



THE KING'S ENGLISH BOOKSHOP
MATCHING BOOKS TO READERS SINCE 1977

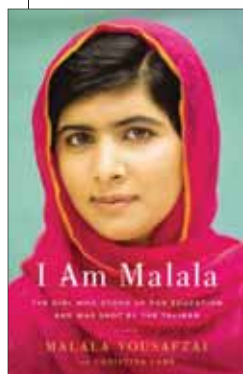
1511 South 1500 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84105
801-484-9100

THE Inkslinger

2013 Holiday Edition



We Are All Malala



When the news came from Afghanistan that a 15-year-old girl had been shot by the Taliban because she claimed she had the right to read, the world took notice. Malala stood up for herself when many men wouldn't have had the courage. And out of that terrible incident, great progress is being made. We believe that educating girls will solve the world's problems,

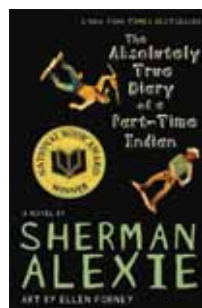
and it's because of the bravery of young girls like Malala that this will happen sooner rather than later. Her story, *I Am Malala*, is out from Little, Brown (\$26). The book, along with Pat Bagley's cartoon, may be the best present of the season. Join us at our holiday party on **Thursday, December 5**, when Pat will sign copies of the cartoon for all the smart girls in your life and everyone else on your list.

Booksellers And Authors Team Up On November 30, Small Business Saturday, For Indies First!

Customers of The King's English are aware of Local First Utah and of the importance of shopping locally to support our community. But this season there's a similar national initiative afoot—**Indies First**—a campaign focused on those independent bookstores in each state that are local to their communities.



Here's how it works: on November 30, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, as an antidote to the chain mania of "Black Friday" the preceding day—booksellers *and* authors are joining forces to make shopping in local bookstores an unforgettable experience. How? By having an author (or two or three) in every independent bookstore in America working behind the counter and on the floor recommending their favorite books to you!



Indies First started with a challenge to fellow authors from Sherman Alexie, that iconic rebel, author extraordinaire and longtime champion of indie bookstores, which in part read: "We book nerds will become booksellers. We will make recommendations... I think

Continued on page 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



November 30: Small Business Saturday
Discounts from us and from AMEX—and authors (including Josh Hanagarne, the world's strongest librarian) all day all around the store.



Annual Holiday Party!
Thursday, December 5, 5–7 p.m.
Special guests this year will be Pat Bagley, Shannon Hale, and Neal Shusterman. **Books and gifts will be 20% off during this annual tradition.**



The Pioneer Woman Returns

Ree Drummond will be here on **Tuesday, December 3rd at 6 p.m.** to sign her beautiful new cookbook, *The Pioneer Woman Cooks: A Year of Holidays*.



Books & Bagels

Join our booksellers at **9 a.m. on Sunday, December 8th** for a look at what's new for the holidays. Take 20% off your purchases and we'll wrap and mail for you too!



The Rosie Project

Saturday, December 7, 7 p.m.
Graeme Simsion will read from and sign, the funniest book of the year, *The Rosie Project*.

And a special *Cat in the Hat* storytime on Thursday, December 5 at 7 p.m. with the actors from Salt Lake Acting Company!



The Novel Cure



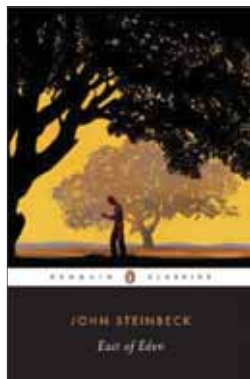
By Anne Holman

There is no shortage of self-help books out in the world but at TKE we've always found fiction to be the soundest cure for what ails us. So here's your chance; what novel have you turned to in times of trial and tribulation? While we're waiting for your answers, which we'd love to print in our next *Inkslinger*, here are some of ours:

Novel Cures Recommended by TKE Booksellers:

DAWNANN OWENS

There is a magnet on my fridge with a painting of a woman reading, which says: "In her book were the answers to life's difficult questions. Plus a lot of sex." That's my novel cure—a work of fiction that manages, through make-believe, to tell the truth about the human condition and provide some fun along the way. One book I return to again and again for the answers to life's difficult questions is *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck. I love the wisdom I encounter every time I read it. It seems to contain all of the struggles and triumphs of humanity, plus one of the most amoral and delicious characters to be found in all of literature.

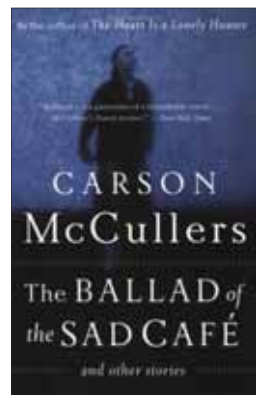


NATHAN SPOFFORD

In the midst of a horrific divorce, one is bound to shed some tears. Fortunately, David Sedaris wrote *Me Talk Pretty One Day*. So while I did indeed shed tears, Sedaris ensured at least some of those tears were from laughter.

DAWN HOUGHTON

Carson McCuller's short story, "The Sojourner" from her collected works (also appears in the *Ballad of the Sad Cafe* collection). A man travels from



Paris to the U.S. to attend his father's funeral. In NYC, from a cafe window, the man sees his ex-wife pass by. The story portrays both former and present romantic love with ache and tenderness. A story to read when one wants to feel at peace with a complicated past, or regret, or longing.

JAMIE ORTWEIN

I don't really read books over and over; I usually choose music or films for this "cure" you speak of. However as a kid, we would go to the library and check out stacks upon stacks to take home. You know what, that book, you know the one, that *To Kill a Mockingbird*, yeah, I remember reading that and hoping that people like Atticus Finch really did exist in the world. I guess that is a "cure" of some sort. What can I say, I am a cliché.



SALLY LARKIN

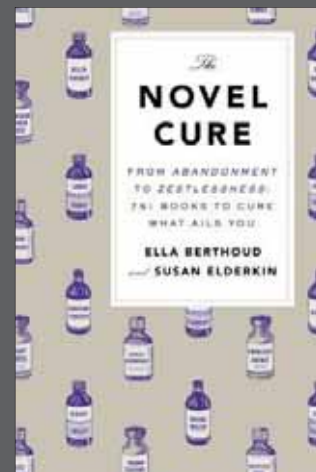
I have a child with disabilities. He is wonderful, but the day-to-day can be relentless. Sometimes I need to be reminded of the humor and insights people with differences provide. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *Emma Jean Lazarus Fell Out of a Tree* (a children's book) and a new release, *The Rosie Project* help me to refocus on the quirkiness and the pleasure of these amazing individuals.

MEAGAN GONSALVES

The Razor's Edge by Somerset Maugham is a great book for the existential "what-should-I-do-with-my-life?" moments I have.

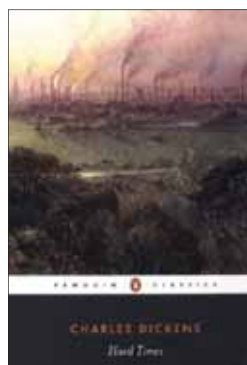
The Novel Cure: From Abandonment to Zestlessness 751 Books to Cure What Ails You, Ella Berthoud and Susan Elderkin

It is clear that a book is going to be a hit when the copies ordered for the store disappear before the book can even be put on the shelf. Thus was the case with *The Novel Cure*, a book for any book lover on your Christmas (or any other holiday or just-because) list. Written by two women who became friends at Cambridge 25 years ago, it discusses not only physical ailments but also those that affect our souls and suggests books that address each particular condition. No matter how well-read one might be, there are new discoveries for each of us in this brilliantly conceived and executed book. As many of us at the bookstore know, sometimes we only need to settle in with the right book and take the time to read it to cure what ails us. – Jan Sloan, Penguin Press, \$26.95



WENDY FOSTER LEIGH

A few years ago *The Guardian* had an article about the use of book groups (fiction especially) as therapy. They made the case that living life through fiction allowed a person a chance to experience various solutions to problems. My re-read book is Dickens' *Hard Times* as it is the conflict between the practical and the "circus people." In a strange way it is a mystery and leaves me happy because imagination wins.



SUE FLEMING

There is nothing like a great murder to cheer me up. The most recent of my favorites is *The Crocodile* by Maurizio De Giovanni. Mysteries get my mind off other more pressing matters and chal-



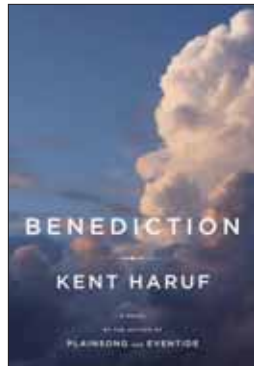
The Novel Cure



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most to offer to others, and yet who is labeled by such terms as “retard,” and is frequently made to feel an outsider by people who should know better. In one of the most significant books of our time Solomon takes his own experience, his parents’ confusion of illness and identity when considering his gayness, and extrapolates to other obvious differences of identity (whether due to genes, accident or environment). He interviews countless people whose stories are utterly unforgettable, stories that emphasize what makes us who we are and teach parents the importance of seeing, respecting and loving who their *children* are. It’s a momentous book, brilliant, paradigm shifting, and brimming with compassion. It changed the way I view not just my children but the world, and it gave me faith that what is most pernicious in our society—our hatred of “other,” driven by our fear of what we don’t know—could change.

