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KEY=MARY - JOSHUA GIANNA

GOD DON'T LIKE UGLY

Dafina New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe sweeps readers back to the streets, porches, and parlors of civil rights-era Ohio to bring to life the first steps of an enduring friendship between two girls from opposite sides of the track. . . Annette Goode is a shy, awkward, overweight child with a terrible secret. Frightened and ashamed, Annette withdraws into a world of books and food. But the summer Annette turns thirteen, something incredible happens: Rhoda Nelson chooses her as a friend. Dazzling, generous Rhoda, who is everything Annette is not--gorgeous, slim, and worldly--welcomes Annette into the heart of her eccentric family, which includes her handsome and dignified father;her lovely, fragile "Muh'Dear;" her brooding, dangerous brother Jock;and her colorful white relatives--half-crazy Uncle Johnny, sultry Aunt Lola, and scary, surly Granny Goose. With Rhoda's help, Annette survives adolescence and blossoms as a woman. But when her beautiful best friend makes a stunning confession about a horrific childhood crime, Annette's world will never be the same. "A coming-of-age journey depicted with wit, poignancy and bite." --Publishers Weekly

GOD STILL DON'T LIKE UGLY

Kensington Publishing Corp. New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe's heart-stopping tale about a woman who's suffered too much to give up on herself, even if everyone else has. . . Growing up, Annette Goode thought all men were as low-down as the father who abandoned her, including the boarder who abused her for years and the men she slept with to earn the money she needed to run away from her life. Now, after decades of heartache and severing ties with her dangerously unstable friend Rhoda, Annette's real life has started to take shape. . . But her dark past won't let her go. When an old secret scares away her fiancé, Annette settles with Pee Wee Davis, her on-again, off-again sweetheart since childhood. Then her ex-friend Rhoda suddenly walks back into her life, forcing Annette to decide what she should believe--and what she can forgive--as she tries to salvage the one relationship she just can't seem to let go. . . Praise for Mary Monroe "Reminiscent of Zora Neale Hurston." --Publishers Weekly "Watch out Toni Morrison, there is a new sister in town." --Rapport

GOD DON'T PLAY

Kensington Publishing Corp. From New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe comes the story of two lifelong friends, their secrets and lies, and the new challenge that may divide them once and for all. . . With a lovely home and family, Annette Goode finally has it all. Heaven knows she paid her dues--from an abusive childhood to a rocky start as an adult. Annette's friend Rhoda knows too, for Rhoda has been both her savior and her greatest fear. Their relationship has survived some serious shake-ups. But now that things are good, someone apparently thinks they're a little too good. . . When Annette receives an anonymous--and menacing--birthday gift, it's just the beginning of a slew of hostile letters, vicious phone calls, and vile packages from a female who is obviously disguising her voice. Comforted by Rhoda and Rhoda's teenage daughter, Jade, Annette hopes the problem will somehow disappear. But when the threats extend to her child, Annette realizes the situation is dire. For soon her tormentor reveals exactly what she wants--and how it could destroy everything Annette has built. . . Praise for Mary Monroe "Reminiscent of Zora Neale Hurston." --Publishers Weekly "Watch out Toni Morrison, there is a new sister in town." --Rapport

GOD AIN'T BLIND

Kensington Books "Monroe is a masterful storyteller." --Philadelphia Inquirer There are some things even forever friends can't fix. . . Annette Goode Davis is a survivor. Life has often knocked her down, but

she's never stayed there for long. To Annette, it's all about family and old friends like Rhoda O'Toole. And right now, Annette needs all the friends she can get. Because lately, her husband, Pee Wee, barely has the time of day for her. And she has no idea why. . . Desperate to regain Pee Wee's affections, Annette goes on a crash diet, gets a makeover, and looks hotter than she has in a long time. Everyone notices--except Pee Wee. So when handsome Louis Baines showers her with attention, Annette finds herself having an affair and spending money on Louis like there's no tomorrow. But when she learns a terrible secret about her new lover, she realizes she's in way over her head. Soon Annette must face the fact that she may have destroyed the life she loved--and this time, not even Rhoda can help her make things right. . . "A fast-paced, sexy, tense story that will make readers think twice before getting tangled up in an affair." --Booklist "Monroe's never better than when she's writing about Annette and Rhoda. . .who are always getting in trouble." --Publishers Weekly

GOD AIN'T THROUGH YET

Dafina Includes excerpt from *Bad blood* (p. [415]-424).

