



BEL CANTO BOOKS
read. think. sing.

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Wicked Summah Fun!

July 2019

Greetings from Boston!

Greetings!

We've been on the road this past month, visiting family and friends in our "home away from home," Boston, MA. I spent my formative high school years at Milton Academy, just 20 minutes south of Beantown, and it is always a treat to come back. Especially for a whole month!



We'll be back in Long Beach by mid-July, and in the meantime, I wanted to share some updates about online book ordering, our July events, and all the bookish fun we've been having on the road.

Boston (and New England) is a literary mecca, home to giants like Henry David Thoreau, Louisa May Alcott, and Emily Dickinson, as well as some amazing contemporary writers like Grace Talusan and Lisa Taddeo. Plus it's full of lush parks, picturesque ponds, and dozens of beautiful independent bookstores. If you haven't been (or it's been a while), we hope you find our travel tips and favorites a useful resource.

Hope you've been enjoying the first weeks of summer and can't wait to hear how your long days of reading have been going.

Until next time, read on!

Jhoanna
Avowed Booknerd and Owner/Manager
Bel Canto Books

Upcoming Events - Bring a Friend!

Join Bel Canto Books as We Pop Up All Over Town!



Friday, July 19th
10AM to 2PM

Pop-Up Bookstore at DTLB Farmers' Market

Promenade between
3rd & 5th Street in Downtown LB

Come pick up the best summer
veggies and lunchtime snacks,
along with our latest book
recommendations!
Plenty of free 2 hour parking!



Sunday, July 21st
3PM - 5PM

Friends with Books Book Club at Monks Addiction

7631 Edinger Avenue #1512,
Huntington Beach
(inside of Cheese Addiction at
Bella Terra Shopping Center)

\$35 per person
includes a handpicked book,
wine toast, and samples of
cheesy goodness!

[Register for Book Club!](#)

***Please Register by Monday, July 15th
so we have time to pick just the right book for you!***

A change to online book ordering

In May, we learned that our book wholesale partner, Baker & Taylor, is getting out of the retail bookstore business.

What this means for us is that we will be temporarily unable to offer online book ordering, as Baker & Taylor was the host of our online bookstore. We are in the process of finding a new online bookselling solution, so in the meantime, we'd like to encourage you to continue your support of independent bookstores and buy from your favorite local stores.

Below are a few of our favorite independent bookstores in the Boston

area. You can also search for your local bookstore at [IndieBound.org](https://www.indiebound.org).

Jho's Favorite Bookstores, New England Edition

While we've been in Boston this past month, we've fallen in love over and over again with this area's wealth of independent bookstores. Here's a few favorites:

- **The Silver Unicorn Bookstore**, Acton (Western Mass)
- **Main Street Books**, Orleans (Cape Cod)
- **Trident Booksellers and Cafe**, Boston (Back Bay)



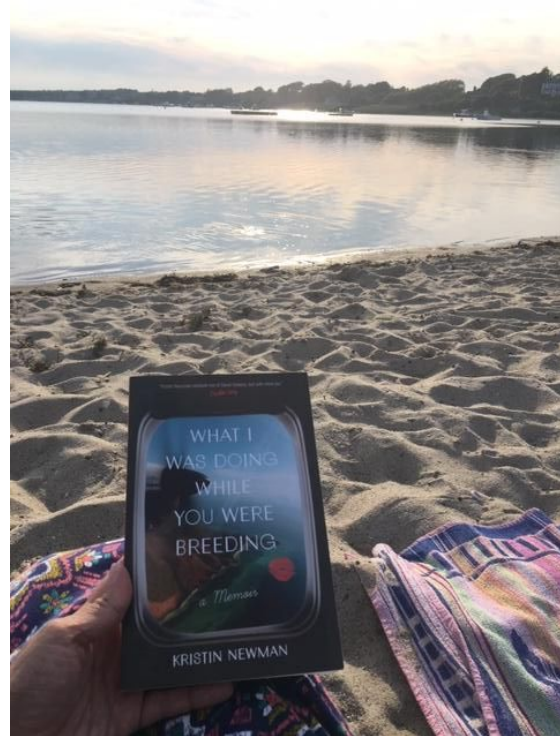
[Visit IndieBound.org!](https://www.indiebound.org)

My Summer of Sloth, aka June Reading Recap

Ah, lazy days of reading!