Of course I can’t leave it there, I have to include new novels in my notion of novel cures so: the cure for a fear of death, *Benediction* by the brilliantly plainspoken Kent Haruf; it might be said that death is the main character in this vastly compassionate book. The cure for a literal mind, *Life After Life* by Kate Atkinson which eradicates the notion that life is simple or that we



have but one path to take. The cure for racism, the big, bruising debut novel *The Lion Seeker* by Kenneth Bonnert. The cure for sadness, *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion, guaranteed to make you cry—because you’re laughing so hard. And finally, not new, but guaranteed to freshen your perspective and



remind you that humor and malice can (and do) co-exist in our world, anything by Austen or Trollope (well, not anything by Trollope, he did write a few stinkers—but almost anything). And the cure for despair, murder mysteries, which make sense of the senseless, punish the guilty (only happens in fiction) and bring order to the universe.

2013 TKE Custom Cloisonné Ornament



We love it and hope you will too.
\$40, quantities are limited.



SMALL BUSINESS
SATURDAY
NOV 30

15% OFF ALL WEEK
NOV. 29–DEC. 6
FRIDAY TO FRIDAY



THE KING'S ENGLISH BOOKSHOP

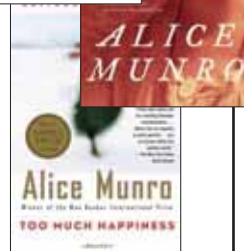


PHOTO: ifouang



Dear Alice

When Alice Munro, the Canadian author noted for her short story collections, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, I, as one who has driven to Canada from northern Idaho in order to obtain her latest collection of stories, couldn't have been more pleased. She has been called “the master of short stories” and “our Chekhov.” Both of these descriptions are apropos, but they do not come close to describing her ability to flesh out her characters in such a short amount of space, presenting ordinary lives in an extraordinary way in the process. Her stories deal with aspects of life that can be both humorous and breathtakingly sad, although one is never left with a feeling of hopelessness. She is an absolute master at distilling the psychological drama of human nature in concise form. According to Ms. Munro, her latest book, *Dear Life* (Vintage, \$15.95), will be her last. How sad for us.



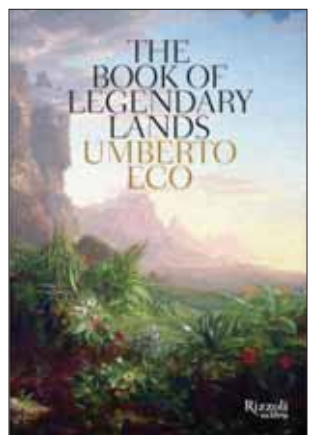
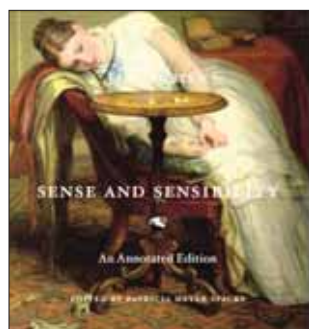
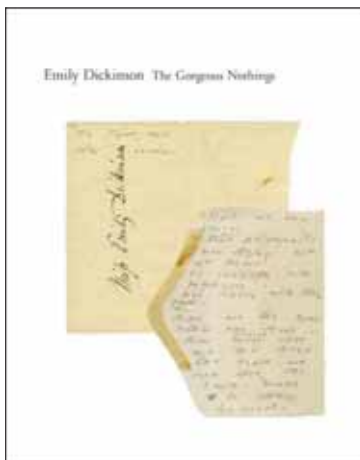
by Jan Sloan



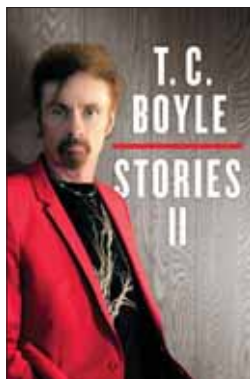
Large Lovely Books for Your Loved Ones

by Betsy Burton

There are, as always this time of year, books that take lavish looks at the things we love, perfect as gifts for the people we love. For the poet you adore, a one-of-a-kind, once-in-a-lifetime publishing event: ***The Gorgeous Nothings: Emily Dickinson's Envelope Poems*** by Emily Dickinson (New Directions, \$39.95). These truly are envelope poems in the sense that Dickinson, like many writers, jotted ideas on envelopes, and this deluxe edition presents some of her experimental late work exactly as she wrote it on scraps of envelopes, reproduced life-size in full color both front and back, with an accompanying transcription. Artist Jen Bervin and Dickinson scholar Marta L. Werner have illuminated the work of Emily Dickinson in new ways—especially since no other facsimile editions exist. For Austen lovers (and there are many of us abroad in the world), ***Sense and Sensibility: An Annotated Edition***, by Jane Austen, annotations by Patricia Mayer Spacks (Belknap Press, \$35) or the previously published Belknap



aghessan Boyle, Volume II by T.C. Boyle (Viking, \$45) which contains mordant, ironic, sometimes tragic sometimes farcical tales written over the last 18 years, all possessed of the signature wit and anger and intelligence—not to mention insanely exquisite prose—of one of the major writers of our time.



Wit and Whimsy

Speaking of mordant wit and the wildly subversive, ***This Land Was Made for You and Me (But Mostly Me): Billionaires in the Wild*** by David Letterman with illustrations by Bruce McCall will have you laughing out loud and also wondering out loud if any of the preposterous scenarios are real. Does the 1% really behave like this? (Blue Rider, \$25.95)

And anyone with a sense of humor will love a freshly minted paperback copy of the completely updated version of ***The Onion Book of Known Knowledge: a Definitive Encyclopedia of Existing Information*** (Little Brown, and Company, \$20) which, according to our sources at *The Onion*, “Contains the sum total of mankind’s knowledge, with entries for all 27 letters of the alphabet. Instant collectability: This will be the very last book ever printed. The perfect gift book for mom, dad, family

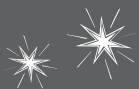


pet.” And finally, on the subject of pets, ***The Big New Yorker Book of Cats*** has a forward by Anthony Lane and if it’s true (as it says on page 181) that “All you really need in life is the love of a good cat.” then you will want to put this on your list of must-haves for the holidays. Filled with cartoons, covers, essays and fiction about our feline friends, this is, according to Anne Holman, the book to leave on your coffee table to explain you and your cat’s behavior; because the only thing better than a cat? Another cat. (Random House, \$40)

The Wonderful World of Art

For the more serious—and artistically inclined—person on your list, perhaps the most gorgeous new gift this year is the lavish and lovely ***The Vatican: All the Paintings: The Complete Collection of Old Masters, Plus More than 300 Sculptures, Maps, Tapestries, and Other Artifacts***, Anja Grebe and Ross King (Black Dog & Leventhal, \$75). Structured according to the museums in the Vatican and other papal collections, it features among many other works of art, Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel and his Pieta; the Raphael frescoes; the works of Giotto, Fra





Large Lovely Books for Your Loved Ones

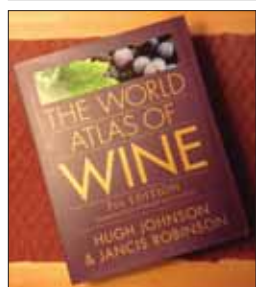
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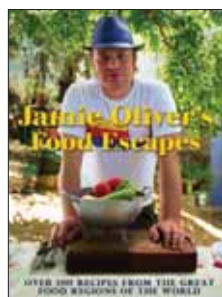
John Gorham (McSweeney's Insatiables \$35) is a cookbook/memoir featuring John Gorham's Spanish restaurant in Portland (four-time James Beard nominee). It's a Spanish restaurant like Mission Street Food is a Chinese restaurant. In other words it goes above and beyond genre and so does this memoir



about his grandfather's crab-shack dance club, his travels in Spain, his opening a restaurant...not to mention the cooking, the techniques, the recipes. And a book that combines the traditional with the new is **Melt: The Art of Macaroni and Cheese** by Stephanie Stiavetti (Little, Brown and Company, \$30). America's #1 comfort food grows up with this high-cuisine cookbook, which combines artisanal cheeses with various fresh ingredients.



Wine pairings and additional serving ideas for the artisanal cheeses also are provided. Speaking of wine, we can't forget to recommend **The World Atlas of Wine**, by Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson (Mitchell Beazley, \$55). This latest (7th) edition deals with climate change and its influence on cool-climate wines and takes us around the world to such new wine-



growing regions as Swartland, Croatia, and China's Ningxia. Finally, in the food department, **Jamie Oliver's Food Escapes: Over 100 Recipes from the Great Food Regions of the World** (Hyperion, \$35) is Oliver's latest combo travel memoir and cookbook in which he takes regional recipes and gives them a twist, making them easier for the amateur chef. We love Jamie and we love easier.

Music to my Ears, Music of the Spheres: The Beatles, Bach, and Johnny Cash

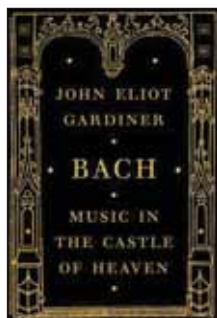
Listen, if you want to know a secret, there are two books out this year to satisfy: **Beatlemania: All The Songs: The Story Behind Every**



Beatles Release by Philippe Margotin (Black Dog & Leventhal, \$50) in which two music historians discuss and dissect literally all the songs of the Fab 4 and the circumstances surrounding their record-



ings in lively anecdotal style, and **The Beatles: The BBC Archives: 1962-1970** by Kevin Howlett (Harper Design, \$60), a carefully curated collection of surviving, never-before-seen transcripts of the Beatles' appearances on BBC Radio and Television from 1962 to 1970, featuring commentary from author and Beatles expert Kevin Howlett and rare photographs and memorabilia from the BBC. And



for those whose heart lies in another era, musically speaking, **Bach: Music in the Castle of Heaven** by John Eliot Gardiner (Knopf, \$35), one of the world's leading conductors, no mean historian, and a writer of surpassing skill is lovely, informative, sometimes surprising, and always a pleasure to read (see blurb page 13). On a very different note, no pun intended, is **Johnny Cash: The Life** by Robert Hilburn (Little, Brown and Company, \$32).



