

May 15, 2019

Dear Friend of the WNBA,

The spring is an exciting time for the WNBA. Every June, chapter and committee members meet in a different chapter city for our national board meeting. This year is especially exciting as we are honoring our [WNBA Award](#) winner at the WNBA Award Ceremony, an event we host every other year.



In 2019, we voted to give the award to Lisa Lucas, the Executive Director of the [National Book Foundation](#). She's the first woman and the first African American to lead the organization. Her advocacy for books, literacy, and writing makes her the perfect candidate for the award, and I am thrilled that she will be joining us on June 8 in Washington, D.C., to receive the award.

As a long-time fan of Lucas and the vital work she does to bring literature to life for people who lack access to writing and books, I know this award is well-deserved.

If you're in the area, we would love for you to join us! View the invitation and [RSVP \(by May 28\)](#).

We're looking forward to celebrating with you!

Sincerely,

**Rachelle Yousuf (Los Angeles)**  
President, Women's National Book Association (WNBA)  
[president@wnba-books.org](mailto:president@wnba-books.org)

Thank You, Nicole!

After five years on the *Bookwoman* staff, [Nicole Ayers](#) (Charlotte) has stepped down.

I [interviewed Nicole](#) for the [Bookwoman Blog](#) about her time with *The Bookwoman* and her new plans.



We thank Nicole for her dedication to the *Bookwoman* and to the WNBA. We look forward to following her future endeavors.

Thank you, Nicole!

## Book Ideas for New Grads

By Tina Ollenburg (Charlotte)

We are officially entering graduation season for high school and college students alike, so I thought I'd share some book gift ideas. Some of the choices are in the vein of advice or life lessons and others are just good stories that the grad might enjoy for a little fun.

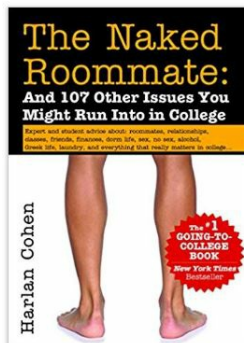


**For High School Graduates:**



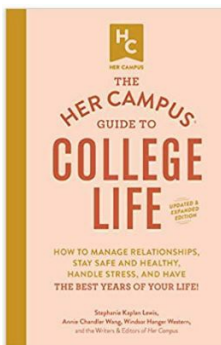
**[Fangirl](#) by Rainbow Rowell**

*Fangirl* follows Cath as she navigates her freshman year of college, from classes to boys to family. This bestselling new adult novel resonates with current college students (and is a fun read for the rest of us). Funny and sweet, the story deals with a number of challenges any high schooler might face as they leave home for the first time.



**[The Naked Roommate](#) by Harlan Cohen**

Dorm life is vastly different from life at home with the parents. This bestseller helps new college students adjust to life on campus. Look for the most recent 7th edition. Cohen has compiled advice to help freshman, from tons of actual college students on everything from classes to, well, dealing with the naked roommate.



**[The Her Campus Guide to College Life](#) by Stephanie Kaplan Lewis, Annie Chandler Wang, and Windsor Hanger Western**

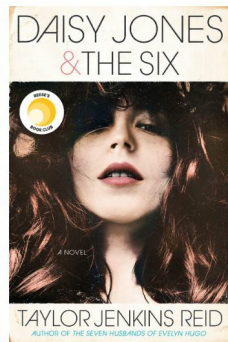
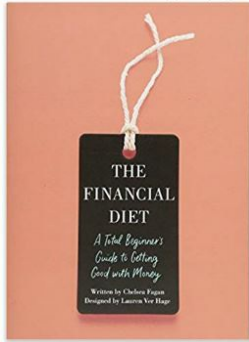
Geared toward young women, this is another all-around guide to navigating college life. Re-released in an updated version this spring, the guide contains social media advice and checklists. *Her Campus* is also a website/blog with college chapter sites across the country, so it's a community that goes beyond the book.

