



## Meaghan's Beach Reads

### *New Arrivals: Something for Everyone*

Albright, Madeleine. *Fascism: A Warning*, (2018). Nonfiction.

Having grown up in Czechoslovakia under the Nazi and Communist regimes, former Secretary of State Albright can give context to her discussion of the rise of reactionary tendencies in the world today. This is a timely look at the history and current resurgence of fascism today and the virulent threat it poses to international freedom, prosperity, and peace.

Bagley, Joseph M. *A History of Boston in 50 Artifacts*, (2016). Nonfiction.

Written by the city archaeologist of Boston, this book provides an accessible and fascinating introduction to the history beneath our feet. Covering Boston's 12,000-year human history timeline from the Paleoindian period (when Boston would have resembled the northern Alaska tundra) to the demise of the Combat Zone in the early 1980s, each object tells a story.

Beauman, Ned. *Madness is Better than Defeat*, (2018). Fiction.

Filmmakers, industrialists, and CIA agents converge in Honduras in this madcap adventure about a CIA operation gone terribly wrong. A satirical espionage novel with shades of historical fiction, mystery, murder, and mayhem abound in this highly imaginative, devilishly plotted tale.

Burrows, Jez. *Dictionary Stories: Short Fictions and Other Findings*, (2018). Short Stories.

An A to Z collection of atmospheric (very) short stories composed entirely from example sentences taken from 12 different dictionaries. Stories come in the form of recipes, eulogies, math problems, answering machine messages, cocktail menus, assembly instructions, and mix tapes. Unlikely sentences generate even more unlikely narratives that will have you laughing out loud.

Haywood, Sarah. *The Cactus*, (2018). Fiction.

Featuring an endearing cast of characters and tremendous heart, *The Cactus* tells the story of Susan Green who sees her perfectly ordered life thrown into chaos when she is confronted with the loss of her mother and the news that she is about to become a mother herself. Susan's solitary, orderly existence is transformed into a messy life full of love.

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo"*, (2018). Nonfiction.

Before writing *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Hurston was working as an anthropologist when she drafted this manuscript in 1931. At once a work of anthropology, folklore, and reminiscence, the book relates the interviews Hurston conducted in 1927 with Cudjo Lewis (1840–1935), the last known survivor of the Atlantic slave trade abducted from Africa on the last "Black Cargo" ship to arrive in the United States.

Katsu, Alma. *The Hunger*, (2018). Fiction.

A retelling of the fate of the Donner Party, with a Walking Dead style twist. Effortlessly combining the supernatural and the historical, *The Hunger* is an eerie, thrilling look at the volatility of human nature, pushed to its breaking point.



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Kennard, Luke. *The Transition*, (2018). Fiction.

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. A dystopian satire about our collective future exploring topical issues like debt and what it means to be an 'adult'.

Malerman, Josh. *Unbury Carol*, (2018). Fiction.

This is an intricately plotted, lyrical page turner about love, betrayal, revenge, and the primal fear of being buried alive. An atmospheric Western fraught with supernatural suspense that is both thought-provoking and terrifying.

St. James, Simone. *The Broken Girls*, (2018). Fiction.

Parallel narratives, one set in Vermont 1950 and the other in Vermont 2014, are woven together in this intricate mystery. Timely themes of violence toward women and abuses of power resonate throughout. A well-crafted and unsettling tale for fans of Gothic horror and female centered thrillers.