Cash once said that if anyone could write the one true book of his own life it would be his longtime friend and former LA Times music critic Bob Hilburn. With access to Cash's private papers and the full cooperation of Cash's family, this book is the definitive statement on "The Man in Black." And finally, written for young people, but perfect for us all, **Legends, Icons & Rebels: Music That Changed the World**

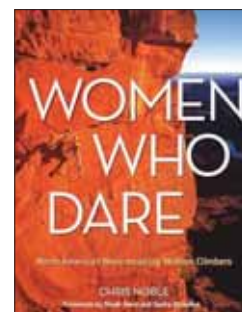
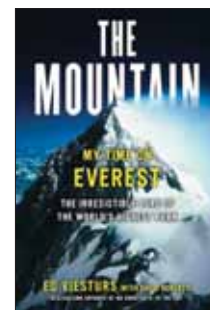
by Robbie

Robertson (Tundra, \$29) not only has 2 CDs of legendary tracks but also chronicles personal stories and achievements of music icons across the spectrum featuring originators, rebels, and risk-takers from Ray Charles to Johnny Cash, Chuck Berry to Bob Dylan, sharing anecdotes about these artists and the influence they had on his own musical journey.



For Lovers of Travel, Adventure and the Great Outdoors

The Mountain: My Time on Everest by Ed Viesturs and David Roberts (Touchstone, \$27) is an homage to a mountain and a moving tale of the obsession, dedication, and amazing human achievement it has inspired in climbers the world over. And in **Women Who Dare: North America's Most Inspiring Women Climbers** by Chris Noble (FalconGuides, \$24.95 in paper) 20 women climbers ranging from legends like Lynn Hill to the rising stars of today tell their stories, highlighting personal challenges, accomplishments, and philosophy, as well as providing readers with practical how-to suggestions. Then there's **Fifty Places to Ski and Snowboard Before You Die: Downhill Experts Share**

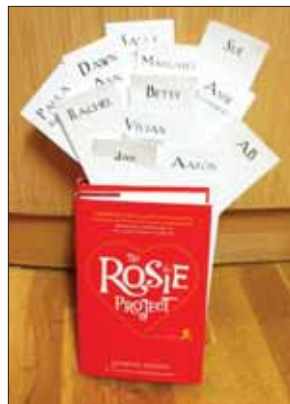




DEBUT FICTION



Editor's note: these novels, among those chosen by booksellers nationwide from books presented by publishers, were featured in the last Inkslinger but are just out and are some of the finest fiction of the year so we are running them again.



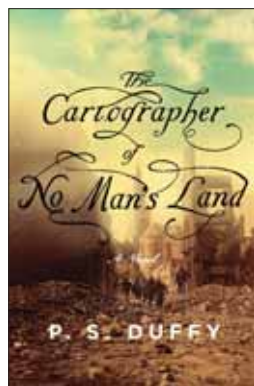
The Rosie Project, Graeme Simsion

Not many books can make me laugh out loud at four in the morning, but this one did. Meet Don, a distinguished geneticist high on the Asperger's continuum who's decided it's time he found a wife—using scientific methods, of course. Meet Rosie, a feminist, extroverted barmaid who's searching for the identity of her biologic father. Meet Gene and Claudia, two psychologists attempting to co-exist peacefully in an open marriage. Told in the

pitch-perfect voice of someone wired “differently” who has coped with his differences through his intellect, compulsive interest in his career, and an even more compulsively scheduled life, this is a love story that is also a tale of coming of age in middle age. It is crisply written, the characters are complex and fully conceived, the dialogue is both clever and compelling, as is the plot. But most of all it is hilarious. Uproariously so. Save Simsion's novel for the aftermath of some personal disaster when you're sure nothing will ever make you laugh again. **The Rosie Project** will, I guarantee. – Betsy Burton, Simon & Schuster, \$24 *Editor's note: Graeme Simsion will be at TKE on Saturday, December 7, 7 p.m. to read from and sign a staff favorite we've picked as best stocking stuffer and funniest book of the year.*

The Cartographer of No Man's Land, P. S. Duffy

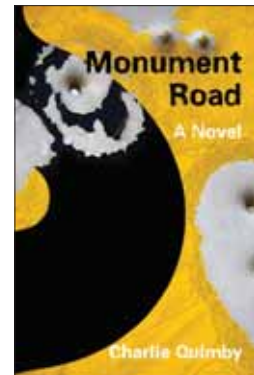
Angus MacGrath leaves his wife and son behind in Nova Scotia, intending to join the war effort behind the lines working as a cartographer in London. His motives are twofold: against the direct wishes of his father, who disapproves of the war, he feels a duty to serve, and he hopes to find some trace of his brother-in-law and dear friend, who is missing in action. War rarely allows for individual plans; in short order this artist and man-of-the-sea finds himself swamped in mud and blood in the trenches of the front line. Angus learns fast and bonds even faster with the men at his side as, at home in Nova Scotia, his son tries to make sense of the war. And so the tides of that war carry us back and forth between family and the battlefield in a novel that is at once spellbinding and enlightening, granting us blinding insights into war, into despair, into love, and into the ties and tensions between fathers and sons. – Betsy Burton, Liveright, \$25.95



Monument Road, Charlie Quimby

No matter how hard you try to kill yourself, sometimes fate has other plans. Leonard Self has spent a lifetime working hard and barely getting by. He's not that different from most of the folks in Glade Park who farm, wed, have children and pray for rain under the red rock towers of the Colorado National Monument. Where he is different is in his quiet, content marriage to Inetta. Over a shared

lifetime of hard work and intermittent happiness they have created a relationship that is seamless in its acceptance of what each day brings. So when Inetta dies of cancer and asks Leonard to spread her ashes off of Artists Point in the Monument, he decides he might as well throw himself off too. Meanwhile in nearby Grand Junction, a cast of characters who owe something to Brady Udall and perhaps to John Irving as well are leading parallel lives that intersect and ultimately intertwine with Leonard's as he drives on toward cliff's edge. This is a novel that will stay with you for a long time—it's the best book I've read in eons! – Anne Holman, Torrey House Press, \$16.95



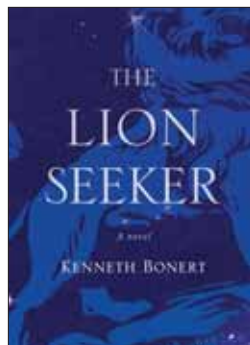
The Night Guest, Fiona McFarland

Ruth, an elderly widow asleep by herself in an isolated house, hears tigers prowling in the front room. A bad dream? Dementia? The house reeks of danger, but when she calls her son the next day it's clear that he doesn't believe her. Then a strange woman appears, claiming she's been sent as a caregiver by the government. Frida settles in despite Ruth's initial protest and before long there's yet another visitor: Ruth's first love, a fellow-missionary of her father's in Fiji years before. Tigers, lover, caregiver—all are “night guests,” all with un-guessable intentions, in this mesmerizing and brilliantly written tale that is mysterious yes, even terrifying, but illuminating in terms of faith and betrayal, innocence, sanity, dependence, and aging. I couldn't put it down and I can't forget it. – Betsy Burton, Faber and Faber, \$26



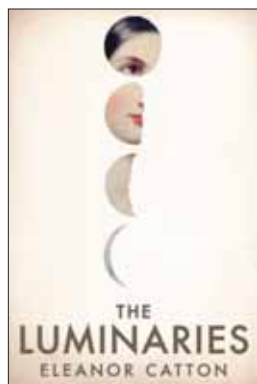
The Lion Seeker, Kenneth Bonert

Bonert is possessed of the gift of gab, both in terms of dialogue and of sheer narrative verve. At the heart of his big bruising debut novel is Isaac Helger, who has a wild mop of red hair, a wiry build, a heart full of anger and confused notions of right and wrong. Isaac knows little outside the Jewish community of Johannesburg. His mother, a tough-minded woman who loves Isaac fiercely, is determined to rescue her family from her native Lithuania no matter the cost. His father, a watchmaker and a gentle, principled man, loves his son no less fiercely, and as Isaac grows he struggles with their very different ways of viewing the world. In fact struggle is at the very heart of this novel: the struggle against prejudice and oppression from outside and from inside; the struggle to distinguish love from self-love, hatred from self-hatred; the struggle to first obtain and then understand truth. But most of all **The Lion Seeker** is about a young man learning to know—and to live with—himself and those who love him. – Betsy Burton, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$28





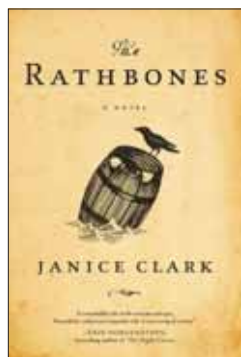
Fiction



The Luminaries, Eleanor Catton

This year's Man Booker Prize winner is a stunning look at the rarely-explored, Victorian-era New Zealand. On a stormy evening in the gold-mining town of Hokitika, newcomer Walter Moody disembarks after a tumultuous journey; a hermit dies with enormous wealth hidden in his hut; a prostitute is found almost dead in the street; and the town's wealthiest man vanishes without a trace. Twelve men meet in a hotel to discuss what they

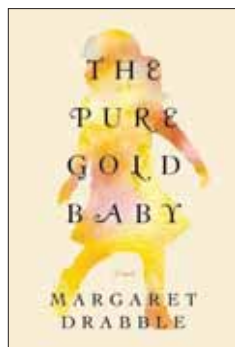
know regarding these circumstances, and Walter Moody is pulled into the enticing tales that together evolve into a rich examination of life at the edge of the world and the intricate ways in which lives interconnect—even among strangers. While its length might seem daunting, by the end of the book you'll find yourself wishing for another 500 pages of Catton's beautiful prose. – Meagan Gonsalves, Little Brown, \$27



