THE STRANGER DIARIES

If your idea of a good beach read is a thumping good murder mystery with a wonderful atmosphere, you might want to pick up The Stranger Diaries. This is, I believe, Griffiths’s first stand alone novel, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. There are three point of view characters: Clare Cassidy, an English teacher who is writing a book about a gothic short story writer named R. M. Holland; her daughter, Georgia; and DS Harbinder Kaur, who is investigating the murder of Clare’s best friend, Ella. On top of dealing with murder, Clare, a life long diarist, is horrified to discover when looking back at a previous volume of her diaries, that someone is leaving her notes like, “Hallo, Clare. You don’t know me.”

—Michelle Fields

The Stranger Diaries by Elly Griffiths. (338 pages) Available in Hardback, Kindle, Nook, iBook.

BLOOD BORN

Chloe’s life changed overnight. One minute she was a manager of a popular restaurant and the next minute she was a conduit. Chloe was on her way home from work when the first attempt was made on her life. Chloe knew there was something odd about her defender Luca but she wasn’t sure what. Chloe had no idea that a battle for the survival of humanity was about to begin. Vampires were plotting to be able to live in the open and not skulk around in secret. To achieve this goal, a very powerful witch must break the protection spell and all of the conduits must die. If you like a energetic vampire story with a love twist, you will enjoy this book. —Judy Howell

Blood Born by Linda Howard and Linda Jones. (466 pages) Available in Hardback, Paperback and Kindle

CHILDREN OF TIME

Tchaikovsky takes the reader on a dizzying journey through thousands of years. An experiment in evolution ends up becoming the last hope of the human race as one planet holds the key to survival if humanity can overcome some of its worse impulses and learn to trust its natural enemies. Survivors of a dead Earth are surprised to find a lush, green terraformed planet. They are less thrilled to hear a message from an orbiting station telling them to leave or die. The inhabitants of the planet are also not thrilled to learn about the arrival of the “giants” who want to take over their world. —MF

Children of Time by Adrian Tchaikovsky. (600 Pages) Available in Hardback, Paperback, Kindle, Nook, iBook.
**What We Are Currently Reading**

*Judy:*
- *Six Wakes* by Mur Lafferty
- *A Conspiracy in Belgravia* by Sherry Thomas

*Michelle:*
- *The Word for World is Forest* by Ursula K. Le Guin
- *Sybil* by Benjamin Disraeli
- *All the Missing Girls* by Megan Miranda
- *The Summer Before the War* by Helen Simonson
- *The Women’s War* by Jenna Glass

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 June 24. Recommendations only have to be around 100 words, so please join the fun!

### THREE MAIDS FOR A CROWN

The Grey sisters were all different. They all have royal Tudor blood and this family connection will eventually lead to their downfall. The sisters grow up closely together. Jane is a quiet and shy academic. Katherine is hopeful, beautiful and desires a good marriage. Mary is a small person who is constantly discounted because of her stature. As parents of these young girls plot and plan, each daughter is at risk. Who will die? Who will live? Is this opportunity to advance worth their very lives? If you enjoy historical fiction, then you will enjoy this book. —JH


### THE PARAGON HOTEL

If you are interested in an atmospheric historical fiction novel with a bit of mystery, The Paragon Hotel should fit the bill nicely. The year is 1921, and “Nobody” Alice James is on the run. After being shot in New York, she makes her way to Portland, Oregon via train. A sympathetic train porter named Max, takes her to The Paragon Hotel for safety. Only Alice quickly discovers, the inhabitants of The Paragon have worries of their own that don’t involve protecting a white girl. Tackling prohibition, mafia, and the growing reach of the KKK, the novel is an engrossing read. —MF

*The Paragon Hotel* by Lindsay Faye. (432 pages) Hardback, Kindle, Nook, iBook

### THEN CAME YOU

Four women who on the surface don't have anything in common are drawn together in this complicated tale. Jules is a senior in college. Annie is a loving mother and wife. India is married to a man she loves and wants a child. Bettina is suspicious of everything and everyone. How could it be possible for these women to have a connection? They seem to have nothing in common. If you enjoy a wonderful tale of people, emotions and family, you will enjoy this story.

*Then Came You* by Jennifer Weiner. (352 pages) Paperback, Kindle, Nook, iBook