

Hello Ryan,

At what age do you begin to devise your sense of self? At which stages of life do you re-evaluate it? This week, we take a closer look at works that tackle these very questions. From a career woman turning to tai chi for spiritual help to emotional storms and the remarkable clarity that follows, these stories are all about new beginnings, which seems pretty fitting for spring 🌸

🇺🇸 [Fish Heads and Duck Skin](#) by Lindsey Salatka is a darkly funny contemporary novel about self-discovery. It follows an overworked mother who quits her job and moves from the US to China, hoping to find inner peace as an expat in Shanghai. This unapologetically American protagonist is faced with more culture shocks than she expected, but finally finding one essential truth — how to be happy *in the moment* — makes all the growing pains worth it.

🚀 George Ellis's [Wreckers](#) merges classic sci-fi with colorful pop culture in an action-packed space adventure. The protagonist is resilient 19-year-old Denver — a lone wolf whose only company is his one-eyed cat and an AI navigator. But after a fateful meeting with a mysterious mechanic, he teams up with a small crew to find out the truth behind his family's disappearance — falling into trouble with various galactic forces along the way. Recommended for all kinds of sci-fi fans, *Wreckers* is pure entertainment!

🦄 [Tempest](#), Ryan Meyer's sophomore poetry collection, explores themes of fear, hope, and self-identity. Despite its title, the collection does not give rise to the feeling

of a raging storm; rather, there is a sense of tranquility present. These evocative poems may even spark forgotten memories, like they did for reviewer [Linda Arrighi](#).

For further recommendations, don't miss Brittany and Mel Leonard's [The Life of a Shadow](#) — a father-daughter collaboration that uses shadow puppets to teach young readers about developing their confidence and overcoming challenges.

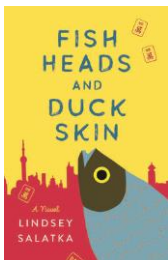
Happy reading!



Felicia – Editorial Manager

[Browse Discovery](#)

The best books that launched this week



CONTEMPORARY FICTION

Fish Heads and Duck Skin

By Lindsey Salatka ★★★★★

On the advice of a five-dollar psychic, Tina Martin, a zany, overworked mother of two, quits her high-powered job and moves her family to Shanghai. Tina yearns for this new setting to bring her the zen-like inner peac...

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SPACE OPERA

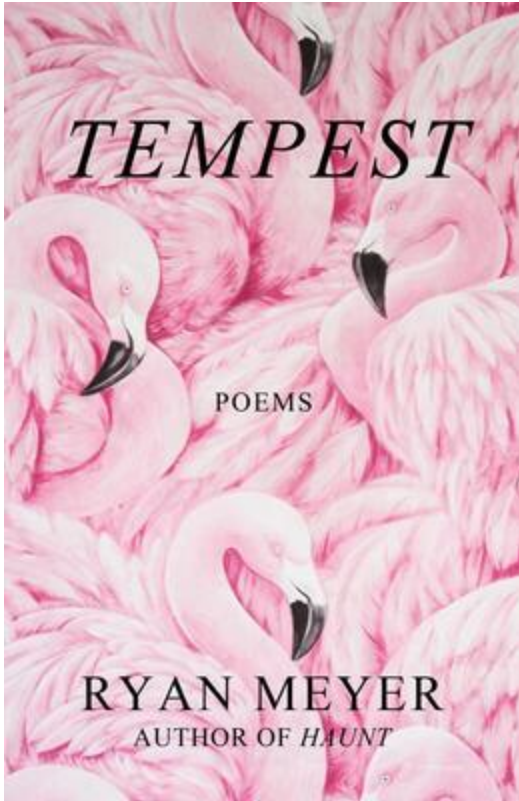
Wreckers

By George Ellis ★★★★★

A space opera with attitude. And jokes. At 19 years old, Denver is the youngest wrecker in the verse. His only companion, other than his one-eyed cat Pirate, is an AI navigator named Gary based on classic 21st cent...