**For College Graduates:**

**[The Financial Diet](#) by Chelsea Fagan and Lauren Ver Hage**

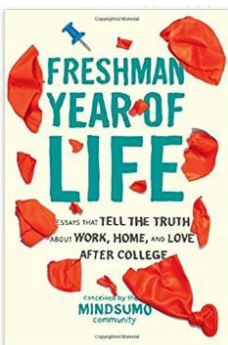
With entry-level salaries and student loans, what college grad

couldn't use a little financial advice? Born out of a popular YouTube series, this book offers approachable ways to organize your spending and create a budget to help you reach your financial goals. The book is geared to people in their 20s, with general everyday advice, including outfitting your kitchen (because eating out adds up!).



### **Daisy Jones & The Six by Taylor Jenkins Reid**

After all those finals and interviews, maybe it's time for the college grad to unwind with a rock 'n' roll summer read. Told through interchanging interviews with the bandmates, this is a fictional account of the rise and fall of a 1970s rock band. The audio version includes a cast of voices played by famous actors, so it could make the perfect entertainment for any grad's new commute to the office.



### **Freshman Year of Life by Mindsumo**

This is a collection of essays by millennial writers with advice on how to approach work, love, and everything in between. The essays tell personal stories about the challenges and new experiences these writers faced in their first years out of college. A perfect reminder for the new college grad that they are not alone.

Congratulations to all graduates!

## ***The Bookwoman Blog Roundup***

**By Tina Ollenburg (Charlotte)**

The [Bookwoman Blog](#) publishes new content weekly.

Email [TheBookwomanWNBA@gmail.com](mailto:TheBookwomanWNBA@gmail.com) if you'd like to be featured in an interview or write a guest blog post for us.



**Here's a roundup of recent blog posts:**

Audrey Webster (NYC) discusses the various ways [reading affects \(and improves\) our brains](#).

[Is blogging the right choice for you?](#) Linda Lee (SF) provides some tips on starting a blog and building an audience for your writing.

Nicole Ayers (Charlotte) has edited hundreds of manuscripts for her clients. She talks about how becoming a writer herself helped [expand her](#)

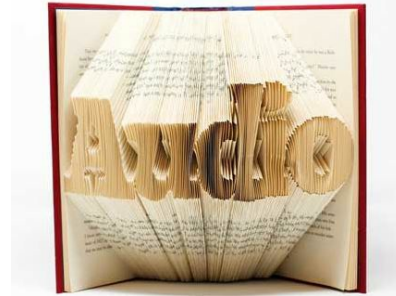
## empathy as an editor.



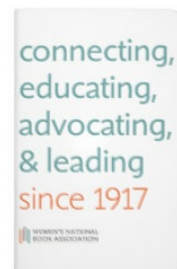
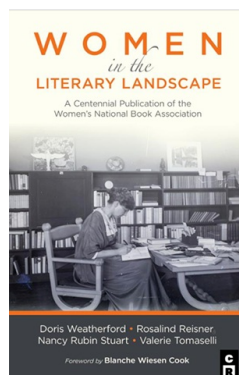
With the rise of audiobooks, Diana Giovinazzo (LA) reexamines her initial dislike for the format and comes up with some surprising conclusions.

WNBA members from chapters across the country share their news and accomplishments.

Cleyvis Natera (NYC) learned the hard way that reading heals a broken heart.



## Easy Ways to Support the WNBA



Buy a copy of *Women in the Literary Landscape!*

“Brilliantly written and researched . . . every page is filled with surprises, enchantments, and exciting new information of significance.”  
—From the foreword by Blanche Wiesen Cook, *Eleanor Roosevelt Vol. 1-3.*

Keep your lists in order with the *WNBA Pocket Journal!*

This compact WNBA Centennial pocket journal is perfect to jot down to-do lists or reminders while you're out and about.

15% off with code **ZMAYYAYDEALS**

Donate to the WNBA

Become a WNBA Member

## *The Bookwoman Staff*

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**Newsletter Managing Editor:** Tina Ollenburg (Charlotte)

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