Is there any summer pastime more delicious than saying no to other people's plans and saying yes to alone time with a great book? For this happy introvert, heck no.

This month, we spent many lazy afternoons in bed (or on the couch or beach) and devoured 13 books! Some were fun, fast reads like *The Oracle Year* by Charles Soule and others were books to sink into and lose time with, like Lisa Taddeo's mind-shattering *Three Women*.

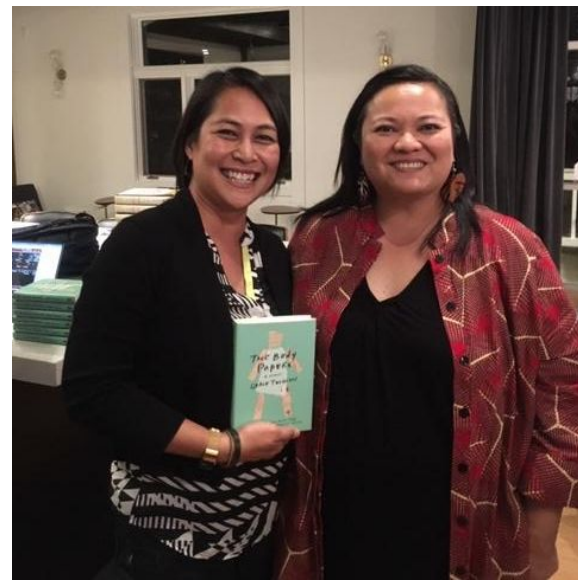
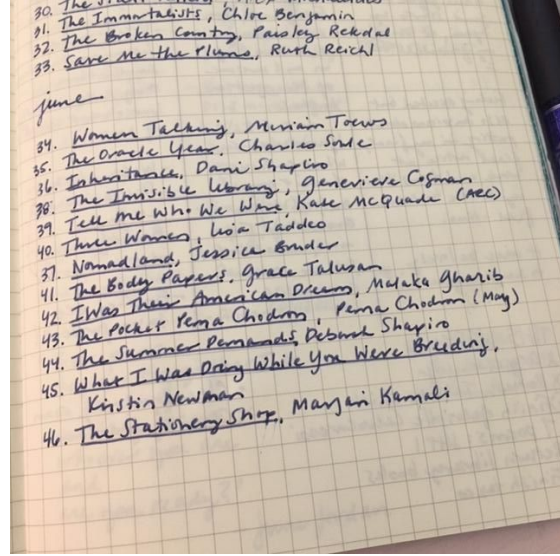


June Reading Recap

13 books in June (46 for the year) including these (mostly nonfiction) favorites:

- *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro, where a cavalier decision to take a DNA test throws the

- author's whole life into chaos
- *Three Women* by Lisa Taddeo, about three women's (very explicit) sexual lives - a book we will all be talking about!
 - *The Body Papers* by Grace Talusan, a beautifully written exploration of belonging, survival, and family
 - *What I Was Doing While You Were Breeding* by Kristin Newman, where Newman chronicles her decision to not "relationship up" and instead travel adventurously for a decade
 - *Nomadland* by Jessica Bruder, where Bruder follows workcampers and vandwellers across the country in search of employment and fulfillment in a society that's left them behind
 - and lastly, *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews, a graceful and stunning novel about a group of Mennonite women deciding their fates after a vicious betrayal is uncovered in their community



Photos, top to bottom: reading on Oyster Pond in Chatham MA, Jho's #52BooksIn52Weeks tracker, with debut author Grace Talusan who dazzled us at the Silver Unicorn's Feast of Fiction dinner at Orange Door Kitchen in Action MA

Summer Travel Tips & Tricks

If you're headed to Boston (or the East Coast) this summer, here's a few things to remember:

- Make dinner reservations (or prepare for hours-long waits).
- Pack sunscreen & insect repellent and remember to wear both AT ALL TIMES.
- Be ready for surprise summer thunderstorms (aka the heavens' unleashing).
- Have the lobster - it's



amazing!

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