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POETRY

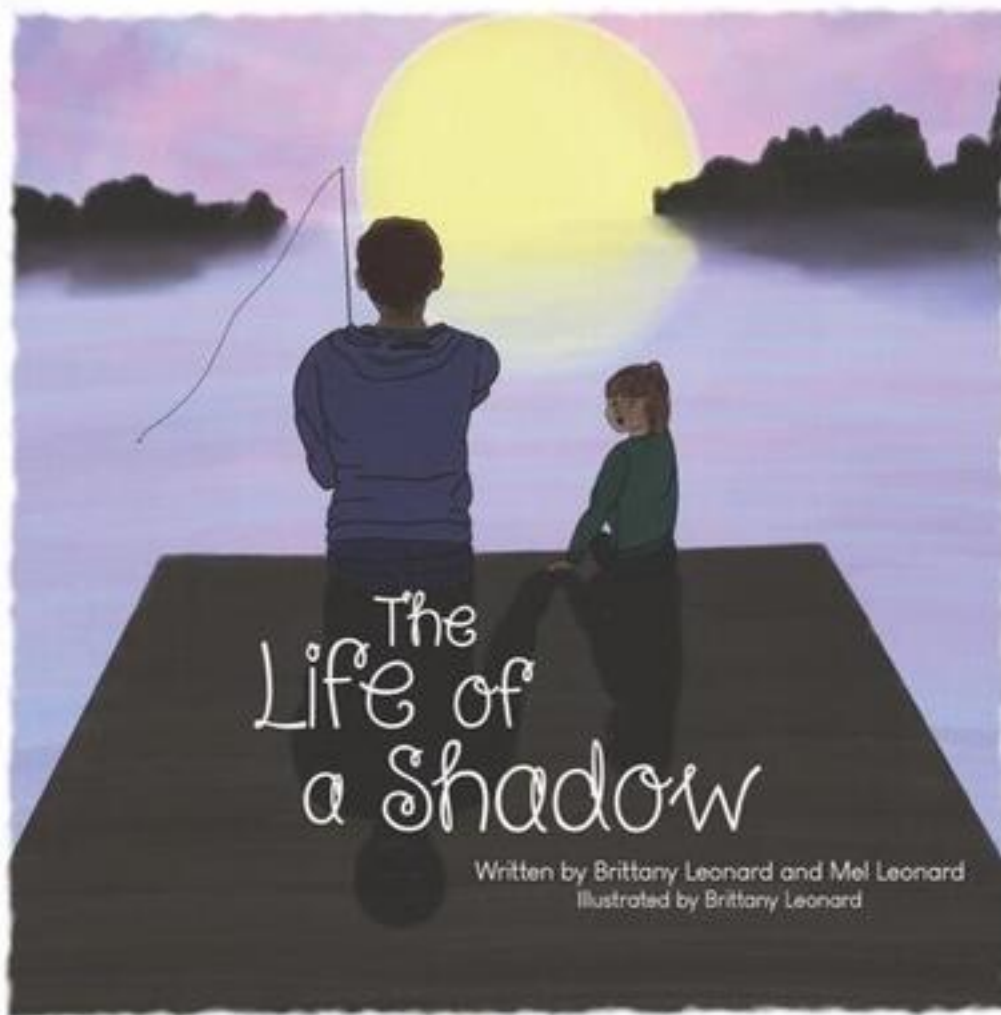
Tempest: Poems

By Ryan Meyer ★★★★★

Ryan Meyer departs from the horror themes of 2018's *Haunt* in his new collection of poems, *Tempest*. He explores fear, hope, and self-identity through striking fictional vignettes and surreal personal accounts. *Tempest* ...

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CHILDREN'S

The Life of a Shadow

By Brittany Marie Leonard ★

★★★★☆

Brittany's Dad always had a way of bringing her comfort in times of uncertainty. When he told her the story of why we have shadows, he never guessed the lasting impacts this story would have as Brittany grew. This bea...

