

Adult Buzz Panel – Heartland 2017



All the Crooked Saints by Maggie Stiefvater

- **For fans of:** Laura Esquivel, Gabriel Garcia Marquez
- **Summary:** *Here is a thing everyone wants: A miracle. Here is a thing everyone fears: What it takes to get one.* In a desolate region of Colorado, the Soria family performs miracles. Well, they get them started, anyway. It's a two-step process.
- **Selling points:** Magical realism with a true sense of wonder. Though technically a YA novel, I think it'll have more appeal to older audiences.

City of Brass by S.A. Chakrabarty (First in the *Daevabad* Trilogy)

- **For fans of:** *Golem & the Jinni*, Patrick Rothfuss, *Night Circus*, *Alif the Unseen*
- **Summary:** The future of a magical Middle Eastern kingdom rests in the hands of a clever and defiant young con artist with miraculous healing gifts.
- **Selling points:** Ticks all the boxes - incredible & vivid world-building, action, magic, romance, and a strong ending that satisfies, yet sets up the next installment beautifully. Oh, and flying carpets, too! Will appeal to lovers of fantasy and/or historical fiction, just as *Golem and the Jinni* did. (due mid-November)

Eternal Life by Dara Horn

- **For fans of:** Nicole Krauss, Eowyn Ivey, Michael Chabon, Geraldine Brooks
- **Summary:** Rachel has an unusual problem: she can't die. Her recent troubles—widowhood, a failing business, an unemployed middle-aged son—are only the latest. She's already put up with scores of marriages and hundreds of children, over 2,000 years—ever since she made a spiritual bargain to save the life of her first son back in Roman-occupied Jerusalem. There's only one other person in the world who understands: a man she once loved passionately, who has been stalking her through the centuries, convinced they belong together forever.
- **Selling points:** Immortality – from Ponce de Leon to Dracula – is always a draw. The twist here is that Rachel has sacrificed her death, not for money or power, but to save the life of another. Solid writing, compelling story - this is my post-holiday gift certificate recommendation. (January)

Resurrection of Joan Ashby by Cherise Wolas

- **For fans of:** Donna Tartt, Lauren Groff, Kate Christensen, *Gentleman in Moscow*
- **Summary:** A writer at the beginning of an explosive career makes a fateful, selfless decision to embrace her unintended family. Decades later, just as she's about to reclaim her identity, a betrayal of Shakespearean proportion changes everything.
- **Selling points:** Immersive and so beautifully written it's hard to believe it's a debut. Really, this is genius.

Unwomanly Face of War: An Oral History of Women in World War II by Svetlana Alexievich

- **For fans of:** oral histories, Jung Chang, Ken Burns documentaries
- **Summary:** WWII from the viewpoint of Russian women – battlefield to home front. Deeply personal and wholly surprising.
- **Selling points:** Nobel Prize winner. Easy non-fiction crossover for fans of historical fiction because of the way the histories are arranged. She's a genius at listening and getting to the heart of a person's story, and always offers a different perspective on topics that have been mined to death. Utterly fascinating. Stock up on her backlist - once people read one, they tend to come back for others.

Artemis by Andy Weir

- **For fans of:** *The Martian*, Dan Brown, *Dark Side* by Anthony O'Neill,
- **Summary:** A small time smuggler in a lunar city hits a big time payday. Of course, it'll all go smoothly. Yeah, right.
- **Selling points:** It's just fun, escapist fiction. I actually liked it better than his first. The comp to Dan Brown is simply writing style – take off your critical thinking cap, and enjoy the ride. It's not high literature, but it is entertaining as hell. (November)

Dana Welshans, Snowbound Books – Marquette, MI

