

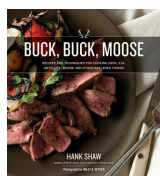
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THE Inkslinger

Holiday Issue 2016

Buy local FIRST
KEEP UTAH INDEPENDENT

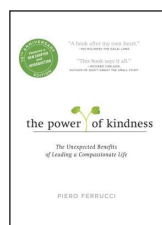
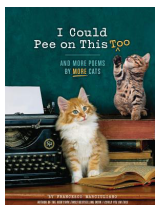
Holiday Dreams from 15th & 15th



"Books from the current James Beard nominations are always a great source for my reading wish list." Scott Evans—Trestle Tavern (***Buck Buck Moose*** is new from James Beard Award-winner Hank Shaw)

"I would be very happy to get some great linen bedding for the holidays. And my favorite thing to give to people is a book that I think they will love." Leslie Seggar—Tulie Bakery (Who wouldn't love ***How to Bake Everything?***)

"What I would like for Christmas would be peace of mind. What I would give would be a piece of my mind." Joel Everts—The Dog Show (What could be more perfect than ***I Could Pee on This Too?***)



"I'm planning on giving the Rick Bayless books on preparing Mexican cuisine." Luke Miller—Mazza (His latest is ***More Mexican Everyday***)

"I want to give the gift of kindness." Glenda Bradley—15th Street Gallery (***The Power of Kindness*** is ideal for everyone right now)

Think Indies First on November 26th: Small Business Saturday

indies FIRST

Connection to our community is at the heart of TKE, especially in troubled times. On the Saturday after Thanksgiving, authors are giving thanks to independent bookstores all over the country as a way of showing their support on Small Business Saturday. Let's

join together and think **Indies First!** **Save 15%** all day while authors you love—Christian Heidicker, Christine Hayes, Kathryn Purdie, Sam Brown and Kate Holbrook, Ella Olsen, Amy Finnegan, and Jessica Day George—hand-sell you books along with the booksellers at The King's English. Register your Amex card for double points! And don't forget TKE's annual holiday party **Thursday, December 8, 5-7 p.m.** with local authors galore and **20% off** everything!

Imagine this: If we all shift just 10% of our spending to local businesses, on a yearly basis, **\$1.3 billion** will stay in our Utah economy! So think **Indies First** all week long as our 15% discount continues in support of the **Local First Utah Shift Your Spending Campaign** which runs through December 3.



SAVE 15%

* * * **Holiday Fun for One and All!** * * *



Saturday, November 26 all day

Small Business Saturday means Indies First! 15% discount all day! Salt

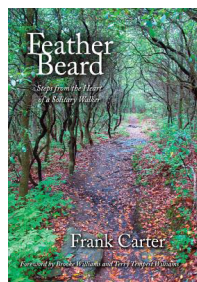
Lake Acting Company will perform a selection from their holiday show, "Diary of a Worm, a Spider, and a Fly" at 11 a.m., and authors will participate as booksellers throughout the store: Join

Sam Brown, Amy Finnegan, Jessica Day George, Christian Heidicker, Christine Hayes, Kate Holbrook, Ella Olsen, Kathryn Purdie, and TKE booksellers.

Sunday, December 4, 9 a.m. Books & Bagels Betsy, Anne, Margaret, and Sue will share all the books they are excited about for holiday gift giving and help match them to the people on your list. Enjoy 20% off from 9 a.m. -12 p.m.; we can wrap and mail for you too!

Thursday, December 8, 5-7 p.m. Our holiday party! Take 20% off and visit with Jeremy Pugh (***100 Things to Do in Salt Lake City Before You Die***), Becky Rosenthal (***Fast to the Table Cookbook***), J.P. Romney (***The Monster on the Road Is Me***), Andrew Hunt (***Desolation Flats***), and the creators of ***Hope, Heart, and Humanities: How a Free College Course is Changing Lives*** including Jean Cheney, L. Jackson Newell, Hikmet Loe, and Jeff Metcalf.

Friday, November 25, 7 p.m. Former Salt Laker and professor Mary Campbell will discuss her new book, ***Charles Ellis Johnson and the Erotic Mormon Image***.

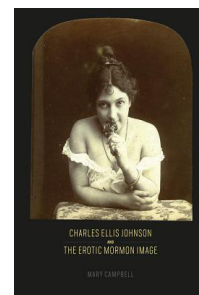


Thursday, December 1, 7 p.m. TKE alum and friend, Frank Carter, will share his memoir, ***Feather Beard: Steps from the Heart of a Solitary Walker***.

Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m. The Grinch visits for Storytime.

Sunday, January 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. New Year's Day Sale! A bit of the bubbly and 25% off everything in the store!

Visit www.kingsenglish.com for a full list of Dec/Jan events and author appearances.

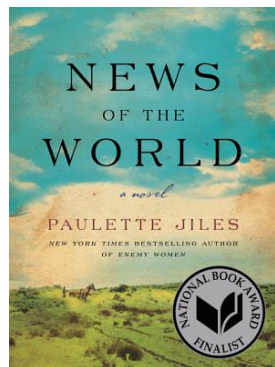


WE WRAP AND DELIVER IN THE CITY. JUST CALL US!

A Hand with Holiday Shopping from the Ever-Reading Elves at TKE

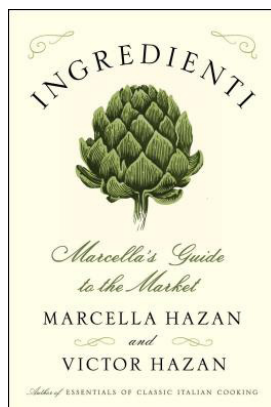
By Betsy Burton, Anne Holman, and TKE's Booksellers

There is, as ever, the perfect book for everyone on your holiday list residing somewhere on the shelves at TKE. But behold: aside from the wonderful new books that follow in the pages of our Holiday *Inkslinger*, here's a cheat-sheet filled with suggestions (most from earlier this year) for you to take along on your shopping expeditions, early or last-minute:

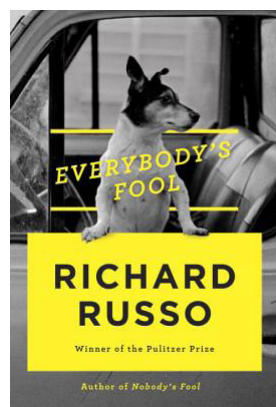


Two small jewels, perfect fits for the stockings of nearly anyone: ***News of the World*** by Paulette Jiles (Amistad, \$22), a rollicking post-Civil War tale of derring-do and love set in West Texas, impossible to put down and perfect for young and old alike (new, unlike most of what follows, but impossible to omit from any list this year!); or, for every-

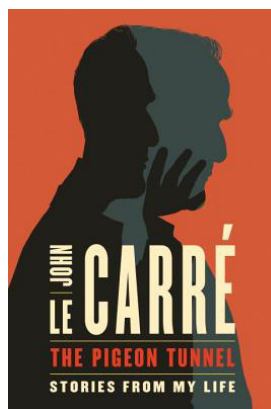
one who loves a) to cook or b) to eat, ***Ingredienti*** by Marcella and Victor Hazan (Scribner, \$20), a lovely little look at how to choose, use, and savor the ingredients that make eating worthwhile—complete with graceful line drawings. These two books alone could complete most of this year's holiday shopping!



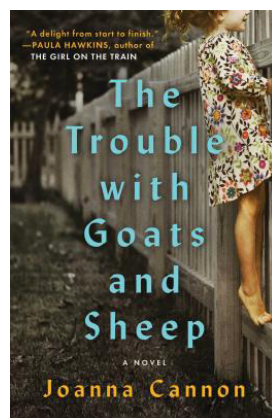
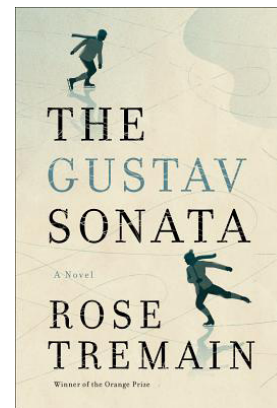
But, in addition....For your husband/dad/uncle/ brother/buddy in particular but for nearly anyone else on your list as well—a signed first edition of ***Everybody's Fool*** by Richard Russo (Knopf, \$27.95), an often-hilarious, as-often touching tale of aging, civic corruption, grave-digging and love (we all love it too!); ***Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, a Daring Escape and the Making of Winston Churchill*** (Doubleday, \$30), another of Candice Millard's rip-roaringly readable slices of history; ***American Heiress: The Wild Saga of the***



Kidnapping, Crimes, and Trial of Patty Hearst (Doubleday, \$28.95) by Jeffrey Toobin, who chronicles the kidnapping of Patricia Hearst by the Symbionese Liberation Army and their erratic journey from the night of the kidnapping to their keystone-cops travels across the country to the death and imprisonment of the survivors; and ***The Pigeon Tunnel: Stories from My Life*** (Viking \$30), a memoir from master spy John le Carré whose life, it turns out, is as fascinating as his thrillers are—and much funnier! Or, on the lighter side of the mysterious, ***An Obvious Fact*** (Viking, \$28), Craig Johnson's tale of hit-and-run, set against the backdrop of Devil's Tower involving (aside from Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear), the son of the one-and-only Lola, a force to be reckoned with....

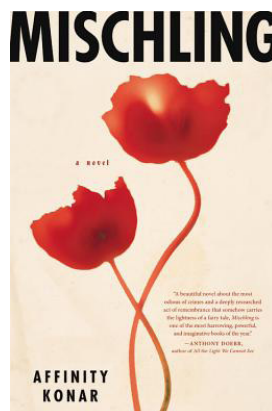
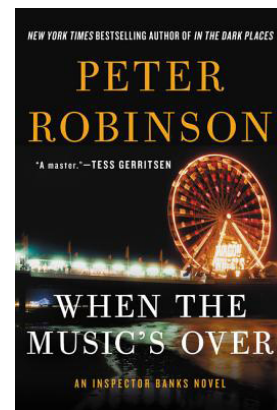


For your wife/mom/sister/aunt/BFF and all lovers of fiction: ***The Gustav Sonata*** by Rose Tremain (Norton, \$26.95), a gentle yet unforgettable tale of the Holocaust's impact on the next generation told through the lives of fast friends—as children, then as young and aging men; ***This Must Be the Place*** by Maggie O'Farrell (Knopf, \$26.95), a wondrous story of love and family, divorce and the resultant often problematic mix of family members; National Book Award finalist ***Another Brooklyn*** by Jacqueline Woodson (Amistad, \$22.95), a moving tale of four



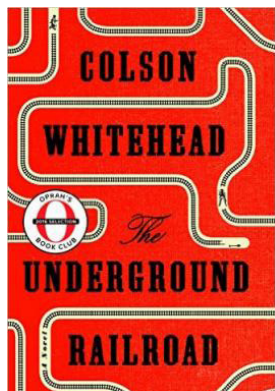
young women growing up in the '70s; ***The Trouble with Goats and Sheep*** (Scribner, \$25), Joanna Cannon's lively, tender and mysterious look at how we bring out the best and worst in one another; or, for lovers of non-fiction, ***The Six: the Lives of the Mitford Sisters*** by Laura Thompson (St. Martin's Press, \$29.99), a thoroughgoing and lively portrayal of the most interesting and outrageous siblings of their generation, women born to the British aristocracy who flirted with Nazism, Communism, Fascism, breaking social mores willy-nilly as they did so; and for a

look at a rebel of our own time, ***My Own Words*** (Simon & Schuster, \$30) by the inimitable Ruth Bader Ginsburg—another bracingly witty book, this a memoir by our fearless and iconic Supreme Court Justice. For lovers of mysteries there are Louise Penny's ***A Great Reckoning*** (Minotaur, \$28.99) which finds Canadian Armand Gamache trying to root out corruption at the training academy of the Surete, and ***When the Music's Over*** by Peter Robinson (Morrow, \$25.99) in which Inspector Banks re-examines a cold case, a long-ago rape involving a rock star and a child, while, in a parallel narrative, a contemporary rape case is investigated by Annie, his second-in-command.



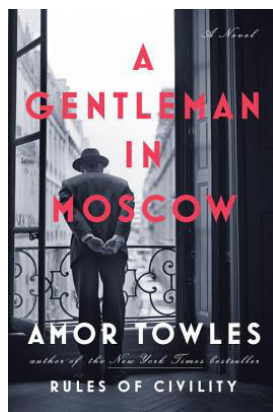
For those who, regardless of their gender, are looking for a way to hold onto what is true in themselves against all odds: ***Mischling*** by Affinity Konar (Lee Boudreaux Books, \$27) drops twin girls directly into the Holocaust, in Auschwitz, in a book impossible to forget; ***The Invisible Life of Ivan Isaenko*** by Scott Stambach (St. Martin's Press, \$25.99) is set in the Mazyr Hospital for Gravely Ill Children in Belarus where surviving is one thing, living quite another, and the sheer will

A Hand with Holiday Shopping



necessary to make each minute of each day bearable can sometimes be, well, hilarious. *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead (Doubleday, \$26.95), a white-knuckle tale of runaway slaves, forces us to see what we thought we understood through new eyes, while its contemporary fictional counterpart *Underground Airlines* by Ben Winters (Mulholland, \$26) envisions a country in our present world in which slavery still exists in a block of Southern states....

For sheer unadulterated escape, men and women alike will love *A Gentleman in Moscow*, Amor Towles' tale of Alexander Rostov, as witty, cosmopolitan, unflappable as the Scarlet Pimpernel on the outside, as kind and as thoughtful as Tolstoy's Pierre Bezukhov on the inside, who lives in a grand hotel in the years after the Russian Revolution, a character out of time in the manner of fairy tale heroes in a witty, romantic, intriguing, and thoroughly entertaining new novel.

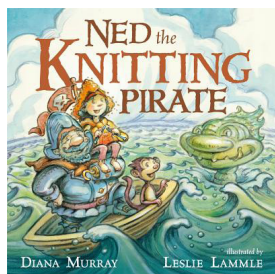


Last (but far from least!) for the children's chapter book readers in your life we have books signed by some of the most exciting authors around; they include *Summerlost* by Allie Condie (Dutton Books for Young Readers, \$17.99), *The Hammer of Thor* by Rick Riordan (Disney-Hyperion, \$19.99), and Jeff Kinney's, *The Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Double Down* (Amulet, \$13.95). The very youngest

will be entranced with *Penguin Problems* from Jory John (Random House Books for Young Readers, \$17.99) and Diana Murray's *Ned the Knitting Pirate*, illus-

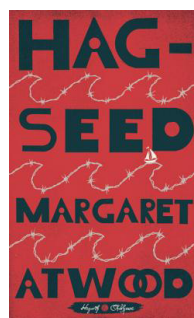
trated by local artist Leslie Lamble (Roaring Brook, \$16.99).

That's it. Something for everyone—on top of all the splendid books in the pages that follow. Happy Shopping!

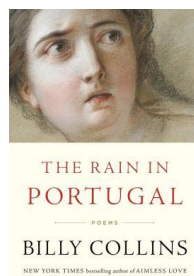


* SIGNED BOOKS * MAKE GREAT GIFTS!

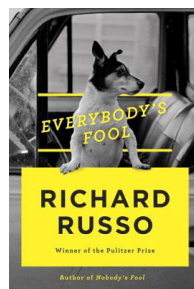
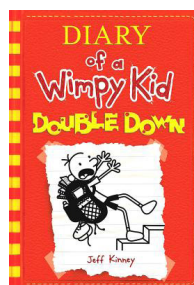
We are fortunate this season to have an abundance of signed books for your holiday gift-giving—everyone from Billy Collins to Ian McEwan, Candice Millard to Terry Tempest Williams! Call or visit us online to purchase books autographed by these authors—and many more.



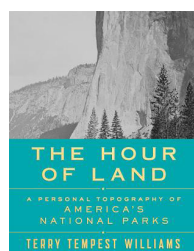
Margaret Atwood
Brit Bennett
Billy Collins
James Dashner
Gerald Elias
Gayle Forman
Judith Freeman
Jessica Day George
Shannon and Dean Hale



Paulette Jiles
Jory John
Jeff Kinney
Jon Klassen
Affinity Konar
Margot Livesey
Loren Long
Ian McEwan



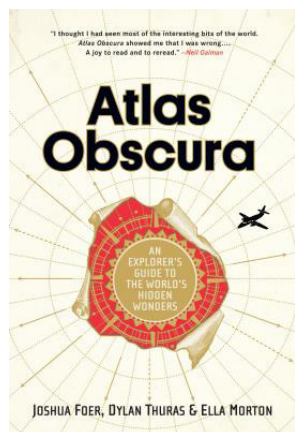
Jay McInerney
Candice Millard
Liane Moriarty
Marissa Meyer
Rick Riordan
Richard Russo
Brad Watson
J. Kael Weston
Terry Tempest Williams
Salina Yoon



Books of Singular Beauty—in Terms of Place, of Art, of Interest, or of Appetite(s)

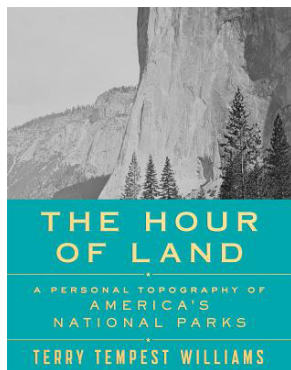
by Betsy Burton

A WORLD OF WONDERS*

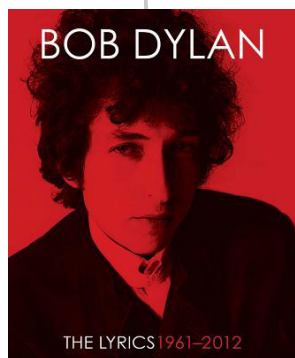


Atlas Obscura: An Explorer's Guide to the World's Hidden Wonders by Joshua Foer, Dylan Thurau, and Ella Morton (Workman, \$35) is one of those odd and oddly wonderful tomes that will stay on your coffee table long after other gifts have been stowed away and forgotten, prompting travel to places you never before imagined going and armchair adventures that will keep you riveted. All this as well as arresting photographs guaranteed to strike travel lust in anyone's heart—along with the sentiment, life's short, let's hit the road!

Once you do, two books that will help shape the road trip from heaven both feature our national parks on this, the centennial of the National Parks Service. The first, a signed copy of **The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks** (Sarah Crichton Books, \$27), is Terry Tempest Williams' unpredictable and utterly revelatory journey through America's national parks and monuments which mingles their history and present reality—whether in the minds of locals, of the parks' guardians, or from Terry's personal recollections—with black and white photos that evoke the past as well as the present. Give it alone or pair it with **Treasured Lands: A Photographic Odyssey Through America's 59 National Parks** (Cameron & Company, \$65) by Q. T. Luong (Photographer), foreword by Dayton Duncan featuring over 500 images, some iconic, some of remote wilderness, accompanied by a guide that includes maps of the parks. Pair either or both of these amazing books with a plan to visit our parks and monuments, whether all at one time in a never-ending state-by-state journey, or singly.



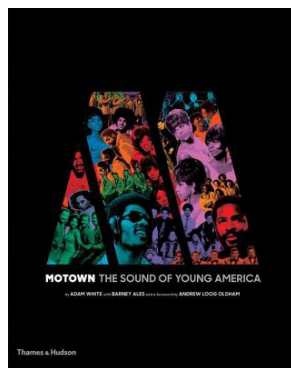
ROCK ON!*



Music is on everyone's map right now. First because Bob Dylan won this year's Nobel Prize for Literature. What better way to celebrate the occasion than the gift of **The Lyrics** (Simon & Schuster, \$60), a comprehensive collection of Dylan's lyrics (along with his frequent, some say incessant, edits) from the beginning of his career right up to the present? Dylan may be rock's master of lyricism but The Boss tells it like it is—in his music and in **Born to Run** (Simon

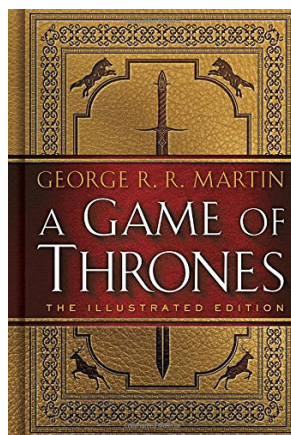
& Schuster, \$32.50), Bruce Springsteen's straight-talking, dark, funny new autobiography—a natural to pair with the CD "Chapter and Verse," a mix of new and classic songs produced as accompaniment to the book (if you buy either, a free poster of the Boss is included!). **The Rolling Stones, All the Songs: The Story Behind Every Track** by

Philippe Margotin and Jean-Michel Guesdon (Black Dog and Leventhal, \$50) is a comprehensive visual and anecdote-laced history of what many consider the world's greatest rock band. On a different note (no pun intended), **Homeward Bound: The Life of Paul Simon** (Henry Holt, \$32), the definitive, endlessly interesting biography by Peter Ames Carlin, evokes the man and also the music which grew so remarkably in terms of world view and complexity

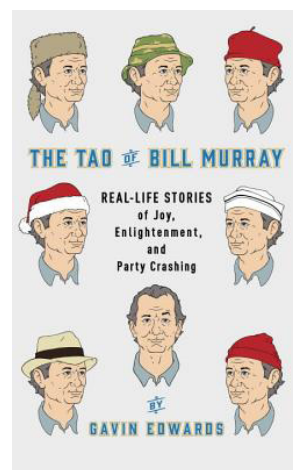
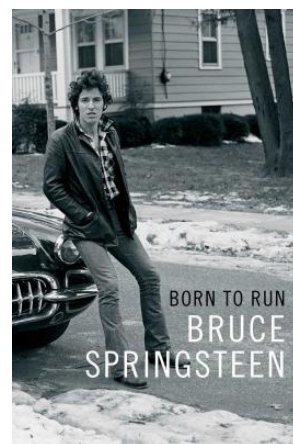


over time. Finally, for those of us around when it all began, there's **Motown: The Sound of Young America** by Adam White, Barney Ales, and Andrew Loog Oldham (Thames and Hudson, \$60), the first history of the Motown label, from Stevie Wonder to Marvin Gaye, replete with more than a thousand photos. So, from Soul and R&B to Folk to Rock and beyond, rock on!

THE BIG AND NOT-SO-BIG SCREENS*

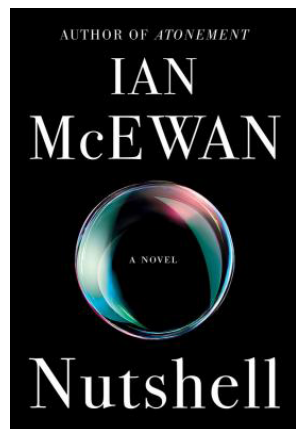


for Trekkies of all ages.... While for serious film fans, Guillermo del Toro's sumptuous **Pan's Labyrinth: Inside the Creation of a Modern Fairy Tale** (Harper Design, \$50), which includes never-before-seen visuals, rare concept art and photography from the set, and interviews with the film and crew, is for the serious aficionado; for the not-so serious but equally passionate film buff, **Young Frankenstein: A Mel Brooks Book: The Story of the Making of the Film** (Black Dog and Leventhal, \$29.99) tells the tale of the film's creation as only Brooks could—with hilarity—and with photos, interviews, and commentary. Entertaining is an understatement. Finally, **The Tao of Bill Murray: Real-Life Stories of**





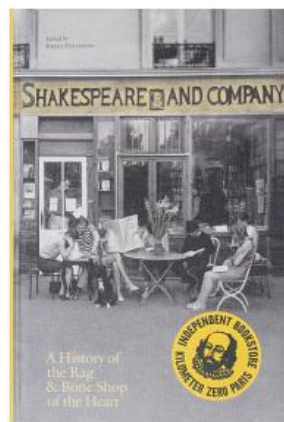
Joy, Enlightenment, and Party Crashing by Gavin Edwards (Random House, \$26) is a little compendium of goofy but true stories about Bill Murray, one of our comedic national treasures, that is sure to bring joy to his fans—just as he did, mad Cubs fan that he is, when watching the World Series!



