What’s On Your Nightstand
Book Recommendations - January 2024

FICTION

**After the Funeral and Other Stories by Tessa Hadley** - In each of these twelve stories, small events have huge consequences.

**Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson** - Inspired by the real blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s, a story of raw courage, fierce strength, and one woman's belief that books can carry us anywhere—even back home.

**Bloody Good Cox by Chris Bartlett** (Woodstock author)- Love, family secrets, vengeance...everything is on the line in this story of competitive rivalry and personal redemption.

**Christ Stopped At Eboli: The Story of a Year by Carlo Levi** - It was to Lucania, a desolate land in southern Italy, that Carlo Levi—a doctor, painter, philosopher, and man of letters—was confined as a political prisoner because of his opposition to Italy’s Fascist government at the start of the Ethiopian war in 1935.

**Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver** - Inspired by Dickens's David Copperfield, Kingsolver takes the literary classic and makes it her own, peering into the present day dark corners in the neglected hollers of Virginia’s Appalachian Mountains.

**It Ends With Us by Colleen Hoover** -Lily, a workaholic with a too-good-to-be-true romance, can’t stop thinking about her first love.

**It Starts With Us by Colleen Hoover** -It started with Atlas, Lily’s first love. This is his side of the story.

**Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan** - Seeking consolation from bereavement, Anthony collects lost objects—the things others have dropped, misplaced, or accidently left behind—and writes stories about them.

**Marigold and Rose by Louise Glück** - Astonishing chronicle of the first year in the life of twin girls told as only a US Poet Laureate can

**The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver** - Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist takes his wife and daughters to a mission in the Belgian Congo in 1959.

**This Other Eden by Paul Hardine** - A novel inspired by the true story of Malaga Island, an isolated island off the coast of Maine that became one of the first racially integrated towns in the Northeast.

**Tom Lake by Ann Patchett** - A mother recounts her past to her daughters who are forced to reconsider the world and everything they thought they knew.
**When the Emperor Was Divine by Julie Otsuka** - A portrait of the Japanese American incarceration camps that is both a haunting evocation of a family in wartime and a resonant lesson for our times.

**Yellowface by R.F. Kuang** - Bestselling sensation Juniper Song is not who she says she is, she didn't write the book she claims she wrote, and she is most certainly not Asian American.

**NONFICTION**

**How the Irish Saved Civilization by Thomas Cahill** - The story of how Europe evolved from the classical age of Rome to the medieval era. Without Ireland, the transition could not have taken place.

**Let's Take the Long Way Home by Gail Caldwell** - A gorgeous memoir about treasuring a best friend and coming of age in midlife... a celebration of the profound transformations that come from intimate connections.

**Solito by Javier Zamora** - A young poet tells the inspiring story of his migration from El Salvador to the United States at the age of nine.

**Tasting History: Explore the Past Through 4000 Years of Recipes by Max Miller**

**Troubles by J.G. Farrell** - This darkly hilarious book about the Irish war for independence takes place in a crumbling hotel on Ireland's west coast, a place where madness and brutality have begun to reign.

**The Wager by David Grann** - A page-turning story of shipwreck, survival, and savagery, culminating in a court martial that reveals a shocking truth.