The Lager Queen of Minnesota
Here we meet a cast of lovable, funny, quintessentially American characters eager to make their mark in a world that’s often stacked against them. In this deeply affecting family saga, resolution can take generations, but when it finally comes, we’re surprised, moved, and delighted.

Recommended if you like: The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin

We Will Tell You Otherwise
Winner of the Hudson Prize in Fiction, We Will Tell You Otherwise is a commanding and powerful debut short story collection. Keenly observed, funny, and occasionally heartbreaking, we meet odd, engaging characters who ask us to listen and to take them seriously. With a compelling range of voice and form, Mayer’s stories offer startling encounters with human nature, compassion, and hope.

Recommended if you like: Runaway by Alice Munro

State: A Team, a Triumph, a Transformation
State is the story of the Niles West high school girls’ basketball team, who would go on to defeat eventual Olympian Jackie Joyner-Kersee’s East St. Louis team in the 1979 Illinois state final. Isaacson shows readers how a group of “tomboys” found themselves and each other, how basketball rescued them from their collective frustrations and troubled homes, and how the experience forever altered the course of their lives.

Recommended if you like: Under the Lights and In the Dark by Gwendolyn Oxenham

The Curse of the Werepenguin
When a mysterious baron sends for orphan Bolt Wattle, the boy hopes to find his parents, but instead gets turned into a werepenguin and has three days to reverse the curse, return to human form, and stop the Baron from taking over the country of Brugaria with his army of mind-controlled penguins.

Recommended if you like: The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart
Ask your local bookseller about these recent Midwest Connections Picks

May

June

July

The Midwest Independent Booksellers Association advances the success of independent bookstores, fosters partnerships that create a strong bookselling and publishing community, and celebrates the vital literary culture of our region.

www.MidwestBooksellers.org