



Summer Reading Recommendations

Alison's 2024 summer reading list featuring 25 books with ties to the U.S. South



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Thank you!

Alison

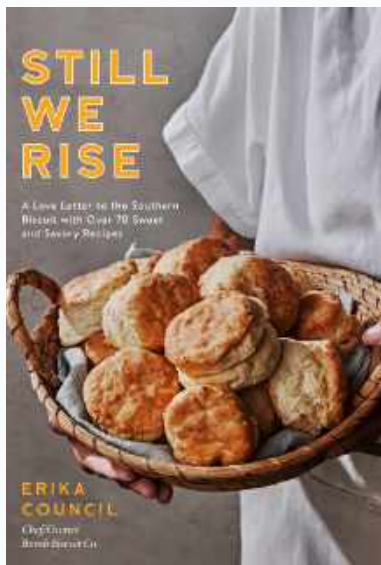
I love myself a list. Since you've downloaded this PDF of my 2024 Southern reading recommendations, I suspect you have a thing for lists, too.

It doesn't matter how many "best of," "annual," or award lists I've already consulted, I can't help but swipe through or click to read more online. I don't want to miss a thing.

It's part of the enjoyment of collecting books, which is an entirely separate hobby from reading them. You learn about a book from a friend, a librarian, or a stranger on the internet and begin imagining yourself inside that tale. You add the book to your burgeoning to-be-read (TBR) list and visualize the person you will be after the story has swept through you, leaving its indelible mark.

I am so lucky that the folks at [The Bitter Southerner](#) have asked me to curate and write a roundup of the best Southern books five times in the last several years. You can find my essay and brief descriptions of all 25 books that I'm listing within these pages on their website. [Read the 2024 Summer Reading Roundup.](#)

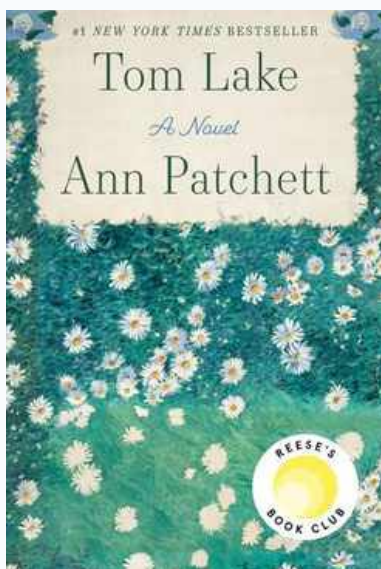
I created this document after receiving numerous requests for a shareable, printable version of the 2024 list. Please enjoy and let me know what books you added to your TBR.



Still We Rise: A Love Letter to the Southern Biscuit with over 70 Sweet and Savory Recipes

By Erika Council

Clarkson Potter Publishers

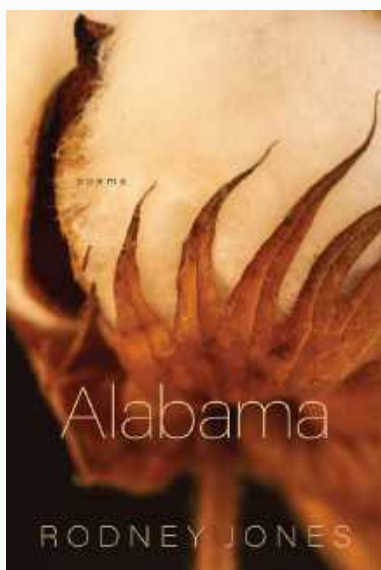


Tom Lake

By Ann Patchett

Harper

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Alabama

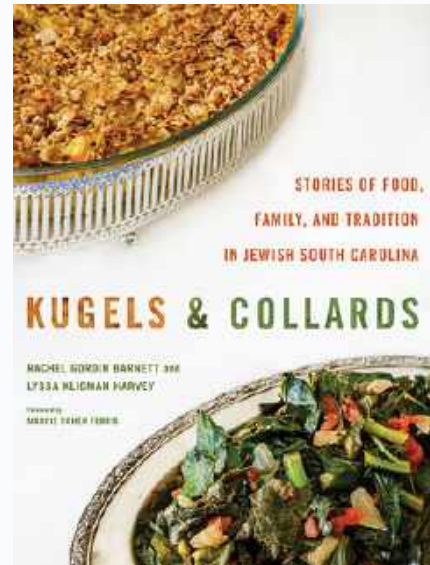
By Rodney Jones

LSU Press

Kugels and Collards: Stories of Food, Family, and Tradition in Jewish South Carolina