THE BARD BY ANY OTHER NAME(S)

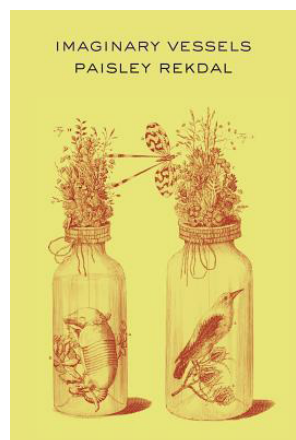
For the literati in your life (or anyone who loves to read!), rather than one large tome, how about a triumvirate of novels, each a retelling of a play by Shakespeare (none of which is as serious as this sounds). For just over \$75, three of the year's best books, gift wrapped together—with (aptly) a TKE sticker on top: **Nutshell** by Ian McEwan (Nan Talese, \$24.95), a retelling of “Hamlet” featuring as narrator a full-term fetus listening in on Mom’s plot to

kill Dad with the help of Uncle Claude—at once brilliant, believable (hard as that is to believe), and hilarious; **Hag-Seed** by Margaret Atwood (Hogarth, \$25), a witty and wicked retelling of “The Tempest” as played out in a Canadian Correctional Facility (yes, it’s as funny as it sounds); and lastly, a lively retelling, in the guise of a thriller, of “Taming of the Shrew” with a dash of “Two Gentlemen from Verona” thrown in, **The Girl from Venice** (Simon & Schuster, \$27) by the usually serious and always talented Martin Cruz Smith. And speaking of Shakespeare, here’s an idea: throw in a copy of Krista Halverson and Jeanette Winterson’s **Shakespeare and Company, Paris: A History of The Rag & Bone Shop of the Heart** (DAP, \$35), the tale of the iconic bookshop told in essays, poems and photographs by the myriad authors who stayed there, along with a couple of plane tickets to the City of Light for the present of the decade!



POETRY IN MOTION

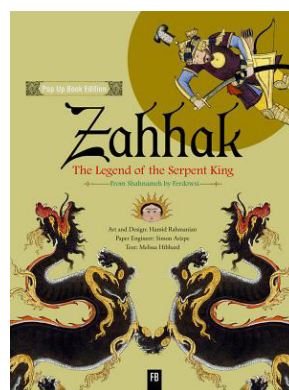
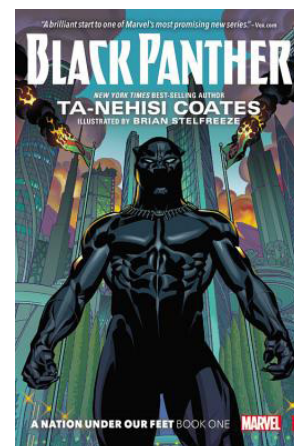
The poets in your life will love the eagerly awaited **Float** by Anne Carson (Knopf, \$30) which may well be the poetic gift of the year—especially paired with **Imaginary Vessels** (Copper Canyon, \$17) or **Flight** (Red Hen Press, \$17.95), the latest by our own brilliant poets Paisley Rekdal and Katharine Coles, respectively. Or, pair Pulitzer- and National Book Award-winning Philip Levine’s final, moving and lyrical collection **The Last Shift** (Knopf, \$26.95) with the latest collection of the



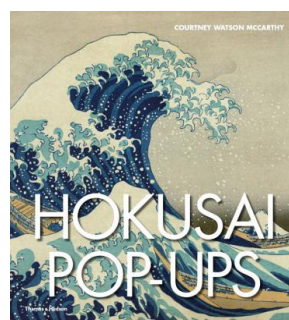
oft-whimsical, ever-entertaining, indefatigable Billy Collins, **The Rain in Portugal** (Random House, \$26) for two very different looks at the world and the way it turns.

ART BY ANOTHER NAME...

If rock lyrics can win the Nobel Prize for Literature, why shouldn’t graphic novels? Especially those written by John Lewis. Now all three volumes of his ground-breaking graphic memoir **March** by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, powerfully illustrated by Nate Powell (Top Shelf Productions, \$49.99 or \$19.99 each) open a window into the Civil Rights Movement, populating that epic struggle with real people carried along on the tide of events that not only make up our history but echo in our nation today. The same can be said in a darkly futuristic way in the graphic novel **Black Panther Book 1: A Nation Under Our Feet** by Ta-Nehisi Coates, illustrated by Brian Stelfreeze (Marvel Comics, \$16.99).



A pictorial novel of a different kind is the magnificent pop-up **Zahhak: The Legend of the Serpent King** by Hamid Rahanian and Simon Arizpe (Fanta-graphics, \$39.95), which is full of intricately constructed pages that “pop off the page,” glorious art, and a frightening array of snakes from a legendary part of **The Persian Book of Kings**. Other pop-ups appropriate for adults abound this season: **Hokusai Pop-Ups** by Courtney Watson McCarthy (Thames and Hudson, \$29.95) featuring the art of the famous 18th century Japanese artist must be seen to be believed. The woodblock print series from **The 36 Views of Mount Fuji, The Great Wave of Kanagawa....** breathtaking. As, in a different way, is **Raven, A Pop-Up Book** by Edgar Allan Poe, Christopher Wormell (Abrams, \$27.95), designed for teens but if you like the brooding Poe poem (and who doesn’t)....



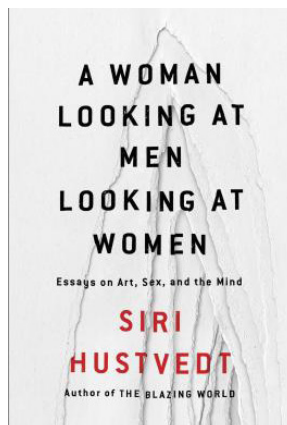
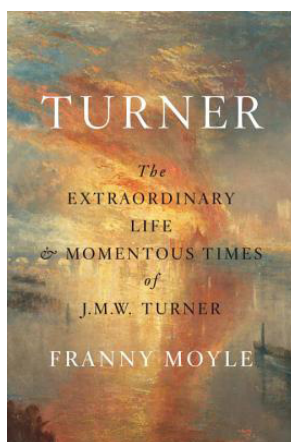
An artist of a different sort, one who uses the medium of decoupage, is John Derian, whose work is featured in museums and shops worldwide. **The John Derian Picture Book** (Workman, \$75) is a collection of the art he uses in his projects and is perfect for those who collect him (and their numbers are legion!) Finally, art as obsession can be seen in David Ellwand’s **Retro Photo, An Obsession: A Personal Selection of Vintage Cameras and the Photographs They Take** (Candlewick, \$45) which may seem an odd choice—unless you’re a photographer, amateur or professional, in which case it’s the perfect gift.





ART FOR ART'S SAKE

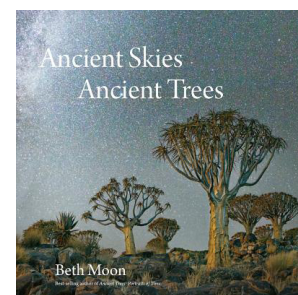
Landscapes, John Berger on Art by John Berger and Tom Overton (Verso, \$26.95) is a must-have for the serious artist and for anyone longing for a deeper understanding of the way artists "see." As he did in *Portraits*, Berger uses the landscape not as backdrop but as metaphor, examining famous art of the past century through this lens. And *Turner*, by Franny Moyle (Penguin, \$35) is an insightful and fascinating biography of J.M.W. Turner a man who arguably ushered in the modern era in art with his late-period (at the time maligned—however magnificent they



what we've seen so blatantly displayed in the news this year. Even for people of little or no faith, this gives one hope for the future. On a very different note but equally appropriate right now, *A Woman Looking at Men Looking at Women: Essays on Art, Sex, and the Mind* by Siri Hustvedt (Simon & Schuster, \$35) couples an artist's sensibility and a deep understanding of neuroscience, psychology and philosophy with clarity of thought and cogent writing. Bracing, feminist, fascinating, and, again, all too timely. As is Neil deGrasse

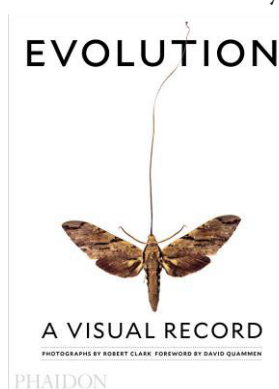
Tyson's *StarTalk: Everything You Ever Need to Know about Space Travel, Sci-Fi, The Human Race, the Universe, and Beyond* (National Geographic, \$30), a tour-de-force of a book that is as full of color as it is of answers, illuminating what's around and beyond us in every way possible, whether the issue is astrophysics or superheroes.

In a more down-to earth-fashion (literally) *National Geographic Greatest Landscapes Stunning Photographs That Inspire and Astonish*, foreword by George Steinmetz (National Geographic, \$40) focuses on the natural world in a book as gorgeous as the title promises, while in a very different vein Beth Moon, in *Ancient Skies, Ancient Trees* (Abbeville, \$49.95), takes us back



to the world of the night skies before the modern world flooded them with light, searching out remote places to recapture what was known. Whether turning her digital camera on the constellations that inhabit the heavens or the trees that populate the earth, she captures the almost unbearable beauty of each, aided by authors Clark Strand and

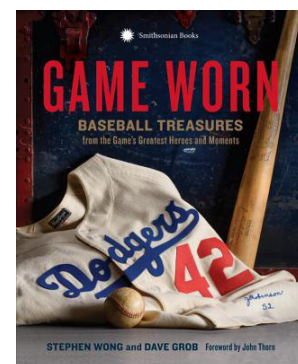
astrophysicist Jana Grcevic. As does *Evolution: a Visual Record* by photographer Robert Clark and naturalists David Quammen and Joseph Wallace (Phaidon, \$39.95), taking us from the dawn of time forward in a series of stunning images that vividly show evolution at work. Finally, and very much of this world, Mark Avery's *Remarkable Birds* (Thames & Hudson, \$39.95) explores in a factual way the world of many of the nearly



10,000 species that reside on earth, their colonies, their love lives, their habitats and habits.

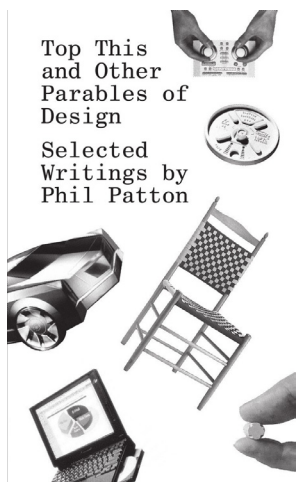
BATTER UP!

Decidedly of this world, and meant for the hardcore baseball aficionado, *Game Worn: Baseball Treasures* from the World's Greatest Treasures and Moments by Stephen Wong, Dave Grob,



Top This and Other Parables of Design

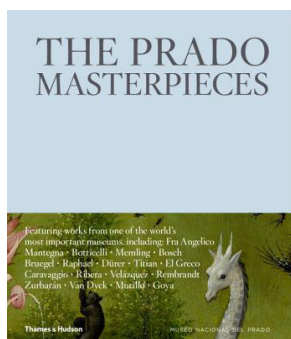
Selected Writings by Phil Patton



seem today) paintings. And *Top This and Other Parables of Design: Selected Writings* (Cooper Hewitt/Smithsonian Design Museum, \$17.95) is a delightful collection of short and prescient think-pieces about design from the late, great Phil Patton, lovingly curated and supplemented with essays by his peers and colleagues. This pocket-sized anthology is the ideal stocking stuffer for artists, graphic designers, architects, or anyone else who wants to understand more about the secret language of objects.

For those who long for the art itself, in all its glory, *The Prado Masterpieces*

from the Museo Nacional del Prado (Thames & Hudson, \$125) is a first—the one and only collection published in conjunction with the famous Spanish museum and featuring the work of history's most important artists from Goya and El Greco to Velazquez, Titian and Bosch. As beautiful in a very different way is *Art of the Bible: Illuminated Manuscripts of the Medieval World* by Scot McKendrick and Kathleen Doyle (Thames & Hudson, \$95). Exquisite as it is informative, it's reminiscent of *The Book of Kells*—and that's high praise indeed! Finally, closer to home and equally magnificent is James Aton's *The Art and Life of Jimmie Jones: Landscape Artist of the Canyon Country* (Gibbs Smith, \$75). Not brand-new but so gorgeous we had to include it!



ON MATTERS OF FAITH, SCIENCE, AND GENDER

Pope Francis: The Story of the Holy Father by Marie Duhamel (Black Dog and Leventhal, \$50) is a biography authorized by the Vatican that is replete with photographs, document facsimiles, and details of the Argentinian childhood and adult journey of a man of faith who endlessly champions the poor—a wonderful counterbalance to

* * Books of Singular Beauty * *

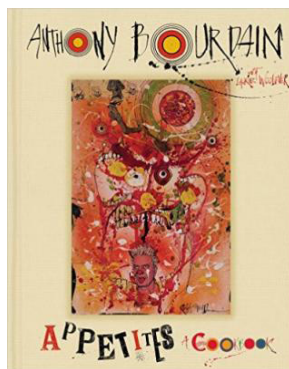
and Francesco Sapienza (Smithsonian, \$34.95) is a book about—you're not going to believe this—baseball uniforms. It wasn't until I talked to a collector of baseball cards and memorabilia (who shall remain nameless) that I realized that this was as big a deal to him as facsimiles of Emily Dickinson's letters might be to me. Vive la difference! In like manner, it's hard for someone of a lazy disposition to understand the thrill of a book like **Grand Trail: A Magnificent Journey to the Heart of Ultrarunning and Racing** by Fredrick Berg and Alexis Berg (Velo Press, \$45), which beautifully features the people, places and emotions that make up that world. But



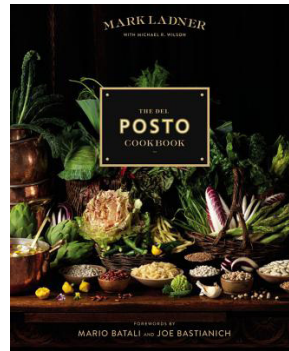
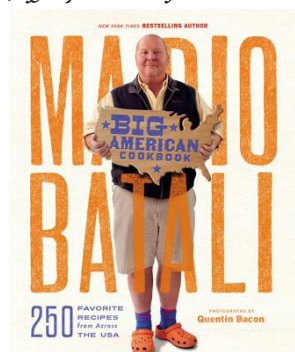
my best friend's daughter inhabits this same universe, and when said friend saw it...a holiday shopping coup! And for her other daughter, who loves bicycling and traveling with equal passion, **Mountains: Epic Cycling Climbs** by Michael Blann (Thames & Hudson, \$50), a book which features cycling in the mountains of Europe, was just the ticket. Shopping done!

BUTTER UP! *

I'm not a great cook but my husband is (the dream marriage, at least from my perspective) but reading cookbooks is right up my ally. Although this year there are so many lavish and luscious tomes that it's almost impossible to choose, I'll make a valiant effort, starting with a new book by my favorite traveling chef, Anthony Bourdain, **Appetites: a Cookbook** (Ecco, \$37.50). I like his taste in both food and politics and I love his globe-trotting tales and sense of humor—and now that he's spending time at home with his daughter, he has, in his own words, “morphed into a psychotic, anal-retentive, bad-tempered Ina Garten.” I hope someone gives me one, along with the new Ina Garten, speak of the devil. **Cooking for Jeffrey: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook** (Clarkson Potter, \$35) revis-



its and reinvents old favorites from the course of her marriage, and concocts some new ones, even adding a chapter on cheeses. Garten has penned the foreword of another cookbook, **Small Victories: Recipes, Advice and Hundreds of Ideas for Home Cooking Triumph** by Julia Turshen (Chronicle, \$35) which, given the expected publicity, promises to be the hit of the season. She previously co-authored a book with Mario

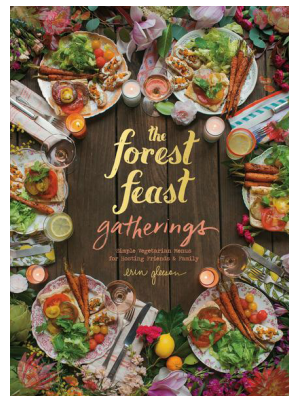


Batali who has a new book out this year, **Mario Batali: Big American Cookbook: 250 Favorite Recipes from Across the U.S.A.** (Grand Central, \$40), that Batali has been working on for years. I plan to give it to the cook in our house, along with another Batali co-authored this year with chef Mark Ladner, **The Del Posto Cookbook** (Grand Central, \$60) from the famous Italian restaurant by the same name.

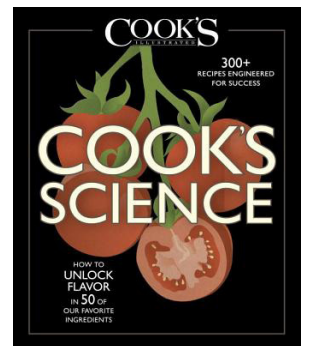
There's more, so butter up with **Butter Celebrates: Delicious Recipes for Special Occasions** (Knopf, \$35) by the owner of Vancouver's Butter Baked Goods, Rosie Daykin, featuring celebratory meals for every occasion imaginable from Valentine's Day to Thanksgiving to the dog's birthday. Or celebrate veggie



style with **The Forest Feast Gatherings: Simple Vegetarian Menus for Hosting Friends and Families** (Abrams, \$35) by Erin Gleeson, author of **Forest Feasts** beloved by TKE booksellers. And if that sounds (and looks) good, so does **A Recipe for Cooking** (Morrow,

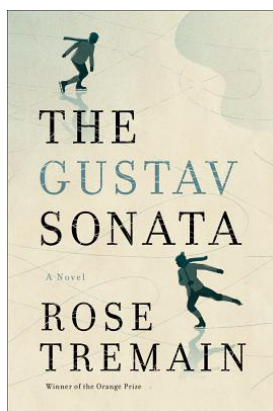


\$29.99) yet another collection of luscious ideas for family get-togethers of one kind and another by Cal Peternell, author of **Twelve Recipes**. And finally, for the SERIOUS cook (that wouldn't be me), there's **Cook's Science: How to Unlock Flavor in 50 of Our Favorite Ingredients** (The editors at Cook's Illustrated, \$40). Pair it with Hazan's previously mentioned **Ingredienti** and voila!



“Thou callest me a dog before thou hast cause. But since I am a dog, beware my fangs.” – William Shakespeare, **The Merchant of Venice**

Winslow Homer, beloved rescue of Brooke and Terry Tempest William



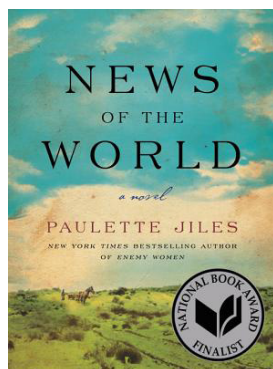
***The Gustav Sonata*, Rose Tremain**

Tremain's *The Gustav Sonata* is, like her wonderful historical novel *Music and Silence*, a tale of music and silence—the music that of child prodigy Anton Zweibel, whom we meet through the eyes of his soon-to-be best friend Gustav Pearle. Gustav's lot is silence: the silence of his widowed, bitter mother whose policeman husband had protected the Jews flooding into Switzerland at the start of WWII. Gustav does everything in his small boy repertoire to make his mother happy,

while Anton plays his heart out every day, lost in his music. Until, at his first piano competition, he walks out on the stage and cannot perform. Gustav feels Anton's pain as only a best friend can. What happens to the two friends, the back story of Gustav's life and that of his mother, the days he spends living quietly, strangely reminiscent of Jayber Crow for those of you who have read Wendell Berry, bloom into a tale of transcendent beauty in the hands of Tremain. A quiet masterpiece. — Betsy Burton, Norton, \$26.95

***News of the World*, Paulette Jiles**

Captain Jefferson Kidd, a Civil War veteran who is no stranger to war or to violence, has a peaceful new occupation: reading the news to isolated communities in North Texas. Until he accepts a gold piece as payment for transporting back to her own people a 10-year-old white girl who'd been captured by the Kiowa four years before. Trouble is, Joanna thinks she's been kidnapped; that the Kiowa are her people. So begins a journey you're guaranteed to enjoy and are unlikely to forget as this unlikely duo takes to the road, trailed by danger. Although they slowly forge a bond, despite themselves, Captain Kidd is determined to do what he considers to be right. At journey's end what's right becomes problematic, however, and the expected sentimental ending becomes instead a situation that is unexpected, unsettling, and ambiguous—both legally and morally. Which, along with the lyrical writing, may be the reason this little novel was short-listed for the National Book Award. But awards notwithstanding, this is a rip-snorting Western novel, full of action, while at the same time a touching tale of two people, one 70, one 10, learning to care. A rare and lovely combination. — Betsy Burton, Morrow, \$22.99



***4321*, Paul Auster**

Paul Auster has not been in the public eye much lately, but now we know that he's been very busy on a legitimate masterpiece. In the past he has consistently delivered two sizes of fiction—novellas that clock in at about 150 pages and novels at about 325 pages. But his new one is nearly one thousand pages long. That's because this is really four books in one. *4321* is a bildungsroman about a midcentury New Yorker named Archie Ferguson, told in a



quadrophonic format—the title refers to the four different versions of Ferguson's life depicted in the novel. Like a string theory multiverse in fictional form, every chapter is broken into four subchapters for each Ferguson variant. It can be a daunting reading experience holding the strings together and keeping track of the subtle differences in choices and consequences that set each of the four versions apart, but the artistry of Auster's prose and his command of the sprawling narrative sustain the reader throughout. And it's possible that some of this memorial confusion is intentionally built in to the reading experience; at times, it feels like Auster wants the reader to feel immersed or even overwhelmed by all the stories, to be awash in Ferguson's life/lives. To have written just one of these narratives would have been a typical and typically excellent Paul Auster novel; to have written all four and arranged them so elegantly into one book is extraordinary. *4321* is apex Auster, a magnum opus on the level of Dickens, Tolstoy, and Proust. — Kenneth Loosli, Henry Holt, \$32.50



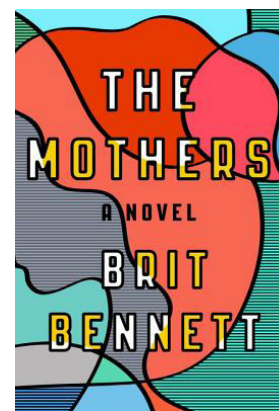
***Moonglow*, Michael Chabon**

A story told in the refracted light of memory, Chabon's latest is a memoir inside of a novel inside of a memoir. Lent verisimilitude by the occasional footnote and by the narrative voice of Michael Chabon as Michael Chabon, it's set up as a sort of reverse *Princess Bride*: an old man is on his deathbed, his grandson in attendance (although the tale it tells is as far from fantasy as one can get). Customarily taciturn, the grandfather is uncommonly garrulous, in part due to painkillers but in larger part to the fact that memories are bubbling to the surface of his conscious mind one after another ready to spill over before death wipes them away for good. These memories, vibrantly told, form the nexus of this tale of past lives, interrupted occasionally by the author's own reactions as he listens, and by his talk in the kitchen with his mother, who played no small part in the unfolding drama. This is as compelling as anything Chabon has written. His grandfather, a rebellious kid who grew up in the Jewish slums of South Philly, was possessed of a creative mind, a grasp of science and a fascination with space and rocketry that propelled him out of the slums and eventually through the landscape of WWII. His subsequent marriage to a beautiful woman horribly damaged by life complicated his existence in ways that echo through the lives of the family, particularly that of their daughter, Chabon's mother. The strands of these lives, interrupted by war, weave their way through the subsequent decades in a book that is fascinating, occasionally horrifying, always moving. I couldn't put it down and I loved every word.

