funny Story by Emily Henry

Markie Wing, bookseller

Emily Henry is a romcom/romance genius, and no one can convince me otherwise. *Funny Story* was giving fake dating, forced proximity, friends to lovers, small town and found family, and I couldn't stop reading it once I started.

I love that Miles, the main male character, is a super laid back, goofy, sweet guy. (And bonus: a foodie). When I saw Crocs on the cover of the book, I knew he was gonna be a different (in the best ways) MMC. He's so caring, selfless and sweet. I'm obsessed with thought Daphne and thought she was the perfect main female character because first off, hello...she's a librarian who grew up with a passion and love for books. I just related to her character in so many ways, especially some of her emotional struggles (though not the abandoned-by-your-fiancé-for-your-best-friend struggle).

This book gave me all the smiley, happy and comfy vibes. I will be 100% recommending this to any- and everyone who will listen!

The Boss Reader: Heather Erwin

Heather Erwin, proprietress

I woke slowly this morning to sunshine and a gentle breeze carrying the fresh smell of fir trees, the tranquil quiet interspersed with the sweet songs of the white-crowned sparrow, black-headed grosbeak, Swainson's thrush. I'm in awe of this blessed home that overlooks the valley and backs to woods. It's just one of the gifts I've received since I moved to Battle Ground in 2016. Another is the beautiful town bookstore, of which I get to be the proprietress. I don't know how long I'll have this calling, but I'm so grateful for it every day. I hope you feel that when you walk through our doors.

This place is special. Employees operate like owners and protectors of important knowledge, held within the pages of each and every donation we so generously receive from many of you. It's a community center dedicated to enriching lives. Sales are secondary—if we didn't need to make money to keep these doors open, we'd still want to find homes for this fantastic fiction and non-fiction. We'd still want to guide you to your next adventure, to be a place where students do their homework, children play Legos or learn chess, local authors present their books, and where adults gather for the latest book club discussion or a game of Catan.

We truly love what we do, we love Battle Ground, and we're so committed to both. If you don't know us, we'd love to meet you. Come say hello. Grab a coffee. Sit and read. (Bring a book to donate and receive 20% off your purchase.) Most of all, come in and appreciate this gem of a small business, in a small town with big dreams and an even bigger mission.

BOOKSELLER'S COLUMN

Mice in My Hice: On Affordability

Eily McIlvain, bookseller

Coming out of my kitchen last week, I scared a marauding mouse in my entryway. He lost all traction against the wood floor, collected himself and scrambled under the door to my living room. I wasn't as surprised to see him as he was me; I'd heard him in the walls for weeks now. Also, more than a year ago, I opened the drawer in my kitchen where the parchment paper and tin foil and old napkins live, and found all the paper inside shredded into little bits perfect for mouse bedding. At the time, I was convinced that this incident was actually a squirrel. A few months before, one leapt out of a vent in the unit below mine where our landlord lives and terrorized her kitchen for several minutes. During this episode she texted me: OMG! IT'S A SQUIRREL NOT A RAT! AND LOOSE IN MY KITCHEN!

After I saw the mouse, I began to worry he was a danger to my books. I have so many books in my house that I don't need to decorate (people usually just look at the books), and while I constantly feed the accumulation, I don't prune often. These towering stacks of paper must look cozy and edible to a mouse, I thought. I decided to reorganize the books, mix them around a little, assess any damage, and hopefully scare the mouse out of my living room.

I should be well-equipped for such a task, considering I sort and organize books for a living, but I frequently had to stop and take deep breaths. No matter how many books I moved, there were more books. And even once I'd separated the books I could part with, I still had to find a new, separate place to store those books in my small apartment, before I could ferry them to the shop. Then I realized I'd had the same thought several months before, and was now only adding to an existing stash of books needing to evacuate from my home.

I have such a robust, various, and overwhelming collection because of used bookstores and booksellers—though I sell myself books as often as anyone else does. But even when they don't directly influence my decisions, used booksellers make my books available to me at enabling prices. Without them, I'd still spend too much money on books, but I would have far less and suffer more financially. The usual new trade hardcover is now between \$30-\$32. A new trade paperback is an unthinkable \$18, and I've even seen a few for \$19. Ebooks are not generally a more affordable option.

I fear people possessing the gene that allows one to make wise financial decisions might be totally dissuaded from building a library of their own at those prices. Without respect and enthusiasm for used books, and without availability of these used books at reasonable prices (80-85% of MSRP can't be considered a used price), we won't have a world where the average citizen amasses their own personal library.

I don't want to live in that world. Everyone should have the chance to do the same as I have, even if I have more books than anyone should have. A used book is the ripened state of the young fruit, new books. New books can only hope to grow old. Reading widely is essential for comprehension, critical thinking, and imagination. Collecting books is good for the spirit. It impresses and frightens your friends when they come over, and provides habitats for wildlife.

POETRY

Flightless Bird

C. Mason

The secret places where brooks go to hide
 Teaming with life beneath, a welling deep inside
 Little bird safe in the brush
 Covering away from the push and the rush
 Who told you to hide
 Didn't you know there are winds you can ride
 You may be small but you have wings that can fly
 You don't have to bend low, you can rise to the sky
 Those feathers you fancied for warmth and disguise
 Were made to outstretch and take you on high
 So gather your courage little one
 Your journey has only just begun
 You might be fragile and small
 But you will rise, rise, rise above them all

NEWS

Mobile Book Magic

Eily McIlvain, bookseller

This is the year of the book mobile. Two mobile bookstores, Traveling Tales and Flirting with Fiction, have been popping out for events at venues around Battle Ground and the surrounding area with carefully curated collections of fiction and more.

