

## Song Of The Sparrow Lisa Ann Sandell

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Will Sparrow's Road Ember

Grayling doesn't want to be a hero, but to save her mother from a dark enchantment, she seeks out the few second-string magic makers who haven't been immobilized by the spell and goes off in search of her mother's grimoire, or book of magic. Obstacles both natural and supernatural block their way, and friction within the group delays the journey. Surprising herself, Grayling finds the strength and decisiveness to move the group forward and reach her goal. Eccentric witches and wizards plus a shape-shifting mouse provide moments of high comedy, as do odd practices that date back to the Middle Ages, such as divination with cheese.

*Music for Your Heart* Simon and Schuster

In 1599 England, twelve-year-old lying, thieving Will Sparrow runs away, meets many colorful characters on the road, and then reluctantly joins a traveling "oddities" exhibit, where he learns to see beyond appearances.

*The Weight of the Sky* Yearling

A variety of meadow animals pursuing their daily activities introduce the numbers one through ten.

*Pirates of the Caribbean: Jack Sparrow: The Quest for the Sword of Cortes* Harper Collins

A thrilling new novel from #1 New York Times bestselling author Lisa See explores the lives of a Chinese mother and her daughter who has been adopted by an American couple. Li-yan and her family align their lives around the seasons and the farming of tea. There is ritual and routine, and it has been ever thus for generations. Then one day a jeep appears at the village gate—the first automobile any of them have seen—and a stranger arrives. In this remote Yunnan village, the stranger finds the rare tea he has been seeking and a reticent Akha people. In her biggest seller, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, See introduced the Yao people to her readers. Here she shares the customs of another Chinese ethnic minority, the Akha, whose world will soon change. Li-yan, one of the few educated girls on her mountain, translates for the stranger and is among the first to reject the rules that have shaped her existence. When she has a baby outside of wedlock, rather than stand by tradition, she wraps her daughter in a blanket, with a tea cake hidden in her swaddling, and abandons her in the nearest city. After mother and daughter have gone their separate ways, Li-yan slowly emerges from the security and insularity of her village to encounter modern life while Haley grows up a privileged and well-loved California girl. Despite Haley's

happy home life, she wonders about her origins; and Li-yan longs for her lost daughter. They both search for and find answers in the tea that has shaped their family's destiny for generations. A powerful story about a family, separated by circumstances, culture, and distance, *Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* paints an unforgettable portrait of a little known region and its people and celebrates the bond that connects mothers and daughters.

**The Spider and the Sparrow** Abingdon Press

The most beautiful fish in the entire ocean discovers the real value of personal beauty and friendship.

**The Library of Legends** Scholastic Inc.

"The Library of Legends is a gorgeous, poetic journey threaded with mist and magic about a group from a Chinese university who take to the road to escape the Japanese invasion of 1937 – only to discover that danger stalks them from within. Janie Chang pens pure enchantment!" —Kate Quinn, New York Times and USA Today bestselling author of *The Alice Network* and *The Huntress* From the author of *Three Souls* and *Dragon Springs Road* comes a captivating historical novel—the third in a loosely-connected trilogy—in which a young woman travels across China with a convoy of student refugees, fleeing the hostilities of a brutal war with Japan. "Myths are the darkest and brightest incarnations of who we are..." *China, 1937: When Japanese bombs begin falling on the city of Nanking, nineteen-year-old Hu Lian and her classmates at Minghua University are ordered to flee. Lian and a convoy of more than a hundred students, faculty, and staff must walk a thousand miles to the safety of China's western provinces, a journey marred by hunger, cold, and the constant threat of aerial attack. And it is not just the student refugees who are at risk: Lian and her classmates have been entrusted with a priceless treasure, a 500-year-old collection of myths and folklore known as the Library of Legends. Her family's past has made Lian wary of forming attachments, but the students' common duty to safeguard the Library of Legends forms unexpected bonds. Lian finds friendship and a cautious romance with the handsome and wealthy Liu Shaoming. But after one classmate is murdered and another arrested, Lian realizes she must escape from the convoy before a family secret puts her in danger. Accompanied by Shao and the enigmatic maidservant Sparrow, Lian makes her way to Shanghai, hoping to reunite with her mother. On the journey, Lian learns of the connection between her two companions and a tale from the Library of Legends, *The Willow Star and the Prince*. Learning Shao and Sparrow's true identities compels Lian to confront her feelings for Shao. But there are broader consequences too, for as the ancient books travel across China, they awaken immortals and guardian spirits to embark on an exodus of their own, one that changes the country's fate forever. Based on true events, rich in Chinese history and lore, *The Library of Legends* is both an illuminating exploration of China's recent past and an evocative tale of love, sacrifice, and the*

extraordinary power of storytelling.

**Song of the Sparrow** Harper Collins

Fourteen-year-old Cora is devastated by the death of her older brother and apprehensive about being a freshman in the same high school he attended, but finds unexpected solace in art.

**The Known World** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Born the bastard son of a Welsh princess, Myrddin Emrys -- or as he would later be known, Merlin -- leads a perilous childhood, haunted by portents and visions. But destiny has great plans for this no-man's-son, taking him from prophesying before the High King Vortigern to the crowning of Uther Pendragon . . . and the conception of Arthur -- king for once and always.

