

BOOKS

“I had to practice as if I were a very gifted student but without much insight.”

GERALD ELIAS | Author of “Devil’s Trill,” on portraying a young prodigy in the audiobook of his mystery novel

BEST-SELLERS

This week’s Publishers Weekly best-sellers.

Hardcover fiction

1. **House of Spies** » Daniel Silva. Harper, \$28.99
2. **Camino Island** » John Grisham. Doubleday Books, \$28.95
3. **Murder Games** » James Patterson. Little Brown & Co., \$28
4. **Into the Water** » Paula Hawkins. Riverhead Books, \$28
5. **Use of Force** » Brad Thor. Atria Books, \$27.99
6. **The Duchess** » Danielle Steel. Delacorte Press, \$28.99
7. **A Gentleman in Moscow** » Amor Towles. Viking, \$27
8. **The Identicals** » Elin Hilderbrand. Little Brown & Co., \$28
9. **Tom Clancy Point of Contact** » Mike Maden. G.P. Putnam’s Sons, \$29
10. **Seven Stones to Stand or Fall: A Collection of Outlander Fiction** » Diana Gabaldon. Delacorte Press, \$30

Hardcover nonfiction

1. **Rediscovering Americanism: And the Tyranny of Progressivism** » Mark R. Levin. Threshold Editions, \$27
2. **Astrophysics for People in a Hurry** » Neil Degraffe Tyson. W.W. Norton & Co., \$18.95
3. **The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck: A Counterintuitive Approach to Living a Good Life** » Mark Manson. HarperOne, \$24.99
4. **Dangerous** » Milo Yiannopoulos. Dangerous Books, \$30
5. **Al Franken, Giant of the Senate** » Al Franken. Twelve, \$28
6. **The Swamp: Washington’s Murky Pool of Corruption and Cronyism and How Trump Can Drain It** » Eric Bolling. St. Martin’s Press, \$26.99
7. **Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life... and Maybe the World** » William H. McRaven. Grand Central Publishing, \$18
8. **Understanding Trump** » Newt Gingrich, Eric Trump. Center Street, \$27
9. **Bill O’Reilly’s Legends and Lies: The Civil War** » David Fisher. Henry Holt & Co., \$35
10. **Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy** » Sheryl Sandberg, Adam Grant. Knopf Publishing Group, \$25.95

Mass market

1. **The Whistler** » John Grisham. Dell, \$9.99
2. **Chaos** » Patricia Cornwell. William Morrow & Co., \$9.99
3. **See Me** » Nicholas Sparks. Vision, \$7.99
4. **Missing** » James Patterson, Kathryn Fox. Vision, \$9.99
5. **Serenity Harbor** » RaeAnne Thayne. HarlequinBooks, \$7.99
6. **The Husband’s Secret** » Liane Moriarty. Berkley Books, \$9.99
7. **High Stakes**. » Fern Michaels. Zebra, \$7.99
8. **Night School: A Jack Reacher Novel** » Lee Child. Dell, \$9.99
9. **The Gunslinger** » Stephen King. Pocket Books, \$9.99
10. **The Jensen Brand** » William W. Johnstone, J.A. Johnstone. Pinnacle Books, \$7.99

Trade paperback

1. **The Woman in Cabin 10** » Ruth Ware. Gallery/Scout Press, \$16
2. **Lilac Girls** » Martha Hall Kelly. Ballantine Books, \$17
3. **Behind Closed Doors** » B.A. Paris. St. Martin’s Griffin, \$16.99
4. **All the Light We Cannot See** » Anthony Doerr. Scribner Book Company, \$17
5. **The Whistler** » John Grisham. Bantam, \$17
6. **Never Never** » James Patterson, Candice Fox. Grand Central Publishing, \$15.99
7. **The Couple Next Door** » Shari Lapena. Penguin Books, \$16
8. **The Official SAT Study Guide, 2018 Edition** » The College Board, \$28.99
9. **All the Missing Girls** » Megan Miranda. Simon & Schuster, \$16
10. **The Chemist** » Stephenie Meyer. Back Bay Books, \$16.99

Making murder sing

Audiobook » The violin becomes a character as author Gerald Elias spices up “Devil’s Trill.”