Kimberly from Flirting with Fiction even materialized right in our very own front yard for the Pine and Maple Night Market! FWF is currently fundraising to put roots down in a space in downtown Vancouver, and you can find more information about where to find them and how to support on their Instagram: @flirting_with_fiction

Lyndsie of Traveling Tales is popping up at several local spots in July, and you can see a preview of where she'll be parked on her Instagram: @travelingtalesbookshop

We are so excited to catch them around town, and we hope you'll show them some love as they take on all the crazy and wonderful parts of bookselling life.

PROGRAMS

Book Clubs

from the booksellers

We facilitate two book clubs to bring local book lovers together twice a month, while supporting the shop and local Battle Ground business.

Overstacked Book Club meets at the shop the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6pm. \$25 to attend (with book).

Bottled Book Club meets at Emanar Cellars every 3rd Thursday at 6pm. \$25 to attend (with book.)



Little Reader

Dear Little Readers & Parents

Corrie Albertson, bookseller

I'm excited to tell you all about what you can expect to find in the "Little Readers" section of our paper. Each issue will have book reports written by kids and book recommendations written by parents. We will also include children's poetry, some word games, scrambles and/or riddles and notifications about all our upcoming children's events at the bookstore. My hope is that all of you will contribute to the content that will be found on these pages. We're so excited for kids to see their name in print!

This idea was born out of my conversations with all of you who frequent the shop; I've loved hearing all about your favorite books and often share your recommendations with others. There are so many amazing books to read, and it's impossible for any one person to read them all, so we really rely on our fellow readers and patrons to help us know what's out there that's worth reading. Parents text me regularly with books they've read to their children that they think I'd like to read too. I thought it would be amazing if I could share it with all of you as well.

Kids, we're looking for a one to two paragraph book report that includes the title, name of the author (and artist, if there is one), your name and age, and a little bit about the book and why you like it. Please be sure not to spoil the ending! You can email this to us at thereaderatliteraryleftovers@gmail.com or bring a handwritten report into the store. We'd also like you to include your phone number (this won't be shared) so that we can contact you if yours is chosen for the issue. We're also looking for original poetry and your favorite riddles.

Parents, you do not need to be a writer to send in a review. This is meant to be a casual recommendation. I'm printing an edited text thread between a parent and myself as an example in this issue.

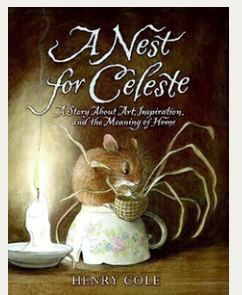
I can't wait to read all of your book reports and recommendations!

RECOMMENDATION

A Nest for Celeste

recommended by Alanna

Written & illustrated by Henry Cole



We just finished "A Nest for Celeste" and it was such a delight! I cry at the last page of books I love and this was one of them. It truly was the sweetest. The kids begged to keep reading and we almost missed our last ballet and wrestling classes and they love both of those things so much. It was 300+ pages with lots of beautiful illustrations. It was so endearing and we all loved it. I highly recommend it. It was such a treasure!

BOOK REPORT

Heartwood Hotel: A True Home

recommended by Adele Anaya

Written by Kallie George, illustrated by Stephanie Graegin



Heartwood Hotel: A True Home is the first book in a series about a mouse named Mona. When Mona is stuck in a storm with no home, she discovers a heart shaped button on a tree! Soon she finds out that the button leads to a secret passage in the tree. Through the passage Mona finds a hotel for small animals!

Working as a maid till the storm passes, Mona gets into some trouble with the head maid Tilly. But one night when trouble comes to the hotel, Mona uses her quick thinking and kind heart to try and save the hotel! But wait there's more! Find that out when you read the book. Because this is a cute, fun, and heart warming story, I would definitely recommend it!

SCHEDULE

Lego Club at 10am Tuesdays & 4pm Thursdays.

Storytime with Corrie at 11am Tuesdays, right after Lego Club.

Catan Club at 6:30-8:30pm, 2nd Saturdays of the month.

Chess Club at 4-5pm, 2nd & 4th Fridays of the month.

Summer Reading Program

Pick up your summer reading log to earn a free book just by reading.

All programs are free

COMING SOON

Free tutoring

In September, our tutoring program will recommence, only it will look a little different this year! It will be by-appointment, which will hopefully make it easier for students and tutors to connect.

2nd Annual K-12 Art Show

Our 2nd Annual K-12 Art Show will be happen again this fall! Every art entry will be featured in our art show, and some pieces will be chosen to appear in our community calendar, which helps to fund our free children's programs here at shop.

If you want to get an early start, we ask that your art fit on an 8.5-by-11 sheet of paper. The art should be horizontal, to make it easier to format for our calendar. We will accept submissions September 1st, 2024 through October 14th, 2024. Please include your name and contact info with you submission.

Annual Community Calendar Art Exhibit

November 7th, 2024 6-7pm

Come visit or get in touch!

Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5
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 literaryleftoversusedbooks@gmail.com
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