By Rachel Gordin Barnett and
Lyssa Kligman Harvey
with John M. Sherrer III

University of South Carolina Press



Good Women

By Halle Hill

Hub City Press

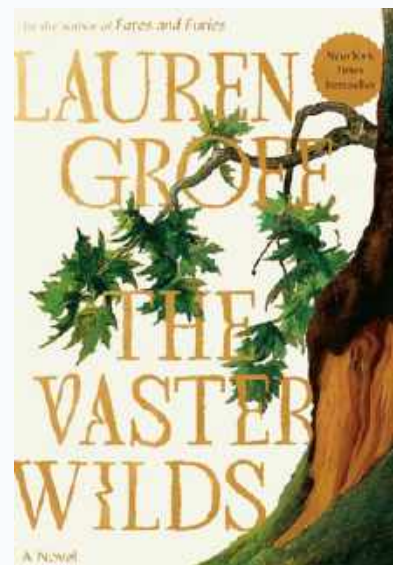


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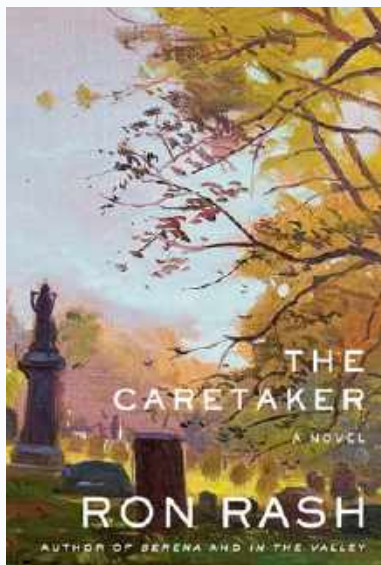
The Vaster Wilds

By Lauren Groff

Riverhead Books



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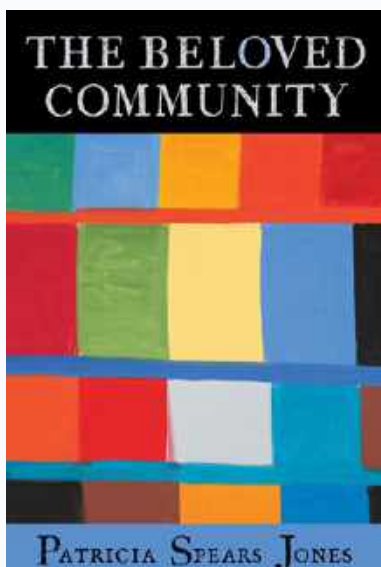
[The Caretaker](#)

By Ron Rash

Doubleday Books



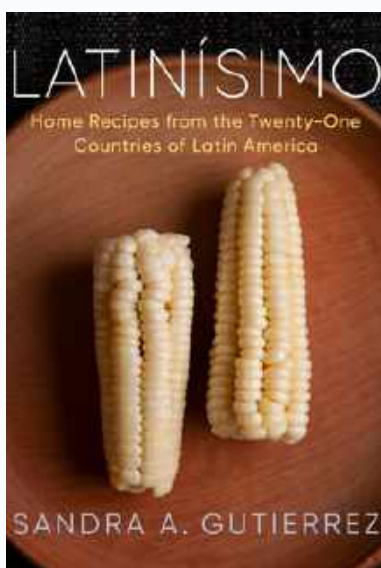
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[The Beloved Community](#)

By Patricia Spears Jones

Copper Canyon Press



[Latinísimo: Home Recipes From the Twenty-One Countries of Latin America](#)

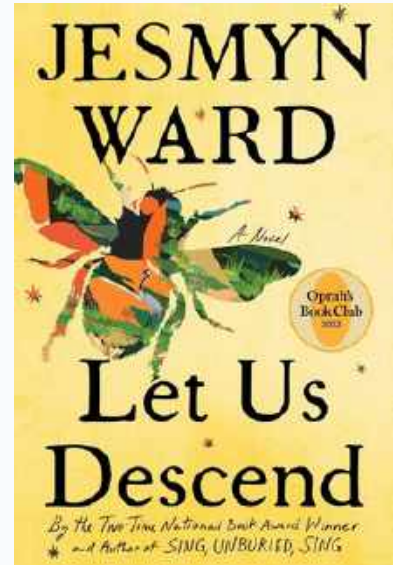
By Sandra A. Gutierrez

Knopf Publishing Group

[Let Us Descend](#)

By Jesmyn Ward

Scribner Book Company



[The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year](#)