SHE HAD IT COMING

Kensington Publishing Corp. "Monroe keeps the suspense high, and readers will draw a bated breath with the turn of each page." —Booklist Dolores Reese spent her childhood in foster care, like Floyd Watson, a local boy who intrigues her from the moment they meet. When one bad decision sends an innocent Floyd to prison for life, Dolores promises to stick by him. But while Floyd's world stands still, Dolores meets a new man who promises her the kind of future she's always wanted—the kind she once imagined having with Floyd. But when Floyd is suddenly freed on new evidence, Dolores is torn and must make a fateful decision. And if she isn't careful, Dolores just might find out what happens when love, dishonesty, and dangerous jealousy collide. "Monroe serves up a tasty dish of murder, deception, lust, and just deserts." —Library Journal "Full of all the drama and humor that Mary Monroe is known for." —Urban Reviews

KRAZY WHITE GIRL

AuthorHouse They all called her Krazy... Fourteen-year-old Nicole Adams of South Florida awakes from a coma and finds her life changed forever. She has to testify at the trial of her mom's boyfriend, Ricaldo, who brutally beat her upon discovering her shameful secret - cutting. After moving in to live with her Aunt Lori and cousin Johnny in New York, Nicole becomes "Niki," and encounters friends like Blondie and Lo, and a new crush, Blake, who help her face her deepest fears. Through teachers Ms. Parker and her P.O.W.E.R. group and Ms. Gonzalez and her Poetry Slam Club, Niki is beginning to heal - until Ashley Williams publicly humiliates Niki, tailspinning her lower than ever. *Krazy White Girl* is Nicole's story, including her battle with cutting - up front, personal, gripping. Free materials available at... www.marymonroebooks.com *Krazy White Girl* is the second book of the exciting trilogy about students from Mr. Martin's Drop Out Prevention Class, by the author of *Miracle at Monty Middle School*.

THE UPPER ROOM

Kensington Publishing Corp. The "magnificent, funny, and terrifying" debut novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *God Don't Like Ugly* (The San Francisco Chronicle). Mama Ruby's known for taking things that aren't rightfully hers, like her best friend's stillborn infant, who she brought back to life and christened Maureen. She's also rumored to have done away with her husband. Some fear her, others try their best to avoid her. But Mama Ruby doesn't pay them any mind. Not when she's got the one gift God gave her—her precious baby girl. But growing up with a mama like Ruby is enough to make any half-sane girl wish for something—anything—else. And when Maureen gets the chance to explore the "real" world, you can bet she's going to take it . . . and run like hell. "[An] engaging debut novel . . . The dialogue and setting are reminiscent of Zora Neale Hurston, but the story has a bizarre, violent edge la Stephen King . . . a candid portrayal of the cold-blooded yet fascinating Mama Ruby." —Publishers Weekly "A chilling story that is bound to astound Monroe's fans." —Booklist Praise for Mary Monroe "An exceptional writer and phenomenal storyteller!" —Kimberla Lawson Roby, New York Times bestselling author "A remarkable talent." —Chicago Sun-Times "Monroe is a masterful storyteller." —Philadelphia Inquirer

LOST DAUGHTERS

Kensington Books "A spicy mixture of family scandal, mother-daughter betrayal, and good-for-nothing men" from the New York Times bestselling author of *God Don't Like Ugly* (Publishers Weekly). Everyone from Louisiana to Florida knows Mama Ruby—a small-town girl who became one of the South's most notorious and volatile women. Now Mary Monroe reveals how Mama Ruby's past haunts the family she's left behind . . . Mama Ruby has died, and Maureen Montgomery is finally taking charge of her own life. With her beautiful teenage daughter, Loretta, by her side, she returns to Florida and settles into a routine any other woman would consider bland. But for Maureen and her brother, Virgil, after Mama Ruby's hair-trigger temper and murderous ways, bland is good. Yet Loretta has other ideas . . . Set on becoming rich and famous, Loretta convinces Maureen to let her start a modeling career with the help of a Miami photographer. But even as they move in promising new directions, they can't escape Mama Ruby—including Virgil, who's concealed one of her most shocking acts for most of his life. To make a future that's truly hers, Maureen will have to take on a bit of Mama Ruby's strength,

forge new bonds—and face down the past. Praise for Mary Monroe “An exceptional writer and phenomenal storyteller!” —Kimberla Lawson Roby, *New York Times* bestselling author “A remarkable talent.” —*Chicago Sun-Times* “Monroe is a masterful storyteller.” —*Philadelphia Inquirer*

RED LIGHT WIVES

Citadel Press Working in the world's oldest profession, six very different women forge a powerful bond that no one can break, not even their controlling "manager" Clyde, until an impulsive act of defiance changes everything. Reprint.