The Rathbones, Janice Clark

Drawing in part from Herman Melville, Homer, and Edgar Allen Poe, debut author Janice Clark has created an entirely unique gothic adventure tale. At its height, the Rathbone family, led by patriarch Moses, was a whaling dynasty of sons that was unparalleled in the world. But one hundred years later, it has faded to his great-granddaughter Mercy, her obsessive mother, and her reclusive cousin Mordecai. After Mercy is almost

murdered by a man she believes is her father, she flees with Mordecai on a quest to discover the true history of the Rathbone family. This quest takes her from the island of her 17 great-grandmothers to the cave of a sea witch who makes animals and humans alike fall in love with her to the archipelago of their rivals, the Starks. Clark is a marvelous storyteller and a beautiful writer, adept at balancing fantastical elements with real human emotions. I can't wait to see what she'll do next. – Meagan Gonsalves, Doubleday, \$26.95



The Pure Gold Baby, Margaret Drabble

Dame Margaret Drabble's new novel tells the story of a young anthropology student in 1960s London. Jess Speight's life drastically changes with an unexpected pregnancy and the birth of her child Anna—the “pure gold baby” of the title. As Anna's development begins to lag behind that of her peers, the reader journeys with Jess through the challenges of motherhood and friendship, learning lessons of anthropology and human

nature along the way. *The Pure Gold Baby* is a beautifully written novel, deeply felt and filled with wisdom. – DawnAnn Owens, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$26

Guests on Earth, Lee Smith

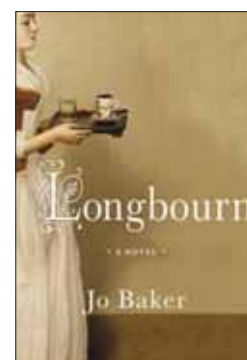
Highland Hospital in Asheville, North Carolina, was one of the first hospitals in this country to offer humane treatment to patients

suffering from a range of psychiatric illnesses. The hospital embraced rich and poor, famous and unknown. Smith's characters are so vivid, so brilliant, they will enchant and frustrate the reader as they first improve, then worsen, with the ebb and flow of life in Carolina's western mountains. Highland's talented, empathetic, unusual staff cajoles and coaxes and sometimes orders the patients through the greenhouse, the art studio, the music room, the gymnasium, the beautiful grounds as they complain like cranky children when they are made to obey the rules and rejoice when one of their number goes home. Smith's language is at times transcendent, always lucid, even musical. You may end up refusing meals because stopping to eat will take you away from this brilliant novel. – Kathy Ashton, St. Martin's, \$25.95



Longbourn, Jo Baker

This below-stairs tale of life in the Bennet home is a tale of incessant laundry, of sloshing chamber pots and blackened fireplaces. There's romance below-stairs, there's social commentary aplenty, and witticisms that might have come from the pen of Jane Austen herself. But the thing that distinguishes this novel from its predecessors is the depth of character to be found in its pages: in young Sarah, who is neither as wise as Elizabeth Bennet nor as foolish as Lydia—although at first as easily led; in Mrs. Hill, the housekeeper, who buries unhappy secrets under a lifetime of hard work; in James, the footman, whose past is a secret unknown even to himself. That these past secrets are, in the end, shared by upstairs and down alike should come as no surprise since whatever their relationships, people who live under a single roof almost inevitably share more than a common abode. – Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$25.95



Quiet Dell, Jayne Anne Phillips

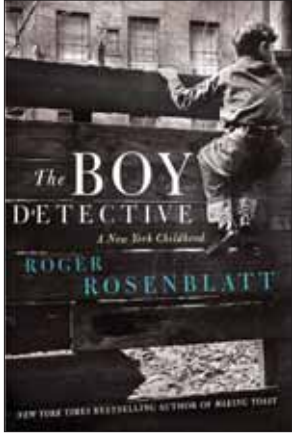
Annabelle, although no longer alive, flits and floats restlessly over the killing field where she lost her family; hovers above the path taken by Emily, the gravely determined reporter covering their murder; is a vaporous presence in the courtroom where the killer is being tried. Annabelle is an enchanting child but the reporter, a steadfast and determined adult, looks reality in the face. As do the two men who help her cover the case, not to mention Mason, an orphan straight from the pages of Dickens. It is these likeable characters, the tangle of their relationships that make this tale of mass murder riveting rather than merely macabre, or the all-too-plausible murderer, or the narrative intensity or the plot that so compels us as it snakes its way through serial murders one minute, hidden passions the next? Whatever it is that keeps the reader engaged with head and heart, *Quiet Dell* is, for all its dark matter—easy to read, hard to put down, harder to forget. – Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$28





by the exhausted medical personnel, sometimes with shattering consequences. This is no tale of good and evil but a heart-rending and morally complex story—one that had to be told. – Betsy Burton, *Crown*, \$27

***The Boy Detective: A New York Childhood*, Roger Rosenblatt**



Of the current crop of essayists writing and reading their work on the radio and on television, Rosenblatt tops my list. Thoughtful, measured, *über*-talented, he reminds me of the archetypal college professor, the sort who makes you think, who turns 17-year-olds into the kind of writers who do not imitate what they learn in class but honor the knowledge passed on to them. His newest book of essays evokes his childhood in New York, memories of a time when a child could wander the streets pretending to be a

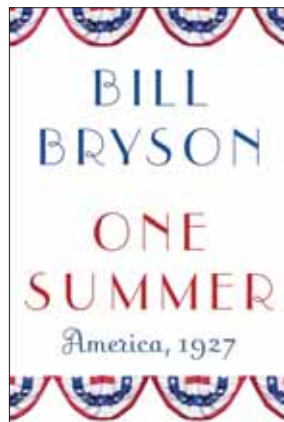
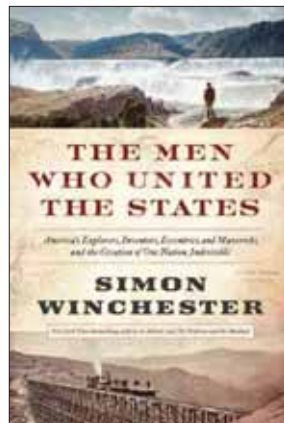
detective, shadowing 'suspicious' characters, running through parks and alleyways, imagining who lies in the graves of the early cemeteries. As he wanders those familiar streets in the present, he wonders where his boyhood friends are, what they've done with their lives. Rosenblatt is indeed a professor, Distinguished Professor of English and Writing at State University of New York at Stony Brook. – Kathy Ashton, *Ecco*, \$19.99

***The Men Who United the States*, Simon Winchester**

Winchester, a naturalized American citizen, gives a refreshing and cogent look at the history of the United States. In so doing, he personally explores every corner of this massive country as he follows in the footsteps of the pioneers who first explored and then settled in the vast spaces of the North American continent. The core of his work is examining the connections through the land that have made these United States—whether it be through the early surveyors or the road builders or, more recently, the knitting together of the country through electricity. All in all, this is a wonderful addition to the history of America. – Barbara Hoagland, *Harper*, \$29.99

***One Summer: America, 1927* Bill Bryson**

Bryson recounts, as only he can, the many events of the summer of 1927 and their effect on America's place in the world. He insists that all of them, good and bad, transfixed the world and established America in a leadership role which had never before been considered. Charles Lindbergh, Al

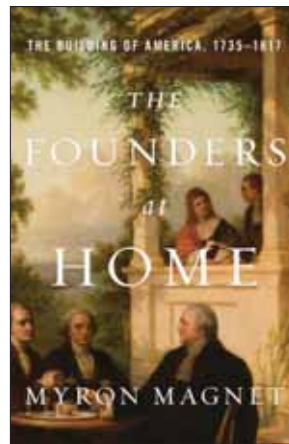


Capone, Babe Ruth, Jack Dempsey, Herbert Hoover, the coming of age of radio, talking pictures and television, prohibition, electrocution of the first woman on death row, racism and anti-Semitism... Most occurred simultaneously and the reader senses true time travel as the people and events are layered one upon another. I loved this book; you will as well. – Sue Fleming, *Doubleday*, \$28.95

***This Town: Two Parties and a Funeral—Plus Plenty of Valet Parking!—in America's Gilded Capital*, Mark Leibovich**

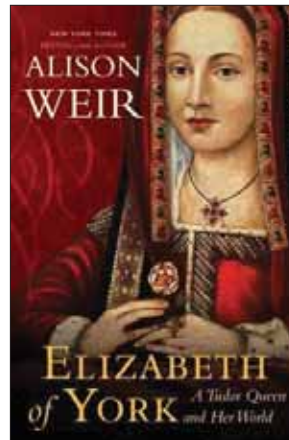
This very entertaining and informational tome will make you laugh out loud and occasionally weep at the complete ineptness of our Congress, who is, as a body, far more interested in the next TV interview than in governing. Case in point: the sequester which obliterated such worthy causes as Head Start, Pell Grants, most of federally funded welfare, etc. (not to mention the government shutdown which occurred after publication). Leibovich also skewers the hangers-on: journalists both print and digital (including himself), bloggers, lobbyists, PR people, lawyers, and the institutes (public and private) which study all of the above. No one is safe, not even he. Run as fast as you can to score your copy. – Kathy Ashton, *Blue Rider Press*, \$27.95

***The Founders at Home*, Myron Magnet**



The men at the heart of the American Revolution were an erudite and sophisticated group and nothing illuminates this more than to look at the houses in which they lived. Magnet does a masterful job of explaining the ethos of each of these men and the evolutionary process they each went through to lead them to desire a break from England. Their homes were extensions of their philosophical perceptions. From Jefferson to Madison to Hamilton to Jay, their houses illustrate their personalities and values. Magnet's book is a unique and penetrating way to look at the founding fathers. – Barbara Hoagland, *Norton*, \$35

***Elizabeth of York, A Tudor Queen and Her World*, Alison Weir**



Daughter of Edward IV, niece of Richard III, sister of the murdered princes in the tower, wife of Henry VII and mother of Henry VIII, Elizabeth of York lived in the center of some of the most traumatic times in English history. Her life was lived through a series of contradictions and accommodations which Weir deftly illuminates.