**The Singer of All Songs** Milkweed Editions

From the author of *Emily's House* comes a "compelling, emotionally gripping"\* novel of historical fiction—perfect for readers of *America's First Daughter*. Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1676. Even before Mary Rowlandson was captured by Indians on a winter day of violence and terror, she sometimes found herself in conflict with her rigid Puritan community. Now, her home destroyed, her children lost to her, she has been sold into the service of a powerful woman tribal leader, made a pawn in the ongoing bloody struggle between English settlers and native people. Battling cold, hunger, and exhaustion, Mary witnesses harrowing brutality but also unexpected kindness. To her confused surprise, she is drawn to her captors' open and straightforward way of life, a feeling further complicated by her attraction to a generous, protective English-speaking native known as James Printer. All her life, Mary has been taught to fear God, submit to her husband, and abhor Indians. Now, having lived on the other side of the forest, she begins to question the edicts that have guided her, torn between the life she knew and the wisdom the natives have shown her. Based on the compelling true narrative of Mary Rowlandson, *Flight of the Sparrow* is an evocative tale that transports the reader to a little-known time in early America and explores the real meanings of freedom, faith, and acceptance. READERS GUIDE INCLUDED

**Dragonsong** Scholastic Inc.

From Edward P. Jones comes one of the most acclaimed novels in recent memory—winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction. *The Known World* tells the story of Henry Townsend, a black farmer and former slave who falls under the tutelage of William Robbins, the most powerful man in Manchester County, Virginia. Making certain he never circumvents the law, Townsend runs his affairs with unusual discipline. But when death takes him unexpectedly, his widow, Caldonia, can't uphold the estate's order, and chaos ensues. Edward P. Jones has woven a footnote of history into an epic that takes an unflinching look at slavery in all its moral complexities. "A masterpiece that deserves a place in the American literary canon."—*Time*

**Don't Cramp My Style** Simon and Schuster

Peony has neither seen nor spoken to any man other than her father, a wealthy Chinese nobleman. Nor has she ever ventured outside the cloistered women's quarters of the family villa. As her sixteenth birthday approaches she finds herself betrothed to a man she does not know, but Peony has dreams of her own. Her father engages a theatrical troupe to perform scenes from *The Peony Pavilion*, a Chinese epic opera, in their garden amidst the scent of ginger, green tea and jasmine. 'Unmarried girls should not be seen in public,' says Peony's mother, but her father allows the women to watch from behind a screen. Here, Peony catches sight of an elegant, handsome man and is immediately bewitched. So begins her unforgettable

journey of love, desire, sorrow and redemption.

**I Heart You, You Haunt Me** Harper Collins

Girl meets boy. Girl loses boy. Girl gets boy back... ..sort of. Ava can't see him or touch him, unless she's dreaming. She can't hear his voice, except for the faint whispers in her mind. Most would think she's crazy, but she knows he's here. Jackson. The boy Ava thought she'd spend the rest of her life with. He's back from the dead, as proof that love truly knows no bounds.

**Silver Sparrow** Simon and Schuster

The Backstory to *Think Twice*, a special bonus story. Is Evil born or bred? Bennie looks exactly like her identical twin, Alice, but the darkness in Alice's soul makes them two very different women. But there are two sides to every story! Read this story, and then read bestselling author Lisa Scottoline's explosive novel, *Think Twice*.

**Cupcakes & Chaos** Simon and Schuster

A visionary work that combines speculative fiction with deep philosophical inquiry, *The Sparrow* tells the story of a charismatic Jesuit priest and linguist, Emilio Sandoz, who leads a scientific mission entrusted with a profound task: to make first contact with intelligent extraterrestrial life. The mission begins in faith, hope, and beauty, but a series of small misunderstandings brings it to a catastrophic end. Praise for *The Sparrow* "A startling, engrossing, and moral work of fiction."—*The New York Times Book Review* "Important novels leave deep cracks in our beliefs, our prejudices, and our blinders. *The Sparrow* is one of them."—*Entertainment Weekly* "Powerful . . . *The Sparrow* tackles a difficult subject with grace and intelligence."—*San Francisco Chronicle* "Provocative, challenging . . . recalls both Arthur C. Clarke and H. G. Wells, with a dash of Ray Bradbury for good measure."—*The Dallas Morning News* "[Mary Doria] Russell shows herself to be a skillful storyteller who subtly and expertly builds suspense."—*USA Today*

**The Pirate's Lady** Sweet Promise Press

A remarkable novel about one of the most important and loving relationships in Gary Paulsen's life. The wonderful grandmother seen through the eyes of a young boy in *The Cookcamp* reaches out to him at 14, offering him a haven from his harsh and painful family life. She arranges a summer job for him on the farm where she is a cook for Olaf and Gunnar, elderly brothers. Farm life offers the camaraderie and routine of hard work, good food, peaceful evenings spent making music together, even learning to dance. Life with Alida gives the boy strength and faith in himself, drawing him away from the edge and into the center of life.

**Flight of the Sparrow** Simon and Schuster

An old man, known as the Wren, plays his hurdy-gurdy, and with the help of his student, the Sparrow, brings hope and inspiration to the people of a small Polish town. A beautifully illustrated Holocaust fable by US Children's Poet Laureate J. Patrick Lewis.

**The Wren and the Sparrow** Oxford University Press

Autobiography of Sâalim Ali, 1896-1987, Indian ornithologist.

**The Sparrow** HarperCollins

Forbidden by her father to indulge in music in any way, a girl on the planet Pern runs away, taking shelter with the planet's fire lizards who, along with her music, open a new life for her.

**Conservation and Biology of Small Populations** Orca Book Publishers

A host of talented authors write with poignant inspiration and feisty humor about "female troubles"-- covering everything from tampon troubles, to pregnancy scares, to boyfriends coping with PMS.

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*The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* A&C Black

Struggling with wacky family activities, secrets, and feuds, private investigator Isabel Spellman avoids Henry Stone by spending time drinking with his mother and tackling eccentric cases that seem suspiciously pointless.