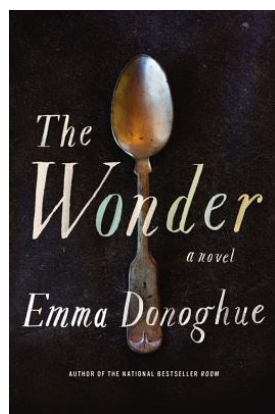
— Betsy Burton, Harper, \$28.99

***The Mothers*, Brit Bennett**

Everyone in this debut novel, including the “mothers,” has secrets. Nadia Turner, who had no intention of becoming a mother at 17 years old, was offered a way out and took it. The repercussions last for years, and those whose lives revolve around the small church outside of



Oceanside, California, get sucked in and out of the maelstrom over and over. The older women of the church, a veritable Greek chorus, some with their own secrets, have definite opinions about who said what and what happened after—but the truth lies somewhere in the middle. A brilliant first novel. – Anne Holman, Riverhead, \$26



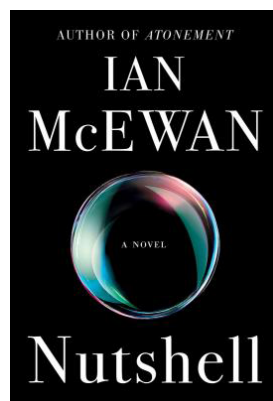
The Wonder, Emma Donoghue

The story of Lib, a Nightingale-trained nurse brought into a small Irish village to observe and confirm what people are calling a miracle: a young, deeply pious girl who claims to have subsisted without food for the past four months. While initially hired to discover whether the girl is sneaking food, Lib becomes increasingly alarmed as the child inches closer to death. Through her signature deft pacing and beautiful imagery, Donoghue's storytelling craft is at its peak in this thrilling

rumination on love, loss, and faith. – Rachel Haisley, Little Brown, \$27

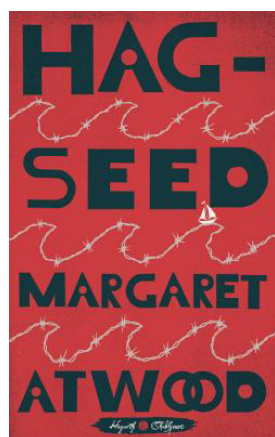
Nutshell, Ian McEwan

Who but Ian McEwan could conjure up a protagonist who, through shrouds of amniotic fluid, overhears a murder plot above the thudding of his mother's heart? In a nutshell, once you buy into the premise of babe in a nutshell your eyes will open wide with wonder and you'll howl with shock and laughter and horror as you follow the ups and down of plot and counterplot, of self-serving rationalization and blatantly evil admissions, of stupidity and cupidity and lust, all contained in this nutshell-sized novel. There are few writers alive today who are as mordantly funny, as corrosively ironic, as conniving plot-wise or as linguistically ingenious—or whose use of language is as stunning, as lucid or as lethal. *Nutshell* is a book that will inhabit your brain and bloodstream like a virus—forever after, I fear. It may not have the sense of history or breadth of character of *Atonement*, but for what it is, a wicked retelling of "Hamlet" from a thoroughly unique perspective, it's one for the books. – Betsy Burton, Nan A. Talese, Doubleday, \$21.95



Hag-Seed, Margaret Atwood

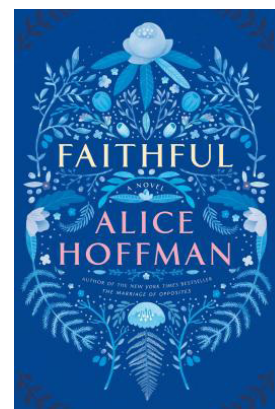
Like *Nutshell*, *Hag-Seed* is a Shakespearean retelling, this time of "The Tempest." It's also a novel of revenge unlike any you've ever encountered. Its protagonist is Felix, a famous theater director cast out of the world he loves by a conniving assistant, who goes to ground in an abandoned shack, his only company the ghost of his long-dead daughter, Miranda. When he finally returns to life Felix takes a job as theater director at the local correctional facility where the inmates,



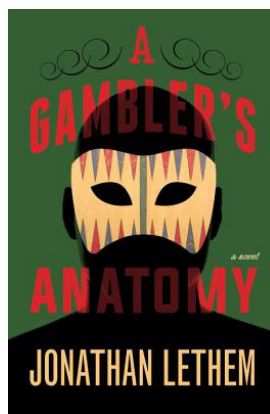
initially dubious to a man and dangerous to say the least, become increasingly enchanted by Shakespeare—re-written in rap to suit their world—and by the heady seductions of theater. When Felix learns his nemesis is to visit the prison, what follows is pure Shakespeare. Or rather, pure Margaret Atwood: people at cross purposes, plays within plays, star-crossed fates if not lovers, a tangle of betrayal and fealty, love and greed and jealousy, all of which proceed at a heart-in-throat pace, the mood at once darkly cynical and deliciously satiric, every page conveying the irresistible sorcery of the stage and the heady air of comedy. Atwood's addition to the Hogarth Shakespeare series is pure magic. – Betsy Burton, Hogarth, \$25

Faithful, Alice Hoffman

Stuff happens. But it's hard, when you're a teenager, not to believe everything is your fault. For Shelby Richmond, life as she knows it ends when a terrible car accident leaves her best friend in a coma and Shelby survives, physically unscathed. Her psychological wounds are deep however, and she has no idea how to fix them and move on. She seeks refuge in the anonymity of New York City and tries hard to erase herself, but the past has a way of finding each of us and Shelby is no exception. This is a beautiful story about what can happen when you let yourself believe—in yourself and in the universe. – Anne Holman, Simon & Schuster, \$26



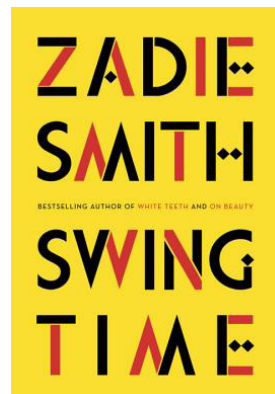
A Gambler's Anatomy, Jonathan Lethem



In his new novel Lethem introduces Alexander Bruno, a professional backgammon player who has relied on his self-proclaimed psychic abilities and his gorgeous face to make a living. Enter the blot. At first Bruno thinks it is just a "retinal floater going mad," but after his latest backgammon match in Berlin lands him in the hospital, he realizes it is a bit more serious. So serious that Bruno must make a trip home to Berkeley, a place to which he vowed never to return, to get an experimental operation. Not just a minor operation, mind you—Bruno will need his entire face removed! Surrounded by an array of quirky humans including a lady of the evening, a high school chum and his girlfriend, an anarchist hamburger flipper, and a Jimi Hendrix-obsessive surgeon, we follow Bruno as he faces his new reality. – Jamie Ortwein, Doubleday, \$27.95

Swing Time, Zadie Smith

If, as a recent article states, literary fiction promotes empathy and understanding, Smith's latest novel serves up a large portion of each for the reader, reminding us of why we still need novels. The story begins with the friendship of two young black girls in a low-income project in



North London. Although both are aspiring dancers, only one has enough talent to go on professionally. It is the widely divergent paths that each takes into adulthood that grip us, carrying us through not just the world of dance, but of music, and of global politics. *Swing Time* is funny and moving and flows with the grace of a dancer.

– Jan Sloan, Penguin Press, \$27

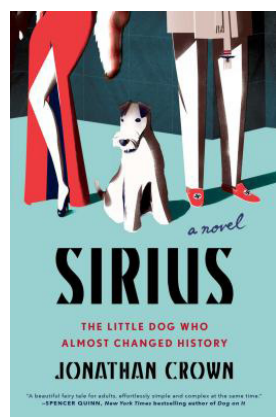
The Spy, Paulo Coelho

A novel told in epistolary form, *The Spy* takes the reader into the largely forgotten, tragic life of Mata Hari. As the story unfolds through a letter she wrote while in prison prior to her execution on charges of espionage in 1917, the world-famous exotic dancer and courtesan reflects on her life: humble beginnings, sexual assault, and a subsequent escape via a failed marriage. She recalls re-inventing herself as a dancer, deliberately avoiding her own past through her art, and freeing herself from the constraints common to her sex after witnessing the tragic suicide of another army wife while stationed in Java. Taking with her a strange form of dance and Asian cultural and religious influences, she escapes to Paris where she enralls the public with her unusual new erotic performance art, attracting admirers, lovers, and enemies. Drawn into the political realm by her own naiveté, enlisted to be a secret agent by both sides, and ultimately double-crossed by her French contact, Mata Hari's greatest mistake was believing that her beauty, fame, and innocence would save her. A tragic story of one woman's unique expression of art and love. – Annie Mark and Rob Eckman, Knopf, \$22



Sirius: The Little Dog Who Almost Changed History, Jonathan Crown

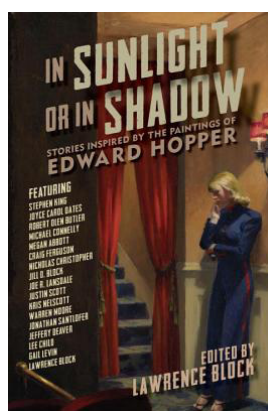
The fox terrier who is the hero of this comedic tour-de-force begins life as Levi. Adopted by a Jewish family he is loved and cared for almost as a small human. But the Nazis are on the rise, and Levi's family flees to California, renaming the terrier Sirius, as a form of protection. Well, it's Hollywood during the war years and because he has a human-like ability to work with and respond to people, Sirius quickly becomes a star, replacing



Asta from "The Thin Man" in audience's hearts across America. Under yet a new name, Hercules, our small hero embarks on a series of misadventures which lead him, unbelievably, to the feet of the Führer himself. Could a small canine movie star have what it takes to defeat the evildest human on earth? Quite possibly. – Anne Holman, Scribner, \$25

In Sunlight or in Shadow: Stories Inspired by the Paintings of Edward Hopper, edited by Lawrence Block

In an Edward Hopper painting, the subject matter is quiet, simple, and mysterious. Coming upon a Hopper painting offers the viewer a chance to imagine the thoughts and actions of a lonely woman or silent place. This anthology offers 17 authors the chance to answer the

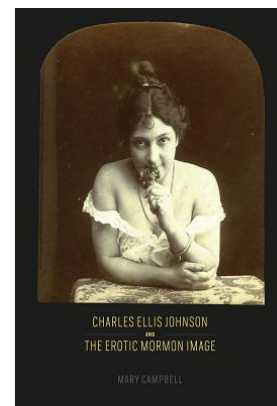


questions: "what is he thinking?" "what is behind the lonely gas pump?" "why is the woman so alone?" Editor Block has brought together authors as varied as Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King, Michael Connelly, Jeffery Deaver, and even TV host Craig Ferguson to create this collection. The stories are as varied as the authors themselves and come complete with reproductions of the paintings which inspired the pieces. The book will appeal to lovers of visual art, short stories or both, and would make an interesting and unusual gift. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Pegasus Books, \$25.95

NONFICTION

Charles Ellis Johnson and the Erotic Mormon Image, Mary Campbell

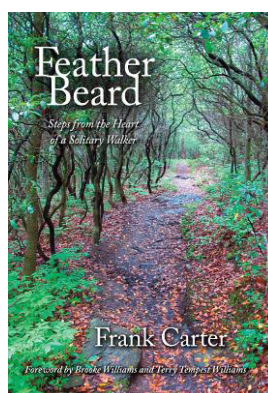
Revelation can take many forms. Thanks to her lively mind, prodigious knowledge, and sharp insight, Campbell gives us a window akin to revelation into not just a man but a religion—Mormonism, on the cusp of transmigrating from separate and apart to mainstream America— using photographer Johnson's stereographic images as her lens for viewing this transformation. Johnson came of professional age when polygamy was ascendant here, the country awash in salacious journalism that portrayed Mormons as engaged in practices involving harems, harlots, and sex-crazed prophets. He published a guide to Salt Lake that belied that image, portraying the city as cultured, cosmopolitan, very much of the American mainstream. His work likewise transformed the Orientalism that journalism used to denigrate Mormons to a benign recreational image via Saltair; transformed what was assumed to be a shocking Mormon erotic sensibility into more mainstream pornography via his mail-order business and his association with theater; painted Mormon women as feminist and part of yet another mainstream current—even as the Mormons finally denied polygamy. Using Johnson's fascinating images as metaphor and lens, Campbell takes us on an unforgettable journey through a faith and a social history we thought we understood in this witty, visually intriguing analysis of the transformative power of image. – Betsy Burton,



University of Chicago Press, \$45 *Editor's note: Mary Campbell will be at The King's English on Friday, November 25, 7 p.m. to discuss her book.*

Feather Beard: Steps from the Heart of a Solitary Walker, Frank Carter

Upon the advice of his friend and adviser, Terry Tempest Williams, Frank Carter set out on the Appalachian Trail to get back to the roots of his family and forebears. Along the 500 mile walk, Carter learned a great deal about the flora and fauna

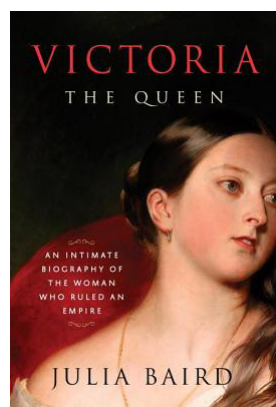


(bears!) and even more about himself. Each step of his trek is a hymn to nature and the power of Mother Earth. Originally conceived as his master's thesis, **Feather Beard** is now a book complete with color photographs of his journey and a play list of original and favorite music for download. We love the book and we love Frank! – Anne Holman & Betsy Burton, Blaine Creek Press, \$19.95 *Editor's note: Frank Carter will be at The King's English on Thursday, December 1, 7 p.m. to talk about his memoir.*

The Earth Is Weeping: The Epic Story of the Indian Wars for the American West, Peter Cozzens

The subtitle pretty much says it all. Cozzens illuminates the struggle between the Native American tribes and the army, settlers, gold seekers and the government in his vast and cogent account. The horrors committed by the Indians and (mostly) to the Indians are appalling. That there was an orchestrated policy of genocide is undeniable; the inevitable outcome was the tragic end of the life of the nomadic tribes of the American West. The storytelling is as compelling as are the lives of the very real people on all sides—some well-intentioned, others corrupt and bigoted, each portrayed in-depth. Cozzens' book is a must-read for anyone who loves and lives in the West.

– Barbara Hoagland, Knopf, \$35



Victoria the Queen, Julia Baird

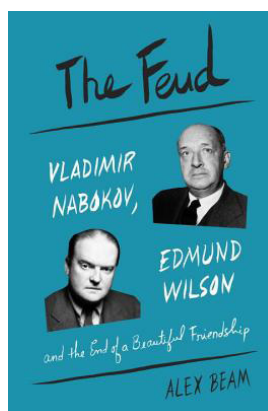
Only 18 when she assumed the throne, Victoria was to rule a vast empire for over 60 years. In this latest biography Baird reveals a woman who so dominated the world that an entire epoch was named for her. Her nine children and their children inhabited most of the thrones of Europe until the upheaval of World War I. Her expansionist policies enabled Great Britain to rule over one fourth of the entire world. But Baird also reveals a passionate and vibrant woman who struggled to

assert herself in a time and place that was dismissive of the female sex. She explains how the world's view of this amazing queen was dramatically changed by her well-meaning heirs who destroyed vast amounts of her written documents in an effort to sanitize her legacy. Baird's enthralling biography, a nuanced look at a dynamic queen, is a welcome addition to her history and that of her time.

– Barbara Hoagland, Random, \$35

The Feud: Vladimir Nabokov, Edmund Wilson, and the End of a Beautiful Friendship, Alex Beam

Who knew that obscure matters of Russian translation and prosody could drive such an insurmountable wedge between two once-great friends? In a brisk and surprisingly compelling narrative, Beam revives a forgotten literary feud that was the mid-20th century's cultural equivalent of what kids today call "a rap beef." Nabokov, literary émigré célèbre par excellence, and Edmund Wilson, then a titan of midcentury letters but now rarely read, were fast friends who shared



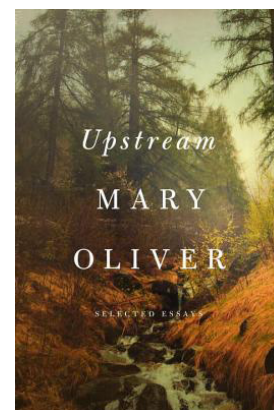
overlapping professional interests and genuine personal affection. The feud arose from the fact that both men wanted to author the ultimate translation of Pushkin's novel-in-verse **Eugene Onegin**, and each one committed what the other considered a cardinal sin in his attempt. For Nabokov, Wilson was a dilettante with no real grasp of the nuances of Russian; for Wilson, Nabokov's non-native approach to English, which had made his novels so extraordinary, also made many of his choices in his version of **Onegin** not only questionable, but downright laughable

(one infamous line in particular was mocked so badly the mockery intruded upon even Nabokov's son's life). Which is to say, just like modern-day rappers, these two brotherly friends fell out over who was better at Russian poetry, and neither one ever really got over it. A sad but deeply personal look into how artistic ambition can destroy relationships. – Kenneth Loosli, Pantheon, \$26.95

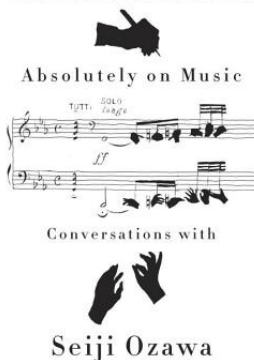
Upstream, Mary Oliver

Oliver's latest is a book of essays written as poetically as any of her verse. She examines the impact of Walt Whitman's **Leaves of Grass**, Emerson's work, Poe's and Wordsworth's on her growth as a writer. The underpinning of all of her work, however, is her immersion in nature—something she displays time and again in her attention to the smallest detail as she describes her time in the out-of-doors. Beautifully written, calming in this time of angst and uncertainty, this is a wonderful gift for any lover of nature—or of the art of writing.

– Jan Sloan, Penguin Press, \$26



Haruki Murakami



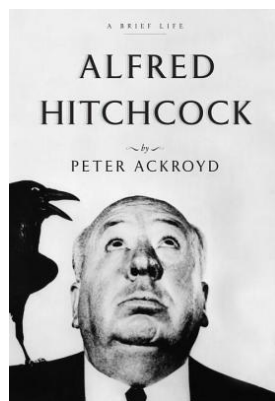
Absolutely on Music: Conversations, Haruki Murakami with Seiji Ozawa

While Ozawa was recovering from major surgery in 2009, Murakami had the opportunity to enjoy a series of interviews with him. Murakami's intense interest in both jazz and classical music and his knowledge of various recordings of major works (including Brahms, Beethoven, Mahler) gave him the background for these discussions with the master conductor. Ozawa's experiences with Leonard Bernstein and Herbert von Karajan and his time in such venues as Carnegie Hall

are shared, as well as both Murakami's and Ozawa's ideas about learning, teaching, growing. If you love classical music, you'll love this book. – Deon Hilger, Knopf, \$26.95

Alfred Hitchcock: A Brief Life, Peter Ackroyd

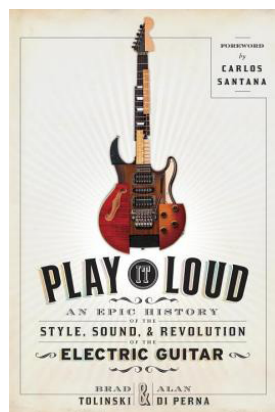
Ackroyd focuses on the Master of Suspense for the latest installment in Doubleday's Brief Lives series. While it may not be as much of a



revelation as his brief bio of that other master of suspense, Wilkie Collins, it's perfect for anyone who wants to know more about Hitchcock without becoming "The Fan Who Knew Too Much." – Kenneth Loosli, Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$26.95

Conversations with McCartney, Paul Du Noyer

For rabid Beatlemaniacs, there can never be too many books about the Fab Four, but even casual fans (i.e. those who don't have a stake in the Lennon vs. McCartney fight and just love the music) will find much to enjoy in these topically arranged interviews. In addition to covering familiar Beatles territory, Du Noyer's book also shows McCartney speaking about his solo career, his long absence from and acclaimed return to performing, current and upcoming projects, and of course his family life. There may already be an "official/authorized" biography of McCartney, and plenty of unauthorized ones, but this book of interviews is probably as close as we'll ever get to a real Macca memoir that lets us "Listen To What The Man Said" directly. – Kenneth Loosli, Overlook, \$29.95



Play It Loud: An Epic History of the Style, Sound, & Revolution of the Electric Guitar, Brad Tolinski & Alan di Perna

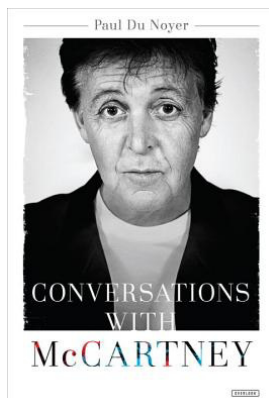
Two of the world's leading experts on guitars and guitarists have put together a history of the electric guitar that is comprehensive yet written with the general public in mind. Tolinski and di Perna supplement their solidly researched historical narrative with insightful commentary from some of the most famous guitar heroes of yesterday and today. As we watch 21st-century technology change

popular music on a nearly daily basis, this book provides an especially rewarding opportunity to return to earlier eras when a different kind of technological disruption (electrified instruments and amplification) was changing the nature of pop music itself.