She maneuvered with grace and generosity through a time and place

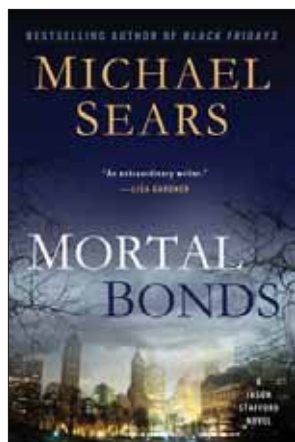


Bellman & Black, Diane Setterfield



Ten-year-old William Bellman uses his catapult to dispatch a young rook. William, along with three other boys, Luke, Fred and cousin Charles, deny the bird a decent burial; they will pay dearly for that disrespect. William grows up to be a good businessman and a loving husband and father. When tragedy strikes and threatens his most precious possession, William gets a visit from a Mr. Black who proposes a partnership, and so a very strange (some would say macabre) new venture is born. – Paula Longhurst, Atria, \$25

Mortal Bonds, Michael Sears



Jason, whom we first met in *Black Fridays* and who must still visit his parole officer every week, has been hired by the squabbling Von Becker family and asked to locate a fortune that the FBI, SEC and many other interested parties have so far failed to find. No one can ask the head of the household, who hanged himself in prison. Jason's child, although his autism will always be a challenge, is now 6 years old and thriving; Jason still has a lot to learn about what sets him off, but the pair are coping. Until Angie, Jason's duplicitous ex-wife, announces that she's

coming to New York for a month and bringing family. Meanwhile Jason has the SEC and the Feds looking over his shoulder and a soft-spoken aristocrat named Castillo telling him tales of dead lawyers and bearer bonds. But the interests Castillo represents are deadly, and they've just made the mistake of threatening Jason's son. – Paula Longhurst, Putnam, \$25.95

Critical Mass, Sara Paretsky



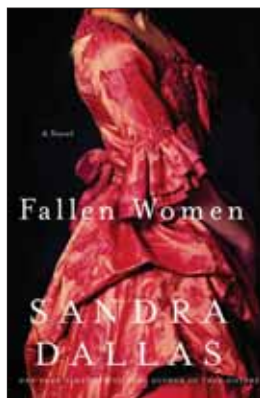
V.I. Warshawski, Vic to her friends, is drawn into the investigation of a missing meth addict and her genius son. Vic's long-term friend Dr. Lotty Herschel shares a past with the missing woman's grandmother who refused point blank to let her grandson Martin go to college. What seems like a simple addict-on-the-run case turns complicated as Vic uncovers connections between the great grandmother and a Nobel-winning Austrian scientist who worked on the Manhattan project. Suddenly Warshawski's investigation is ruffling some high-level feathers... –

Paula Longhurst, Putnam, \$26.95



No Man's Nightingale, Ruth Rendell

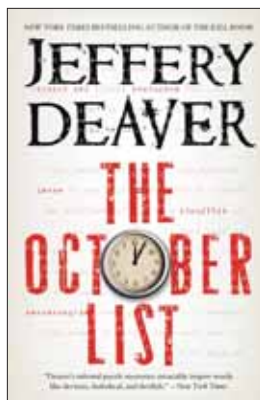
Chief Inspector Wexford, now retired, is asked to consult on the murder of a mixed-race, single mother, and female vicar, Sarah Hussein. She leaves behind a troubled teenage daughter who Wexford befriends. The very complex make-up of the vicar herself lends itself to all sorts of possibilities. Could she have been murdered because of her gender or her race? The village and its families become part of the mystery. "Never speak ill of the dead" might be a good motto but not for this group of neighbors who reveal their own prejudices toward the vicar and each other. Wexford's gossipy cleaning lady is part of the problem as her dodgy son is a suspect. Family relationships are important in this Sussex village, and the Inspector uses a little genealogical research in finding solutions to the murder. Almost as important as the murder, are the stories of the secondary characters and the obsessions they reveal. Wexford never takes the easy way out; he continues to pursue the case even after the current Chief-Inspector makes an arrest. At this stage of life Wexford is a thoughtful, retired policeman with little personal angst who believes in justice and takes the time to find the truth. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Scribner, \$26



Fallen Women, Sandra Dallas

Diamonds lost, diamonds hidden, and diamonds found are major clues in this fascinating mystery. Beret Osmundsen has just lost her sister again, this time permanently. The first time was when Beret arrived home one evening to find her husband and her sister in the marital bed, not sleeping. Divorcing her ne'er-do-well husband and banishing her sister from their family home satisfied Beret's thirst for revenge—until, that is, she receives a message from her uncle informing her of

Lillie's death. Traveling to Denver she is horrified to hear that Lillie's death was no accident: she'd been stabbed repeatedly in the room she rented in a posh brothel called House of Dreams. Well-written, cleverly plotted, dotted with numerous red herrings, this is an edge-of-your-seat read, as Beret and police detective/man-about-town Mick McCauley work together to find Lillie's killer. – Kathy Ashton, St. Martins, \$25.99



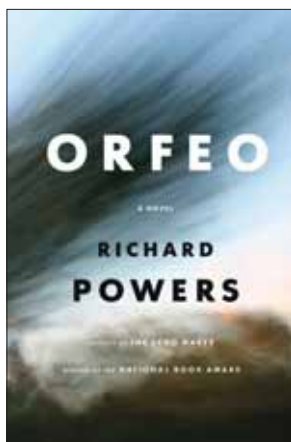
October List, Jeffery Deaver

What is the October List and why does everyone want to get their hands on it? Deaver's tale, told in reverse, starts with murder suspect Gabriella Mackenzie being menaced by the man who kidnapped her 6-year-old daughter and unspools from there. Gabriella's only ally in all of this is the monied and enigmatic Daniel Reardon, but is he dead too? – Paula Longhurst, Grand Central, \$26

FICTION—JANUARY

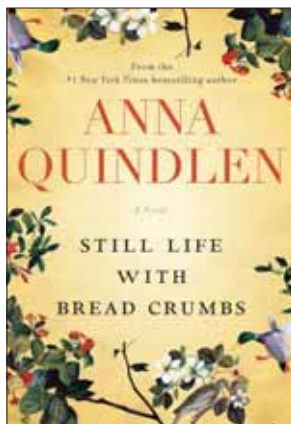
Orfeo, Richard Powers

Powers, winner of the National Book Award for *The Echo Maker*, four-time finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer, has surpassed even his own genius in this book about the intersection of science and music, of life and art, and of the price artists pay—in personal terms—for the choices they make. An avant-garde musician and composer who once meant to study science, Peter Els recognizes the similarities of pattern across both disciplines and in retirement attempts to research (and alter) those patterns. The result is a rapidly blossoming investigation by Homeland Security. It is the collision of Els' worlds—the arts, science, family, and now the state—that is the subject of this brilliantly conceived and passionately felt novel that is at once thriller, a love story, and a meditation on art. Powers' breathtaking (and informed) take on music, on science, on technology and on the act of creation illuminates the perils of the underworld each creates and underlines their urgent importance to the world we inhabit. – Betsy Burton, Norton, \$26.95



Still Life with Bread Crumbs, Anna Quindlen

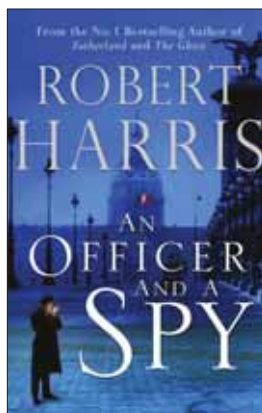
Rachel Winter photographed a dirty counter top covered with crumbs and it became a feminist icon, making her famous. Now that her parents can't care for themselves, she pays their fees plus her own expenses and supplies her son's ready cash. When her overdraft competes with Everest in height, she sublets her own place and moves to a woodland cabin in upstate New York. Rachel leases the place unseen, trusting the owner's photo, and is horrified by what she sees and hears overhead. She can't sleep because of a raccoon's nighttime antics, and so she hires a local roofer to plug the worst leaks and get rid of the unruly resident. The roofer turns out to be the very best reason to stay. This wonderful tale explores the vagaries of modern existence, probes the heart of village life, the upside-down migraine caused by parents who are now children. – Kathy Ashton, Random House, \$26



MYSTERY/THRILLER—JANUARY

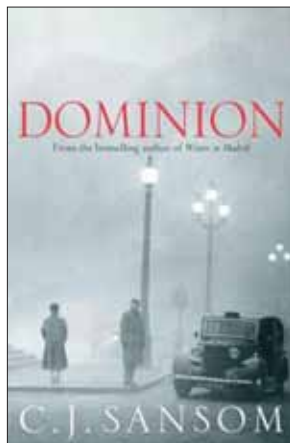
An Officer and a Spy, Robert Harris

Colonel George Picquart has earned his new rank on the back of Alfred Dreyfus, a man he believed to be guilty of treason. But when Picquart is appointed head of "The Statistical Section"—the same spy organization that had collected evidence against Dreyfus, the colonel begins to have doubts. Meanwhile, on a far-away island populated only by Dreyfus and his guards, we witness suffering of an almost unimaginable degree as the man convicted of spying endures



unbearable degradation in utter solitude. Picquart, in his new role of head spy, begins an investigation into a certain Major Esterhazy who is stationed in Rouen and whom he suspects might be yet another spy embedded in the military, selling secrets to the Germans just as Dreyfus supposedly had. Initially the investigation is applauded by his superiors but when it begins to tie to the Dreyfus Case, suddenly the atmosphere begins to change. This is a fascinating piece of history that plainly marks the tides that will soon carry the world into two world wars. Not a tale of heroes and villains, rather it dissects morality, ferreting out the motivations that drive us and ultimately write history. In doing so it provides a cautionary tale of how the past can inform the present—if only we would listen. – Betsy Burton, Knopf, \$27.95