By CATHERINE REESE NEWTON
The Salt Lake Tribune

Gerald Elias is a professional violinist, composer, conductor and mystery novelist. Now the retired Utah Symphony associate concertmaster can add “actor” to his résumé. Elias’ playing is integrated in the new audiobook of his debut novel, “Devil’s Trill,” and the author said he endeavored to give each violinist character a distinct sound.

For example, his protagonist, blind violinist-turned-sleuth Daniel Jacobus, hears one of his rival’s students playing a Paganini concerto in a master class at Carnegie Hall. “She plays with dazzling technique for someone her age, but not much idea of what to do musically,” Elias said. “I had to practice as if I were a very gifted student but without much insight.” Along the same lines, he had Yumi Shinagawa, the student who becomes one of Jacobus’ crime-solving sidekicks, play differently as a result of Jacobus’ mentorship.

The novel’s prologue features a diminutive 17th-century virtuoso known as Il Piccolino, whose unique three-quarter-size Stradivarius proves central to the plot. “He has to improvise something, while undressed in a very cold room, for his lover,” Elias said. “At one point I said, ‘We don’t really have to have Piccolino play something,’ then I thought, ‘Why not?’” So he wrote a short piece “that could represent late 17th-century music, but sound improvised; somewhat sad, but also beguiling.” He tuned down his violin a half-step “to sound like a Baroque fiddle.”

Elias said he and his agent were frustrated by years of “noncommittal replies” from producers to whom they pitched their idea of a musical audiobook of “Devil’s Trill,” which was published in 2009. His public readings always included musical excerpts, and he shared more on his website, but that was an unsatisfying compromise.

Then, at a reading last year near his summer home in West Stockbridge, Mass., the opportunity he’d dreamed of fell into his lap. Alison Larkin, an actor, comedian and audiobook producer, walked into the bookshop and was intrigued by what she heard.

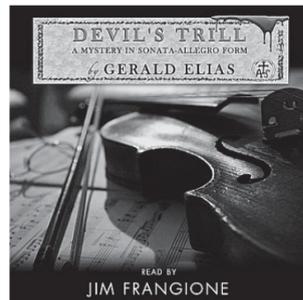
In a phone chat from London, Larkin said she was surprised “Devil’s Trill” hadn’t been made into an audiobook already. The project was right in line with her mission to “bring something different to something that’s been done before,” such as adding songs from Regency England to a recording of “Pride and Prejudice” or poems by a teenage Jane Austen to “Persuasion.”

Larkin hired Jim Frangione, winner of several Earphones Awards from Audiofile Magazine, to narrate



LEAH HOGSTEN | The Salt Lake Tribune

Violinist Gerald Elias has integrated his playing in the new audiobook of his debut mystery novel, “Devil’s Trill.”



“Devil’s Trill”

By Gerald Elias
Read by Jim Frangione, with violinist Gerald Elias
Alison Larkin Presents
Running time » 12 hours, 12 minutes
Price » \$24.95; alisonlarkinpresents.com
Note » \$5 from every purchase made on Larkin’s site will benefit the Stockbridge Sinfonia; an October reading in Salt Lake City will benefit Citizens Climate Lobby

“Devil’s Trill.” “We had long discussions before he read a word,” Elias said. He was delighted to discover that Frangione already knew a thing or two about music and needed hardly any help with the “many weird names and musical terms” in the novel.

“He doesn’t want to make it a stage play with different voices, he just modulates his voice very subtly to convey the nuances of personality and character,” Elias said. The violinist didn’t want to upstage the reader, either. When choosing the excerpts, less was more.

“We have the music played in real time and weave it in in such a way that the listener hears the music that is so integral to the story, without having it interrupt the enjoyment of the book,” the author said. “There

are times when I start an excerpt for 10 or 20 seconds, then Jim Frangione starts to read again and the music gradually fades into the background. You hear both, but you hear the reader very clearly.”

“The music provides clues,” Larkin said. “That brings an added dimension of excitement to the work. ... We’re absolutely delighted to be doing something really new.” Larkin said Frangione has signed on to narrate “Danse Macabre,” the second book in the Jacobus series. “I like to move very quickly,” she said, so she hopes the audiobook will be available by Christmas. If all goes well, she plans to record the entire series, whose sixth installment, “Spring Break,” will be published Tuesday.