– Kenneth Loosli, Doubleday, \$26.95

Testimony, Robbie Robertson

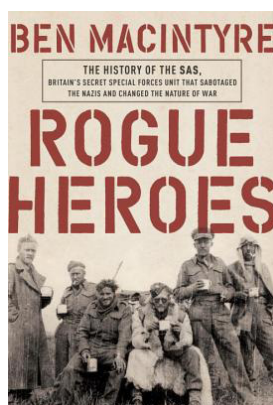
Robbie Robertson tells the story of the formation of The Band in prose that's as easy-going as the man himself. Music nerds will appreciate Robertson's recollections of how specific songs and albums were created technologically—he even recalls how many and what brand of mics were used for particular sessions. He also shares some great stories about other luminaries from the period, like America's most recent Nobel laureate for literature, Bob Dylan, with a particular emphasis on the emotional impact of playing the infamous 1966 "Dylan goes electric" tour. He gives short shrift to the post-Band part



of his life—other critics have lamented the lack of discussion about his creative collaboration and personal relationship with Martin Scorsese, which really would have been worth a chapter. And Robertson does come off as a little defensive or even evasive in discussing his personal albatross, the slightly shady way he ended up king of the hill of The Band's royalties. Even so, Robertson's sense of appreciation for everything he's experienced and his love for his bandmates and friends really shine through in this memoir from one of Canada's best. — Kenneth Loosli, Crown Archetype, \$30 *Editor's Note: Pair this with Springsteen's latest for the perfect rock experience.*



Rogue Heroes: The History of the SAS, Britain's Secret Special Forces Unit That Sabotaged the Nazis and Changed the Nature of War, Ben Macintyre



It is early 1941 and Britain is standing alone against Nazi Germany, fighting the air battle over Britain against the Luftwaffe and dueling Rommel in North Africa—things are not going well. With typical ingenuity, British leaders, knowing they cannot match the Germans in manpower and machinery, decide to create a new force of lightly equipped soldiers

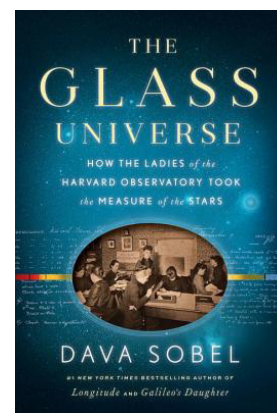
who will create havoc behind the lines and fight the Germans in an unconventional way by sabotaging critical supply lines and airfields. We accept this type of special forces now, but in 1941 this was a new concept, and the Brits perfected it through trial and error—all with a terrible loss of personnel. Great story with excellent maps and supporting materials that tells the story of British pluck, supporting the adage that the British have a stiff upper lip when they need it.

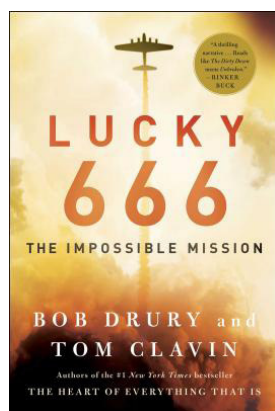
– Patrick Fleming, Crown Publishing, \$28

The Glass Universe: How the Ladies of the Harvard Observatory Took the Measure of the Stars, Dava Sobel

The mid-1800s' scientific advancements were as vast and amazing as the universe seemed to be. The Harvard College Observatory was the leader in astronomical discoveries largely due to the largesse of two wealthy widows whose endowments allowed the observatory to map the stars—largely accomplished by the employment of a group of female calculators, an unheard of occupation for women at the time. Their mathematical ability enabled the Observatory not only to map the sky, but also to develop a method of measuring distances between stars. Sobel, who dazzled with her previous works *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter*, has done it again in this story of women at the heart of the mapping of the universe.

– Barbara Hoagland, Viking, \$30





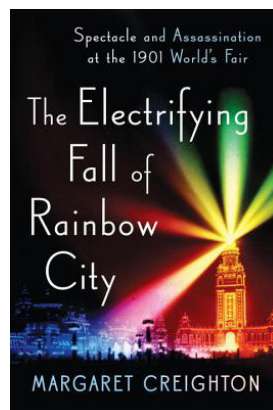
Lucky 666: *The Impossible Mission*, Bob Drury and Tom Clavin

The prolific writing team of Drury and Clavin (#1 bestselling authors of *The Heart of Everything That Is*) takes us into the South Pacific theater of WWII, from the perspective of the air war with Japan. The epic battles between naval forces of the United States and Japan usually get a lot of attention, as do the U.S. Marine Corps' bitter struggle with Japanese land forces, but a third and critical aspect of this theater was the

air battles, especially the role of the bombers. This story focuses on a small group of Army Air Force bombing crews as they struggle to fight off the Japanese offensive while living in horrible conditions with a lack of water and food and an extreme shortage of equipment including more updated bombers—especially B17s. Great personal stories of average American kids who are forced into a brutal struggle culminating in a final mission that every crew member knows is suicidal—but very important. Great maps and tight writing make this a must-read for the history buff. – Patrick Fleming, Simon & Schuster, \$30

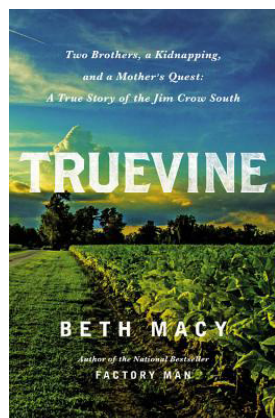
The Electrifying Fall of Rainbow City, Margaret Creighton

1901 was the year when Buffalo, New York, hosted the Pan-American Exposition. It was the fervent hope of the city fathers that the exposition would move Buffalo into first place as the greatest American city. The planning was extensive and expensive—so expensive, in fact, that the common citizens were urged to contribute. When the doors opened, thousands poured in to see the amazing sites, all illuminated by the magic of electricity. By the time the exposition ended there would be many unexpected events, including the tragic assassination of President McKinley. Throughout there were dozens of other tragedies, large and small, that occurred in or around the magic of Rainbow City. The story of the great Pan-American Exposition is a tale of a time and place of great expectations, as well as one of great achievements. – Barbara Hoagland, Norton, \$28.95



Truevine, Beth Macy

Macy has chronicled one family's tragedy in this mesmerizing story that took place in the midst of the Jim Crow South. The Muse brothers were born albino to a black domestic worker in Truevine, Virginia, at the turn of the 20th century. How they got from picking cotton to appearing as "freaks" in multiple circuses across the U.S. is the heart of this amazing saga. Macy has not only carefully researched their story but also revealed the brutality of the times. The two brothers were

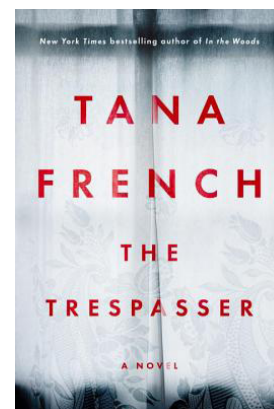


essentially held in slavery for years while their uneducated mother fought endlessly to regain their freedom. Macy explores both what life was like for African Americans in the South during the Jim Crow era and the bizarre world of circuses and side shows of the period. It is an examination of a time and place that needs to be brought into the light. – Barbara Hoagland, Little Brown, \$28

MYSTERY/THRILLER

The Trespasser, Tana French

Detective Antoinette Conway is tough as nails; she works the murder squad's night shift and apart from a good solve the previous year (*Secret Place*) which netted her a partner, young and ambitious Steve Moran, her job is not turning out the way she'd hoped. Shifts are filled with vicious pranks, harassment, vanishing evidence and a bunch of boring domestic tasks which aren't that taxing. She wants a case that will propel her and Moran into the rarified atmosphere of the day shift and she just might've gotten it: the curious case of Aisling Murray, dead, probably as the result of a lovers' quarrel. Someone is pressuring Conway and Moran to wrap Aisling's new boyfriend up nice and tidy and put a bow on the case file before it goes to the prosecutor. But Aisling's friends seem to think she was in over her head before she met the current boyfriend, and Conway is sure she's seen Aisling before. Throw in a bent copper and some gangland interest from the victim and the case morphs into something else. Conway knows that working in the murder squad has made her paranoid—she's just not sure how far gone she is. Can she trust anyone on the squad, including her new partner? French carries on with the successful character transplant formula that she began with *In the Woods*. – Paula Longhurst, Viking, \$27



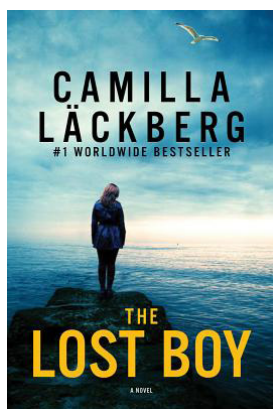
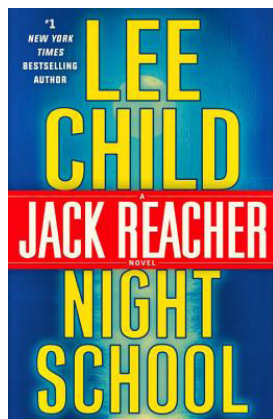
The Girl from Venice, Martin Cruz Smith

Smith has written stand-alone thrillers before, but none quite like *The Girl from Venice*, a finely honed often funny and utterly romantic tale of Italy at the end of WWII. Its protagonist Cenzo is a fisherman who trolls the bays and inlets around Venice each night even as Allied bombers pass overhead. Passing his lantern over the water one evening he sees, reflected in its light, the corpse of a young woman, her lips purple, her hair tangled in seaweed. But as Cenzo pulls her aboard it turns out she's alive—and fractious, taking orders from no one, suspicious of Cenzo, Kate to his Petruchio even though she's being chased by murderous Nazis. Shakespeare must be in the air this fall: first McEwan, then Atwood, now Smith. As in all good comedy nothing here is as it seems: Cenzo's brother, Fascist, a Mussolini supporter, a movie and radio idol who seduced Cenzo's now-deceased wife seems to be a thorough-going villain. But is he? Otto, a movie producer, seems a buffoon, and Maria a goodtime girl seems to care

only about herself... There's action aplenty involving planes and boats and dynamite and gold; Nazis and Fascists chill us while tales of lovers enchant; but Venice is the real star of *The Girl from Venice* in this charming concoction of a suspense novel by the usually serious and always talented Martin Cruz Smith. – Betsy Burton, Simon & Schuster, \$27

Night School, Lee Child

The prolific author of the Jack Reacher mysteries takes the reader back in time to pre-9/11 in his latest thriller. Reacher, still a Marine MP, is called upon to participate in a special top-secret mission, one that will take him to Hamburg, Germany, and an investigation into why a group of Saudis and Iranians would make a circuitous journey through Yemen and Afghanistan to live a secret life in Germany. What brought them to Hamburg and what they hope to purchase and why is at the core of this fast-paced story. Child just gets better and better and this is one of his best. – Barbara Hoagland, Delacorte, \$28.99



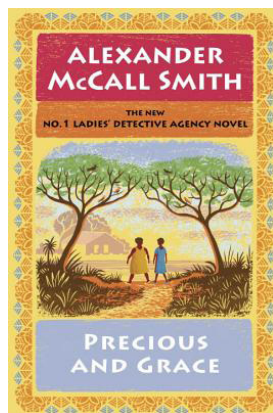
The Lost Boy, Camilla Läckberg

A few months after the tragic events of the *The Drowning*, Patrik is back at work with orders from his doctor not to overstress himself, while Erica, her hands full with the twins, is still trying to get through to her sister Anna who is dealing with her pain the only way she knows how—by pushing people away. Patrik and the team are investigating the murder of Mats Sverin who had only just returned to Fjällbacka. None of his colleagues, past or present, seem to have a bad word to

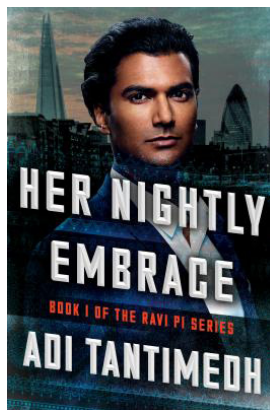
say about him, leads are drying up, and Sverin's parents are desperate for answers. Erica decides to visit an old school friend, Nathalie, also recently returned home with her 5-year-old son Sam. Erica has been researching nearby Graskar, the island Nathalie and Sam are living on. She's uncovered some mysterious tales she thinks Nathalie ought to know about. Back on the mainland Patrik's stress levels are spiking as Mellberg, his inept but publicity-hungry chief, decides to hold a press conference—with disastrous results. – Paula Longhurst, Pegasus, \$25.95

Precious and Grace, Alexander McCall Smith

When a young Canadian woman who retains only vague images of a home and a nurse who cared for her, asks for help in finding the places and people in her past, the No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency springs into action. Memories of childhood can be precious or dangerous however. As always, although the search for the woman's past is a professional puzzle, Mma Ramotswe is also involved in the



problems of her friends and neighbors. In this, the 17th in the series, she will also help a part-time worker in the agency solve his financial problems and Fanwell of the Tlokweg Road Speedy Motors take care of a stray dog. These stories are pervaded with the sense that there is goodness in the world and that kindness will prevail. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Pantheon Books, \$25.95



Her Nightly Embrace, Adi Tanimedh

Meet Ravi Chandra Singh, former religious scholar, former teacher, now a private eye for Golden Sentinels, a firm that handles the dirty laundry of the rich and famous with ultimate discretion. His colleagues include a couple of gay ex-coppers, a weed-smoking genius, a PR maven, a techie who'd give MacGyver a run for his money, a well-connected lawyer and an heiress who just happens to be one of the best hackers in the world. Ravi is still proving himself to Roger and

Cheryl, the bosses of Golden Sentinels, but he won't even think of turning his back on this job or the money because he has his sister's lavish wedding to pay for and his mother's gambling debts to pay off. And the cases... a politician being groomed to lead his party who is convinced his dead fiancée is haunting him in the sack, a Twitter war between authors that spawns literary terror mobs, an escapee from an arranged marriage with global implications if the wedding doesn't go ahead, and a banker whose evidence of her firm's catalog of wrongdoing is on a thumb drive that no one (not even she) knows the password to. Through all of this mayhem and chaos Ravi sees visions of Hindu gods dressed in pinstripes and tweeting on their mobile phones; he's pretty sure they're tweeting about him using the hashtag #ourownpersonalholyyfool in this, the first in a trilogy that gives a fresh shot of adrenaline to the PI genre. – Paula Longhurst, Atria, \$26

Lockout, John Nance

Pangia Airways Flight 10 just developed a mind of its own. Something or someone has turned the aircraft around and is flying it back towards Tel Aviv. No one on the ground can contact the flight. Has it been hijacked? Has one of the pilots gone rogue? Is there an even more sinister explanation? With the Situation Room at the White House and "The Hole" in Israel both on full alert, it emerges that one of the passengers is the hawkish former Israeli Prime Minister, Moïse Lavi, a master strategist whose policies on dealing with Iran's nuclear capabilities got him bounced out of office. If the plane keeps to its present heading it will enter Iranian airspace without permission. Is this Lavi's attempt to go down in history or could it be a plot to start a war-by-proxy coming from one of the alphabet soup of agencies surrounding the U.S. President? With tensions mounting on the ground and in the cockpit, time and fuel are running out. – Paula Longhurst, WildBlue Press, \$18.99

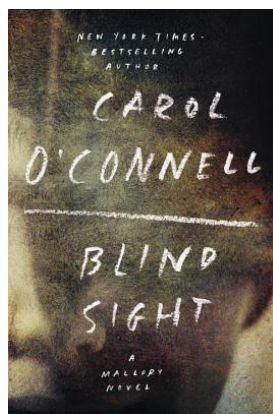


MYSTERY/THRILLER

Blind Sight, Carol O'Connell

Although a blind child and a nun are snatched off the street in front of multiple witnesses, both disappear completely. The nun's body is later recovered among a pile of corpses, but there's no sign of Jonah, the missing child. Kathy Mallory, that implacable New York detective whom O'Connell fans have followed faithfully for years, is as pitiless as ever—except when it comes to children for whom she has both empathy and uncanny understanding. The fact that the missing boy is being held by a killer, something to which the reader is privy, makes this almost unbearable to read—except that Jonah, despite his terror, is as smart and as tough as the cop who's looking for him. Mallory is an extraordinary fictional creation and so are the children so often present in O'Connell's books. But Jonah is one of a kind.

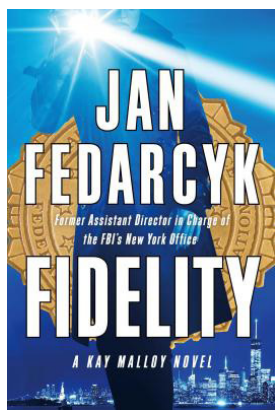
– Betsy Burton, Putnam, \$27



Fidelity, Jan Fedarcyk

Kay Malloy is a new name to watch in the world of FBI intrigue. She has dedicated her life to service by joining a counterintelligence unit and using her brains and curiosity to find and protect America's interests. Her career begins on the streets of Baltimore hunting down drug dealers but soon moves to New York and the investigation of missing Russian double agents. Her personal life and the lives of her family members are wound together with her dedication to justice and her country.

Fedarcyk spent 25 years as an FBI special agent and applies her inside knowledge to creating a fast-paced novel with a strong heroine who succeeds in a male-dominated society while retaining that strong feminine sense of loyalty to those she loves. The book's ending leaves room for many more in this series. –Wendy Foster Leigh, Simon & Schuster, \$25

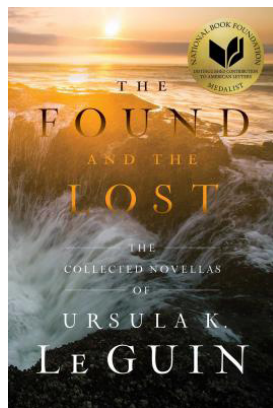


SPECULATIVE FICTION

The Found and the Lost,

Ursula K. LeGuin

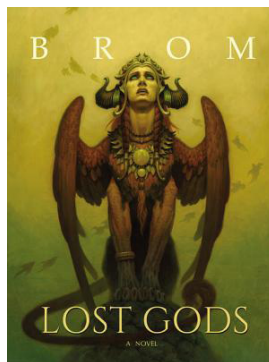
The 13 novellas in Ursula K. LeGuin's newest compilation wander around the universe. These stories represent her work from 1971 to 2002 and have an extraordinary range, some set close to home, others in far-off planets with wild new environments. But no matter where her stories take place, they all have in common her thoughtful writing and elegant prose. She pulls you into the psyches of her characters, and helps you consider wildly different points of view from empaths to wizards. You can't help but be drawn in to the worlds she creates. If you are excited about classic



SPECULATIVE FICTION

science fiction, this is a great book for you. There are so many different flavors to choose from; you get a little bit of everything.

– Claire Margetts, Saga Press \$29.99



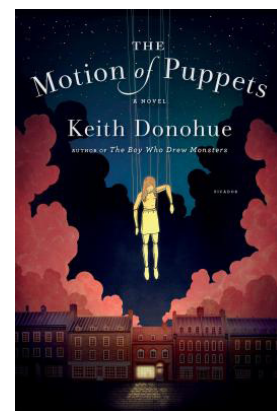
Lost Gods, Brom

This book is EPIC! Brom leads you on a wild adventure in a new and absolutely stunning world. He calls upon Dante, ancient myths, and the godhead in order to bring a wild and varied vision of the afterlife to, well, life. I am blown away by the imagery and detail in this book. And the artwork? Forget about it. So cool! The story is simple: a man, Chet, must find his way through Purgatory in order to track down his grandfather who is said to have

a magic key. Chet must get this key by any means possible to save his fiancée, Trish, and their unborn child. It seems simple... but the afterlife is big, and hard to navigate. Chet has to traverse this impressive land with only a knife and a bag of pennies (oh, great) to help him through. But his dogged determination and need to rescue Trish and his baby lead him forward. The characters all have well-rounded personalities that make you want to get to know them. *Lost Gods* will have you on the edge of your seat as you go through hell and back to finish it! – Claire Margetts, Voyager \$27.99

The Motion of Puppets, Keith Donohue

On her way home from a night on the town, Kay Harper went missing. Her husband Theo is beside himself with worry and will stop at nothing to find her. Even when the police put him on the top of their list of suspects, he stays on her trail, searching high and low for Kay, who seems to have simply vanished. In a twist of fate, Kay is trapped, hidden away in plain sight. She has mysteriously been turned into a puppet in a crazy ritual she had been chosen for. In order to escape this strange prison, she has to find a way for Theo to notice her. This book is a heartbreaking love story as Theo and Kay try to find each other in impossible circumstances. Playing on the Eurydice and Orpheus myth, Donohue writes a lovely story that will have you desperate to know what will happen to these star-crossed lovers. – Claire Margetts, Picador, \$26



Many thanks to Equitable Life & Casualty Insurance Company for its help in printing this edition of the *Inkslinger*.

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Small (But Important) Gifts for the Important People in Your Lives

by Betsy Burton (except where otherwise noted)

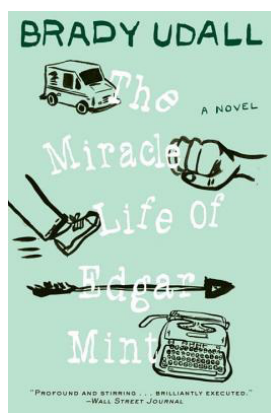
Inexpensive gifts for people you love are sometimes the most important ones you give, whether stuffed into stockings, given one-a-day during Hanukkah, or exchanged with friends over lunch or dinner. The best choices aren't necessarily new books, either. There are paperbacks residing on the shelves of TKE that have withstood the test of time because they're memorable, unforgettable—whether because they break your heart, make your heart sing, make you laugh 'til you cry, or all of the above. What follows are a few such jewels old enough to be forgotten (and therefore safe to recommend to you) but engraved in our hearts. The first three, set in our part of the world, are followed by a few more from any- and everywhere—along, of course, with a sampling of what's best and brand new. Remember, when you shop, list in hand, to say to yourself, "one for him two for me, one for her two for me..." It's the best strategy for getting through the pre-holiday madness—although admittedly the most expensive one. Gives the phrase happy shopping a whole new meaning!

OLD GOLD

The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint,

Brady Udall

Edgar Mint is a walking miracle, a boy who's been run over by a mail truck, has had a steel plate installed in his head, has survived not only an alcoholic mother, three months in a coma, and a hospital stay complete with an obsessed doctor, but also a BIA boarding school where, bullied and beset, our half-Apache half-white hero fares about as well as Nicholas Nickleby did in Dotheboys Hall. When, after trials and tribulations that would slay someone of less buoyant disposition, Edgar moves in with a Mormon family, he thinks he's died and gone to heaven. But all is not celestial, it turns out, and Edgar wants nothing so much as to get in touch with the mailman who caused his woes—not to castigate him but to reassure him. His efforts to do so, the efforts of the doctor who deems himself Edgar's savior but is in fact his nemesis, or nearly so, culminate in even further trauma in this Dickensian tale of childhood woe and redemption that is as rollicking as it is fraught with pain, as unexpectedly inventive as it is grimly realistic. Udall uses humor as skillfully and movingly as does Ken Kesey in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and delivers narrative as compellingly as did John Irving in *The World According to Garp*. As a result, *The Miracle*



Life of Edgar Mint really is something of a miracle. – Norton, \$15.95

Where Rivers Change Direction, Mark Spragg

In language that often rises to the lyrical, not by design but driven by Spragg's dead-honest observations, these Wyoming essays bring to life a boy and man shaped by mountains, by horses and by ranch hands who are surrogate fathers to a lonely kid whose real father is as relentless and unforgiving as the Wyoming wind. Growing up on a dude ranch just

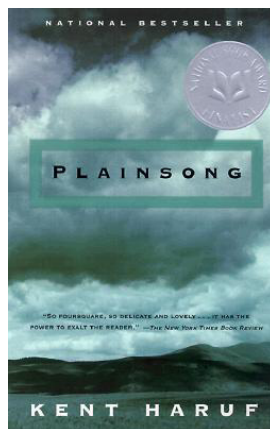
"Elemental, powerful...a piercing voice from the heartland."
—*Publisher's Weekly* (starred review)

WHERE RIVERS
CHANGE DIRECTION



MARK SPRAGG

outside Yellowstone Park where he and his brother lead pack trips into the mountains, responsible not only for the horses but for the dudes who ride them, he finds college a crippling exile and returns to spend a harsh winter alone before learning to survive among people. In one sense a classic coming-of-age tale, this is also a clear-eyed look at what's wild (and what's nurturing) in nature, in animals, and in humanity. – Riverhead, \$16



Plainsong, Kent Haruf

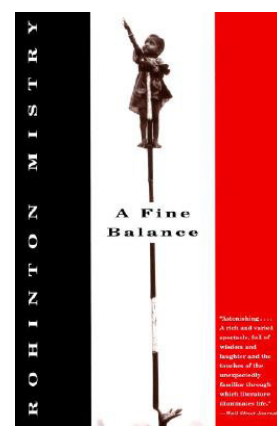
Kent Haruf's third book, shortlisted for the National Book Award, is a plain-spoken saga, set, like all of his books, in the fictional town of Holt, Colorado. Its central characters are Tom Guthrie, a school teacher whose wife has recently left him; his two boys Ike and Bobby, 9 and 10 respectively; a pregnant, suddenly homeless teenager, Victoria; and the McPherson brothers, aging farmers who ultimately take Victoria in. There are other characters of course, and the straightforward writing doesn't make any

of them less than complex. On the contrary, as the kaleidoscope of town relationships and town troubles spins through the lives of each, a universe opens up in the mind of the reader making us feel, empathize, and also recognize some home truths about ourselves. Something only the best fiction does. Something Haruf's fiction invariably does. He was an extraordinary novelist, one of the country's best. His last book, *Our Souls at Night*, soon to be made into a film, is likewise exquisite and, like *Plainsong*, a perfect gift for almost anyone.

