

# ‘33 Place Brugmann’ by Alice Austen selected as the 2026 Waukesha Reads title

WAUKESHA — Waukesha Public Library announced the 2026 Waukesha Reads title as “33 Place Brugmann” by Alice Austen.

Free copies of the novel and event calendars will be available at Waukesha Public Library starting Tuesday, Sept. 8. Community events celebrating the book and its themes will take place throughout October as part of the annual Waukesha Reads program. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of Waukesha Reads, a news release said.

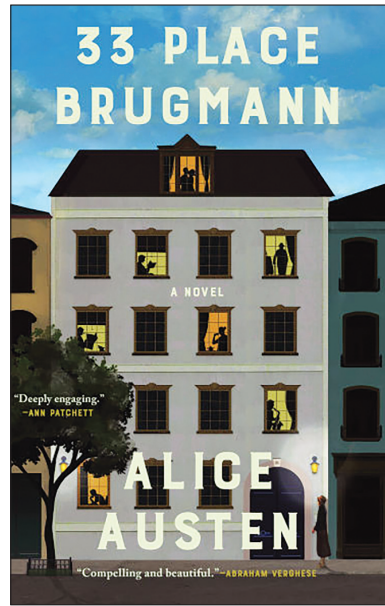
Set in a Brussels apartment building at the outbreak of World War II, “33 Place Brugmann” follows a diverse group of neighbors as they navigate wartime alliances, shifting loyalties, and extraordinary acts of courage during the Nazi occupation of Belgium.

Alice Austen is an American novelist, playwright and screenwriter. She received the John Cassavetes Award for her debut film, “Give Me Liberty,” has been a resident playwright at London’s Royal Court

Theatre, and previously lived on Place Brugmann in Brussels. “33 Place Brugmann” is her first novel. Austen lives in Milwaukee and is currently working on a new film and her next book, the release said.

“Since 2007, Waukesha Public Library has led Waukesha Reads — a community-wide reading initiative meant to broaden the understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. The Library is proud to collaborate with a wide range of local partners, including educational institutions, arts organizations, and area businesses to offer this dynamic program to our community. A variety of events and book discussions will be offered throughout October to reflect different perspectives and to inspire conversation and discovery,” the release said.

For more information about Waukesha Reads, contact the Waukesha Public Library at 262-524-3682 or visit the library at 321 Wisconsin Ave.



Photos courtesy of Waukesha Public Library

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Alice Austen, author of “33 Place Brugmann.”