By Margaret Renkl

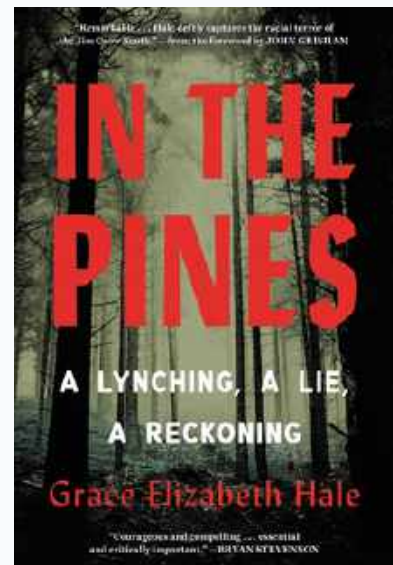
Spiegel & Grau

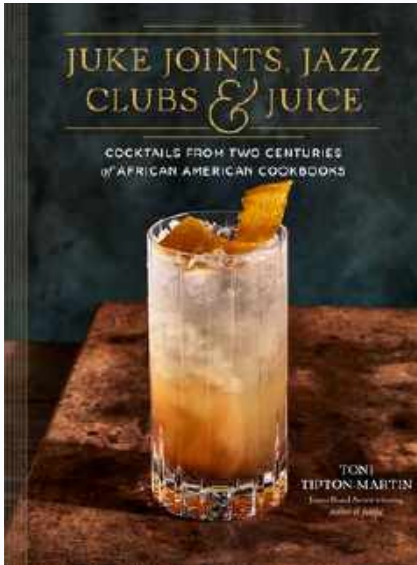


[In the Pines: A Lynching, a Lie, a Reckoning](#)

By Grace Elizabeth Hale

Little Brown and Company

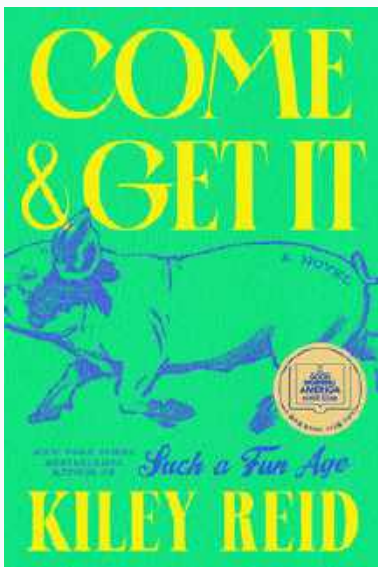




Juke Joints, Jazz Clubs, and Juice: A Cocktail Recipe Book: Cocktails from Two Centuries of African American Cookbooks