Dominion, C. J. Sansom



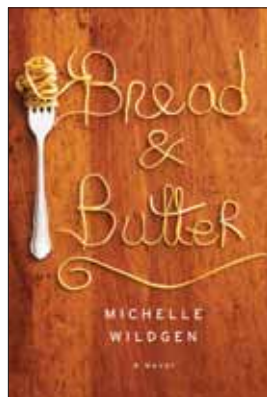
Set in an alternate universe some twelve years after WWII, one where the Nazis won the war and the wholesale slaughter of Jews continues, even English Jews formerly protected by the government are being rounded up and sent to camps. But Churchill's resistance fighters soldier on, confounding and obstructing whenever they can. Currently, they are protecting Frank McMaster, who holds a secret that could allow the Nazis to harass the world for the foreseeable future. This is a powerful thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat for hours. – Kathy Ashton, Mulholland, \$28



In the Blood, Lisa Unger

Lana Grainger, on the advice of Langdon, her psychology professor and faculty advisor, takes a job babysitting a brilliant and manipulative young boy. Amoral, prone to horrific tantrums, Luke tests Lana to her limits. Soon after she takes the job, she and her best friend Beth have a nasty and very public spat in the college library. By the next morning, everyone in the dorm knows that Beth is missing—she never came home the evening before. And she wasn't the first of Lana's roommates to disappear. Soon, all fingers are pointing to Lana, a pseudonym for a young woman who is hiding from the paparazzi, the sole survivor of an entire family murdered by their patriarch. This masterfully told tale, littered with suspects, will keep you biting your nails until the very last minute. But be forewarned: the blood in the title is not a metaphor. – Kathy Ashton, Simon & Schuster, \$25.99

rote characters but endlessly complex and utterly captivating people, dedicated, fallible, needy one moment, superhuman the next. ***Raven Point*** is a war novel in the best sense of the word, and a novel of family in the deepest sense as well. It is at once a love story, a tale of siblings, of history, of the consequences of war, and of the coming of age of an unforgettable character. The language is visceral and compelling, the scenes searingly vivid, and by the end our idea of war is forever changed. – Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$26



***Bread and Butter*, Michelle Wildgen**

Three well-educated brothers from the Philadelphia exurbs opt to succeed in the restaurant business in a town where there is almost no business. Leo, the eldest and the chef, owns Winesap with his brother Britt who is the money and front-of-the-house man, the kind of person every busy restaurant needs. The brothers delight in what they're doing despite their parents' disapproval—that is, until baby brother Harry reappears after long years away odd-jobbing across the

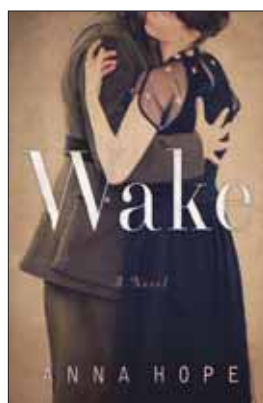
country. His latest gig has been as fixer and sous-chef somewhere in the Midwest; this convinces him he can be as productive as his older siblings. Harry decides he wants a restaurant too and coaxes Britt into helping him set up his space and plan the menu. Combining Britt's acumen and Harry's determination, they conjure a welcoming bar and restaurant in the middle of the town's worse slum, a place where even the downtrodden hesitate to go. Then they receive a rave review and life as they know it changes. Family trumps all in this great novel that cossets as it entertains. – Kathy Ashton, Doubleday, \$25.95

***The Daring Ladies of Lowell*, Kate Alcott**

In Lowell, one of the first mill towns in New England, the young women who ran the looms that made the cloth which made the fortunes of rich owners worked under dreadful conditions. After watching their friends die from lung disease or being caught in dangerous machinery that had no protective mechanism, these young women were spurred into action. Historically accurate, it is set in Massachusetts at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, when progress was all and human lives mattered little. When factory workers complained, the owners cut their salaries or fired them. But this is also a story about love and the class lines it faces when a mill owner's son is smitten with Alice, one of the loom girls, and her friend Lovey succumbs to a charismatic preacher. – Kathy Ashton, Doubleday, \$25.95

***Wake*, Anna Hope**

This stunning novel offers an uncompromising view of the ravages of WWI. After the war the entire nation grieved for all the sons and fathers and brothers lost in the trenches. Young women found themselves denied marriage and families because so many men were slaughtered, maimed, gassed. Married couples didn't fare much



better. The optimistic youngsters who marched off to war came home broken, shell-shocked into catatonia or so riddled with guilt they weren't able to function. Britain was broken, impoverished, and jobs were few. The characters who inhabit these pages are rich, poor, young and not-so-young, and their bravery will clutch at your heartstrings. Hope has written a magnificent novel, never more so than in her description of the burial of an unknown soldier in Westminster Abbey, accompanied by generals and field marshals and platoons of foot soldiers, the flag-draped coffin pulled by six black horses in perhaps the most touching wake of all, encompassing an entire nation. – Kathy Ashton, Random House, \$26



NONFICTION—FEBRUARY

***Pigs Can't Swim*, Helen Peppe**

For Helen, born into a Maine farm family featuring eight siblings, parents with good intentions but far too much to do, assorted animals raised to be eaten, gardens to weed and hoe, chickens to pluck, two things soon become clear: books provide necessary escape from the rampant chaos, and vegetarianism is a must if one is to avoid eating one's friends. Helen, the youngest, is an animal

lover among carnivores, a rule follower who stands guard for her rebellious sisters, and the only reader in the house. Peppe's mordant humor, her irreverence, and her astonishing ear for dialogue make this a joy to read. Her frank and realistic take on her family avoids sentimentality on the one hand, the dour cynicism that is all-too-often the predominant tone of childhood memoirs on the other. I loved *Pigs Can't Swim*. How it manages to be at once hilarious and wise, cynical and touching, realistic and hope-filled is a wonder. – Betsy Burton, Da Capo, \$22.95



MYSTERY/THRILLER—FEBRUARY

***After I'm Gone*, Laura Lippman**

Lippman, once a columnist for one of the Baltimore dailies, knows her city like the back of her hand and has often used the city as one of her characters, rather than just a setting. And this tale runs true to course: Felix is lucky, he thinks: beautiful wife; pretty and accommodating mistress; various and sundry one-nighters, also gorgeous and accommodating; and

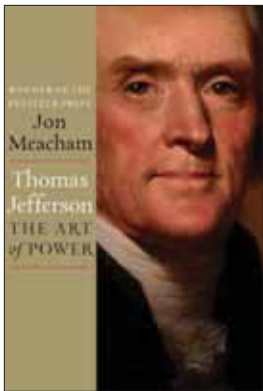
three pretty daughters who adore him. Apprehended, convicted and sentenced to several years in prison for running a profitable gambling syndicate right under the noses of the local police, Felix is in hot water. Shifty as ever, he runs away—no more Baltimore—and he is again free to do whatever he wants. Lippman writes terrific mysteries and this is no exception. – Kathy Ashton, Morrow, \$26.99



Stocking Stuffers



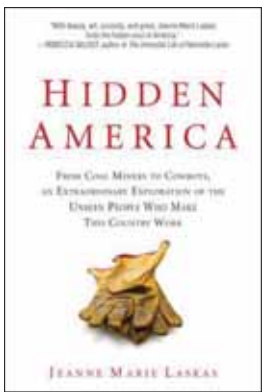
One of America's most esteemed historians revisits the life of one of



our most complicated and accomplished founding fathers in this latest biography. Meacham's compelling examination of Jefferson reveals fine nuances of character of a man whose words echo down the centuries, but whose life is still somewhat shrouded in mystery. He was a person of vast contradictions who will continue to fascinate generations to come; Meacham has made a noteworthy effort to peel back the layers of Jefferson's life and works. – Barbara Hoagland, Random House, \$20

Hidden America: From Coal Miners to Cowboys, an Extraordinary Exploration of the Unseen People Who Make This Country Work, Jeanne Marie Laskas

Have you ever traveled six miles into a mountain, the only light the bulb on your hard hat, one so bright you can't look people in the eye



while you're talking to them, for fear of blinding them? Or visited the controllers at La Guardia, amazing individuals who work within a sadly outdated communication system, unfailingly civil with impatient pilots, handling inhuman workloads on bargain-basement salaries? Ever spent 12-hour days on your knees, raking blueberries in the barrens of northern Maine, a place where migrant workers love to come because owners treat them humanely, and provide warm, safe, clean cabins to occupy while they are there?