ONE HOUSE OVER

Dafina *New York Times* bestselling author Mary Monroe returns to the 1930s era of her acclaimed novel *The Upper Room* with a dazzling portrait of two very different couples whose fast friendship is no match for shattering betrayal . . . A solid marriage, a thriving business, and the esteem of their close-knit Alabama community—Joyce and Odell Watson have every reason to count their blessings. Their marriage has given well-off Joyce a chance at the family she's always wanted—and granted Odell a shot to escape grinding poverty. But all that respectability and status comes at a cost. Just once, Joyce and Odell want to taste life's wild side, without consequences . . . When their new neighbors, Milton and Yvonne Hamilton, turn out to be bootleggers, the Watsons plunge headlong into good times and fast living. . . . Until revelations of Milton and Yvonne's seedy past make the Watsons think twice about how much time they spend together. But the Hamiltons won't be dismissed so easily. The Watsons soon find them invading every area of their lives, even discovering their long-held secrets. Now, the Watsons must tread carefully to keep the neighbors from destroying their perfect world . . . “Monroe convincingly portrays a time and place where desperation is the norm.” —*Library Journal* “Impossible to put down.” —Susan Holloway Scott, author of *I, Eliza Hamilton* “Monroe reveals sympathetic aspects and complex motivations for each character in this engrossing setting.” —*Booklist*

DELIVER ME FROM EVIL

Kensington Publishing Corp. What happens when the life you have is not the life you want? Christine Thurman and her husband, Jesse Ray, built a business worth millions and were once deeply in love. But lately J.R. has become obsessed with his empire and Christine feels taken for granted. . .until Wade Eddie Fisher, a bad boy with good looks from Christine's past, comes back to town. Even though Wade is penniless and undependable, he reignites something deep within Christine. Before long she's immersed in a sultry affair, and has devised a plan so risky that it promises to deliver all she could possibly want--or shatter the lives of everyone close to her. . . "With its sexual triangle and triplecrossing plot, *Deliver Me From Evil* is modern noir." --*Akron Beacon Journal* "Her wildest and most entertaining novel yet." --*Publishers Weekly*

FAMILY OF LIES

Dafina Vera Lomax uses every gold-digging trick in the book to land a rich, older husband. Now she balances a life of shopping and affairs with younger men with a major secret: the 16-year bribery of one of her husband's mistresses to keep her pregnancy under wraps. Unfortunately for Vera, Sarah Cooper is the child Kenneth Lomax always wanted. When the father she never knew shows up to claim her, it's a fairy tale journey from the ghetto to a mansion on the hill. Neither woman can be sure who will win Kenneth's heart and fortune.

GONNA LAY DOWN MY BURDENS

Dafina Bestselling author Mary Monroe won rave reviews from critics and readers alike with her first two novels, *God Don't Like Ugly* and *The Upper Room*, both Main Selections of the *Black Expressions Book Club*. Now she returns with the masterful *Gonna Lay Down My Burdens*--that rare novel that inspires laughter, tears, and repeat readings. In the sweltering little town of Belle Helene, Alabama, Carmen Taylor keeps her weaknesses, her frustrations, and her tears to herself. She's too busy shouldering the burdens of her troubled friends, like Desiree Lucienne, the petite, pampered daughter of a doctor who tries to beat the wildness out of her. But it doesn't stop Desiree from trawling for men whenever she can, and trying to drag Carmen along with her. It's not that Carmen hasn't had her share of boozy pick-ups. She has, but they just can't compare to the one steamy night she spent with the man she's loved since they were both kids. Now a local cop, Chester Sheffield, with his Barry White voice and his all-too-fine body, keeps showing up in Carmen's life, wanting to do something about the feelings they obviously have for each other. But that would mean abandoning her "boyfriend" Burl Tupper and that's something Carmen just can't do. Ever since Burl ended up in a wheelchair because of a foolish teenage prank she played on him, Carmen's promised herself that she'd spend the rest of her life making it up to him. When Carmen doesn't take her chance with Chester, Desiree does, and when she learns that she's pregnant with Chester's child, it's almost more than Carmen can bear. Still, her loyalty to Desiree goes back a long way, and she's not about to let a man get in the way of their friendship--even when Desiree starts stepping out on Chester. Then, on a sultry, reckless moonlit night, Carmen commits a desperate crime of passion, and, with Desiree, hits the road running. But she can't run from the truth she's avoided for years--and in a seedy hotel in the middle of nowhere, she