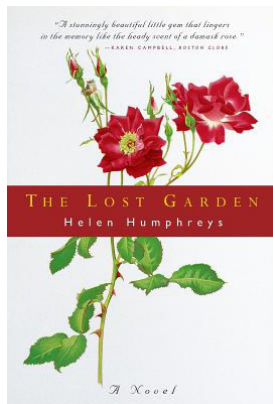
– Vintage, \$16

A Fine Balance, Rohinton Mistry

It's 1975 and a state of emergency has just been declared in an unknown Indian city. The four inhabitants of a home into which a housing shortage has forced people who have nothing in common but their antipathy for one another are a widow trying to avoid her brother's control, a tailor and his nephew trying to escape their rural caste, a student from the Himalayas. As Mistry pulls us into the past and present lives of these characters, back to the partition of Pakistan in 1947, into rural India, forward into bedlam, we discover an urgent sense of commonality with them and with their community and in the end, actually perceive humanity in new ways. One can only wish everyone would read or re-read *A Fine Balance* because even now, when we find ourselves in heated opposition to other's opinions, watch our world fracturing into isms and accusations on TV and in elections while our pulses elevate in shared hatred, returning to that house, those people can help us recover some of our common humanity and restore, however temporarily, a sense of balance to our world. – Vintage, \$17



Small (But Important) Gifts for the Important People in Your Lives



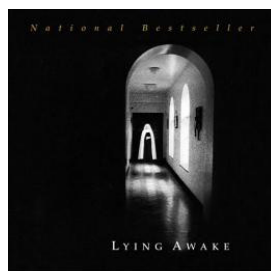
The Lost Garden, Helen Humphreys

Young gardener Gwen Davis, who volunteers as a Land Girl during the darkest hours of World War II, is sent to a Devon country house where she is to preside over the planting of potatoes and other vegetables as part of the war effort. Billeted nearby is a regiment of Canadian soldiers who are preparing to go to the front lines, and Gwen, who has uncovered a secret garden which she sets about rehabilitating, not only forms a deep friendship with a tragic young woman, but also

falls in love with one of the soldiers. Humphreys' novel is gorgeously written; the language is lyrical in its descriptions of the gardens and of the haunting love poured into their creation. –Norton, \$17.95

Lying Awake, Mark Salzman

In this delicate yet impassioned story Salzman probes the mind, heart, and faith of a Carmelite nun living a life of medieval tradition in the midst of urban Los Angeles. Sister John of the Cross, after years of service, has begun to have numinous visions. Or is the cause of her sudden state of grace more neurological than spiritual? In a tale as simply told as *The Soloist*, Salzman has once again distilled a deeply felt passion to its purest essence in a spare, elegant novel that grows ever more luminous in memory. –Vintage, \$16

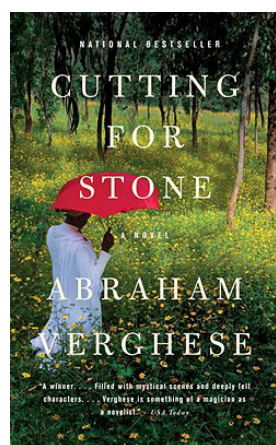


MARK SALZMAN
AUTHOR OF *THE SOLOIST*

"A rare, intensely affecting book. Salzman... a perfect little novel." —*New York Times*

Cutting for Stone, Abraham Verghese

Global in scope, epic in size and style, and chockful of characters who invade readers' hearts, *Cutting for Stone* moves us from a mission hospital in Ethiopia to an inner city hospital in New York City. As we turn page after frantic page in pursuit of the once-conjoined twins who are now doctors, get to know their parents, adopted and real, and a childhood friend whose place in the tale is central, we sink into this big lush novel and never want to surface. Steeped in both medicine and history, Verghese's latest book not

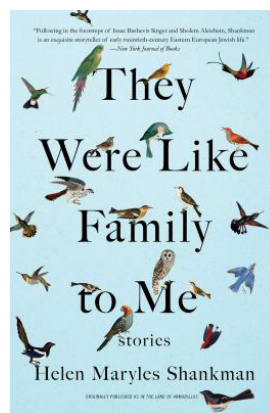


only entertains but marks new territory, re-framing the world in the process. Imagine a novel that combines the story-telling skill and the social and cultural acuity of Vikram Seth and Rohinton Mistry with the urgent imaginations of Salmon Rushdie and Gabriel Garcia Marquez and you have some idea of the magnitude of the genius of *Cutting for Stone*; it will surely go down as one of the major books of our time. –Vintage, \$16.95 *Editor's Note: And it has!*

NEWLY GOLDEN

The Tsar of Love and Techno, Anthony Marra

The title story of this stunning collection begins dead-center in the book's 300+ pages. Which is appropriate since it connects the book's disparate pieces into one dazzling whole. Suddenly you realize what you're reading is more novel than collection, a sweeping tale of Russian history's cruel ironies in which memory is the incandescent heart. In the first tale, which takes place in 1937, a failed portraitist whose job is to expunge the images of the disloyal from all paintings and photographs replaces the faces of those he's supposed to remove with that of his dead brother. The next tale, "The Granddaughters," is a kind of Greek chorus of village gossip in which the image that doomed our painter is brought to life in the form of a dancer and her progeny, and we are introduced to each of the characters whose intersecting lives people this amazing book from 1937 forward to the era of technology—whether in Kirovsk, high above the Arctic Circle, St. Petersburg, or Chechnya. At its heart are star-crossed lovers whose fates are woven from tale to tale and into our hearts; the love of brothers; and of mothers and fathers. If there is betrayal it is that of the state in a story with the breadth of scope and the depth of feeling of the finest literature. –Betsy Burton and Anne Holman, Hogarth, \$16

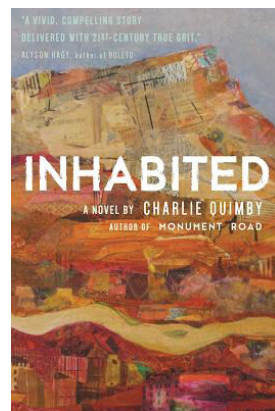


They Were Like Family to Me: Stories, Helen Maryles Shankman and Elizabeth Wiley

Yet another amazing first is this collection of connected short stories (think *The Tsar of Love and Techno*, above), each set in Wlodawa, a small town in Eastern Poland, during WWII. The common thread is a Jewish family whose father is an artisan with leather and Willy Reinhardt, the commandant of the local labor camp. Their personal tales deal with the survival of body and soul, of love and faith, and are overlain with mythology and folklore—some of which lingers in the local culture today. The magical realism blended with what we know about the horrors of WWII make for stories at once brutal and tender. A powerful addition to WWII libraries. I loved it! –Margaret Brennon Neville, Scribner, \$16

Inhabited, Charlie Quimby

There's a long fence in the West, both real and imagined, and it divides developers and environmentalists and their unique visions of what the land should look like and how it should be used. Harkening back to his character Meg Mogrin from

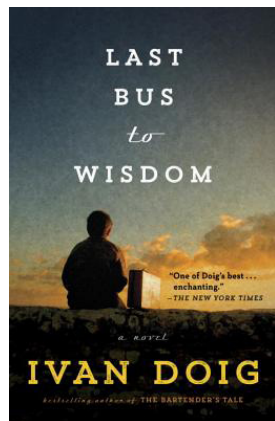


Small (But Important) Gifts for the Important People in Your Lives

Monument Road, Quimby deftly weaves a tale of how the two sides have more in common than not, and how, at the end of the day, all any of us want is a place to call home. – Anne Holman, Torrey House Press, \$16.95

Your Heart Is a Muscle the Size of a Fist, Sunil Yapa

Victor, who has been roaming the world since he was 16, is back in Seattle, living beneath an underpass. It's 1999 and the World Trade Organization protests are just beginning: what happens during that violent, world-changing day is told from his point of view; from that of his father, who is the Chief of Police; from that of two other members of the police force; from a Sri-Lankan diplomat; and two protesters who believe in non-violence. The action is propulsive, the mix of perceptions and of warring impulses creates visceral tension, and the philosophical questions surrounding the WTO, both globally and domestically, are fascinating. Yapa's debut novel brims with compassion for the worst of its characters and asks the unanswerable questions at the heart of our existence. – Lee Boudreaux Books, \$15.95



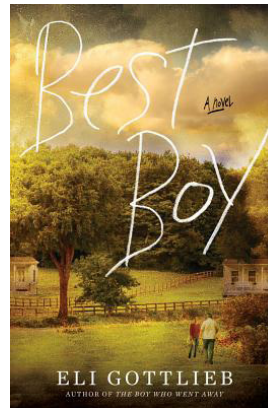
Last Bus to Wisdom, Ivan Doig

As quintessentially American as Huck-leberry Finn, Ivan Doig's final novel is the 1950 saga of a young boy on the lam with an illegal immigrant—a German, no less—in the post WWII U.S. Chockful of rollicking humor and blissfully good storytelling, this is not just a paean to this country as it existed half a century ago, but also a canny look at American culture, language and morals. Doig's tale begins on the Double W Ranch in Montana when 11-year-old Donal's grandmother, ill and in need of surgery, sends

Donal off to her sister halfway across the country in Wisconsin—by bus and by himself. Adventures abound as he meets scalawags and jailbirds, lovers and losers, the worst of whom turns out to be his Aunt Kate herself. Before long Donal hits the road in the company of her German husband—who isn't in fact her husband and who is so smitten by Western lore that all he wants from life is to see some cowboys and some Indians. Which they do as their trail takes them from middle America to the still-raw West—to powwows and rodeos and ranches and hobo camps in a book so purely involving and so much fun to read it's easy to label it an American classic. As was Ivan Doig, the most engaging storyteller the West has ever known. – Riverside, \$28.95

Best Boy, Eli Gottlieb

I fell in love with the autistic protagonist Todd Aaron on page one, and on that same page felt a stab of empathy for his mother that nearly felled me. I read on, about their moment of parting; about Todd's relatively happy life for the ensuing 41 years in the Payton Living Center; about his brother who came to visit him occasionally;

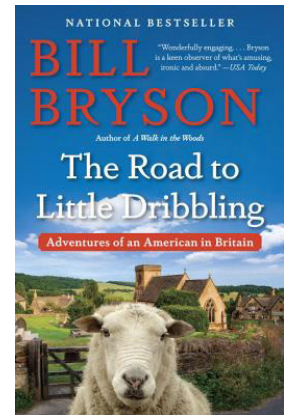


about the new roommate, the attractive new “villager,” and worse, the disturbing new employee at the center. Todd's literal mind and exact reporting make for the wryest of commentary, and some scenes are howlingly funny. His own misperceptions can be funny one minute, shattering the next, and his perceptions can be so acute they startle. The book swings from past to present in tandem with his mind as a scent rekindles memory or sparks fear—or laughter or longing—in the present. But it's when past and present begin to merge that the book totally ignites—along with the reader's heart. I wish everyone would read **Best Boy**. I suspect that in time almost everyone will. – Liveright (Norton), \$14.95

AND FOR SHEER LAUGHS....

The Road to Little Dribbling, Bill Bryson

It has been 20 years since Bryson wrote **Notes on a Small Island**, a travel narrative of Great Britain. Now a newly proclaimed British citizen (proudly holding both American and British citizenship), he embarks once more on a quest to find the best and worst of England along what he has dubbed “The Bryson Line,” traveling south from Bognor Regis to the northern tip of Scotland, Cape Wrath. With his matchless instinct for the funniest and the quirkiest and his unerring eye for the idiotic, the bewildering and the ridiculous, he offers acute and perceptive insights into all that is the best and worst of Britain today. An absolute must for the Anglophile or anyone who might consider traveling to our “Mother Country.” – Sue Fleming, Anchor, \$16



Be Frank with Me, Julia Claiborne Johnson

Even Frank's mother calls him a “character” and from the novel's opening pages it's clear the label fits. Everything about the 9-year-old, from the clothes he wears to his encyclopedic knowledge of the early days of Hollywood (and a little of everything else), is intriguing, and will have you eagerly turning the pages, dying to know what he'll come up with next. Frank's mother, Mimi, is on deadline to deliver a manuscript that doesn't seem to be happening. The publisher sends its Gal Friday, Alice Whitley, to “help” Mimi finish the book. Mimi adamantly doesn't want help and Frank needs help, or supervision anyway. So Frank and Alice are left to their own devices while the typewriter keeps up a clickety clack behind the closed door of Mimi's office. Revealing too much about the plot would only ruin the surprise and delight that await you. Treat yourself to this lovely, funny story. – Anne Holman, William Morrow, \$15.99

WHAT OUR BOOK CLUBS ARE READING NOW

All are open to the public and meet at the bookshop unless otherwise noted.



ARMCHAIR TRAVEL MYSTERY

3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

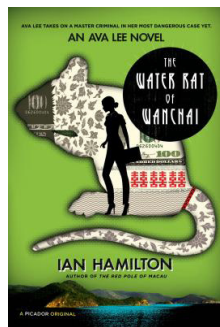
November: *The Water Rat of Wanchai*, Ian Hamilton

December: *Thrice the Brinded Cat Hath Mew'd*, Alan Bradley

January: *The Bookseller*, Mark Pryor

February: *Raven Black*, Ann Cleeves

March: *Our Man in Havana*, Graham Greene



BRIAN SHORT BOOK CLUB

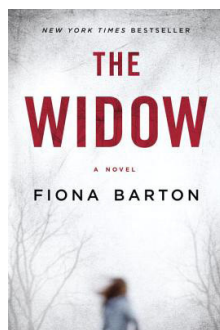
2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

November: *The Widow*, Fiona Barton

December: Holiday break

January: *The Virgin Suicides*, Jeffrey Eugenides

February: *Ocean at the End of the Lane*, Neil Gaiman



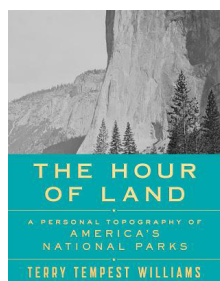
INSIGHTS TO CONSERVATION

1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

November: *The Hour of Land*, Terry Tempest Williams

December: Holiday break

January: *The Water Knife*, Paolo Bacigalupi



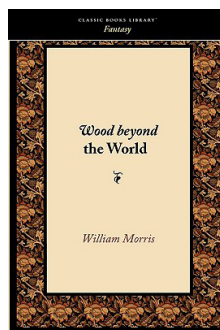
UTAH ARTS & CRAFTS

3rd Sunday of the month, 4 p.m.

November-December: Holiday break

January: *Wood Beyond the World*, William Morris

March: *A Message for Garcia*, Elbert Hubbard

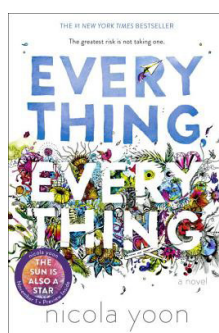
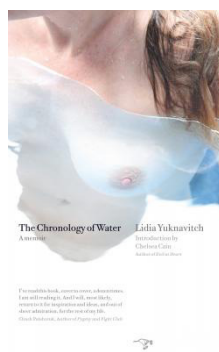
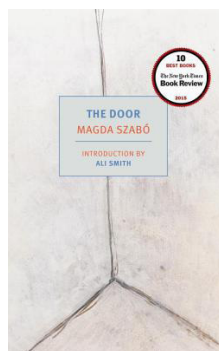
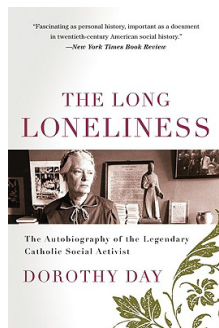
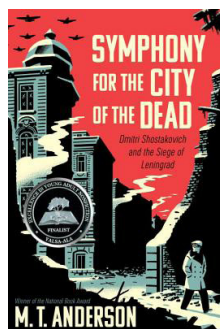


MARGARET'S BOOK CLUB

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

November: *Symphony for the City of the Dead*, M.T. Anderson

December: Holiday Break



NEWMAN CENTER

Meets monthly at the Newman Center at U of Utah. Contact Barbara Bannon, 801-583-4289

November: *The Long Loneliness*, Dorothy Day

ROZ READS!

Last Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. See www.rozreads.com for details. \$10 per evening paid to Roz

November: *The Door*, Magdelana Szabo & Lyn Rix

December: Holiday Break

January: *Hold Still*, Sally Mann

February: *The Tsar of Love and Techno*, Anthony Marrra

March: *The Green Road*, Anne Enright

SLC LESBIAN BOOK CLUB

1st Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.

November: *The Chronology of Water*, Lidia Yuknavitch

December: *Gay Pride and Prejudice*, Kate Christie

SLOW FOOD UTAH BOOK CLUB

3rd Wednesday every other month; visit slowfoodutah.org for more details.

November: Movie Night & Book Swap

YA & WINE

2nd Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.

November: *Everything Everything*, Nicole Yoon

December: *Carry On*, Rainbow Rowell

January: *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, Benjamin Saenz

February: *Carve the Mark*, Veronica Roth

March: *Something in Between*, Melissa de la Cruz

FICTION



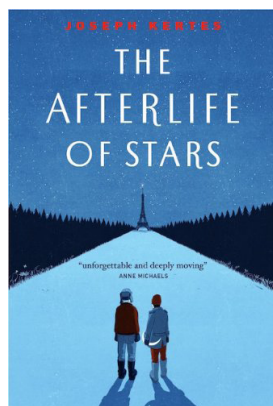
***The Signal Flame*, Andrew Krivak**

Andrew Krivak was a National Book Award finalist for *The Sojourn* in 2011. In this sequel it is 1972, and Jozef Vinich's daughter and grandson are grappling with the reality of his recent death. Vinich returned from WWI and built a very successful logging business in Pennsylvania, but over the years war and the damage it does to families continues to be the theme. Vinich's son had become a deserter in WWII, and his grandson Sam is MIA during the Vietnam War, leaving

his fiancé and family to wonder. So Hannah and her remaining son Bo are trying to pick up whatever pieces are left and figure out if they can compose a life going forward. In the same spare prose he used in his previous novel, Krivak puts you squarely in rural America and leads you to hope that this family will find redemption. I loved this book. – Anne Holman, Scribner, \$26

***The Afterlife of Stars*, Joseph Kertes**

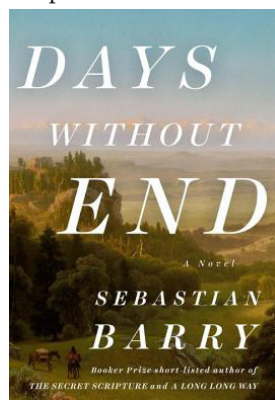
In 1956 two Hungarian brothers are abruptly pulled from school as Russian tanks invade the streets of Budapest, leaving in their wake would-be revolutionaries hanging from lamp posts. At home both boys are told to pack only what they value most, but Attila, Robert's teenage brother who's as ferocious as his name implies, is, as ever, engaged in a furious quest for Truth. With Robert hard on his heels, he sets out to examine the fallen Stalin; the alternately riveting and hilarious quality of this scene is replicated again and again, Attila leading the way, Robert bobbing along in his wake asking questions of his own. And so the family—mother, father, uncle, pregnant aunt, grandmother and the boys—pack up and battle their way out of Hungary and across Austria to Paris and the sheltering arms of their great aunt, an aging but still-famous diva. Her house is bathed in Mozart and Haydn, inhabited by a maid of creamy beauty who drives both boys into adolescent frenzy, filled with tantalizing secrets from the past that elicit a fever of curiosity in the boys. Those secrets and



the boys' insistence on uncovering them in the aftermath of a war that was brutal beyond imagination make for an endlessly surprising and incredibly moving novel. Brilliant. – Betsy Burton, Little Brown, \$26

***Days Without End*, Sebastian Barry**

Thomas McNulty escapes the Irish famine in the 1850s at age 13 and barely makes it through Canada's quarantine camps. Four years later he joins the US Army to fight

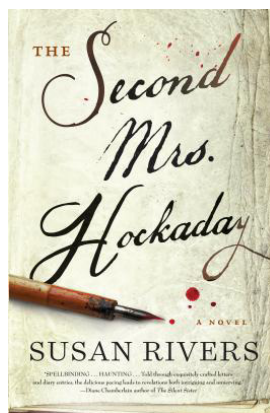
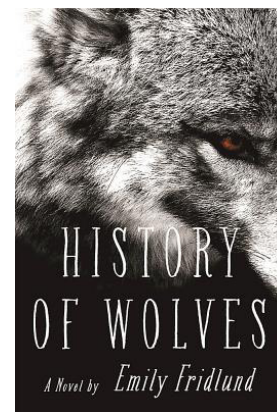


in the Indian Wars and, eventually, the Civil War. Barry's use of language and landscape are beautiful in this stark story of a young man, his brothers in arms, the adoption of an Indian girl and the family they are able to create. This is another wondrous link in Barry's familial saga. – Sue Fleming, Viking, \$26

***History of Wolves*, Emily Fridlund**

Linda, who lives with her parents near a lake deep in the woods of Northern Minnesota, vaguely remembers life in the abandoned commune where she had spent her childhood. Although she shares a love of the woods with her father, her mother's idea of parenting is unusual, to put it mildly, and she's isolated and unhappy. Two things happen the year she turns 14: the first is that although she's not a good student, Mr. Grierson, her history teacher, asks her to do a presentation at a regional meeting and not long afterward he's accused of possessing child pornography and of molesting Lily, a girl Linda admires. The second is that neighbors move in across the lake and Linda begins to babysit their son. The father is seldom there and Linda begins to feel almost as if she belongs in this new home with the boy and his mother. As the reader moves with Linda from school to home to the house across the woods and we watch her try to unlock the twin mysteries of the things she has seen, we are filled with foreboding. The skill with which Fridlund orchestrates the action, the swift, astute strokes with which she portrays character, and most of all her exquisitely exact use of language create a visual and emotional tension that makes this novel impossible to forget. She's an extraordinary new talent.

