

HISTORY WORTH REPEATING!

New books that will transport you back in time, recommended by the staff at Aaron's Books in Lititz

Photo by Jacqueline Kimmet

Diamond Ruby by Joseph Wallace

Baseball fans, historical fiction readers, and “girl power” gals ages 13-103 will embrace Ruby. *Diamond Ruby* is the captivating story of Ruby Thomas whose family falls victim to the flu epidemic of 1918. To feed her nieces, at age 17 she capitalizes on her oddity (extra long arms) and becomes the hit of Coney Island — pitching the fastest fastballs anyone has ever seen, eventually landing her a professional baseball contract. This book carries the reader back to life in the early 20th century with a mix of fictional and real characters (Ruby befriends The Babe and Jack Dempsey) and the major happenings of the times (bootlegging, introduction of the mob in NYC, and America’s obsession with baseball).

“Comparisons to *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* are not made lightly...wonderful, memorable... perfect.” ~ Laura Lippman

Aaron's Books will host a brunch with author Joe Wallace on June 13 at 11a.m.

The Lost Summer of Louisa May Alcott by Kelly O'Connor McNeese

Deftly mixing fact and fiction, McNeese imagines a love affair that would threaten Louisa May Alcott's writing career — and inspire the story of Jo and Laurie in *Little Women*. The book takes place in a town where the Alcott family spent a summer, for which there is no record. The line between fiction and biography is tight and well-balanced. This book is a must-read for anyone who grew up with a dog-eared copy of *Little Women*.

Island Beneath the Sea by Isabel Allende

One of the world's greatest living storytellers, Allende traces the deep and tragic history of an island nation currently on everyone's mind — Haiti. Spanning four decades, *Island Beneath the Sea* is the moving story of the intertwined lives of Tété (daughter of an African mother she never knew and a white sailor) and Valmorain (a plantation owner's son who arrives from France and reluctantly takes over for his father). It is a story of slavery, sexuality, rebellion, and turmoil from Haiti to New Orleans.

The Postmistress by Sarah Blake

For fans of the critically acclaimed and widely loved *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, *The Postmistress* will become an instant classic in historical fiction.

It is 1940. France has fallen; bombs are dropping on London, and President Roosevelt is promising he won't send our boys to fight in “foreign wars.” Alternating between an America still cocooned in its inability to grasp the danger at hand and a Europe being torn apart by war, *The Postmistress* gives us two women who find themselves unable to deliver the news, and a third woman desperately waiting for news she is afraid to hear.

“Even readers who don't think they like historical novels will love this one and talk it up to their friends. Highly recommended for all fans of beautifully wrought fiction.” ~ Library Journal, Starred Review

The Last Stand: Custer, Sitting Bull, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn by Nathaniel Philbrick

Nathaniel Philbrick, author of New York Times bestsellers *In the Heart of the Sea* and *Sea of Glory*, takes a new look at this historic clash that became not only Custer's last stand, but the beginning of the end for Sitting Bull and the few remaining Native Americans not already restricted to reservations in the American West. Gleaning new information from old interviews with survivors and unpublished manuscripts, Philbrick illuminates the innumerable mistakes made by army officers leading up to and during the battle, the brave actions of individuals on each side of the brutal conflict, and how close Custer actually came to winning the battle.

The Enola Holmes Mysteries Series by Nancy Springer

What do you get when you cross the brains of Sherlock Holmes with the attitude of a fourteen-year-old girl? You get the 2009 Edgar-nominated children's series, featuring the younger sister of the master sleuth himself. Refusing to become a proper lady after her mother's disappearance, Enola becomes the first “Scientific Perditorian” (finder of lost things). The series ends this year with *The Case of the Gypsy Goodbye*. Previous titles include: *The Case of the Missing Marquess* (2006), *The Case of the Left-Handed Lady* (2007), *The Case of the Bizarre Bouquets* (2008), *The Case of the Peculiar Pink Fan* (2008), and *The Case of the Cryptic Crinoline* (2009). 🐾

