
Laguna Beach Books May Newsletter

May 1, 2026



May has arrived at Laguna Beach Books!

Independent Bookstore Day is our new favorite holiday! On April 25th we gave away

our new bookbags to customers, and one lucky reader found the "**Golden Ticket**" hidden in our store. Congratulations to Diane Farlow - she won 180 hours of audiobook listening courtesy of libro.fm (which donates a portion of their sales to independent bookstores)!

With longer days come later store hours; we're open until **6 pm Sunday through Wednesday**, and we close at **7 pm on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday**. Take advantage of those extra hours of daylight with the newest book reads, and join us for an eclectic mix of author events in the coming months. Read on to learn more!



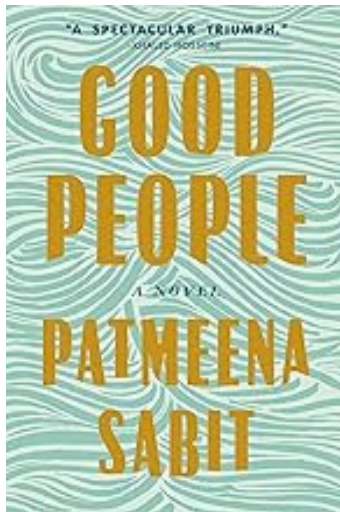
Book Club

Good People, Patmeena Sabit

Monday, May 4th, 5 pm - 7 pm

Book Club is back, and there's so much to discuss in the riveting book we've chosen. **Good People** is a stunning debut novel which tells the tale of a successful immigrant family experiencing unthinkable tragedy. The story is ingeniously told through the perspectives of those in the family's community, leaving the reader to consider what is true and how our stories are told.

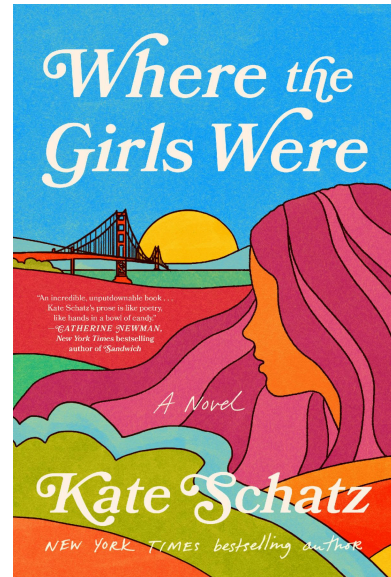
Please RSVP to maria@lagunabeachbooks.com



Evening With an Author at the Susi Q
***Where the Girls Were*, Kate Schatz**
Thursday, May 14th, 5:00 - 6:30 pm
The Susi Q Center
380 Third Street, Laguna Beach

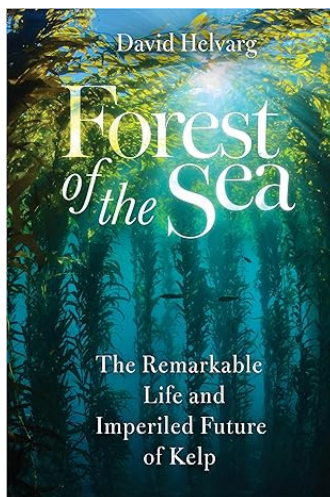
Kate Schatz will discuss her historic novel, *Where the Girls Were*. For women who remember what the world was like when abortion was illegal and America was engaged in an unpopular war, the discussion will feel timely and relevant. Schatz is the NYT bestselling author of the *Rad Women* book series and a co-author of *Do The Work: An Anti-Racist Activity Book* with W. Kamau Bell. Marrie Stone will moderate.

To register for this event go to thesusiq.com. There is a \$25 registration fee.



Author Event
***Forest of the Sea*, David Helvarg**
Tuesday, May 19th, 5 pm - 7 pm

Kelp forests, "entrancing cathedrals of light and life", contribute significantly to the health of our planet as well as the world economy. Alarming, marine heat waves threaten this incredibly biodiverse ecosystem. On **May 19th** we'll welcome **David Helvarg**, a journalist, environmental activist, and author of *Forest of the Sea*. There is much to learn and much that can be done to protect these vital marine habitats, and we hope you will join us for an informative evening. RSVP to Maria at maria@lagunabeachbooks.com.



Author Event
***How To Style a Hat*, Brittany Cobb**
Thursday, June 4th, 6 - 7 pm

AUTHOR EVENT

HOW TO STYLE A HAT

By Brittany Cobb

AUTHOR Q+A
BOOK SIGNING
LIVE HAT DEMO

JUNE 4TH | 6 PM
LAGUNA BEACH BOOKS

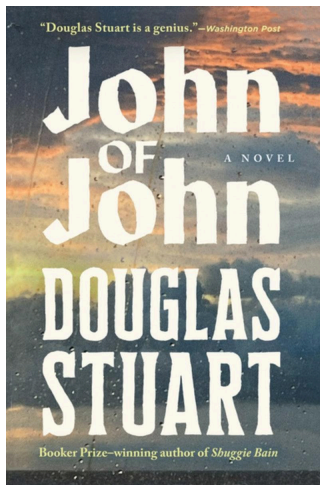
Meet Brittany, grab a signed copy of her new book and hear about all things How to Style a Hat while she does a live hat styling demonstration.