confronts her demons head-on. Now Carmen has two choices--a life on the lam, or a full circle return to Belle Helene, the place where it all began. . . and the only place in the world she can lay down her burdens and seize her one true chance at love and redemption.

MAMA RUBY

Dafina New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe presents an unforgettable tale featuring the rebellious early years of Mama Ruby, the indomitable heroine of her acclaimed novel *The Upper Room*. Growing up in Shreveport, Louisiana, Ruby Jean Upshaw is the kind of girl who knows what she wants and knows how to get it. By the time she's fifteen, Ruby has a taste for fast men and cheap liquor, and not even her preacher daddy can set her straight. Only Othella Mae Cartier, daughter of the town tramp, understands what makes Ruby tick. When Ruby discovers she's in the family way, she's scared for the first time in her life. After hiding her growing belly, Ruby secretly gives birth to a baby girl at Othella's house. Othella talks Ruby into giving the child away—and with the help of a shocking revelation, convinces Ruby to run off with her to New Orleans. But nothing can erase Ruby's memories of her child--or quell her simmering rage at Othella for persuading her to let her precious baby go. Someday there will be a reckoning. And Othella will learn that no one knows how to exact revenge quite like Ruby Jean Upshaw. . .

OVER THE FENCE

Dafina In this page-turning novel set in the Depression-era South, New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe transports readers to a small Alabama town where home is not always a sanctuary, and two neighboring families let pleasantries mask increasing resentment. . . Bootlegging was Milton and Yvonne Hamilton's ticket out of poverty, prison time, and plain bad luck. Now they've moved on—to a bigger, richer pool of clientele—right in their own respectable new middle-class backyard. And their growing friendship with seemingly-perfect couple Joyce and Odell Watson is proving golden in more ways than one . . . As Milton soon learns, Odell is hiding an outside family and dubious business dealings. It's the perfect recipe for a blackmail scheme that will help Milton hide his own dirty secrets—even from Yvonne. Better yet, he can take ever more dangerous risks to ace out his liquor-smuggling rivals—and add a lucrative temptation to his illicit services. And Yvonne, emboldened by her husband's new gravy train, delights in tormenting Joyce about everything the snobbish matron doesn't have—especially children. But even a winning hand can be played too far. Pushed past their limits, Odell and Joyce will play on Milton's careless boasting—to get him and Yvonne out of their lives for good. And soon, a devastating frame-up will plunge one couple into a living nightmare—and set the stage for explosive retribution . . .

OUT OF MY MIND

Simon and Schuster Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

EMPTY VOWS

A RIVETING DEPRESSION ERA HISTORICAL NOVEL

Dafina In this gripping follow-up to the Depression-era saga *Mrs. Wiggins*, the New York Times bestselling and award-winning author transports readers to the Deep South, as a proper church-going woman determined to snare Alabama's most-sought after widower finds his secret desires and righteous lies come as a package deal... Forty-something widow Jessie Tucker is beloved throughout Lexington, Alabama, for her kind heart and endless generosity. But she feels it's past time she rewarded herself—especially when upstanding Hubert Wiggins tragically loses his wife and son. Making herself indispensable, yet discouraged by Hubert's lack of romantic interest, Jessie cooks up a deception she knows will make pious Hubert do right by her... Hoax or not, Hubert couldn't be happier. The passionate self he's long hidden from everyone has a new, much-riskier secret love. And the unsuspecting second Mrs. Wiggins will help him maintain his ever-so-devout image in the community... But when Hubert is not the ardent lover Jessie always dreamed he was, she turns her desires to handsome younger man Conway. Suddenly the "good church wife" can't resist temptation at all. And someone is watching: Conway's new girlfriend—and Jessie's longtime rival—Blondeen. Now Blondeen has the perfect opportunity to harass Jessie, destroy her reputation, drive her out of town—then become the real wife Hubert should have had all along... In one shattering night, Jessie, Blondeen, and Hubert will each go too far. And when their web of deceit threatens to drag them under for good, they will have only one chance to erase the past and claim everything they've ever wanted. If their secrets don't destroy them first...