– Betsy Burton, Atlantic Monthly Press, \$25



***The Second Mrs. Hockaday*, Susan Rivers**

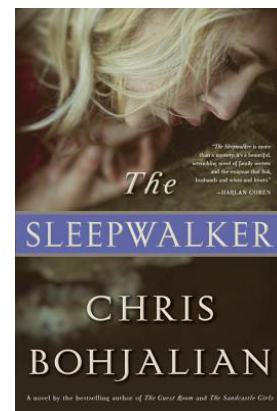
At the end of the Civil War and having been released from a POW camp, Major Gryffth Hockaday returns to his farm in South Carolina to find that his young bride of three years has borne a child and possibly murdered it. His dream of coming home to his wife, whom he had not seen during the entirety of the war, dissolves into bitterness and disbelief in this tale based on a true incident. Rivers' careful and exacting research believably renders

Southern customs, farm life with slaves, and familial hierarchies. A good read with another insight into the collateral damage that occurs in each and every war.

– Sue Fleming, Algonquin Books, \$25.95

***The Sleepwalker*, Chris Bohjalian**

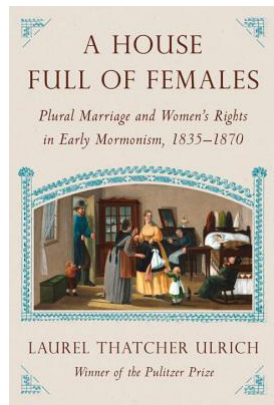
A mother with a history of sleepwalking outside the house when her husband is out of town disappears one night. Two daughters, both with histories of sleepwalking, and the husband and father are



FICTION

seemingly sad, but not distraught. Bohjalian gives us another of his intriguing tales, human psychology at its center. His research into the various forms and consequences of sleepwalking is fascinating. Great read. – Sue Fleming, Doubleday, \$26.95

NONFICTION



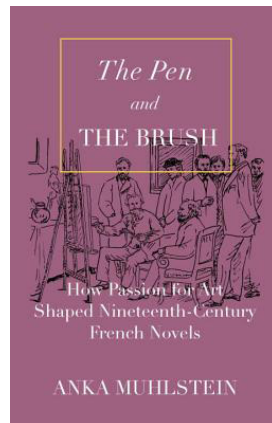
A House Full of Females: Plural Marriage and Women's Rights in Early Mormonism, 1835-1870, Laurel Thatcher Ulrich

Ulrich, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, has turned her eyes to the early days of Mormonism and the history of polygamy in the church. Through analysis of diaries, letters, and church documents, she ably dissects the stresses and joys that plural marriage brought to the lives of the early converts to Mormonism. From the first announcement of Joseph Smith's revela-

tion of plural marriage to that of Wilford Woodruff who officially ended it, Ulrich explains a complex and emotionally difficult experiment in social change that resonates today in Mormon and Utah history. – Barbara Hoagland, Knopf, \$35,

The Pen and the Brush: How Passion for Art Shaped 19th Century French Novels, Anka Muhlstein, translated by Adriana Hunter

Just as the title implies, this book documents the link between the great novels of the 19th century with the exciting world of visual arts during the same period, concentrating on five authors: Balzac, Zola, Huysmans, Maupassant, and Proust. Each had his favorite painter who served as inspiration. The French masses were ripe for this rise of the museums as entertainment and distraction, and the novels reflected this sensory time and place. Upon finishing Muhlstein's book, it will be necessary to read the novels described and link them to illustrations in a guide to French art or take a trip to a good art museum and enjoy imagining the pictures in the minds of Balzac or Proust. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Other Press, \$18.95

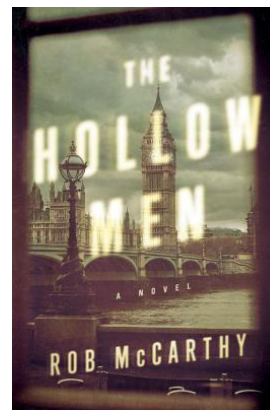
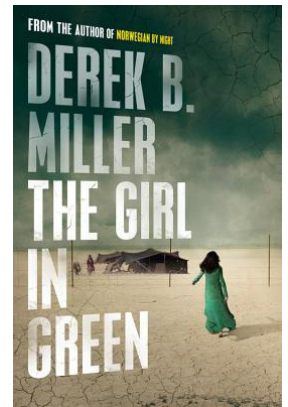


Novelist Ruta Sepetys signing ***Salt to the Sea*** at the bookstore. One of the year's best!

MYSTERY/THRILLER

The Girl in Green, Derek B. Miller

In a mystery that is completely different from his debut, *Norwegian by Night*, Derek Miller takes us to Iraq in 1991 as Desert Storm has ended. Two men, a British journalist and an American infantryman, are thrown together in a terrible confrontation that leaves a young girl in a green dress dead, shot by an Iraqi general. When they meet again 22 years later in a refugee camp in Kurdistan, there is another girl in green and a new yet familiar and terrible situation. The American, Arwood Hobbes, will remain with me for a long time, a hero with just the "take-no-prisoners" attitude needed to make a real difference in a war where no one ever wins. – Anne Holman, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$26

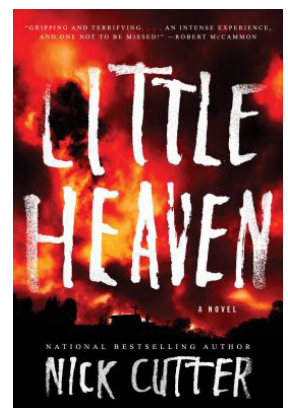


The Hollow Men, Rob McCarthy

In this start of a new series featuring Dr. Harry Kent, Harry is tenacious, flawed, a former army medic who now works at John Ruskin University Hospital and moonlights as a police surgeon for the Metropolitan Police. He gets called in during a siege of a London fast food restaurant where teenager Solomon Idris is holding a gun on staff and customers and demanding medical attention, a lawyer, and a BBC reporter. Although Harry sees that Solomon is gravely ill and in no condition to fire the gun he's holding, it doesn't stop the boy being shot by a police marksman. Harry rushes him to the hospital where a second attempt is made on Solomon's life. Harry, now determined to protect his patient at all costs, starts digging into the backgrounds of his colleagues, including Dr. James Lahiri, the man who saved Harry's life in Afghanistan and whom Harry repaid with the worst kind of betrayal. As Harry gets closer to the truth, his and Lahiri's past comes back to bite him and Harry is pulled in for questioning. Can he clear himself and stop Solomon from being silenced forever? – Paula Longhurst, Pegasus, \$25.95

Little Heaven, Nick Cutter

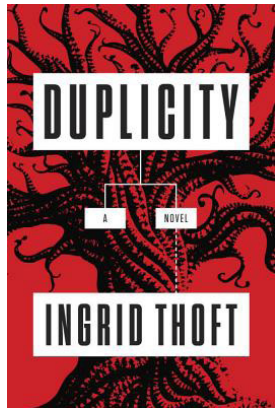
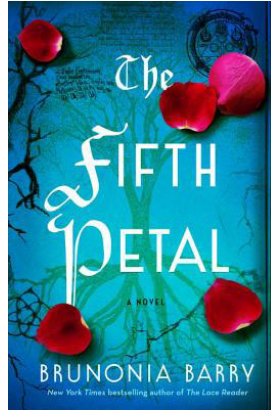
What do you get when you put three bounty hunters, a cult, monsters, a psychotic reverend, and an absolutely hideous demon together? A total thrill ride, that's what. Cutter has done it again: created an atmospheric book that is gruesome and action-packed. Micah Shugrue must get his partners back together for one last mission: they have to return to Little Heaven in order to save his daughter. Something is forcing them back to the cult in middle-of-nowhere New Mexico they worked so hard to escape from 15 years earlier. It can't be the people who were there before... so what is it? Something even more sinister? Although these mismatched bounty hunters know there is



something dark out there, they could never have been prepared for exactly what they find. The monsters are intricate and detailed, but just enough is left out for you to make it worse in your mind. I love that. There is so much to take in, that you absorb the horrors one after another. Your brain will stew on them long after you put the book down. – Claire Margetts, Gallery Books \$26

***The Fifth Petal*, Brunonia Barry**

Reenacting the hysteria of the original Salem Witch Hunt in modern times, *The Fifth Petal* leaves the reader with the disconcerting feeling that times have not changed that much. Salem, Massachusetts, 2014: witches are a money-making proposition when the suspicious death of a teenager on Halloween raises the specter of witchcraft. The so-called Three Goddess Murders in which three descendants of the 17th century witches were slaughtered occurred on Halloween 1989. Two survivors of that attack are still alive and suspicion turns on Rose Whelan who is an “odd woman,” echoing practices three centuries before. Police Chief John Rafferty is aided in defending Rose by the other survivor, Callie, who was a child in 1989 and who has a strange marking on her hand which appeared the night of the deaths. The book is a good read for those who love that sense of unrest which comes from wanting to believe in witches and knowing that they probably don’t exist. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Crown Publishers, \$27



***Duplicity*, Ingrid Thoft**

In this fourth in the excellent Fina Ludlow PI series, Fina is called in by Carl Ludlow of Ludlow Associates to prevent an heiress from giving away property to a church her mother (and Carl’s old flame) thinks is just after the girl for her money. Fina’s investigation seems to be going nowhere until a member of the church dies unexpectedly; then things really start to happen. Threats, beat downs, tire slashings, a police complaint about Fina filed by the charismatic leader of the church,

affairs, financial issues with the victim’s family... Fina’s family is also causing her grief. Rand has returned from Florida, his daughter Haley starts going off the rails immediately, and Fina’s parents seem to side with Rand despite knowing what he did to Haley. Fina begins to investigate Rand’s past, following a trail of blondes back to his college days in a bid to build a criminal case against him. She figures with enough evidence Carl will have no choice but to send Rand packing again, this time for good. She could not be more wrong.

– Paula Longhurst, Putnam, \$25

***The Girl Before*, J.P. Delaney**

One Folgate Street is the dream of feted architect Edward Monkford. Prospective tenants have to meet his very exacting standards and only he can decide who lives there. Most of the time the place stands empty and then along comes Jane, still getting over the loss of her unborn child. She needs an uncluttered life, and One Folgate seems

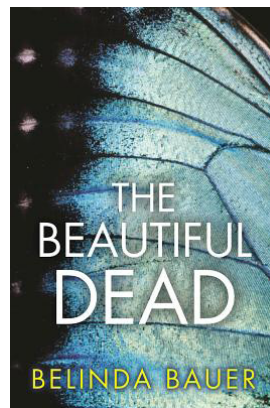
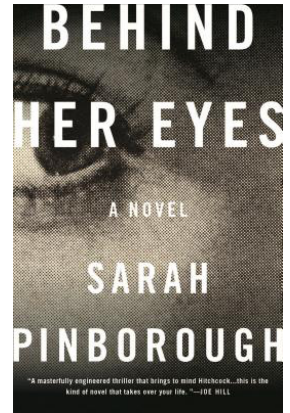


to offer a perfect solution. Except for the flowers regularly left on her doorstep for Emma, who bears a startling resemblance to Jane, leading her to ask the questions, who was the previous tenant, “the girl before,” and why did she leave? A twisty little psychological thriller. – Paula Longhurst, Ballantine, \$27

***Behind Her Eyes*, Sarah Pinborough**

David and Adele Martin

are the perfect couple, rich beautiful people, and Louise Barnsley, David’s part-time receptionist, is in a perfect mess. She’s having an affair with one and the other has just become her best friend. Who is playing whom though? Louise thinks she knows; however she’s not even close to divining the ties that bind the couple, or the secret one still keeps from the other. The love triangle between David, Louise and Adele starts to spiral out of control, each of them thinking they can control the other two, bend them to their will, get what they want. Things aren’t looking good for Adele... Come find me at the store so that we can talk about *that* ending. – Paula Longhurst, Flatiron, \$25.99



***The Beautiful Dead*, Belinda Bauer**

A serial killer is turning his victims into works of art and his next intended victim is TV reporter Eve Singer. Eve works the murder beat for iWitness News; she has a mentally deficient father, a tyrant of a boss and a young blonde Fox News-style clone angling to take her job. Eve is covering the murder when she catches the killer’s eye. Without realizing his significance, she forms an attachment, and the killer starts feeding her tips, whispering in her ear, putting on a show just for

her. Eve knows she’s walking a tightrope; this is the story that could either forge her career or make her the next victim. Especially since the killer knows she’s beginning to doubt him. – Paula Longhurst, Atlantic, \$25

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The whole crew with Stephen King!

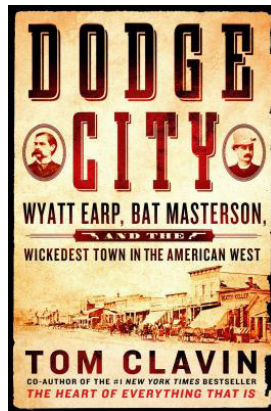


FORTHCOMING IN FEBRUARY

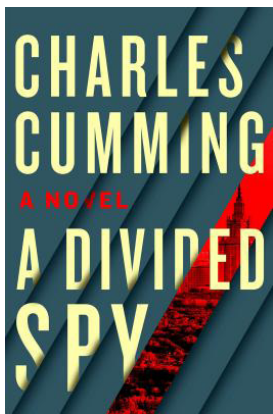
NONFICTION

Dodge City: Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson and the Wickedest Town in the American West, Tom Clavin

Clavin, of the writing team of Clavin and Drury, authors of the bestselling *Heart of Everything There Is*, takes us to Dodge City, Kansas, just after the Civil War. This book is a must for those interested in the American West as Clavin uses Dodge City as the backdrop for a series of vignettes on famous mid- to late-19th century characters such as Masterson, Earp, Belle Star, Eddie Foy, Dull Knife, Kit Carson and the buffalo hunters. Clavin packs information about these characters and their times into a few short pages for each while weaving a very readable story centered on Western Kansas. One interesting theme is law enforcement in the early West—instead of law officers being quick on the draw and willing to shoot anybody, they relied on their wits and the use of non-lethal force whenever they could. – Patrick Fleming, St. Martin's Press, \$29.99



MYSTERY/THRILLER



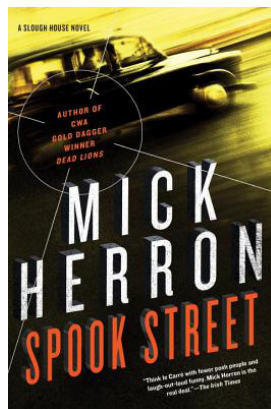
A Divided Spy, Charles Cumming

The spies in a Cumming novel are human and vulnerable. Thomas Kell has suffered losses in a previous encounter with a Russian spy and is now feeling guilt over deaths which he might have caused. In trying to avenge those deaths, he follows the trail of his counterpart in the Russian service and encounters the human side of the opposition. The two spies find that cooperation can work to combat terrorism in a novel that explores the intricacies of the British and Russian clandestine

worlds where truth is an elusive quality and outside forces may be more important than internal politics. *A Divided Spy* fits into the world of Ian Fleming and John le Carré yet its topics and characters might come directly from today's newspapers. – Wendy Foster Leigh, St. Martin's Press, \$26.99

Spook Street, Mick Herron

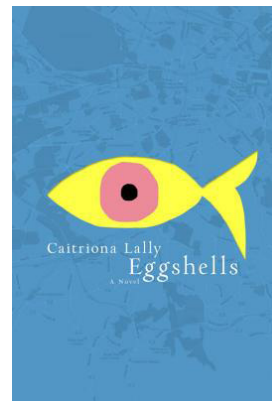
River Cartwright and the other so-called "slow horses" condemned to the outer reaches of the intelligence service reappear in this, the fifth book in Herron's series. Not only does the current stock of spies appear, but also River's grandfather, a major Cold-War spook. What does the service do with a retired operative who is beginning to show signs of dementia? This man who may go shopping wear-



MYSTERY/THRILLER

ing his pajamas has a store of secrets in his memory. Jackson Lamb continues as the leader of the motley crew at Slough House, manipulating both the criminals and the security service. Herron's characters are bizarrely attractive, even the meanest of the mean and the most conniving of the connivers. Start by reading book one, *Slow Horses*, and follow the group's bizarre yet all-too-real adventures. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Soho Press, \$26.95

SPECULATIVE FICTION



Eggshells, Caitriona Lally

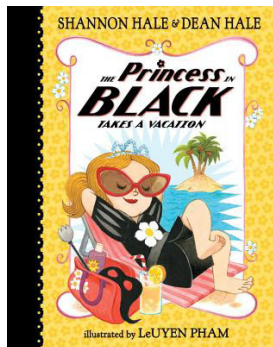
In a novel that combines the landscape of Dublin with the folklore and fantasy of Irish literature, Vivian, the narrator, knows in her heart that she is a changeling. The fairies must have switched her at birth; now she searches for the portal to her real world, navigating the modern world around her, each day taking notes of favorite words whether real or invented and mapping the streets as she walks the city hoping to find that lost portal. Her sister, the social worker, and the neighbors watch her strange explorations with disdain, but she is oblivious

to practicalities and continues her search. Vivian's word creations are a joy to read, and it is only through subtle hints that the dark side of her past slips into the plot. *Eggshells* combines the whimsy of Irish fantasy with the darkness of the fairy world. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Melville House, \$25.99



The Children's Room staff at TKE will help you find the perfect book for all the children on your list. We know that being a good reader is a passport to other worlds, real and imagined. We also know that good readers do better in school and in life! Make your gift of a book even more memorable by following one good customer's example and including an inscription about the year of the gift and the recipient's accomplishments and memories, creating a gift that will be treasured for years. See you in the Kids' Room!

TRANSITIONAL



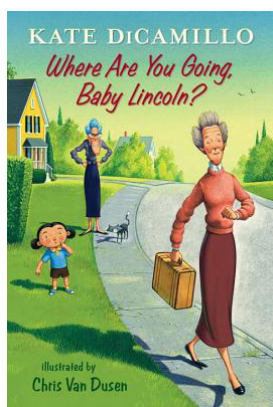
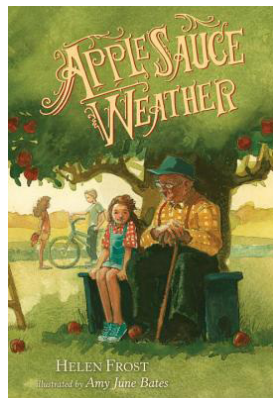
The Princess in Black Takes a Vacation, Shannon & Dean Hale, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

Princess Magnolia is tired. While she's trying to defeat the most recent monster, the mysterious Goat Avenger shows up to help her out and explains to the Princess in Black what a vacation actually is. What a great idea! Magnolia goes home, packs up, and heads to the beach—but it turns out there are monsters everywhere.

Princess in Black will have to change her plans to save her friend Princess Sneeze-Wort. All the charm and humor we have come to expect from one of our favorite series is in full bloom in the newest addition. – Candlewick, \$14.99 (5 and up) *Editor's note: signed copies are available!*

Applesauce Weather, Helen Frost, Amy June Bates

The first apple has fallen. Faith's Aunt Lucy passed away last spring and now she is waiting, waiting for her cherished Uncle Arthur although she and her brother Pete are afraid that he will not be coming to visit this year. They long to hear his stories and really want to know how he lost one of his fingers—and to know that he's okay. Frost reminds readers with tenderness that traditions bring families together in this lovely book graced by charming illustrations. I loved it. – Candlewick, \$14.99 (8 and up)



Where Are You Going, Baby Lincoln? Kate DiCamillo

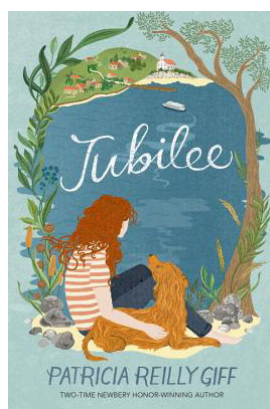
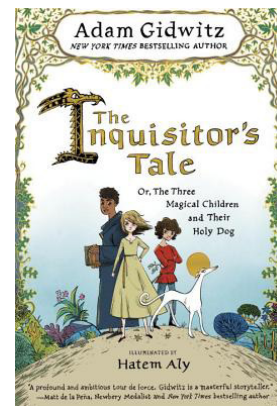
When revelation/inspiration hits Baby Lincoln she decides to go on a "Necessary Journey," completely on her own, so that no one can tell her where to go or what to do. Baby Lincoln buys a one-way ticket to Fluxom, and her journey takes her to places she never imagined. DiCamillo's trademark storytelling talent shines brightly in this latest installment from Deckawoo Drive. A true charmer that readers of all ages will love. – Candlewick, \$14.99 (6 and up)

MIDDLE READER

The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog, Alan Gidwitz and Hatem Aly

In the middle of the Dark Ages Will, an oversized, very strong, young monk; Jeanne a peasant girl whose seizures show the future; and Jacob, an orphaned Jewish boy who can heal people, are bound together by their own version of a "Crusade," accompanied by the resurrected white greyhound Gwenforte. This unlikely company's personal and collective stories will keep you turning the pages.