By Toni Tipton-Martin

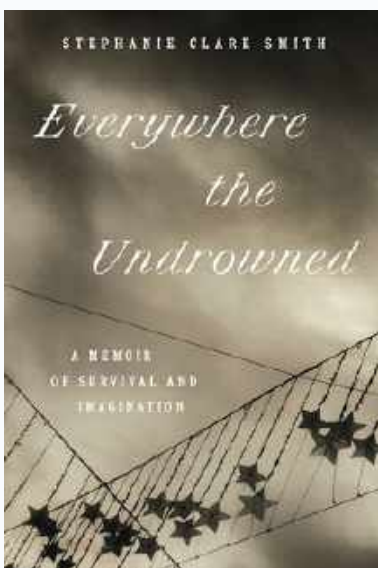
Clarkson Potter Publishers



Come and Get It

By Kiley Reid

G.P. Putnam's Sons



Everywhere the Undrowned: A Memoir of Survival and Imagination

By Stephanie Clare Smith

University of North Carolina Press

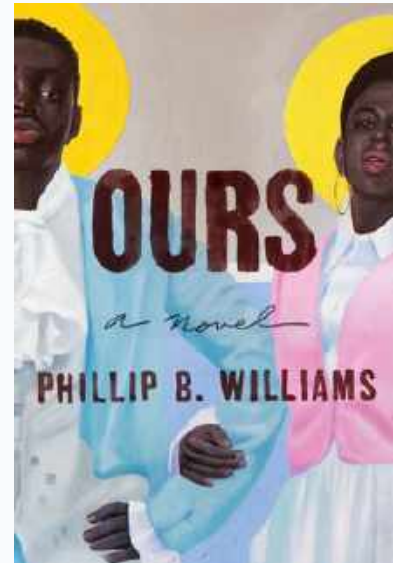
Ours

By Phillip B. Williams

Viking



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A Small Apocalypse: Stories

By Laura Chow Reeve

Triquarterly Books



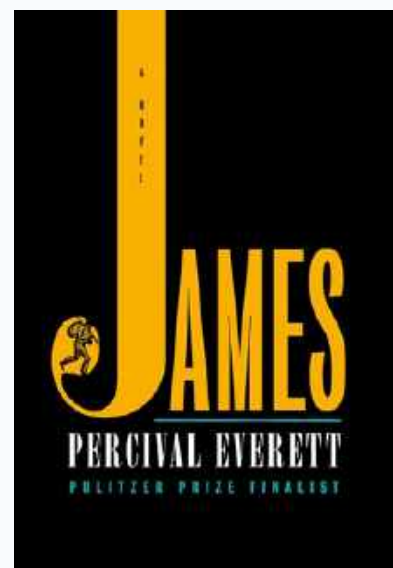
James

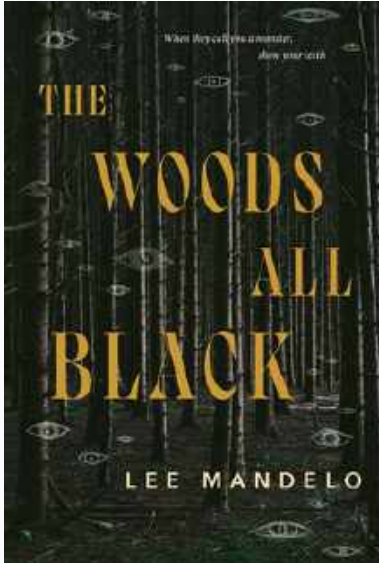
By Percival Everett

Doubleday Books



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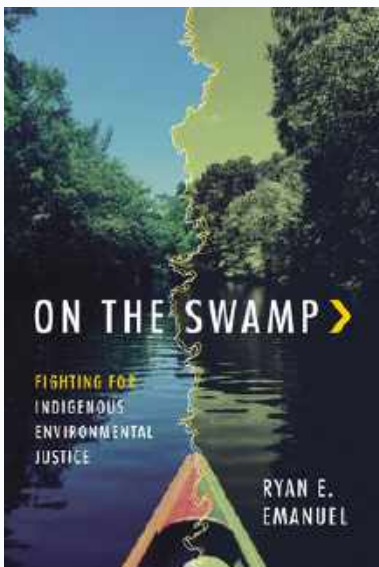




The Woods All Black

By Lee Mandelo

Tor



On the Swamp: Fighting for Indigenous Environmental Justice

By Ryan Emanuel

University of North Carolina Press



Joy Is the Justice We Give Ourselves

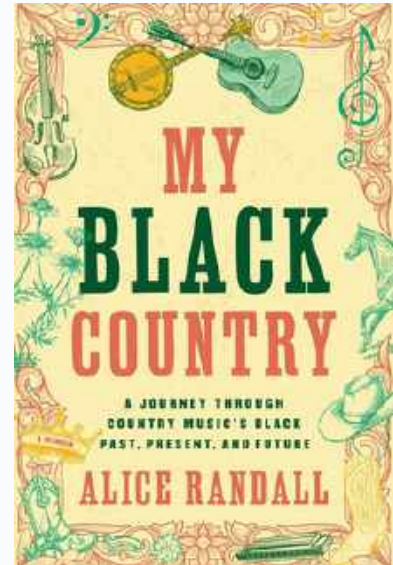
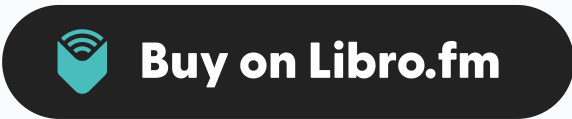
By J. Drew Lanham

Hub City Press

[My Black Country: A Journey Through Country Music's Black Past, Present, and Future](#)

By Alice Randall

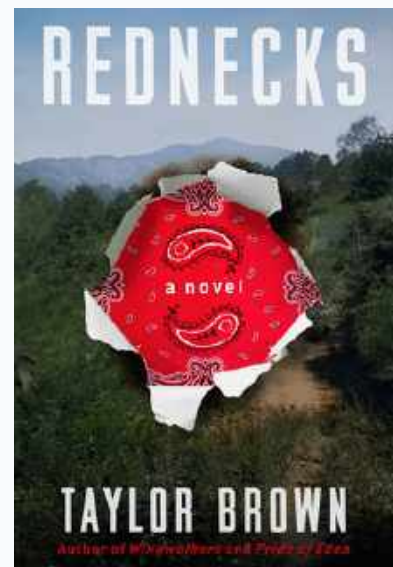
Atria/Black Privilege Publishing



[Rednecks](#)

By Taylor Brown

St. Martin's Press



[Shae](#)

By Mesha Maren

Algonquin Books

