What’s On Your Nightstand
Book Recommendations – August 2021

FICTION

Britt-Marie Was Here - Fredrik Backman - a heartwarming and hilarious story of a reluctant outsider who transforms a tiny village and a woman who finds love and second chances in the unlikeliest of places.

Nora Webster - Colm Toibin - widowed by the death of her husband who had rescued her from the stifling world to which she was born, Nora now must navigate grief and fear, while longing to find her own voice

Secret Guests - Benjamin Black - Black imagines what might have transpired had the English royal princesses been dispatched to the Irish countryside during WW II

NONFICTION

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants - Robin Wall Kimmerer - As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Kimmerer embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers.

Blindfold: A Memoir of Capture, Torture, and Enlightenment - Theo Padnos - An award-winning journalist’s extraordinary account of being kidnapped and tortured in Syria by al Qaeda for two years

Cheerful Money: Me, My Family and the Last Days of Wasp Splendor - Tad Friend - Part memoir, part family history, and part cultural study of the long swoon of the American Wasp, Cheerful Money is a captivating examination of a cultural crack-up and a man trying to escape its wreckage.

Committed: Dispatches from a Psychiatrist in Training - Adam Stern - Stern paints sensitive and often touching portraits of his patients, who dealt with everything from paranoia to anorexia to severe depression.

A Journal of the Plague Year - Daniel Defoe - In 1665 the plague swept through London, claiming over 97,000 lives. Daniel Defoe was just five at the time of the plague, but he later called on his own memories, as well as his writing experience, to create this vivid chronicle of the epidemic and its victims.

No Death, No Fear - Comforting Wisdom for Life - Thich Nhat Hanh - the author speaks to the question that has been pondered by almost everyone: What is death?

Perversion of Justice: The Jeffrey Epstein Story - Julie Brown - Brown recounts her uncompromising and risky investigation of Epstein’s underage sex trafficking operation, and the explosive reporting for the Miami Herald that finally brought him to justice while exposing the powerful people and broken system that protected him.

The World According to Mr. Rogers: Important Things to Remember - Fred Rogers - A timeless collection of wisdom on love, friendship, respect, individuality, and honesty from the beloved Mr. Rogers.