Or spent a few days on an Alaskan oil rig, where the plumbing is yards away from the secondary dorm provided for visitors, through the locked bear cage, and the temperature is so cold you can suffer frostbite if you don't stick your face in the fur lining the hood of your down parka? Jeanne Marie Lukas did all these things and more, providing a glimpse into unseen worlds, behind closed doors. This is as fascinating a piece of nonfiction as I have read in a very long time. – Kathy Ashton, Berkeley Trade, \$16

FICTION

Mrs. Queen Takes the Train, William Kuhn

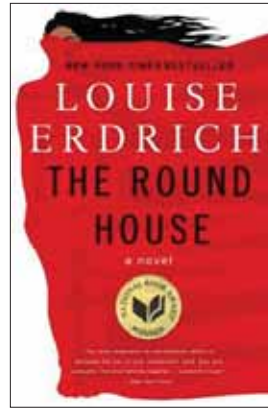
The Queen of England is in the dumps and despite yoga poses and lectures to herself; she can't seem to pull out of her malaise. Problems with her children and decades of public appearances have gotten her down. When, one afternoon, she decides to take a stroll to see her favorite horse (named Elizabeth, of course), one turn leads to another which leads to an adventure unlike anything she's ever experienced. Her goal is to see—one more time—the royal yacht Britannia, now mothballed, but home to some of her happiest moments. Her trip is a revelation, not only to Elizabeth, but



also to the loyal companions, both within the palace and without, who are frantically searching for the missing monarch. Kuhn's book is a delight. – Barbara Hoagland, Harper Perennial, \$14.99

The Round House, Louise Erdrich

Like all of Erdrich's novels, this taps into the history, the mythology, the collective wisdom of past generations. But it is also intensely and dramatically grounded in the present. When Joe is 13 his mother is

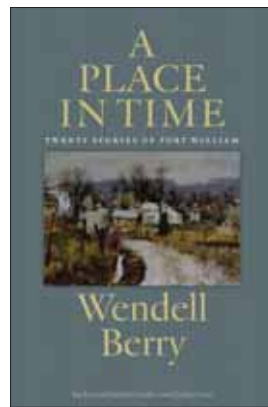


brutally attacked and badly injured. She manages to escape and make it home, but then stays in her bedroom, refusing to talk—or, for that matter, to eat. Her husband, a judge who has done his best to deliver justice to his Ojibwa people, is sick with worry, bedeviled by anger. Joe increasingly shares that anger, along with a growing determination to discover what actually happened to his mother. He and his friends launch a bicycle-mounted investigation into the puzzle of who attempted to kill his

mother in a mystery that echoes down the corridors of generations, decades of family history and legend, past crimes and present scandals. Erdrich is as concerned with the past's connection to the present as she is with the tale's action, and her lyrical investigations of life involve much more than immediate reality. – Betsy Burton, Harper Perennial, \$15.99

A Place in Time, Wendell Berry

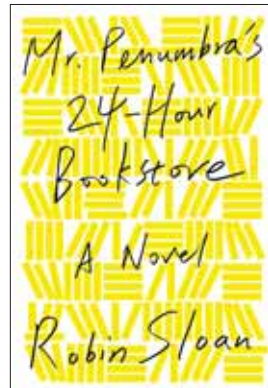
Whether writing poetry, philosophy, natural history, or fiction, Berry has a master's eye for not only setting, but also characters and lives in the process of being lived. In this new book of 20 stories, we



become reacquainted with many of the characters of his Port William series. It is also a beautiful introduction to those visiting for the first time. A wonderful, comforting read. – Jan Sloan, Counterpoint Press (PGW), \$15.95

Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore, Robin Sloan

Twenty-something Clay Jannon loses his job due to an economic downturn in San Francisco and wanders into Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore looking for work. Little does he know he's about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime when he begins to work the night shift. He quickly realizes that this is no ordinary bookshop—there aren't many customers and the few who do visit are definitely not looking for a bestseller. Clay's interest is piqued and when he involves his buddies, a start-up genius, a Google programmer, and a visual effects artist who works at Industrial Light & Magic (this is Silicon Valley right?), what follows is a rollicking trek through the world of




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Book Clubs

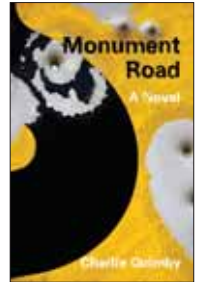


Wintertime is the perfect time to join...

Margaret's Book Club

\$5 per evening paid to Margaret; Meets the 2nd Monday of the month, 7 p.m. at TKE

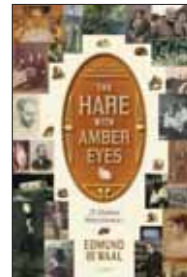
January 13: **Wuthering Heights**, Emily Bronte
February 10: **Monument Road**, Charles Quimby
March 10: **Benediction**, Kent Haruf



Roz Reads!

\$10 per evening paid to Roz, meets last Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.

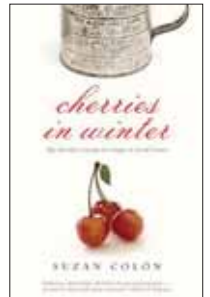
Jan. 27, 28, 29: **Dear Life: Stories**, Alice Munro
Feb. 24, 25, 26: **The Hare With the Amber Eyes**, Edmund DeWaal
Mar. 24, 25, 26: **Things Fall Apart**, Chinua Achebe



Slow Food Utah Book Club

Meets the 3rd Weds. of the month, 7 p.m. at TKE

January: **On the Future of Food**, HRH The Prince of Wales & **Manifestos on the Future of Food and Seed**, Vandana Shiva
February: **The Loveliest Chocolate Shop in Paris**, Jenny Colgan
March: **Cherries in Winter**, Suzan Colon



Books, Bites & Beverages

\$5 per evening paid to Meagan Gonsalves; meets the 3rd Monday of the month, 7 p.m. at TKE

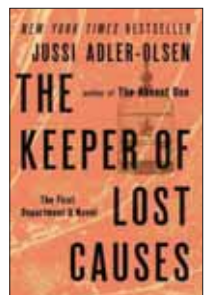
January: **The Blind Assassin**, Margaret Atwood



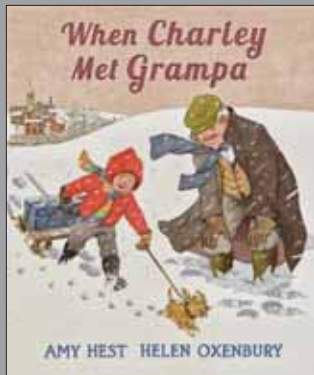
Armchair Travel Mystery

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

January: **The Keeper of Lost Causes**, Jussi Adler-Olsen



PICTURE BOOKS FOR GIVING



When Charley Met Grampa, Amy Hest, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury

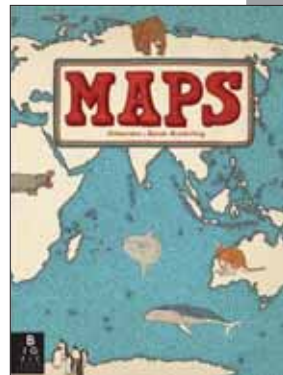
A favorite of TKE staffers, *When Charley Met Grampa* tells the story of Henry's puppy, Charley, who eventually wins over a grandfather who isn't sure he can be friends with a

dog. Hest's use of language is evocative and fresh, while the always-wonderful Oxenbury is at the top of her game here. A charming book in every way.

– Candlewick Press, \$15.99

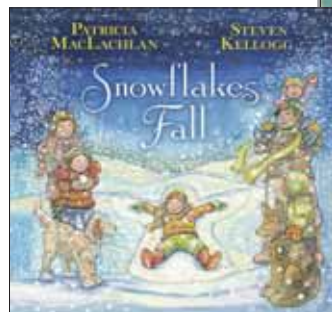
Maps, Aleksandra Mizielinska and Daniel Mizielinski

This oversized book is a hand-drawn atlas, featuring maps of countries the world over. Every page is loaded with details and familiar icons from each nation—St. Bernards from Switzerland, tea from Tibet, anacondas from Brazil, penguins from Antarctica. Only one word describes *Maps*—spectacular! – Candlewick Press, \$35



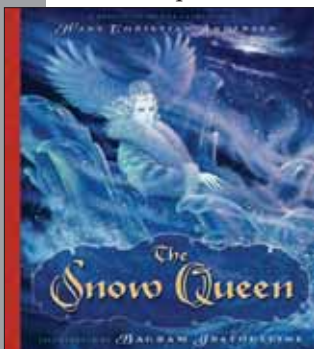
Snowflakes Fall, Patricia MacLachlan, illustrated by Steven Kellogg

"After the flowers are gone snowflakes fall. Flake after flake after flake. Each one a pattern all its own—" Steven Kellogg raised his family and spent much of his successful career as an illustrator while living in Sandy Hook, Connecticut, scene of last year's horrific elementary school shooting. As a healing gesture, he and Newbery medalist Patricia MacLachlan have created this quiet and lovely homage to the unique beauty of each snowflake—and child. – Random House, \$17.99



The Snow Queen, Hans Christian Andersen, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline

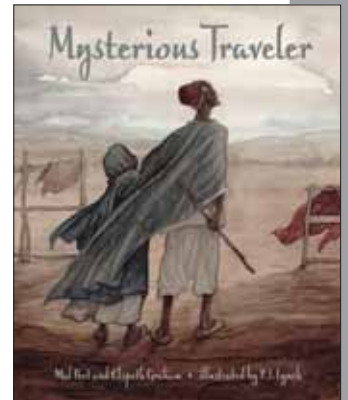
Gerda and Kai have been friends forever, so when Kai begins to behave strangely—



then disappears altogether—Gerda ignores the danger to herself and sets out to rescue him. Ibatoulline's lush illustrations beautifully enhance Andersen's classic story about the saving grace of enduring friendship. – Harper, \$17.99

Mysterious Traveler, Mel and Elspeth Graham, illustrated by P.J. Lynch

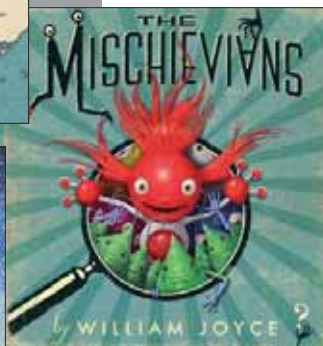
Set against the African desert's fierce beauty, *Mysterious Traveler* is the story of an elderly guide named Issa who discovers a camel guarding a precious bundle. The bundle turns out to be a baby girl, whom Issa raises as a granddaughter and trains to be a desert guide like himself. Their life together is both simple and satisfying. But will the appearance of a band of wealthy travelers change things forever? Just as they did in *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*, Lynch's illustrations augment the story perfectly. – Candlewick Press, \$15.99



The Mischievians, William Joyce

A new picture book by William Joyce is always a cause for celebration at TKE. In his newest work, Joyce provides catalogs and detailed information about all those unseen creatures that torment us: Homework Eaters, Lintbellians, Remotetoters, Stinkers, and Funny Bones.