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FANTASY

Broken Circles - Book One: Guardians of the Fey

By Diane Dupree-Dempsey ★★★★★

A powerful spell made her forget. But memories have power of their own ... Sio is a Fey Changeling, tasked as one of four Guardians of the Prince of Faerie. At least she was before a rogue Guardian cast a spell tha...

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LEGAL THRILLER

Justice Hill

By John Macleod ★★★★★

A Washington lawyer is savagely murdered at Justice Hill, his vacation home in rural Virginia. The testimony in the ensuing murder trial takes two lifelong friends--one of whom is now the judge presiding over the tria...

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THRILLER & SUSPENSE

Crucible of Fear

By D.W. Whitlock ★★★★★

A man's life in chaos. His young daughter at risk. What is a pound of flesh worth? Dante Ellis is a successful advertising executive on the rise. His world is plunged into a harrowing nightmare after he's targeted by...

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WOMEN'S FICTION

Nice Girl

By Julia Carol Folsom ★★★★★

It's 1965, a small town in Georgia. Fifteen-year-old Callie Ingram is an "A" student, a regular at church, a nice girl who does what she's told. But after her beloved grandmother's death, Callie is all but ignored in ...

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POETRY

Museum Exhibit

By Tom Brown ★★★★★

This book is a collection of poems written in free form, sonnet, Ottava Rima, Canzone, Ghazal and other forms.

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THRILLER & SUSPENSE

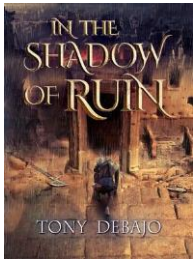
Whispers

By Bonné Bartron ★★★★★

#1 Bestselling Debut Novel from screenwriter Bonné Bartron But...How can a myth kidnap a child? Stacey Cooper is thrilled to treat her two sisters, Amalia and Emily and their four girls, to a week-long epic vaca...

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FANTASY

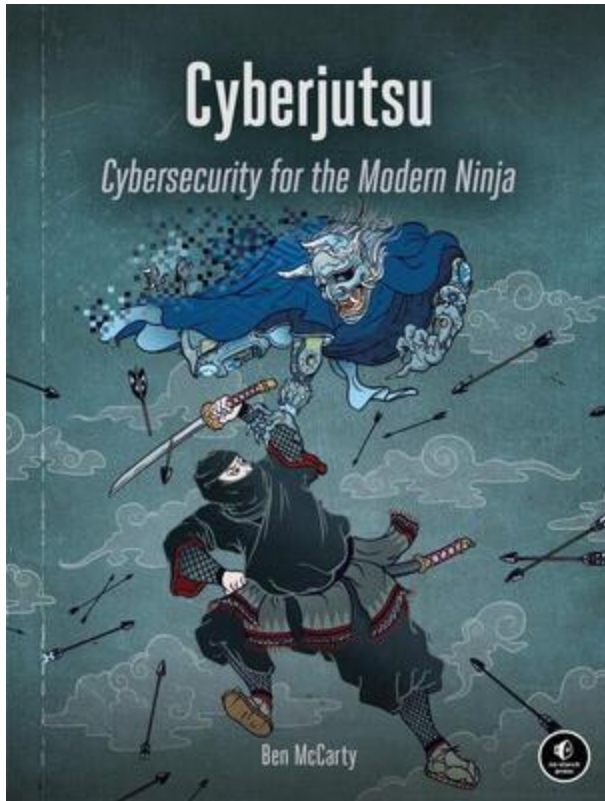
In The Shadow of Ruin

By Tony Debajo ★★★★★

King Jide Adelani has ruled the lands of the Yoruba in West Africa for many peaceful years, but now his kingdom is in turmoil and the cold grasp of death's embrace is closing in around everything he holds dear. Jide ...

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COMPUTERS & INTERNET

Cyberjutsu: Cybersecurity for the Modern Ninja

By Ben McCarty ★★★★★

Cyberjutsu is a revolutionary approach to information security based on authentic, formerly classified Ninja scrolls. It synthesizes today's infosec field with the tactics and techniques used by ancient Japanese ninja...

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