

Kathleen's Recent Reads—June

Fiction

Fellowship Point by Anne Elliott Dark

This classic-style family drama, set in Maine and Philadelphia, follows two lifelong friends in their eighties as they navigate love, loss and unethical developers. The families' Quaker history and Main Line standing were interesting side notes. Perfect for those who prefer their beach reads to be fat and juicy.

Pineapple Street by Jenny Jackson

Another family drama, this one concerning itself with a wealthy New Yorkers (and pondering the age old question of how and why the rich are different from you and me). Sasha has married into the family, but has been kept at arm's length by her in-laws; Darcy, the eldest daughter, finds herself hiding more and more of her life from her family; and Georgiana, the baby of the family in both senses, works for a non-profit and struggles to reconcile her personal and professional lives. Gentle conflict is neatly resolved by the book's end.

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

If you, like me, have (almost) never played a video game in your life, you may be tempted to give this novel about two friends who develop video games a pass. Resist that temptation! This is a beautiful story about creativity, friendship, devotion and love that also manages to be suspenseful and surprising, full of wonder and tenderness.

Audiobooks (available through cloudLibrary)

A Spindle Splintered by Alix E. Harrow

Once upon a time, there lived a young woman suffering from a genetic disorder caused by "corporate malfeasance", who was not expected to live past age 22. She became fascinated with fairy tales and folklore, and with one tale in particular, and so her best friend threw her a Sleeping Beauty-themed 21st birthday party, which launched her into an alternate reality complete with castle and princess. This retelling, by the author of *The Ten Thousand Doors of January*, is sharp and witty, featuring a decidedly feminist slant.

Summer Stage by Meg Mitchell Moore

Movie star Timothy Fleming is persuaded by his ex-wife to return to his childhood home, Block Island, and direct a summer production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, with her in the leading role. Sand, sun, parties, and a peek into the process of mounting a play make this a perfect beach read (or listen), while the family dynamics of Timothy, his sister and his niece lend weight to the story.

Killers of a Certain Age by Deanna Rayburn

As a team of retired female assassins works to discover who has ordered a hit on them, the story moves back in time to allow a glimpse into their origins. Fast-paced and suspenseful, with a strong thread of humor.