

Adventures in Ink



Summer is for going down reading rabbit holes...

I recently read *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. It's an epistolary novel, which means the story is delivered by letters. The "correspondent" Sybil Van Antwerp often writes about the books she's reading, and one series she loved was *Outlander* by Diana Gabaldon.

So off I went to secure a copy of the first book in the series. Time travel, history, romance...I loved it!

Which is why Paul and I started watching the *Outlander* series on Netflix. We loved seeing bits of Scotland on the screen!

And that led me to a list of great books on Scottish history. (Jacobites, anyone?)

Which reminded me of my own Scottish ancestors, the Ralston Clan. (My ancestor Andrew Ralston fought in the Revolutionary War.) I learned that my ancestors lived near Glasgow.

AND I learned every clan has a tartan. So I found the Ralston tartan! And I bought a scarf (see below)... and now I'm discovering Scottish poets and ticking off a list of novels set in Scotland.

How about that?! So many things have delighted and inspired me lately...all because I read *The Correspondent*.

Where has your reading life taken you lately??

Hit reply and tell me about it!



Summer Lovin'

01



Some Starry Night
getting some
love!

No book I've written
has generated so
many personal notes.
Thank you, friends!!
And *Kirkus* loves it,
too. Hooray!

[READ MORE](#)

02



Snail mail is THE BEST.

Imagine my delight
when I opened this
delightful bit of
stitchery by Mary Lee
Hahn? It features a
favorite line from *A
Good Morning for
Giddo*, the book I co-
wrote with Dahlia
Hamza Constantine.

**READ THE REST
OF THE STORY >**

Purple coneflowers.

Y'all, purple coneflowers are my FAVORITE. No matter that they grow leggy in our shady yard... the bees and butterflies still find them!

READ A FLOWER POEM>



Wordspinners!

My next book *Come In! Come In! Wordspinners to Welcome You Home* comes Oct. 20 from Astra Publishing with illustrations by Amy Hevron! It features 66 “wordspinners,” a fun new poetry form, perfect for generating delight and wordjoy about homes and the things we use every day...spoon, door, rug... it's like a Richard Scarry book, but POEMS!

PREVIEW ON
NETGALLEY

Family adventures of one kind and another.

Whether it's trying a new recipe, dipping into the lake, or road-tripping, life is better with the ones we love beside us. (This pic of me and my sister Lynn at the Cincinnati Museum of Art).

**READ A "SISTER" POEM
HERE >**



6

Pretty Magazine

My friend/fellow author/former HTHS Husky
Ginger Rue has started a (pretty!) new online
magazine! It's chock-full of goodness, perfect
for all you pretties reading this email. And it's
FREE!

GET PRETTY

You're Invited!

Join me for a STARRY Summer!

June 20 11 am

In Conversation with Jana Hutcheson,
author of *The Spring in Trulee Holler*
Florence-Lauderdale Public Library (Florence, AL)

July 23 2 pm

Author's Tea with Dahlia Hamza Constantine,
co-author of *A Good Morning for Giddo*
Staunton Public Library (Staunton, VA)

July 30 5 - 7 pm Springville Public Library
(Springville, AL)

August 29 1 - 3 pm
Page & Palette Books
(Fairhope, AL)



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like it's
1776!

Fun for
the whole
family!

LITTLE BRICK CHURCH
JULY 2 ★ NOON - 4 PM

AN EVENING FOR WRITERS WHO LOVE WORDS

Words That Sing And Soar

The Joy of Words in Poetry



August 12, 2026

7-9 pm ET on Zoom

with Georgia Heard
and guest poet
Irene Latham



learn more at
georgiaheard.com/the-poets-studio



CLICK TO REGISTER

Other Summer Pleasures:

Song: OCEANS by Eric Oliver

TV Series: FOUR SEASONS (Netflix)

Adult Fiction: THE UNCOLLECTED JOURNALS OF EMMA M. LION by Beth Brower

Poetry: LITTLE ALLELUIAS by Mary Oliver

Kidlit: THE LION'S RUN by Sara Pennypacker

LIVE YOUR POEM

Wishing you magical summer moments!
Thanks so much for being here. Your
support means the world to me,

A handwritten signature in a cursive script, reading "Irene". The letters are fluid and connected, with a long horizontal stroke for the "I" and a small loop for the "e" at the end.



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