ACROSS THE WAY

Dafina Books In this captivating Depression-era set novel by New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe, two couples find their grudges endangering more than their Alabama small town's deceptive peace . . . When good-time couple Milton and Yvonne Hamilton moved one house over from the respectable-but-restless Odell and Joyce Watson, it was a fast friendship of shared secrets—and secret

jealousies and betrayals. Their alliance was bound to crash and burn, but the Hamiltons won't quite let the flame die out, even after scandalous accusations get them arrested . . . Odell would do anything to be free of his bootlegging, blackmailing, money extorting neighbors and recover the peaceful—and financially prosperous—life he and Joyce once had. But Milton and Yvonne seem to always bounce back from bad luck, and this time they've returned angrier, and greedier, than ever. Determined to get what Odell "owes" them, the Hamiltons have a big surprise for Joyce too, one that shows how far they will go to get revenge . . . Now pushed past his breaking point, Odell is sure he's got a foolproof plan to end the scheming once and for all. But it soon spirals into lies, shattering violence, and permanent damage that will roil their tranquil community, and alter his and Joyce's world forever . . . PRAISE FOR THE NEIGHBORS SERIES "Monroe brings the Deep South Prohibition-era world to life." —Booklist "Monroe convincingly portrays a time and place where desperation is the norm." —Library Journal

MRS. WIGGINS

Dafina "The daughter of a prostitute mother and an alcoholic father, Maggie Franklin knew her only way out was to marry someone upstanding and church-going. Someone like Hubert Wiggins, the most eligible man in Lexington, Alabama--and the son of its most revered preacher. Proper and prosperous, Hubert is glad to finally have a wife, even one with Maggie's background. For Hubert has a secret he desperately needs to stay hidden. And Maggie's unexpected charm, elegance, and religious devotion makes her the perfect partner in lies..."--

THE GLASS CASTLE

A MEMOIR

Simon and Schuster Journalist Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were their curse and their salvation. Rex and Rose Mary and their four children lived like nomads, moving among Southwest desert towns, camping in the mountains. Rex was a charismatic, brilliant man who, when sober, captured his children's imagination, teaching them how to embrace life fearlessly. Rose Mary painted and wrote and couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family. When the money ran out, the Walls retreated to the dismal West Virginia mining town Rex had tried to escape. As the dysfunction escalated, the children had to fend for themselves, supporting one another as they found the resources and will to leave home. Yet Walls describes her parents with deep affection in this tale of unconditional love in a family that, despite its profound flaws, gave her the fiery determination to carve out a successful life. -- From publisher description.

THE SECRET GARDEN

A ten-year-old orphan comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

SOPHIE'S WORLD

A NOVEL ABOUT THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

Farrar, Straus and Giroux One day Sophie comes home from school to find two questions in her mail: "Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?" Before she knows it she is enrolled in a correspondence course with a mysterious philosopher. Thus begins Jostein Gaarder's unique novel, which is not only a mystery, but also a complete and entertaining history of philosophy.

THE SENSE OF AN ENDING

Vintage Winner of the 2011 Man Booker Prize By an acclaimed writer at the height of his powers, *The Sense of an Ending* extends a streak of extraordinary books that began with the best-selling *Arthur & George* and continued with *Nothing to Be Frightened Of* and, most recently, *Pulse*. This intense new novel follows a middle-aged man as he contends with a past he has never much thought about—until his closest childhood friends return with a vengeance, one of them from the grave, another maddeningly present. Tony Webster thought he'd left all this behind as he built a life for himself, and by now his marriage and family and career have fallen into an amicable divorce and retirement. But he is then presented with a mysterious legacy that obliges him to reconsider a variety of things he thought he'd understood all along, and to revise his estimation of his own nature and place in the world. A novel so compelling that it begs to be read in a single sitting, with stunning psychological and emotional depth and sophistication, *The Sense of an Ending* is a brilliant new chapter in Julian Barnes's oeuvre.

