**LADY IN WAITING**

During a time period when offending the Queen could result in your death, Anne and Kit defy custom and societal norms. This novel is set in the Elizabethan time period and has several characters that maintained my interest. They had personalities that were difficult but well explained by the histories given. The court intrigue was detailed and fascinating. Anne and Kit as a couple were wonderful. I loved the descriptions of the clothes, dancing and Queen Elizabeth. If you enjoy romance and intrigue set in this time period you will enjoy this book.

—Judy Howell


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**NORSE MYTHOLOGY**

Neil Gaiman’s latest work is not, strictly speaking, a novel but a new retelling of major parts of Norse mythology through a series of interconnected short stories. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Odin, Thor, Loki and their family better. If you have ever had a desire to discover the source material for Marvel’s popular comics based on Thor and Loki, this is a good place to start. While I was familiar with parts of the saga, some of it was new to me, and I enjoyed Gaiman’s retelling immensely. —Michelle Fields


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**THE SILENT WIFE**

Interesting psychological thriller. Jodi is the unassuming wife of a cheating husband, Todd. Jodi is willing to overlook her husband’s flaws. The cheating, drinking and prostitutes can be ignored. Jodi has decided to not acknowledge the issues in her marriage. Everyone has flaws. Then Todd does the unthinkable. This story is told from alternating perspectives first Todd and then Jodi. The story moves toward a surprising conclusion. If you love a strong psychological thriller, you will enjoy this book.—JH

IN FARLEIGH FIELD

I am a fan of Rhys Bowen’s Royal Spyness series of light-hearted mystery novels. I was excited to see that she had a new book coming out this month set in a new time period, World War II. Not quite as light-hearted as the Royal Spyness series but just as charming, In Farleigh Field paints a picture of war-torn England after Dunkirk but before the American entrance into the war. The two main characters end up working for MI5 and Bletchley Park respectively and end up investigating why a man fell from a plane in the middle of the night. He appears to be a German spy, but why was he in the country? Who was he trying to reach? Could it have been one of the aristocratic neighbors? Is there a plot to kill the king and replace him with the Duke of Windsor? The story was fast paced and hopefully the beginning of a new series for Bowen. —MF

THE MAPPING OF LOVE AND DEATH

Michael Clifton, an American citizen, came to England at the beginning of World War I to serve. He was a cartographer for the Crown. Michael was declared missing in 1914. Currently, in 1932, Michael’s body is recovered along with several other members of the cartographers group. His parents travel to England in hopes of discovering information about their son. The recovered letters have raised the hope of maybe finding his love interest or even a grandchild that they didn’t know about. Maisie Dobbs is hired to investigate Michael’s time in England and France. This is another in the series of Maisie Dobbs. She uses her training as a psychologist to investigate and solve mysteries. If you like cozy mysteries, you will love the Maisie Dobbs series. Each of the books can stand alone. There is enough of a background given at the beginning of each book that makes the reader aware of any necessary character history in order to solve the mystery at hand. —JH

MAJOR PETTIGREW’S LAST STAND

I have seen this book and had it recommended to me since it first came out several years ago. I will admit, sheepishly, that I was a bit put off by the cover (which is frankly a bit bland for my tastes). Oh boy, was I wrong to do so. I absolutely loved this book! It was funny and charming and occasionally wise. Major Pettigrew is a 68-year-old retired British officer who is widowed. At the beginning of the book, his brother dies. Into his lonely life comes Mrs. Ali, the proprietor of the village’s convenience store. I loved the development of their friendship, the blossoming of that friendship into a quiet romance as well as their friends, family and neighbors’ reactions to said relationship. This needs to be a movie as long as they don’t screw it up! —MF

Would you like to make a book recommendation? We are looking for guest reviewers. If you are interested, please contact either Michelle Fields or Judy Howell by March 27. Recommendations only have to be around 100 words, so please join the fun. We enjoy hearing about new books just as much as we like telling other people about ones we’ve enjoyed!