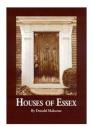
GOODS & Curio SiTieS *

ESSEX • CONNECTICUT

Recommended Reads

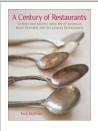
The Store - Goods & Curiosities, is participating in the Page Turners section of Shore Publishing's papers including the *Valley Courier* and six other regional newspapers. We want to share these reviews and invite you to drop by the Store. Come browse our outstanding selection of books.



Houses of Essex by Donald Malcarne

Meticulously researched by town historian Malcarne, the two volume set records the sociology and genealogy of Essex, Ivoryton, and Centerbook

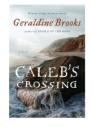
through its homes. *Houses* is a fascinating window into the towns' history and people as well as its architecture. This is THE guide to have in hand for 2013 Holiday House Tour to benefit Child & Family Agency of SE Connecticut. (Linda)



A Century of Restaurants, Stories and Recipes from 100 of America's Most Historic & Successful Restaurants by Rick Browne

46,000+ miles of history in a big book of wonderful photo essays with a recipe at each stop . Zehnder's Famous Chicken Dinners,

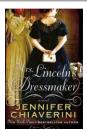
Michigan is the oldest working neon sign, Katz's NYC Delicatessen is simply infamous, and The Griswold Inn of Essex, CT, shares a special occasion Lobster Pot Pie recipe. The Index by food and geography is a nice touch for both travel and cookbook readers. (Linda)



Caleb's Crossing
By Geraldine Brooks

Brooks tells a story with a steadfast linear plot and indepth characters.

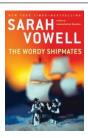
This particular piece of historical fiction is a deeply moving story of friendship and good intention. Partly the tale of a motherless girl's harsh lifestyle in colonial New England and also our nation's conflicted history in the taming or missionary education of young Native American men, all the way to Harvard. (Linda)



Mrs. Lincoln's
Dressmaker
By Jennifer Chiaverini

Based on Elizabeth Keckley's 1868 memoir Behind the Scenes, this

is an intimate novel of the Lincoln's, the White House, and 'Washington City' during the Civil War. Not battle scenes, but a grinding moral, social, legal dilemma playing out on human scale. Told by a 'free woman of color' seamstress, it layers political and personal histories with the complex social mores and fashions of mid 19th C. America. (Linda)



The Wordy Shipmates by Sarah Vowell

It's a rare and fine thing to find history told with both

scholarship and quirky humor. Who knew the Puritans could be so very entertaining, and dimensional - literary, principled, feisty, a veritable pop-culture phenomena of their own. This contributing editor of public radio's *This American Life* offers a genuine smart look at the good old Puritan Nation USA. (Linda)



DISH, 813 Colorful, Wonderful Dinner Plates by Shax Riegler, photographs by Robert Bean

A completely gorgeous oversize book for the artist, designer, collector and historian. A 17th-21st century history and

design survey of wooden trencher, melamine, Spode, or contemporary handcraft tablewares. It's a visual paradise of pattern and color, with collector's stories, and detailed sidebars. The new chunky mini- edition *DISHES*, a soft cover 623 plate sampler makes a splendid hostess gift too. (Linda)



Saying Grace:
Blessings for the Family Table
edited Sarah McElwain

"There is no joy in anything unless we share it" – (American Proverb) is just one of the 120 thoughtful non-denominational

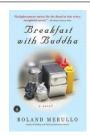
blessings for any and all occasions found in this small book. Spanning generations and the globe, these are universal and timeless praises accompanied by delightful illustrations good enough to pass around the table. (Ellen)



What My Mother Gave Me Edited by Elizabeth Benedict

Joyce Carol Oates. Lisa See. Luanne Rice: a

quilt, a thousand words a day, a drawing of a Scottie dog. Heirlooms come in many forms— the stories behind them are as important as the relics themselves. This compilation explores the beautiful complex relationships between mother and daughter from 31 prolific female writers of our time. (Ellen)



Breakfast with Buddha By Roland Merullo

Skeptical NYC Food Editor Otto Ringling drives to North Dakota

with one Volya Rinpoche, maroon swathed monk, copilot by default. It's fiction. It's a great funny road trip and philosophical debate. An excellent snapshot of what a large part of America looks like today and how we all might be considering personal politics, national identity, and issues of spirituality. (Linda)



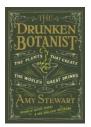
Moonwalking with Einstein By Joshua Foer

I heard this author in an entertaining NPR interview. The book is

more so: part journalism, part personal adventure in the world of mental athletes, and not a "how to" improve your memory guide.

Although, you may pick up a few tricks and the urge to expand your brain.

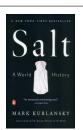
Using humor and historical anecdote, Foer points out "what we remember defines who we are." (Linda)



The Drunken Botanist by Amy Stewart

Alchemy, science, history, mythology, gardening, and cocktails (talk about evolution?!) This all-in-one charmer is an excellent read, and just in time for holiday

entertaining. Author Stewart has written several natural science books, novels, and cofounded the blog Garden Rant. She's a terrific writer who recognized the liquor store as "a fantastical greenhouse" and raises a toast to botany with 50 drink recipes. (Linda)



Salt
By Mark Kurlansky

Salt is an amazing story of how a simple everyday substance profoundly altered the world. Although this book covers salt's involvement in changing our culinary and

food preservation practices, it also explores every aspect of salt throughout history. For example, did you know that salt was once valued more than diamonds or gold? (Sabrina)



The Explanation for Everything by Lauren Grodstein

A provocative new novel with the easy contemporary voice of

Andrew, father and biologist widowed too soon, caught in the debate of evolution versus intelligent design. An unusual but recognizable ensemble of characters, set in a small NJ college town, are talking Darwin. How extraordinary is ordinary life and how much science or faith do you assume without clear definition. Does Evolution really explain everything? (Linda)



Elephant House, or the Home of Edward Gorey

by Kevin McDermott

As his darkly stirring pen-and-ink drawings suggest, Edward Gorey was a whimsical creative genius. His home on Cape Cod is a living artifact, left untouched since his death in 2000. *Elephant House* is a beautiful photographic tour with biographic details of his life, home, and private world - a privileged look at the estate which has since become a museum in his honor. (Ellen)



The Twelve Terrors of Christmas by John Updike and Edward Gorey

A frightfully

enchanting menagerie of the twelve traditions turned upside down, by two tremendous American talents of the 20th C. Pocket-sized and full of wry humor, the Scrooge in you is sure to come out (but not without laughing first.) This is a little holiday...a little Halloween...and all the dark delights in between. Go ahead, paint your candy cane black. (Ellen)

Call or email the store for more information:

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