PAPER TOWNS

A&C Black Special edition slipcase edition of John Green's *Paper Towns*, with pop-up paper town. From the bestselling author of *The Fault in our Stars*. Quentin Jacobsen has always loved Margo Roth

Spiegelman, for Margo (and her adventures) are the stuff of legend at their high school. So when she one day climbs through his window and summons him on an all-night road trip of revenge he cannot help but follow. But the next day Margo doesn't come to school and a week later she is still missing. Q soon learns that there are clues in her disappearance . . . and they are for him. But as he gets deeper into the mystery - culminating in another awesome road trip across America - he becomes less sure of who and what he is looking for. Masterfully written by John Green, this is a thoughtful, insightful and hilarious coming-of-age story.

RIGHT BESIDE YOU

Dafina New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe presents a heartwarming, uplifting novel about two long-time co-workers who seem unlucky in love. But this Christmas may give them a surprising chance to find themselves—and each other . . . With a successful career, money in the bank, and a solid future, Felicia Hawkins has almost everything she ever wanted. But getting married is the one holiday wish she can't seem to get. And it's not helping that she's hopelessly in love with her co-worker, widower Richard Grimes. They have the perfect office partnership, and he's as supportive as he is kind. But Felicia doesn't want to wreck their friendship by letting him know how she really feels . . . Richard has his hands full juggling pre-Christmas work demands and raising two teen daughters. But he's not too busy to wish his relationship with Felicia could become much more. He's drawn to her calm spirit and determination, along with everything they surprisingly have in common. And just once he'd like a chance this season to dare tell her the truth . . . But what Felicia and Richard get instead is a cascade of misunderstandings; messy, well-meaning matchmaking from family and friends, and a long-distance transfer Richard can't refuse. Finally, in the middle of one chaotic snow-struck day, it will take all their courage and compassion to risk opening their hearts to each other—hopefully for many more holiday happily-ever-afters . . . Praise for Mary Monroe's holiday stories "Monroe presents a tender, charming holiday romance." —Library Journal on Right Beside You "Exceptional, original, and a seasonal delight by an author with a flair for narrative-driven storytelling." —The Midwest Book Review on Remembrance

BAD BLOOD

Dafina When the man of her dreams, Seth Garrett, who believes that anything less than the best simply isn't an option, dumps her because of her far-from-perfect relatives, beautiful and successful Rachel McNeal, through forgiving and forgetting, sets out to take his world apart piece by piece. Original.

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

Dramatists Play Service, Inc. *THE STORY*: One of the great successes of this distinguished writer. A serious and adult play about two women who run a school for girls. After a malicious youngster starts a rumor about the two women, the rumor soon turns to scandal. As the young g

RECITATIF

A STORY

Knopf **NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER** • A beautiful, arresting story about race and the relationships that shape us through life by the legendary Nobel Prize winner—for the first time in a beautifully produced stand-alone edition, with an introduction by Zadie Smith "A puzzle of a story, then—a game.... When [Morrison] called *Recitatif* an 'experiment' she meant it. The subject of the experiment is the reader." —Zadie Smith, award-winning, best-selling author of *White Teeth* In this 1983 short story—the only short story Morrison ever wrote—we meet Twyla and Roberta, who have known each other since they were eight years old and spent four months together as roommates in St. Bonaventure shelter. Inseparable then, they lose touch as they grow older, only later to find each other again at a diner, a grocery store, and again at a protest. Seemingly at opposite ends of every problem, and at each other's throats each time they meet, the two women still cannot deny the deep bond their shared experience has forged between them. Another work of genius by this masterly writer, *Recitatif* keeps Twyla's and Roberta's races ambiguous throughout the story. Morrison herself described *Recitatif*, a story which will keep readers thinking and discussing for years to come, as "an experiment in the removal of all racial codes from a narrative about two characters of different races for whom racial identity is crucial." We know that one is white and one is Black, but which is which? And who is right about the race of the woman the girls tormented at the orphanage? A remarkable look into what keeps us together and what keeps us apart, and how perceptions are made tangible by reality, *Recitatif* is a gift to readers in these changing times.

CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET?

