MICHAL

Michal begins the series “The Wives of King David”. We meet Michal as a young girl and see her develop into a woman. As the daughter of King Saul, she is a princess and is treated as such. Michal sets her sights on David, a young harp player. Learn about the development of their relationship in this fictional account of the Wives of King David. In today’s press, there is much written about sister wives. This book delves into the complicated life of sharing a spouse. —Judy Howell

MICHAL by Jill Eileen Smith. (382 Pages) Available in Hardback, Paperback, Kindle, Nook, iBook.

HARRY POTTER & THE CURSED CHILD

The latest installment of the Harry Potter universe is not a novel but a play. It is currently being performed in London and would be absolutely spectacular to see. This was still a fun read, but it is important to remember that this is a format shift. I love plays and I enjoyed this one. It takes place 19 years after the last Harry Potter novel ended. Hermione Granger is Minister of Magic (of course she is). Harry Potter is struggling with being a parent. Not having the best role models to draw upon, he makes some mistakes. The play focuses on his troubled relationship with his youngest son, Albus Severus. It is fascinating finding out what has happened to all of our favorite characters. I won’t say much else as I would never want to spoil it for you. —Michelle Fields


READY PLAYER ONE

It’s the year 2044, and the real world is an ugly place. Most of humanity including Wade Watts spend their waking hours logged in to the OASIS, a virtual utopia. OASIS creator James Halliday dies leaving OASIS users a series of fiendish puzzles that will yield massive fortune and power to whoever can unlock them.

Littered with references to the 1980s Ernest Cline’s Ready Player One creates an alternate world which draws the reader in and has you cheering for Wade Watts until the end. Ready Player One is a great book for sci-fi and non sci-fi fans alike. —Bethany Turner

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline. (400 Pages) Available in Hardcover, Paperback, Kindle, Nook, iBook.
**FINGERSMITH**

It is so rare for me to be as surprised by a novel as I was by this one. The story is divided into three sections. I had a small inkling of a major plot twist that occurs at the end of the first part, but it still surprised that Waters went there. The second part shocked the heck out of me. I definitely did not see that coming…at all. Set in Victorian England, Fingersmith begins as the story of Sue, who is an orphan being raised in an unsavory section of London by a group of thieves. Enter Gentleman, a con man, who convinces Sue to help him with a scheme to rob a rich girl of her inheritance. To say any more would be criminal. —MF

---

**A WRONGFUL DEATH**

Barbara Holloway is having a crisis of conscience. She is trying to decide what to do with the rest of her life when a small boy goes racing toward a very dangerous access point. Barbara knows if she doesn’t step in and behave like a Good Samaritan the little boy will drown. Barbara catches the little boy and he tells her that his mother is injured and he needs help. Barbara would have helped the little boy and his mother if she knew that this act of kindness would land her in all kinds of legal trouble. She is now a suspect in a kidnapping and other possible criminal acts. If you enjoy a legal thriller, you will love this book. —JH

---

**COUSIN BETTE**

Cousin Bette is another long novel that doesn’t feel long at all. It is a story of revenge, seduction and murder. It was highly influenced by the earlier de Laclos epistolary work, Dangerous Liaisons, which is even discussed in Balzac’s novel. The women in this book are incredible. You basically have a conflict between passivity and activism. Balzac seems to have more sympathy for the wicked women who actually have a backbone and refuse to accept the situation when someone wrongs them than he does with the traditionally virtuous woman they are working against. In the end, though, it all comes down to a simple piece of advice, never steal a relative’s lover. It ends badly…always. —MF