

# SPRING READING



## *The Boy in the Suitcase / by Lene Kaaberbol (F)*

The Boy in the Suitcase gives us a peek into the dark and desperate side of human nature. A slow start helps build suspense and intrigue among four separate lives, all of which are masterfully interwoven as the story unfolds. An unsuspecting, Nina Borg, agrees to retrieve a suitcase for an estranged friend. When she finds a small boy curled up, naked and drugged inside, her life is thrown into chaos. In an uncharted trek across Demark, Nina tries to stay one step ahead of danger as she learns the boy's identity, where he belongs and why he was left as baggage inside a train station locker. This story is fast-paced with lots of twists and turns that deliver an unexpected surprise ending. *Reviewed by Sherrie Van Dyk*

## *The Chimps of Fauna Sanctuary: A Canadian Story of Resilience and Recovery / by Andrew Westoll (NF)*

Torontonian Andrew Westoll looks at the fate of research animals in this touching and sometimes haunting book, which reads more like biography than biology. Portraits of Fauna chimps Binky ("the Bub"), Tom, and Rachel are drawn as closely as those of refuge founder Gloria Grow and her human family. Grow likens Fauna to a mental hospital, prison, old folks' home, daycare centre, and deli during lunchtime rush. Westoll describes the sometimes-deafening noise and outhouse smell. The fact that these profoundly traumatized animals still are curious, mischievous, and playful says much about the love shown by Grow and her staff. This book is a finalist for the 2012 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction. *Reviewed by Mary Land*

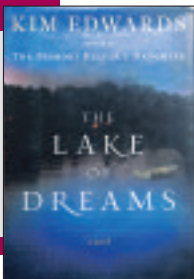


## *Falling Backwards: a Memoir / by Jann Arden (NF)*

Get ready for a shockingly honest flashback in time as a genuinely sincere and witty Jann Arden opens up about events in her past others seldom share. Arden holds nothing back as she relives her childhood adventures, fears and often-misguided path towards becoming the wonderfully grounded and truly entertaining Canadian singer/songwriter she is today. Written as though she's sitting across from you on the couch, readers will delight in her candid outlook on life, her secret she keeps hidden in the basement and her painful struggle to reach stardom. Arden's bond with family is her anchor throughout the book and readers are sure to find her story compelling and captivating. *Reviewed by Sherrie Van Dyk*

## *A Good Catch: Sustainable Seafood Recipes from Canada's Top Chefs / by Jill Lambert (NF)*

Many Canadians enjoy seafood and the health benefits of eating fish but are concerned about the world's oceans. Jill Lambert has written an informative guide to help seafood lovers make better choices. Lambert begins with a section on cooking, preparing and storing seafood. This is followed by almost 100 recipes from Canada's top chefs, including such diverse selections as: cornmeal-crusting calamari, maple-sake Northern pike and the classic cedar-planked salmon with soy ginger glaze. Lambert includes an informative chapter about making sustainable choices such as when to buy farmed or wild, as well as a species by species sustainability guide. Although less than 200 pages, this easy-to-read cookbook has great ideas and good information. *Reviewed by Mary Baxter*



## *The Lake of Dreams by Kim Edwards (F)*

Written by the author of The Memory Keeper's Daughter, The Lake of Dreams is a poignant story about a young woman named Lucy Jarrett who returns to her childhood home to visit the family she hasn't seen in years. She learns her brother, who has joined her uncle's business, is preparing to sell some of the family property to developers- a controversial decision. Lucy reconnects with an old boyfriend, glass-blower Keegan Fall. Still haunted by her father's untimely death when she was a teen, Lucy finds herself researching her family's mysterious past, a past that explores first-wave feminism. This story is available in print, as a downloadable digital audiobook and as a downloadable eBook. *Reviewed by Lisa Hunziger*

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