Dafina The prequel to the New York Times bestselling author's provocative series featuring best friends getting a crash course in love, family, and betrayal. They couldn't be less alike—except for their restless spirits. Lola came from a loving home, even though it included her father's live-in mistress. And Joan is a secret wild child chafing under her mother's watchful eye. So when Lola's quiet world

shatters and her hopes seem out of reach for good, Joan has the perfect consolation in mind. But the besties will soon discover that boyfriends, money, and good times are no real escape from their families' ever-scandalous drama. Soon, with demanding stepparents, conniving relatives, and simmering secrets closing in, they'll have to watch each other's backs and use their quick wits to save their lifelong dreams . . . Praise for Mary Monroe "Mary Monroe is an exceptional writer and phenomenal storyteller!"—Kimberla Lawson Roby, New York Times bestselling author of *Here and Now* "Impossible to put down."—Susan Holloway Scott, national bestselling author of *The Secret Wife of Aaron Burr* "Readers who enjoy watching characters' fortunes rise and fall will relish this tumultuous family." —Booklist on *Family of Lies* "Once again, Monroe displays her gift as a marvel with this sensational novel." —RT Book Reviews on *Lost Daughters*

REMEMBRANCE

Dafina For a mother mired in midlife, Christmas brings a chance for renewal and rediscovery in this moving novel from the New York Times bestselling author. For Beatrice Powell, the holidays are usually an extra-special time to celebrate. With her twenty-year-plus marriage, beautiful home, and three wonderful adult children, she has everything she could desire. But change-of-life doubts are making Beatrice a stranger to herself and her bewildered family. She only finds peace volunteering at the local soup kitchen, especially helping out homeless Charles Davenport. And his sensitivity and honesty soon comfort her in ways she never imagined . . . Charles thought he had it all—until a devastating betrayal and the shattering loss of his family drove him to living on the streets. Beatrice is the first person who's truly cared about him in a long time. And little by little, he's finding reasons to care about rebuilding his life—and risking a sudden, courageous choice . . . Drawn to Charles and the temptation of a second chance, Beatrice is faced with the hardest of decisions. But his insight, secrets—and the reminder of a profound past encounter—will give her unexpected inspiration, gratitude, and the strength she needs to find her way . . . perhaps in time for Christmas. "The holidays can bring the kind of chaos, good and bad, that occupies your brain. It's easy to forget to bring your gratitude. *Remembrance* has that covered . . . an excellent choice if your book group wants to squeeze in a before-the-holidays pick." —The Washington Informer

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live. With a forward by Markus Zusak, interviews with Sherman Alexie and Ellen Forney, and four-color interior art throughout, this edition is perfect for fans and collectors alike.

EVERY WOMAN'S DREAM

Dafina "An epic novel that spans a generation" from the New York Times bestselling author of the *God and Neighbors* series (*Library Journal*). As teenagers, best friends Lola Poole and Joan Proctor concocted a scheme to escape their boredom, pass the time between boyfriends—and bring in some money. It all started when they got in the habit of corresponding with lonely, unsuspecting—and generous—older men. In return for their "love letters," the teens were rewarded with checks. The fun only ended when their swindle nearly got them killed. Now they're grown, but they're still longing for every woman's dream of love and excitement. And thanks to online dating and a parade of lovers, they're getting all the sexy fun they missed out on. It's a downright addictive game. But games can't last forever—and someone has to lose . . . "Engaging, provocative, disconcerting and shocking, as the author shrewdly characterizes the hazards when adults play dangerous games with strangers."—RT Book Reviews Praise for Mary Monroe "Mary Monroe is an exceptional writer and phenomenal storyteller!"—Kimberla Lawson Roby, New York Times bestselling author of *Here and Now* "Impossible to put down."—Susan Holloway Scott, national bestselling author of *The Secret Wife of Aaron Burr* "Engaging, provocative, disconcerting and shocking, as the author shrewdly characterizes the hazards when adults play dangerous games with strangers." —RT Book Reviews

WHY I STILL BELIEVE

A FORMER ATHEIST'S RECKONING WITH THE BAD REPUTATION CHRISTIANS GIVE A GOOD GOD

Zondervan For anyone who feels caught in the tension between the beauty of God's story and the ugliness of human hypocrisy, *Why I Still Believe* offers a stirring story of hope. Why would anyone be a Christian when there is so much hypocrisy in the church? Mary Jo Sharp shares her journey as a skeptical believer who still holds to a beautiful faith despite wounding experiences in the Christian community. At a time when de-conversion stories have become all too common, this is an earnest response - the compelling conversion of an unlikely believer whose questions ultimately led her to irresistible hope. Sharp addresses her own struggle with the reality that God's people repeatedly give God's story a bad name and takes a careful look at how the current church often inadvertently