Gidwitz has created, along with surprising narrators, a plot that will keep even the best readers entranced. As a bonus, the Author's Notes add surprising historical depth, and the artwork contributes both authenticity and whimsy. This is one of the most creative books of the season; it explores friendship and prejudice and values and knowledge and learning! A great counterweight to the (thankfully passed) election season! – Penguin, \$17.99, (10 and up)



Jubilee, Patricia Reilly Giff

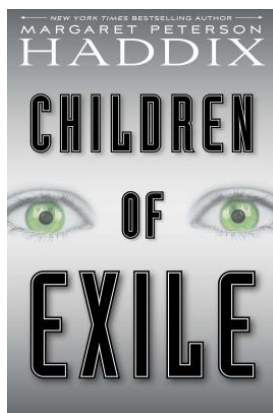
Giff once again gives readers a novel with heart! Judith, or Jubilee as Aunt Cora calls her, has not spoken since her mother left her on the island. She's leaving the safety of the special classroom to enter 5th grade. She knows the island well, loves the hiding places she has found, but she has no friends. When we first meet Judith, she is saving a puppy from drowning—a dog that becomes important in her life. Later, challenged by her mother's reappearance, a big storm, and a lost child, it turns out

that Judith's communication skills are better than anyone imagined. Giff has a unique ability to give us empathy for characters with whom we have nothing in common. A wonderful book about perseverance, courage, and being your best self. – Random House, \$16.99 (8 and up)

The Poet's Dog, Patricia MacLachlan

When Nicholas and Flora are caught outside in a terrible blizzard, Teddy, an Irish wolfhound, rescues them. The narration, which is from Teddy's point of view, travels between the snowstorm and the passing of the dog's first owner; by the end of the story the three have something in common besides survival! Like so many of MacLachlan's books, dogs, children, and words combine to show us at our best and to pull at our heartstrings. Sparse, clear, lovely text (only 89 pages) describes a real world, one we hope our own children live in. I loved this book. – Harper, \$14.99 (7 and up)





Children of Exile, Margaret Peterson Haddix

Rosi, her little brother Bobo, and all the other children being comfortably and safely raised by the “Fred’s” are finally being sent back to their real parents. Despite knowing that this moment was coming, it’s still a shock to Rosi, who finds out that all is not what it seems—in either place. Haddix’s trademark storytelling skills shine in this new book. Fast-paced plot, sympathetic characters, and a cliffhanger of an ending make this a novel that will

add to her fan base. – Simon & Schuster, \$17.99 (10 and up) *Editor’s note: signed copies are available!*

Ghost, Jason Reynolds

Ghost has always been a good runner, especially from his scary dad. When Coach Brody watches him run against his all-star track team and sees his talent, Ghost, who really needs another chance, wonders if he can do all the things that Coach requires. Reynolds’ new book deals with poverty, abuse, bullying—and also some good things, like second chances, hope and the rewards of hard work. Strong realistic fiction aimed straight at boys! – \$16.99, Simon & Schuster (10 and up)



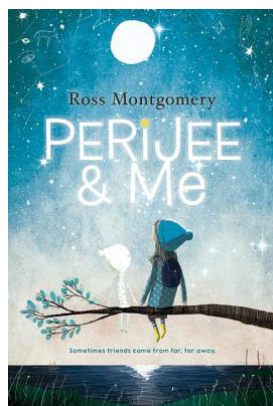
Beautiful Blue World, Suzanne LaFleur

Two friends, Megs and Mathilde, are hunched together in a cellar, praying that the bombs will not strike their refuge. Their country is being invaded, and they’re offered an opportunity to serve in the war; all they have to do is pass a test—a test that means, among other things, total separation from home and family. Unexpected results send the “wrong” girl to the army. Can she really do anything to help her country? Despite the fabricated world, readers will recognize the terrors

that come with war. Well worth reading and discussing. – Random House, \$16.99 (10 and up)

Perijee and Me, Ross Montgomery

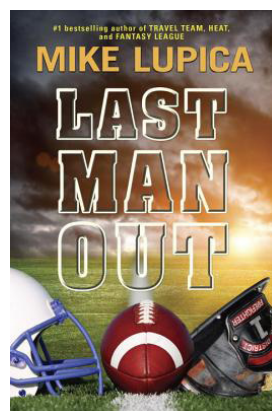
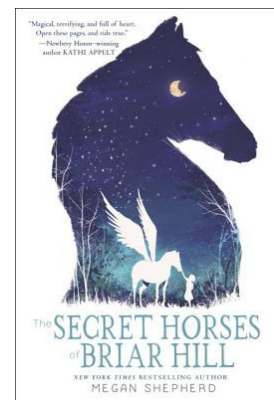
Caitlin and her parents are the only people living on Middle Island, and being alone is hard. When Caitlin finds a mysterious, ever-changing creature on the beach after a BIG storm, she believes she has found an alien! This discovery is going to save her vacation and maybe bring her dad back, so she takes on the care and education of her new friend. But where is Perijee from? The answer could be scary. Adults, of course, mess things up, and



as the crisis of Perijee evolves, Caitlin needs to save him to save the world. This adventure is a charmer, loaded with surprises, defining friendship with loyalty, persistence, creativity and love. – Random House, \$16.99 (9 and up)

The Secret Horses of Briar Hill, Megan Shepherd

Blurring the line between reality and fantasy, Shepherd has combined some pretty gritty topics. Emmaline is living in a tuberculosis hospital outside of London away from the bombing of WWII. She is the only person who can see the winged horses in the mirrors at the hospital-turned-refuge. Emmaline and everyone else at the hospital are in a perpetual state of grief. Loss is everywhere, so when Emmaline finds an injured winged horse in the garden, she will do anything to save it. This book has an eerie quality, it shows readers why imagination matters, how important friends are, and it sheds light on a difficult time in England. – Random House, \$16.95 (10 and up)



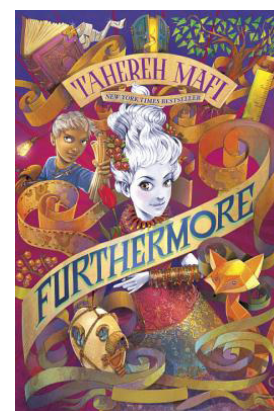
Last Man Out, Mike Lupica

Tommy plays the left side linebacker, the “monster back,” at Brighton High in Boston. He loves football and is following in his father’s footsteps, being the toughest, hardest-working guy on the field, knowing he is making his dad proud. When his dad, a firefighter, tragically dies in a fire, Tommy feels his life will never be the same. There is no joy in watching the Patriots, in playing, or even in being at home. Lupica is a master at writing sports stories with a different kind of heart, the

heart that we live with all our lives, not just game-day heart. This might be his best book yet. – Penguin, \$17.99 (10 and up) *Editor’s note: signed copies are available!*

Furthermore, Tahereh Mafi

Alice lives in a world that is vividly colored, and where color, in all its variations, is all-important. But much to her shame, Alice has no color. Her father went missing in the land of Furthermore more than three years ago and when things take a disastrous turn at home, she knows it is time to go look for him. Furthermore is a complex, weird, scary world, reminiscent a little of Wonderland. Each part of it offers different challenges, and Alice has one ally/guide, a boy named Oliver. They both have secrets, further complicating their quest. Mafi has created a vividly imagined world that will invite readers in and only reluctantly let them go. – Penguin, \$17.99 (10 and up) *Editor’s note: signed copies are available!*

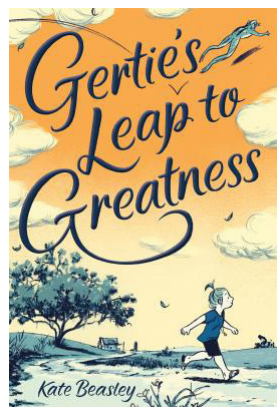
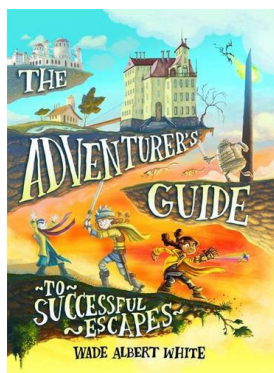


MIDDLE READER

The Adventurer's Guide to Successful Escapes, Wade Albert White

Annie had spent her life at the orphanage cleaning and working in the mines. But now 13, she and her friend Penelope are expecting to leave at 10 minutes past midnight to begin their adventurous new life when Annie is denied her ticket. While attempting to escape, a strange medallion becomes stuck to her hand, and she must pursue the "Rightful Heir Quest." With Penelope and their new friend Hiro, they discover more adventures than they could have imagined.

– Becky Hall, Little Brown, \$16.99 (8 and up)



Gertie's Leap to Greatness, Kate Beasley

Gertie is determined to make her mark in fifth grade and she has an important reason. If she can be the best fifth-grader ever, maybe she can convince her mother not to leave their small coastal Alabama town. Gertie has the pizzazz of Ramona, Clementine, and Calpurnia Tate, and a little bit of Eloise, too. She attempts to revive a zombie frog, give the best speech, be the smartest fifth-grader ever, even though that means unseating her closest friend. Readers will applaud her pluck

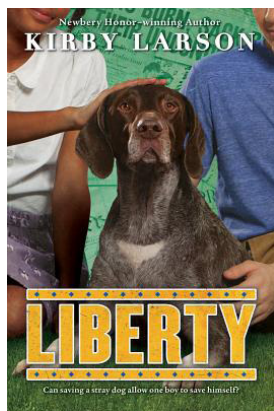
and cheer her on. Go Gertie! – Becky Hall, FSG, \$16.99 (8 and up)

Editor's note: signed copies are available!

Liberty, Kirby Larson

1940s New Orleans was a time when racial lines were all-too-well-defined. Fish, a polio victim, lives with his sister who works at Mr. Higgins' boatyard where engineers are puzzling out inventions to help the war effort. Fish comes up with an idea that might help, as his black neighbor Olympia helps him free a stray dog he names Liberty, and he begins to question the world around him. Historically accurate details bring this time period to life.

– Becky Hall, Scholastic, \$16.99 (8 and up)

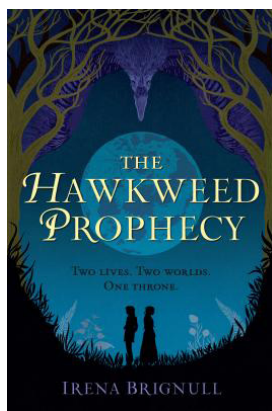


It's not just kids who adore *The Diary of a Wimpy Kid*! Here is a group of librarians from the Granite school district who loved meeting Jeff Kinney!

YOUNG ADULT

The Hawkweed Prophecy, Irena Brignull

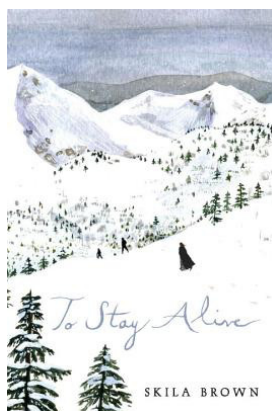
Isolation and loneliness are terrible things to have in common. Poppy has moved from school to school, and her poor mother has been institutionalized. Ember, a witch with no magic, is picked on and shunned in her coven. When they accidentally meet in a junk-filled glen, both girls experience a fascination with the other's world. Poppy is driven to magic and power, while Ember wants to know about conveniences and boys. Meanwhile, a homeless boy named Leo seeks comfort



and acceptance, and a cat named Minx wants to save Poppy. Despite these early plot revelations, the story grabs you. All three characters are in untenable situations, not knowing whom to trust. All three will have to make decisions that will change the course of their lives. Fantasy with a real-world touch! – Weinstein Books, \$18.00 (12 and up)

Scythe, Neal Shusterman

Society has advanced so far that humans do not die, so the Scythes have to choose whose life is over. But what started as a group based on dignity and empathy has degraded into a self-serving organization where individual Scythes take advantage at every turn. When Citra and Rowan are called to apprentice with a renowned Scythe, they know that every decision they make could lead to their own deaths. This futuristic view of the world is scary and fascinating! The story will grab readers right from the start, keep them turning the pages, and, finally, wishing for the next installment. – Simon & Schuster, \$17.99 (12+)



To Stay Alive, Skila Brown

Mary Ann Graves was 19 years old when she and her family packed up all their belongings in Illinois and headed off to California. It was 1846, and the Graves were joining many other families in the great Western migration. Unfortunately Mary Ann's father chose to join the Donner party. Brown's novel, written in verse, gives Mary Ann a strong presence in that tragic journey.

She's smart, hard-working and brave! Readers will come away with a far more vivid picture of this famous tragedy. – Candlewick, \$17.99 (10 and up)

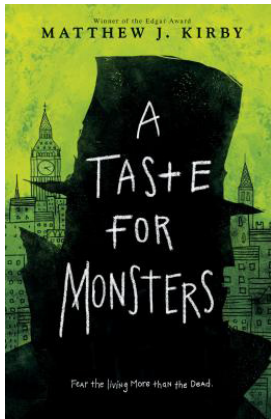
What Light, Jay Asher

Asher (*13 Reasons Why*) has written a book that heralds the holiday season with a not so typical romance. Sierra and her family have been growing Christmas trees for generations, taking their crop down



YOUNG ADULT

South to sell every year and Sierra is tired of it. Then she meets Caleb and decides that helping her family might be a good choice after all. But Caleb comes with some complications; his temper gets him into a lot of trouble and frankly can be a bit scary. Ultimately this is a story about forgiveness; it does have the most charming scene when Sierra and Caleb exchange gifts... – Penguin, \$18.99 (12 and up) *Editor's note: signed copies are available!*



***A Taste for Monsters*, Matt Kirby**

Kirby's new book is populated with all kinds of "monsters," and Evelyn believes she is one too. Young women are being brutally massacred in 1888 London; citizens see the murderer everywhere. Evelyn and all the other women at London Hospital are petrified by the violence. As the maid and companion to Joseph Merrick, the so-called "Elephant Man," she has finally found someone she is safe with. But Evelyn will have to solve the mystery of his late-night visitors to keep him safe

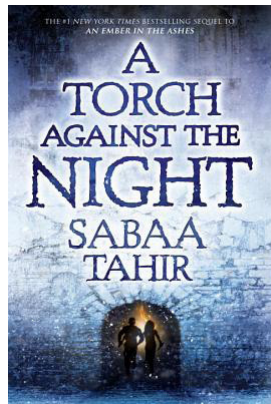
and healthy. In a book that is atmospheric, tense, and compelling, Kirby illuminates one of the most well-known moments in London history with a riveting tale about what it really means to be a monster. – Scholastic, \$18.99 (12 and up) *Editor's note: signed copies are available!*

EDGY YA

***A Torch Against the Night*, Sabaa Tahir**

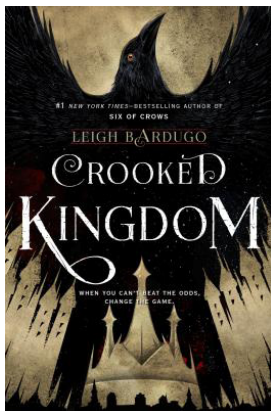
Tahir shot to the top of our favorites list with *An Ember in the Ashes*, leaving readers dying for more, a sentiment she sealed with her author visit! This sequel takes us back to the Empire, watching Elias and Laia struggle with their desperate plan to free Darin from the hell-hole prison Kauf and its sadistic warden, while Helene is left to deal with the amoral Commandant and the evil Emperor Marcus. Traitors, monsters, and mythical creatures populate this world, and everyone has secrets.

The story has unexpected twists and turns, including a touch of yearning (yes I do mean romance!). It all adds up to one of the most satisfying second books I have read in a long time. All I need now, is book three! – Penguin, \$19.95 (14 and up)



***Crooked Kingdom*, Leigh Bardugo**

Bardugo continues the story of Kaz and his band of misfits who had thought they were going to be on easy street because of the success of their mission (read *Six of Crows*!). But the terrible betrayal and double-cross have made them all fugitives and Grisha world is in a very precarious place because enemies old and new are trying to figure out what is really going

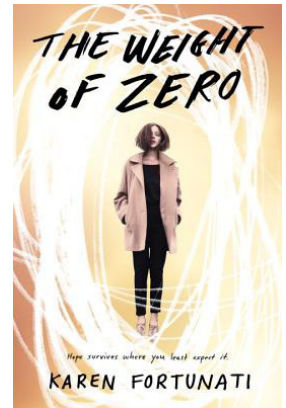


EDGY YA

on with the illicit drug *jurda parem*. Kaz will have to lead his fragile group in the fight for their lives. So much fun to read. Bardugo has created a complex world that readers will not want to leave in yet another great sequel! – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$18.99 (14 and up)

***The Weight of Zero*, Karen Fortunati**

Sixteen-year-old Catherine tried to kill herself after her grandma's death and was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder. Given her depression, her grief, and her friend's rejection, Catherine is certain that the world would be better off without her. She believes that her bi-polar disorder is a defect that will eventually lead to her death. But life goes on, and it turns out that some people are kind and accepting—that love can be part of her life. Readers will be rooting for Catherine; the addition of the story of an African American girl who dies in France in WWII gives this novel another intriguing layer. I can't wait to see what Fortunati does next. – Random, \$17.99 (14 and up)



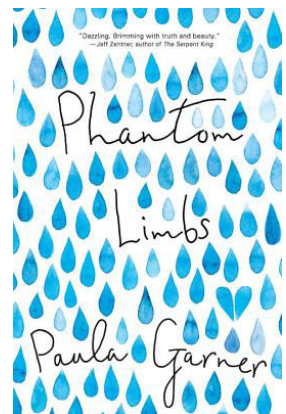
***The Graces*, Laure Eve**

River is the new girl, and the only thing she has really figured out is that the Graces are in charge—and that everyone believes they are witches. River desperately wants to believe it, wants Summer, the youngest Grace, to be her best friend and teach her about magic; River also wants the attractive older brother Fenrin to want her. In fact, she wants someone to fix all of her problems and hopes the Graces just might. Both families have secrets, and not dealing with them leads

to tragedy in a novel full of twists and turns that include a surprise ending. Lots of content to be aware of in this coming-of-age story. – Abrams (15 and up)

***Phantom Limbs*, Paula Garner**

Three teenagers with life-changing loss in common make up the heart of this novel. Otis lost his little brother in a terrible accident, and then his neighbor and best friend Meg moves away. He ends up under the tutelage of Dara, who is trying to mold and push Otis into becoming the competitive swimmer she wanted to be until her accident. When Meg finally reconnects with Otis, the past becomes clearer, and the future.... well, Otis, Meg, and Dara will all have to find their own answers. Together and separately, their stories feel authentic: difficult and tender, high on anxiety and on romance as well. This is young adult realistic fiction at its best. – Candlewick, \$16.99 (14 and up)



EDGY YA



***The Call*, Peadar O'Guilin**

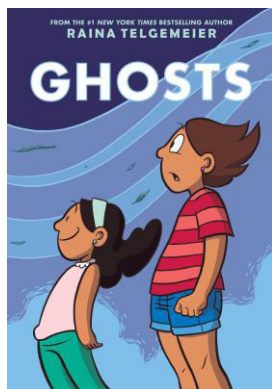
Nessa finds out about the Call when she is 10 years old, and four years later she knows the Sidhe (Irish fairies) will be coming for her too. A terrible conflict between humans and fairies has left the Emerald Isle bereft of children, and the fairies continue to take their revenge on mankind. Very few of the teenagers survive the Call, and the ones who do are scarred both physically and emotionally. The fairies and the awful creatures that populate their world are horrifying,

often made up of the parts of their victims, but humans can be just as horrid. This novel, at once creepy and fascinating, has a firm grasp on the YA mind. A lot of content to be aware of!! – Scholastic, \$18.99 (15 and up)

GRAPHIC NOVELS

***Ghosts*, Raina Telgemeier**

Telgemeier does it again! Sisters Catrina and Maya are moving, mostly because Maya has cystic fibrosis and needs to live in a cleaner place. Catrina struggles with the changes in her life. Their new home in Bahai de la Luna is famous for its celebration of the Day of the Dead—and for its ghosts! Maya would love to meet one, and Catrina resists as Telgemeier shows readers that believing in your family and friends just might be the most powerful of forces! This is Telgemeier's best book yet! – Scholastic, \$10.99 (8 and up)



***Dog Man*, Dav Pilkey**

King's English favorite Dav Pilkey gives fans a lot more laughs with his new graphic novel. Based on some of his very early work, Dog Man is born when Greg the police dog and his policeman are both injured. Dog Man has to fight evil—or mostly he has to fight Petey, the conniving cat with a secret lab. Purposeful misspellings and other kinds of errors will give strong readers something else to look for. Pilkey also includes some drawing lessons and other

how-to tips! – Scholastic, \$9.99 (7 and up)

***Little Robot*, Ben Hatke**

When our unnamed main character, a CUTE little girl, ditches school and on her wanderings encounters a robot, she knows she has found a friend. But their fun is jeopardized when a very large scary robot tries to find Little Robot. It

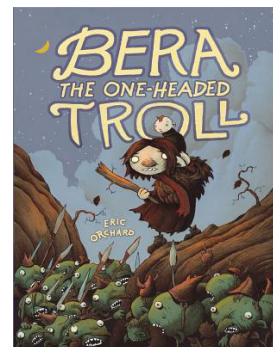


GRAPHIC NOVELS

is the details in the illustrations that truly tell this story. Hatke (*Zita the Space Girl*) uses body language and visual clues such as change in font size to tell this sweet adventure that speaks to friendship and loyalty. – First Second, \$16.99 (6 and up)

***Bera the One-Headed Troll*, Eric Orchard**

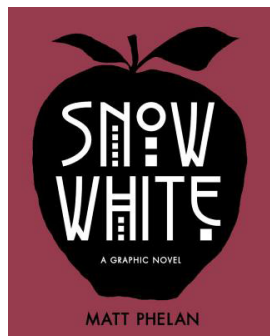
Bera just wants to grow her pumpkins and be left alone, but when she ends up saving a human baby from the nasty mermaids, her quiet life is upended. The evil witch Cloote wants the baby to create a monster, but Bera decides to try to return the baby to her village. In a world populated with all sorts of quirky monsters, Bera has to be resourceful and quick to save the baby. Aided by her friend Winslow and the hedgehog magicians, she just might be able to pull it off. – First Second, \$17.99 (9 and up)



***Snow White, a Graphic Novel*, Matt Phelan**

You think you know the story of Snow White, right? Not this one! It's set in New York during the Depression, and although there is still a mean stepmother and a poisoned apple, the dwarves, known as "The Seven," are a group of homeless boys who become her protectors as her jealous stepmother searches the city. This is an enchanting, captivating retelling.

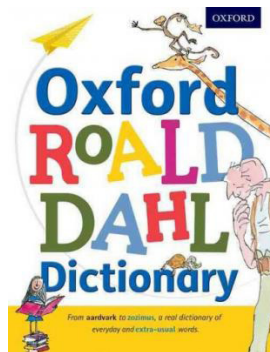
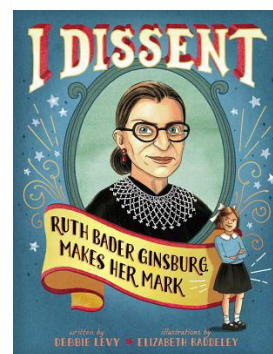
– Becky Hall, Candlewick, \$19.99 (10 and up)



NONFICTION

***I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark*, Debbie Levy and Elizabeth Baddeley**

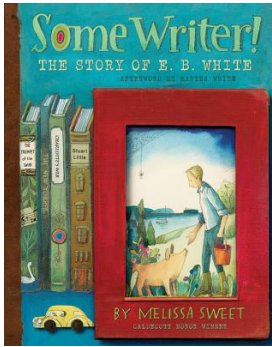
RBG, who was born in a time when girls could only be moms and wives, knew from a very young age that she wanted to be more. She was always asking questions, trying to figure out anything and everything. She was a smart hard-working girl who had to overcome all sorts of barriers. This picture book biography is one of my favorites of the year! Ginsburg is a real-life hero who stands for what is best about America. – Simon & Schuster, \$17.99 (8 and up)



***Oxford Roald Dahl Dictionary*, Roald Dahl, Susan Rennie, and Quentin Blake**

Anyone who reads Dahl out loud should have a copy of this dictionary since, as fans know, Dahl's world is populated with all sorts of imaginary words! Why not have a fully functioning dictionary that includes Dahl's vocabulary and text? Every word in this book, has a definition,

AND a quote from a Dahl book using the word. Blake's illustrations add a humorous dimension; readers and writers will love this book.
– Oxford, \$24.99 (all ages)



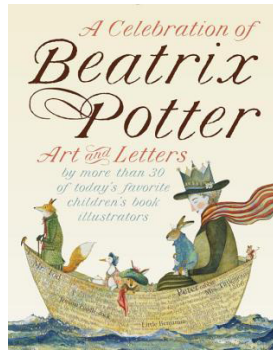
Some Writer! The Story of E. B. White,
Melissa Sweet

From the cover to the end papers, lovingly crafted by the author, readers will love this thoughtful story about the creator of *Charlotte's Web*! Mixing straightforward text with photos and her trademark art, Sweet gathers readers into her "web." E. B. White and his work have had a tremendous impact on young readers and their parents for many generations. Sweet

opens a window into his life, and you will like White even more after looking through it. I predict another award medal in Sweet's future.
– Houghton Mifflin, Harcourt \$18.99 (7 and up)

A Celebration of Beatrix Potter,
Frederick Warne & Co.