While not a book that lends itself to being read aloud from cover to cover, it does invite readers to happily peruse. Like all of Joyce's books, *The Mischievians* is wildly inventive. – Atheneum, \$17.99



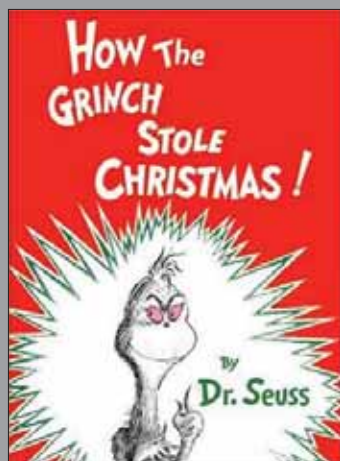
Underwater Dogs (Kids Edition), Seth Casteel

"When I look underwater, what do I see? So many doggies looking at me!" The title says it all. Dive into the pages of *Underwater Dogs* and you'll find close-up photos of actual dogs under water, chasing their favorite toys.

The rhyming text only adds to the crazy joy of this unusual book. – Little, Brown, \$17



PICTURE BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS



***How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, Dr. Seuss**

"In Iceland he is known as Trolli. Hungarians call him Gorcs. To the Japanese, he is Gurinichi. He's 'der Grinch' in Germany, 'il Grinch' in Italy, and 'o Grinch' in Brazil." What makes this 50th-anniversary retrospective of Seuss' classic tale so special is the commentary

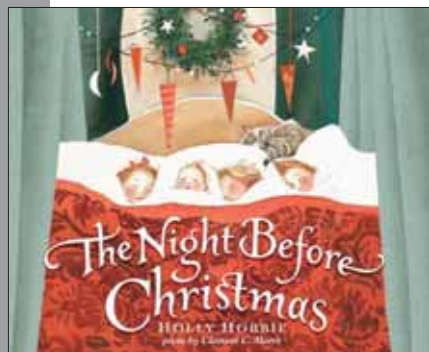
at the end. Fans (and at some level aren't we all?) will devour the story of how the Grinch (whom Theodor Geisel patterned after himself) came to be. Highly recommended. – Random House, \$24.99

***Gifts of the Heart*, Patricia Polacco**

Polacco is celebrated for the warmth and humanity she brings to her picture books, and both are on generous display in ***Gifts of the Heart***. It's Christmas time, but Trisha and her brother, Richie, are sad because their grandfather must sell the family farm. Enter Kay Lamity, the new housekeeper, who reminds the family that there are gifts... and then there are gifts. A magical new book from a beloved author. – Putnam, \$17.99



***The Night Before Christmas*, Clement C. Moore, illustrated by Holly Hobbie**



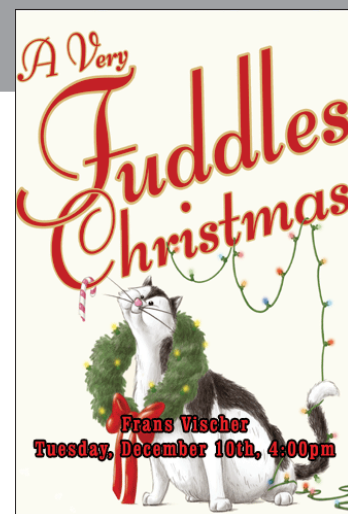
welcome addition to any Christmas book collection. – Little, Brown, \$18

With the Toot and Puddle series, Holly Hobbie has demonstrated her gifts for storytelling and illustration. In this edition, she gives new life to Moore's iconic poem with her delicate watercolors and gentle sense of whimsy. A



***A Very Fuddles Christmas*, Frans Vischer**

Fuddles, the world's most pampered feline, returns! In this new adventure, Fuddles accidentally gets locked out of the house where he must contend with snow, cold, and contentious squirrels. Will he make it back to the comforts of his ever-loving home? Disney animator Frans Vischer has created a vivid character sure to appeal to cat lovers of all ages. –



Aladdin, \$15.99

***The Twelve Days of Christmas*, Susan Jeffers**

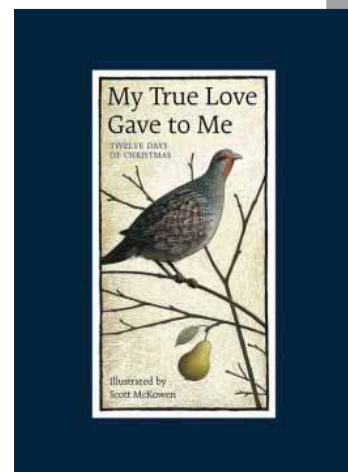
One thing's for sure—it's way more fun to look at beautiful illustrations of six geese a'laying and seven swans a'swimming than it is to listen to the actual song. WHICH IS TORTURE. As always, Jeffers engages readers' senses with her lovely lines and colors. And the frame story involving the



Christmas dreams of a young girl gives this classic carol a fresh twist. – Harper, \$17.99

***My True Love Gave to Me*, Scott McKowen**

This is another agreeable variation on the Twelve Days of Christmas theme. ***My True Love Gave to Me*** is a compilation of illustrated Christmas cards that artist Scott McKowen has created over the past 12 years. Instead of re-imagining a medieval treatment of the lyrics, however, McKowen sets his illustrations squarely in his own Canadian landscape. This beautifully bound book would make a lovely keepsake gift. – Firefly, \$19.95



* * Middle Reader * * *

Will in Scarlet, Matthew Cody

Will, who has to flee the manor after he wounds one of Prince John's servants, ends up in Sherwood Forest. Author Matthew Cody uses the backdrop of history and myth as a foundation for his tale but makes the story his own with strong characters, terrific adventure and a really interesting exploration of right and wrong. I hope there is a sequel! – Knopf Books for Young Readers, \$16.99 (10 and up)



Unhooking the Moon, Gregory Hughes

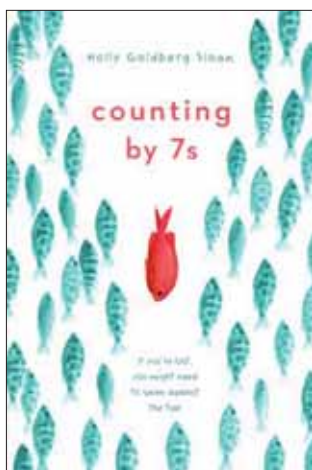
Marie-Claire, otherwise known as the Rat, and her brother Bob have just become orphans, and are leaving Winnipeg for New York City



to look for their long lost uncle. Readers will LOVE Rat, who is smart and wide-open to the world. Her relationship with her brother is another strength of this quirky quest. This is a story with heart, one that will stay with readers for a long time. – Quercus, \$16.95 (10 and up)

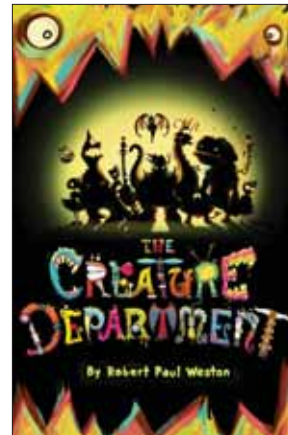
Counting By 7s, Holly Goldberg Sloan

One of my favorite characters of the fall season is Willow, an adopted 12-year-old girl who has been labeled "genius." Willow is smart, quirky, and obsessed with the number 7, diseases, and her garden. Some adults would say she has autism. Willow is also trying hard to find friends. When her parents are killed in a car accident, Willa has to find a place to live, literally and figuratively. This story is not a tragedy; it is a triumph. Sloan has filled this book with a cast of characters that readers will be cheering for all the way up until Newbery time. – Dial, \$16.99 (10 and up)



by Margaret Brennan Neville

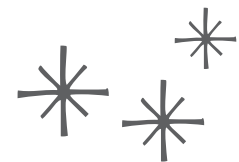
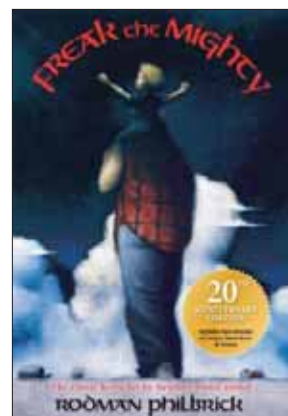
The Creature Department, Robert Paul Weston



Nothing happens in Bickleburgh; it's a boring place. But when Elliot and Leslie win a chance to tour the Denki-3000 Factory, they realize that there are some very serious secrets in Bickleburgh—secrets that threaten its very existence. It will be up to them to save the town in this quirky, silly fantasy that is filled with monsters from some very surprising places. Fun read! – Razorbill Penguin, \$16.99 (8 and up)

Freak the Mighty (20th Anniversary Edition), Rodman Philbrick

Some books deserve an eternal place on the bookshelf, and ***Freak the Mighty*** is one of those. Two misfits, Max the oversized slow kid, and Kevin, the tiny Einstein become unlikely friends; together they are unstoppable. Philbrick captures teenage angst better than anyone. This story still resonates! Scholastic, \$16.99 (11 and up)

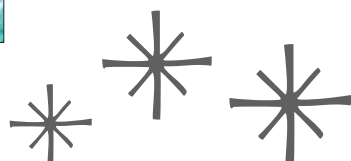


Forthcoming

Hunted: Spirit Animals Book 2, Maggie Stiefvater



Stiefvater picks up where Brandon Mull left off in ***Wild Born***. Erdas is still threatened, and the young heroes have another task—to get the next talisman from a different Great Beast, this time Rumfuss, the boar. This adventure takes a dark and personal turn when Connor discovers that the Conquerors are terrorizing his own village. Stiefvater does a terrific job with Mull's outline. – Scholastic, \$12.99 (8 and up)





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