produces atheists despite its life-giving message. For those who feel the ever-present tension between the beauty of salvation and the dark side of human nature, Why I Still Believe is a candid and approachable case for believing in God when you really want to walk away. With fresh and thoughtful insights, this spiritual narrative presents relevant answers to haunting questions like: Isn't there too much pain and suffering to believe? Is it okay to have doubt? What if Jesus' story is a copy of another story? Is there any evidence for Jesus' resurrection? Does atheism explain the human experience better than Christianity can? How can the truth of Christianity matter when the behaviors of Christians are reprehensible? At once logical and loving, Sharp reframes the gospel as it truly is: the good news of redemption. With firmly grounded truths, Why I Still Believe is an affirming reminder that the hypocrisy of Christians can never negate the transforming grace and truth of Christ.

THE GIFT OF FAMILY

Dafina From acclaimed New York Times bestselling author Mary Monroe comes the captivating and heartfelt tale of a couple who has everything—except the dream they long for most. But this Christmas, a reunion with someone from the past could gift them a once-in-a-lifetime last chance . . . Successful, secure, and still very much in love, middle-aged couple Eugene and Rosemary Johnson have never given up on one special wish—to be parents. And while Christmas always brings happiness and a whirlwind of holiday fun, their hopes for children of their own seem further away than ever. Especially this year, when Rosemary must have emergency surgery and home help to recuperate. Wanting to lift his wife's spirits, Eugene suddenly has an inspiration from back in the day . . . Faithful and sensible, Ethel Perkins raised Eugene and his brother. Unforeseen tragedy has left the sixty-something widow struggling with little money and two jobs to keep her great-grandchildren off the streets. She's glad to help Rosemary back on her feet. But she can only stay until Rosemary is well enough to resume her normal routine. For Ethel, survival means keeping to her grueling schedule, being there for everyone but herself, and, as always, handling her troubles all on her own . . . As Ethel's problems go from bad to much worse, Rosemary and Eugene find themselves helping her more and more—and growing close to her lively youngsters. Soon, there's only one way both families can salvage the season: by celebrating it together. But will their temporary family work into the future . . . and possibly make a lifetime of happiness?

BREAKING THROUGH

Cambridge University Press Having come from Mexico to California ten years ago, fourteen-year-old Francisco is still working in the fields but fighting to improve his life and complete his education.

NOT YET MARRIED

THE PURSUIT OF JOY IN SINGLENESS AND DATING

Crossway Life Is Never Mainly About Love and Marriage. So Learn to Live and Date for More. Many of you grew up assuming that marriage would meet all of your needs and unlock God's purposes for you. But God has far more planned for you than your future marriage. Not Yet Married is not about waiting quietly in the corner of the world for God to bring you "the one," but about inspiring you to live and date for more now. If you follow Jesus, the search for a spouse is no longer a pursuit of the perfect person, but a pursuit of more of God. He will likely write a love story for you different than the one you would write for yourself, but that's because he loves you and knows how to write a better story. This book was written to help you find real hope, happiness, and purpose in your not-yet-married life.

NARRATIVE OF THE CAPTIVITY AND RESTORATION OF MRS. MARY ROWLANDSON

Lulu.com In 1765 Mary Rowlandson was captured in Massachusetts by Native Americans during King Philip's War. She was held for eleven weeks. This is her story of the ordeal.

THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD

Prabhat Prakashan Their Eyes Were Watching God is a 1937 novel by African-American writer Zora Neale Hurston. It is considered a classic of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s, and it is likely Hurston's best known work.

THE PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DISNEY MOVIES

MDPI In this volume of 15 articles, contributors from a wide range of disciplines present their analyses of Disney movies and Disney music, which are mainstays of popular culture. The power of the Disney brand has heightened the need for academics to question whether Disney's films and music function as a tool of the Western elite that shapes the views of those less empowered. Given its global reach, how the Walt Disney Company handles the role of race, gender, and sexuality in social structural inequality merits serious reflection according to a number of the articles in the volume. On the other hand, other authors argue that Disney productions can help individuals cope with difficult situations or embrace progressive thinking. The different approaches to the assessment of Disney films as cultural

artifacts also vary according to the theoretical perspectives guiding the interpretation of both overt and latent symbolic meaning in the movies. The authors of the 15 articles encourage readers to engage with the material, showcasing a variety of views about the good, the bad, and the best way forward.