More than 30 children's book authors and illustrators contributed to this marvelous collection of Beatrix Potter tales. Each unique interpretation is delightful and opens up new ways to love and admire the stories. According to Jon Agee, "The Tale of Peter Rabbit is a thriller—with a great villain: Mr. McGregor." Everyone from 3 to 103 will want this book on their shelves right next to Jeremy Tod and Jemima Puddle Duck.
–Anne Holman, Frederick Warne & Co., \$25 (all ages)



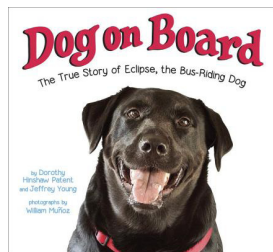
Irena's Children: A True Story of Courage,
Tilar J. Mazzeo, adapted by Mary Cronk Farrell

Mazzeo did a terrific job turning all of her research into an adult biography and now this one aimed at younger readers. Sandler risked her life, her family, and her friends to sneak children out of the Warsaw ghetto. The children's names were changed as they were hidden by Polish families and schools. Sandler, who created and, even more importantly, managed to save the list with all of the children's given

names, survived capture and torture by the Nazis in this is a story of exceptional courage. Anyone interested in WWII history will find it very moving, and young readers will be excited to know that the early research by four American students was the first real exposure the world had to Irena Sandler. – Margaret McElderry Books, \$17.99 (5th grade and up)

Dog on Board: The True Story of Eclipse the Bus-Riding Dog, Dorothy Hinshaw Patent and Jeffrey Young

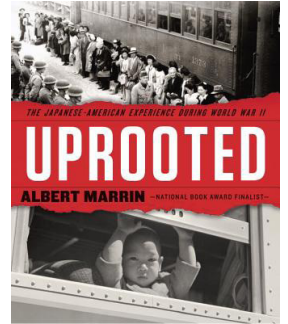
Eclipse is a very smart dog who tells her story with great aplomb! She makes



friends everywhere she goes, with or without her friend Jeff. In Seattle service dogs can ride the bus, and Eclipse is famous for doing just that! All by herself! This picture book is great look at point of view, service dogs, and Seattle. – Random, \$16.99 (all ages)

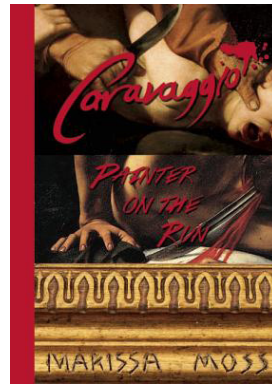
Uprooted: The Japanese American Experience During World War II,
Albert Marrin

There is so much more to the Japanese Internment camp story than the forced move of our Japanese American citizens. With pictures, photos, and maps, Marrin takes on this dark chapter of our history, showing us a much larger story than just the years of the camps. He personalizes the narrative with individual tales about people who went through the experience. Once again, Marrin does a great job offering up an accessible work of history. – Random, \$17.99 (12 and up)



Caravaggio: Painter on the Run,
Marissa Moss

Anyone interested in Caravaggio will love this fictionalized biography. Caravaggio was an unlikely artist who pushed against all the boundaries of life in 16th century Italy, where the Renaissance was in full bloom, patrons made and broke artists every day, and the rules of the Catholic Church were fully observed. Caravaggio's style, realistic portraits of the poor, the blood, the pain illuminated by true

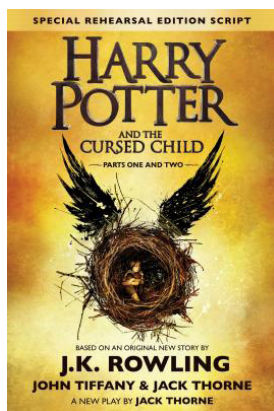


lighting as it came in from the window, reflected the real world. Some saw genius and some a heretic. Caravaggio's personal life was messy; his bad temper and his impatience got him into trouble all the time. Moss does a terrific job painting a picture of Caravaggio's life and life's work. Her careful research and storytelling skills make this story a gem. – Creston, \$16.95, (12 and up)



Jennifer Adams
signing
BabyLit books.
We always have
signed cop-
ies on hand
and Jennifer is
happy to
personalize for
the little one in
your life.

J. K. Rowling Is Back, And So Is The Magical World of Hogwarts!



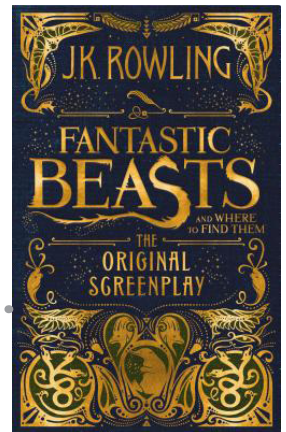
This summer we celebrated the release of *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child*, Rowling's script telling the story of Harry's middle child, Albus, and his struggles with dad and school. Albus, who is in Slytherin, is definitely NOT his dad in any way and has become angry and reclusive. Despite its format (a script, not a novel), this opens another window into Potter's world, also opening new plot lines that fans are hoping will result in more stories from Rowling. - Arthur A. Levine Books, \$29.99 *Editor's note: We have a limited quantity of first editions.*

It was a magical summer evening!



More from the Wizarding World!

The new movie, “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,” gives fans yet another view of Hogwarts. Set in America, it is a prequel to the stories we love. ***Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them: The Original Screenplay*** is J.K. Rowling’s screenplay for the film. Set in NYC, pre-Harry Potter, its new cast of characters includes Newt Scamander, a Magizoologist whose adventure begins when his case of Magical Beasts disappears, and some of the Magical beasts escape. Fans will love this look at a different part of the Wizarding World. – Scholastic, \$24.99, all ages!

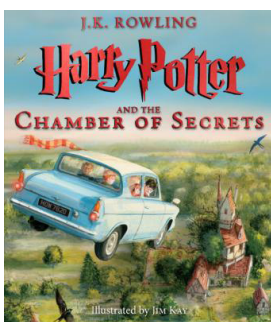
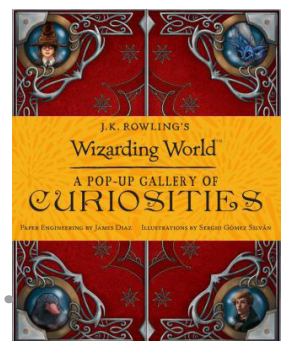


The new movie has also spawned all sorts of new books that will make fans happy! Our favorite is ***J. K. Rowling’s Wizarding World: Book 1 Movie Magic*** which revisits the first eight movies and then delves into the new one with facts and tidbits readers might not know. Great photos of sets and characters, accompanied by ephemera like fliers for Quidditch matches and newspaper clippings make it the Harry Potter book of the season! – Candlewick, \$29.99 *Editor’s note: limited quantities available on this one!*

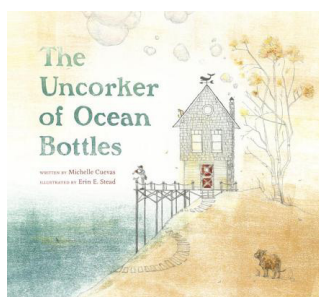


Other great gift ideas: Harry Potter puzzles and pocket wands!

Also from Candlewick, ***J.K. Rowling’s Wizarding World: A Pop-Up Gallery of Curiosities***, despite a high price (\$27.99, for 10 pages) is another great gift for all Potter fans. Detailed pop-ups make this a fun addition to anyone’s Potter library. And Scholastic Press has other Harry Potter offerings including a series of paper-over-board books, called the ***Harry Potter Cinematic Guides***, based on the movies. Short, lots of pictures, \$8.99, these are for the reader who loves Ron Weasley, Hermione Granger or Harry Potter.



Last but far from least, the success of the illustrated edition of ***Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets: Book 1*** last year, guarantees the same for ***Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets: Book 2***. Who knew we would all be clamoring for another set of Harry Potter books? An absolutely beautiful book. – Scholastic, \$39.99 (all ages)

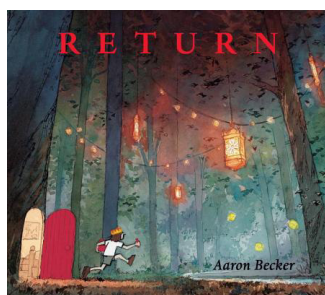
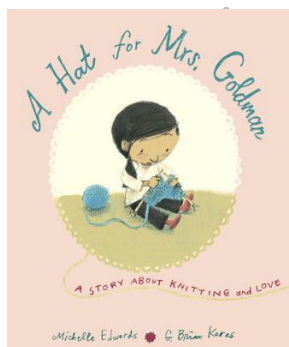


The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles, Michelle Cuevas, illustrated by Erin E. Stead

The Uncorker, who lives by himself on the ocean's edge, has a very important job. He opens the bottles that wash ashore and delivers those messages to their intended recipients. But what happens when he receives an anonymous invitation to a seaside dance? Will he discover for whom the note is actually intended? Lovely in every single way, ***The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles*** is this season's staff favorite. – Dial, \$17.99

A Hat for Mrs. Goldman: a Story about Knitting and Love, Michelle Edwards, illustrated by G. Brian Karas

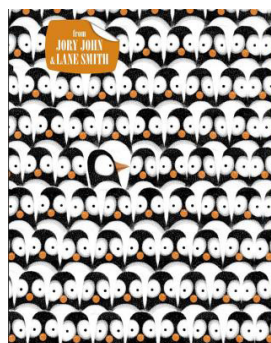
Sophia's neighbor Mrs. Goldman knits hats for everyone in the neighborhood (including her dog Fifi) to keep their "keppies" warm. Knitting for neighbors, Mrs. Goldman explains to Sophia, is a "mitzvah," a good deed. So when Sophia notices that Mrs. Goldman doesn't have a hat of her own, Sophia decides to knit one for her—which is much easier said than done. Karas's warm illustrations perfectly frame this quiet story about love, one of those picture books you can easily share with an adult—especially one who knits. – Schwartz & Wade, \$17.99



Return, Aaron Becker

When a father follows his daughter into a fantastical world, they embark on a wild adventure, navigating through a land filled with castles, kings,

creatures, and a magic. Full of action and lush illustrations, this book will hold readers captive as they pore over the pages. The story can be as wild as your imagination can make it! As a companion to his other books, ***Journey*** and ***Quest***, this is great for art lovers, or readers who love a little bit of magic. – Claire Margetts, Candlewick Press \$15.99



Penguin Problems, Jory John

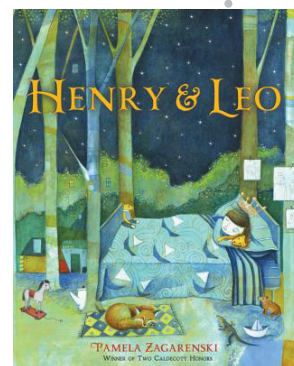
Being a penguin is hard. The particular penguin in this story will be the first to tell you that. His beak is too cold, his waddle too silly, he doesn't stand out in a crowd... life is tough. What can a penguin do when he

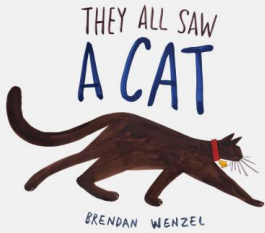
is having such a bad day? As you read this book, look at its great illustrations, laugh at the hilarious story, your own problems will melt away. – Claire Margetts, Random House \$17.99

Henry & Leo, Pamela Zagarenski

No one in Henry's family believes his stuffed lion is real. But Henry knows differently, and when he loses Leo on a walk through the woods, he worries about what will happen to his favorite toy.

The storyline of Henry and Leo is not unfamiliar. But this special picture book transcends the ordinary with absolutely stunning illustrations that do much of the narrative's heavy lifting. Recommended. – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.99





They All Saw a Cat,
Brendan Wenzel

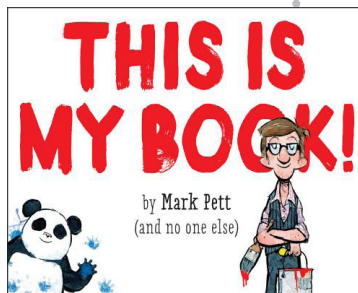
What does a cat look like to a child? Or a dog? Or a fox? How about a fly? Or even a fish? (HINT: Not

the same.) This terrific new book with its bold graphic style demonstrates the importance of perspective when it comes to experiencing the world around us. Fabulous! – Chronicle Books, \$16.99

This is My Book,
Mark Pett

As children's book-buyer Margaret Neville points out, there are a lot of books about books this year—from Oliver Jeffers' *A*

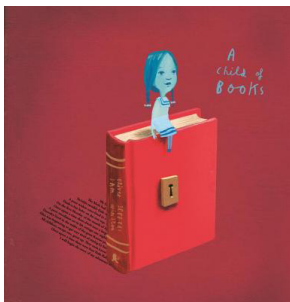
Child of Books to Mac Barnett's *How This Book Was Made*. Salt Lake City resident Mark Pett's new picture book fits neatly into this category. After introducing a cartoon version of himself, Pett goes on to explain how a book should be treated . . . only to discover that his storyline has been hijacked by an imaginative panda who plays by a different set of rules. Pett's good-natured story is a celebration of imagination. – Penguin, \$17.99



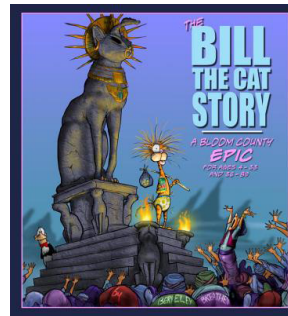
A Child of Books,
Oliver Jeffers, illustrated
by Sam Winston

"I am a child of books," says the narrator who sails away on a wave of words. "I come from a world of stories." Speaking of books about books, Jeffers

offers this visually arresting homage to the importance story plays in all of our lives. With its images formed from the texts of



childhood classics like *Peter Pan*, this picture book is a work of art in and of itself, possibly best suited for an appreciative adult audience. Unique and very special. – Candlewick, \$17.99



The Bill the Cat Story:
a Bloom County Epic
for Ages 4-33 and 36-89,
Berkeley Breathed

That wild and crazy cartoonist Berkeley Breathed returns to his beloved Bloom County ("Simpler Time, Kinder Place") in

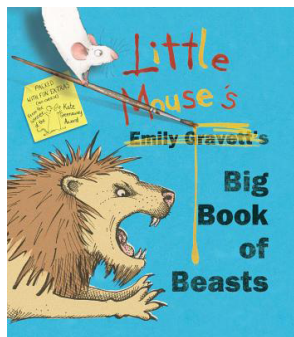
this zany story about a boy named Binkley who bonds with a cat from the animal shelter, only to have the cat (that would be Bill, which rhymes with "daffodil" and also "landfill") whisked away for adoption by someone else. Binkley never forgets Bill, however. Fortunately for Binkley and Bill, a restless drifter and waddle-er named Opus is willing to lend a hand. Or wing, as the case may be. – Philomel, \$18.99

Du Iz Tak?, Carson Ellis

If you ever spoke Pig Latin or Ubby Dubby language when you were younger then this is the book for you. The mystery begins as a tiny green plant begins growing and two damselflies look on in amazement. While every word in the book

is completely made-up, you will have no trouble following the action as the plant grows, more characters are revealed, and the season passes. This will make a great read-aloud! – Anne Holman, Candlewick, \$16.99





***Little Mouse's Big Book of Beasts*, Emily Gravett**

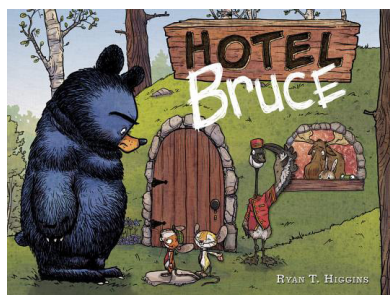
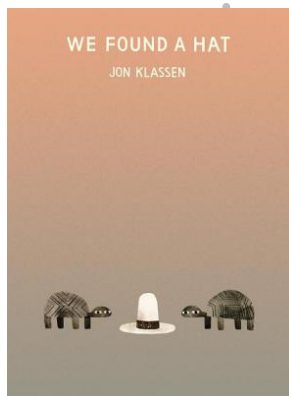
Gravett's picture books are always inventive and this is no exception. Little Mouse deals with his fears of lions, sharks, and bears (oh, my!) by modifying

their illustrations with crayons, pencils, scissors and paper. Gravett's mordent wit is on full display in this interactive book that may (or may not—who really knows?) help readers deal with their own anxiety.

– Simon & Schuster, \$17.99

***We Found a Hat*, Jon Klassen**

Just when you thought Jon Klassen couldn't possibly write another story with hat drama, he has put out this gem. As usual, his artwork is amazing, and the characters are perfectly written—even when the words are sparse. In this story, two turtles find a hat. Both of them like it... but what can you do when there are two of you and only one hat? You can't help but laugh as the story unfolds between these two turtles as yet another hat becomes the crux of so much tension. – Claire Margetts, Candlewick \$17.99

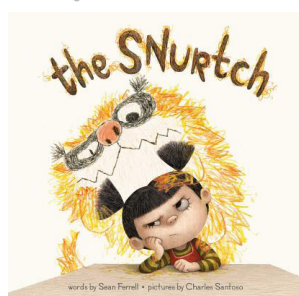


***Hotel Bruce*, Ryan T. Higgins**

When he returns home from a vacation with his gosling friends, Bruce the bear is surprised to find that his home is

no longer his home. There is a moose in

his bed, a skunk in his shower, porcupines on his favorite chair and mice managing the whole debacle. Just a few weeks away on winter vacation, and his home has been turned into a hotel! What can Bruce do to regain a little order? How can he get some peace and quiet? How can he get those darn animals out of his house? The illustrations are expressive, perfect for the mood of the story, and the writing is hilarious. If you liked *Mother Bruce*, you will absolutely love this sequel! – Claire Margetts, Disney Hyperion, \$17.99



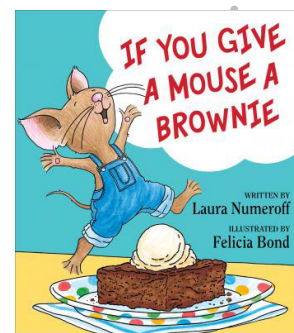
***The Snurtch*, Sean Ferrell, illustrated by Charles Santoso**

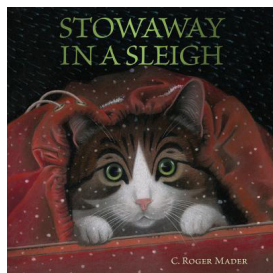
Sometimes our heroine Ruthie throws pencils and burps and makes faces at her classmates during recess. Only it's not really Ruthie indulg-

ing in those unacceptable behaviors. It's her Snurtch—the invisible, not-so-polite creature who follows her to school some days. Can Ruthie make her teacher and classmates understand what's really going on? – Simon & Schuster, \$17.99

***If You Give a Mouse a Brownie*, Laura Numeroff, illustrated by Felicia Bond**

At this point, we all know what happens if you give a mouse a cookie, right? But if you switch out that cookie for a brownie, what happens then? Will that Mouse ask for ice cream to go with his brownie? And will one thing lead to another? And another? And another? The circular structure of Numeroff's If-You-Give books is so well-known it's practically imprinted on our collective DNA. That doesn't mean, however, that the formula still doesn't charm. – Harper, \$17.99





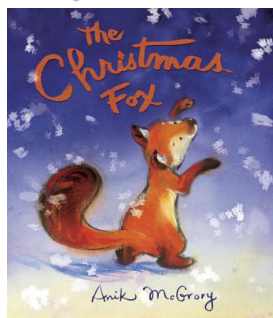
***Stowaway in a Sleigh*, C. Roger Mader**

One of the best new books of this holiday season tells the story of Slippers, a curious (naturally!) cat who climbs into Santa's bag and winds

up at the North Pole. Slippers does her best to adapt to her new surroundings, but in the end there's no place like home. Will she ever return? Mader's visual style and dark, rich palette recall the look of Chris Van Allsburg's classic *The Polar Express*. – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.99

***The Wish Tree*, Kyo Maclear, illustrated by Chris Turnham**

Although his brother and sister tell him there's no such thing, Charles wants to find "a wish tree." So he sets out with his trusty sled to find one. Along the way he helps a host of woodland creatures who return the favor in a surprising and satisfying way. The look of this book, which captures the changing light of a wintry day, is terrific. – Chronicle, \$16.99



***The Christmas Fox*, Anik McGrory**

All the animals—the cow, the sheep, the birds—have something to offer the baby born in a barn. All the animals, that is, except for the little fox. And because he has nothing to offer, he stays away. Or at least he tries to. A sweet,

sideways take on the original Christmas story. McGrory's warm illustrations make this book especially appealing. – Knopf, \$16.99

***The Lost Gift: a Christmas Story*, Kallie George and Stephanie Graegin**

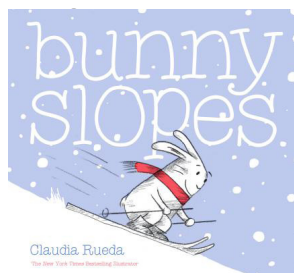
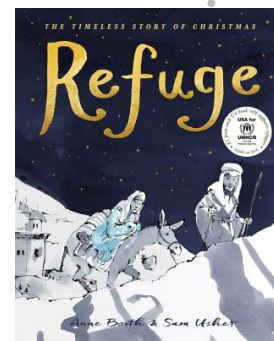
Every year a rabbit, a deer, a bird, and a decidedly grumpy squirrel sit on a hilltop and wave as Santa does his annual overhead drive-by. But this time a wrapped gift tumbles out of Santa's sled and lands at their feet. What to do? The



animals have no choice but to track down the present's intended recipient. Graegin's illustrations are delightful! – Schwartz & Wade, \$17.99

***Refuge*, Anne Booth, illustrated by Sam Usher**

"Come on, old friend," says Joseph to the donkey that carried Mary into Bethlehem, "we're off on a journey again." While most traditional Christmas stories end with the iconic scene at the stable, *Refuge* follows the Holy Family as they flee into Egypt to avoid persecution. Like refugees everywhere, Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus must depend upon the kindness of strangers to ensure their survival. Given the Western world's current refugee crisis, this lovely understated book feels especially resonant now: in fact, for every book sold, the publisher will donate \$1 to USA for UNHCR: the UN Refugee Agency. – Little, Brown, \$15.99



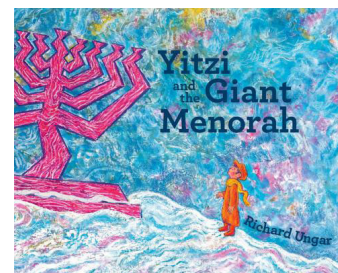
***Bunny Slopes*, Claudia Rueda**

Bunny wants to ski. But where's the snow? Maybe, he suggests, snow will magically appear . . . if readers shake the book. And where's the hill? Maybe, Bunny suggests, a hill will magically appear

if readers tilt the book. Children and parents alike will enjoy this charming celebration of the winter season. – Chronicle, \$15.99

***Yitzi and the Giant Menorah*, Richard Ungar**

As Hanukkah approaches the citizens of Chelm receive a special gift from the mayor of Lublin—a giant menorah that looks like a tree with "eight dazzling branches [flowing] from a magnificent stem." Of course, the mayor of Lublin deserves to be thanked, but each effort to do so by the townspeople of Chelm somehow goes wrong. That is, until the eighth candle is lit. This story about gratitude and friendship is a good fit for the season. – Tundra Books, \$16.99





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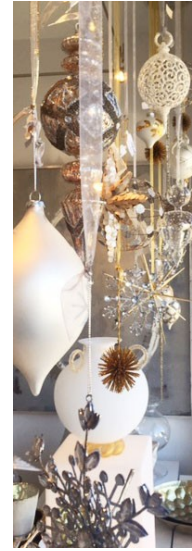
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