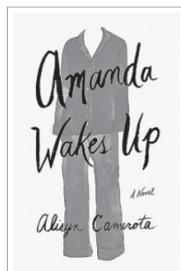
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An energetic look at life of an ambitious anchor

By LINCÉE RAY
The Associated Press

If anyone has the talent to write an innovative narrative about the realities of working at a popular cable-news station, it’s Alisyn Camerota. As a correspondent and anchor for multiple major news outlets throughout her career, Camerota’s experience enables the reader to enjoy an eye-opening behind-the-scenes look at broadcast journalism in her debut novel, “Amanda Wakes Up.”

Amanda Gallo’s dream is to be a hard-hitting journalist at a legitimate cable news station. When media mogul Benji Diggs notices her spunk and gumption, he invites Amanda to leave her local station to join him for a coveted morning co-anchor slot



“Amanda Wakes Up”

By Alisyn Camerota
Viking
Pages » 336
Price » \$26

at FAIR News. In a matter of weeks, Amanda has the salary, the wardrobe and the respect she’s always wanted.

What Amanda didn’t expect was a reality check on her willingness to substitute integrity for ratings. With an election year coming up, she swells with pride that FAIR News is the only morning show that tackles issues from both sides.

Unfortunately, the producers have a different viewpoint.

Former Hollywood wildcard presidential candidate Victor Fluke is a right-wing joke. He’s also ratings gold. Amanda understands her boss’ affinity for the obnoxious man, but shouldn’t the left-wing candidate also be allowed to have her voice heard on FAIR? And why is her co-anchor, the annoying

yet incredibly handsome Rob Lahr, incapable of challenging any of the guests from Fluke’s political party?

Amanda decides to take matters into her own hands. As her personal life and career begin to unravel around her, she faces the biggest story of her life. Will she do what she knows is right in her heart? Or what is easy in order to expand her career?

“Amanda Wakes Up” is an energetic and sometimes surprising look at the life of an ambitious news anchor. Readers’ loyalties will swing back and forth as different characters’ perspectives are introduced into the story line. At its core, the novel offers a lot of comedy, a touch of romance and a healthy dose of what it means to weigh ambition against truth.

LITERARY NOTES

Compiled by
Ana Daraban

Happy birthday, Harry

The Salt Lake City Public Library will celebrate Harry Potter’s birthday with a day of games, contests and activities. Attendees are encouraged to bring a pair of new socks to donate to the House Elf Sock Drive to benefit the Volunteers of America.

When » Monday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Where » Salt Lake City Main Library, 210 E. 400 South

Tickets » Free; slcpl.org/harrypotter

File under fire

Fernanda Santos, author of “The Fire Line,” will discuss her book, which looks at the rising costs and risks associated with wildfires, as well as the people who fight them. Santos covers Arizona and New Mexico as the Phoenix bureau chief for The New York Times.

When » Monday, 7 p.m.

Where » The King’s English Bookshop, 1511 S. 1500 East, Salt Lake City

Tickets » Free; kingsenglish.com

Rumi club

The Rumi Poetry Club espouses spiritual poetry.

When » Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Where » Anderson-Foothill Branch Library, 1135 S. 2100 East, Salt Lake City

Tickets » Free

Unbound

Books and Bridges will present Jared Hickman and his discussion on the mythmaking of race, religion and slavery in “Black Prometheus.”

When » Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Where » Weller Book Works, 607 Trolley Square, Salt Lake City

Tickets » Free

Comedic Cambodia

Novelist and indie theater veteran Randy Ross will discuss his comedy novel, “God Bless Cambodia,” and read and perform scenes from the book.

When » Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Where » Weller Book Works, 607 Trolley Square, Salt Lake City

Tickets » Free

Mystery history

As part of the Authors in the Round workshop series, Johnny Worthen presents a workshop on the history of the mystery genre.

When » Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Where » Holladay Library, 2150 E. Murray-Holladay Road (4730 South)

Tickets » Free; skolibrary.org/authorevents

Soldier’s story

Keely Hutton will participate in a Skype discussion about her new YA novel, “Soldier Boy.”

When » Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Where » The King’s English Bookshop, 1511 S. 1500 East, Salt Lake City

Tickets » Free

Write on

The Salt Lake Community College Community Writing Center presents workshops on the basics of creative writing. All levels welcome.

When » Thursday, 6-8 p.m.

Where » Community Writing Center, 210 E. 400 South, Salt Lake City

Tickets » \$30