FLEASTYLE
THE ORIGINAL HAT BAR



RSVP for an evening of fashion and fun at maria@lagunabeachbooks.com.

What We're Reading This Month

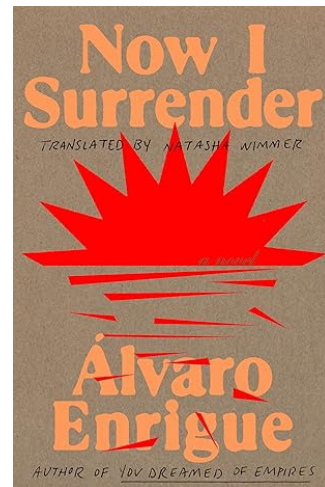


John of John Douglas Stuart

The highly anticipated novel from the author of *Shuggie Bain* and *Young Mungo* arrives this month! A young man returns to his home in the stark Outer Hebrides Islands of Scotland where little has changed in generations. A vivid and immersive story about family and faith.

The Things We Never Say Elizabeth Strout

High school teacher Artie Dam lives a busy and fulfilling life, until one day a secret forces him to reconsider everything he has known. Masterful Elizabeth Strout creates fresh characters but continues her insightful and poignant exploration of human connections with her latest novel.



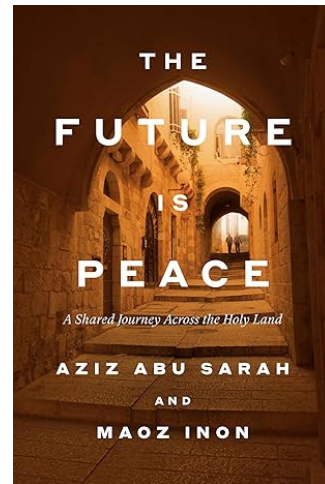
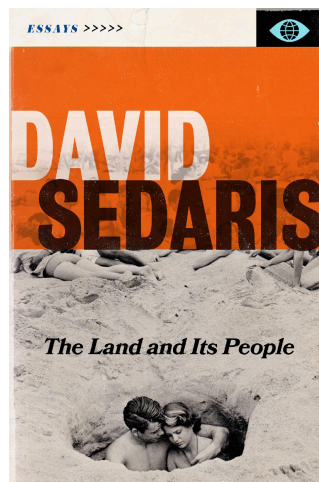
Now I Surrender Alvaro Enrigue

"Now I surrender to you and that is all". These words are attributed to Geronimo at the conclusion of the Apache Wars, fought along the US/Mexican border in the 1880's. In this historical epic Enrigue explores the modern day Southwest, reimagining pivotal events to create an thrilling "alt-Western" story.



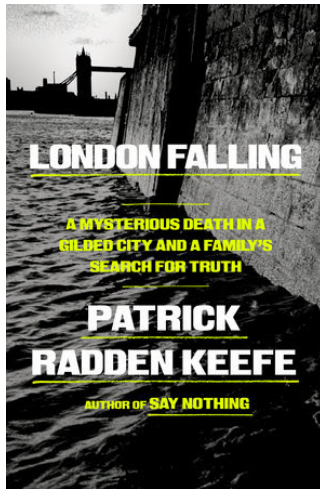
The Land and Its People David Sedaris

Satirist David Sedaris is back with a fresh series of observations about the absurdities of life. In these essays he reflects on topics such as travel and the passage of time with warmth and curiosity. His acerbic and funny essays are why Sedaris is considered one of the most beloved humorists of our time.



The Future is Peace Aziz Abu Sarah and Maoz Inon

Two peace activists, one Palestinian and one Israeli, find brotherhood and common purpose in advocating for peace in the Middle East. The authors were recently interviewed by Jon Stewart on the Daily Show (April 13th) - check it out on YouTube if you want to learn more about this inspiring mission.



London Falling Patrick Radden Keefe

This fascinating work of investigative journalism follows a family's search for the truth behind a young man's death. Along the way they discover a dark underworld beneath London's glamorous mansions and nightclubs. Keefe is the author of several award winning works of non-fiction, including the best seller *Empire of Pain*.



We had a full house last month to hear award winning journalist **Tom Junod** talk about his powerful new memoir, ***In the Days of My Youth I Was Told What it Means to Be a Man***. Author and LA Times Columnist **Gustavo Arellano** moderated the evening. We have lots more events planned this summer....stay tuned!

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